



## AGRICULTURE



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## USAID donates 3 vehicles for welfare, health coordination

By Polycarp Machira, Dodoma

THE United States Agency for International Development (USAID) has donated three vehicles worth 236m/- to the government to support smooth implementation of health and social welfare in three ministries.

The donation is linked with the USAID project on adolescents and children HIV incidence reduction, empowerment and virus elimination, delivered to ministries for Local Governments, Community Development as well as Health.

Dr Zainab Chaula (Pictured), the Health permanent secretary, received the two Landcruiser described as 76 hardtop models and a Landcruiser Prado TXL model. They will be used for facilitating policy coordination and implementation of social welfare and community-based health interventions, she said.

Relevant ministry officials commended the donation, helping to build sustainable logistic support to the various departments as the USAID project was strengthening social welfare systems and helping to deploy the workforce.

Ifeyinwa Udo, the community based service team leader, urged for more investments on social welfare services and community-based health interventions for increased access and improved service delivery among poor and vulnerable populations.

Handing over vehicles to the three ministries is a significant step in ensuring effectiveness of policy implementation, she said.

Levina Kikoyo, the project director, said that strengthening social welfare systems and structures integrates vulnerable groups in production, pandemics controls like HIV, facilitating access to health services while

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# Survey: Sentiments on taxes, mobile transfer levy mixed

By Guardian Reporter



Prime Minister Kassim Majaliwa pictured in Dar es Salaam yesterday leading virtual talks with regional commissioners and regional census committee officials on the implementation of the on-going national Population and Housing Census. Right is Census commissioner Anne Makinda. Photo: PMO

HIGH levels of readiness for voluntary compliance with taxation are stifled by feelings that the rates are often too high, a new survey has indicated.

Aidan Eyakuze, executive director of the city think tank Twaweza, unveiled these mixed sentiments in presenting the report, which indicates that 90 per cent agree that taxes are vital for national development and up to 75 per cent think that the rates are too high.

The report was unveiled in Dar es Salaam yesterday, titled 'State of the Nation 2022: Tanzanian citizens' experiences and opinions on the economy and on mobile money transaction taxes.'

Many citizens hold contradictory views simultaneously as the majority agreed with the basic idea that taxes are important for the country's development, but most said they are too high and many people struggle to pay, it said.

Nearly 88 per cent of those interviewed would happily pay tax with no enforcement, while a full two thirds (at 67 per cent) said it was wrong to hide income in order to pay less tax.

However, four out of ten citizens (42 per cent), say they would avoid paying tax if they felt they could get away with it, which the report says indicated contradictory sentiments, reflecting the tension between doing the right thing and the temptation of paying less tax.

A majority (63 per cent) said it was a public duty to pay tax even if services are poor, while



**People are unsure what the revenue from the mobile money levy is spent on**

half (51 per cent) said poor public services are a valid reason to avoid paying tax. One out of three citizens (34 per cent) holds both of those views, it said.

Still, a significant number (37 per cent) agree that they would pay without enforcement and similarly admit that they would avoid taxes if they could, it said.

As for reasons to evade tax, four out of ten citizens (39 per cent) said people evade tax because they feel that tax rates are too high, more than any other reason.

Other reasons given include a sense that they are not paid enough for their work (20 per cent), that taxes are not well spent (15 per cent), or that people don't know how to submit their tax dues (11 per cent).

On mobile money transaction levies, the report showed most citizens agree that it is an important way for the government to generate revenue (67 per cent) and that it ensures that everyone contributes to national development (63 per cent).

However, the study said fewer agree that the levy will reduce dependence on donors (46 per cent) or taxes on mobile money transactions are a good thing (43 per cent). Citizens show signs that they would be more supportive of the levy if they had better information (19 per cent) on how the resulting revenue is spent, the report indicated.

The majority (63 per cent) said they would be more willing to pay the levy if they could track how the funds are spent, while fewer than half say they know how the money is spent (39 per cent) or that they can easily find out from government how the money is spent (44 per cent).

A majority of voices also agreed with the suggestion that the levy itself is not the problem so much as the transaction costs

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## TBL pays record 472bn/- in taxes

By Guardian Reporter

THE Tanzania Breweries Limited (TBL) last year contributed 472bn/- to the government budget in the form of corporate tax, excise

duty and value added tax (VAT).

This has earned it recognition as the largest taxpayer in the country for the second time, the first time being in 2016.

TBL board chairperson Leonard Mususa

made this observation during a shareholder update of the company's performance at its 49th annual general meeting held in Dar es Salaam yesterday.

The amount paid by the brewer to the government in 2021 had significantly grown from the 463bn/- paid the previous year, with company revenue growing by 6 per cent due to beer and spirits sales growth of 5.7 per cent and 3 per cent respectively, he stated.

Operating profit for the period was pegged at 179bn/- while after-tax profit stood at 134bn/-, he said, approving a dividend

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## NMB hands 100m/- to Foreign Affairs for Diaspora digital hub

By Guardian Reporter

NMB Bank yesterday pledged 100m/- to the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and East African Cooperation to finance the development of the Diaspora digital hub database for citizens in the Diaspora.

A memorandum of understanding (MoU) was signed to that effect, by the ministry's director for the Diaspora Unit, Ambassador James Bwana and the NMB chief of wholesale banking, Alfred Shao.

At the signing ceremony, the NMB executive said that Tanzanians in the Diaspora have a big role to play in the country's development process, thus the bank is developing stress-free

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James Bwana (R), director of the Diaspora Department in the Foreign Affairs and East African Cooperation ministry, and Alfred Shao, NMB Bank Plc's chief of wholesale banking responsible for large corporate customers, transactional business and Government and International Trade, exchange documents in Dar es Salaam yesterday. This was shortly after they had signed an agreement between the ministry and the bank on the financing of the maintenance of a digital system for maintaining Diaspora information. Photo: Guardian Correspondent



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# TBL pays record 472bn/- in taxes

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payment of 75bn/- to shareholders at 255/- per share. That is an increase of 60 percent compared to the previous year's payout, he said.

He laid accent on the view that TBL group shares its prosperity with the communities in which it conducts business. "Our business cannot exist without farmers, clean water, healthy communities, strong suppliers, a diverse and inclusive workforce and thriving natural ecosystems," he declared.

"That mindset is the foundation of everything we do," he said, citing an administrative unit for environment, social and governance (ESG) issues that plays a key role in delivering on the company's strategy and purpose.

With strategic partnerships, TBL was supporting its contracted farmers to become more skilled, connected and financially empowered by helping them improve productivity, profit and efficiency in the use of natural resources, he said.

"We are committed to reaching a set of sustainability goals by 2025," he said, pointing at smart agriculture, with the push directed at 100 percent of farmers directly linked to the TBL supply chain.

Support for local farming in sourcing of raw materials was a key element in the partnership, as part of the country's socio-economic development, the board chief underlined.

Mususa told the shareholders that the firm was playing a crucial role in supporting the country's agricultural sector and industrialisation agenda.

Over the last year TBL purchased 70 percent of raw materials locally, including barley, maize, sorghum and grapes, he said.

Following the government's move to grant duty concession of 20 percent on locally malted barley, TBL was investing in a local barley malting factory, he said, projecting that locally malted barley for beer production would attain full capacity by 2027.

With particular regard to supporting the country's industrialisation agenda, TBL was engaging with the government to anchor its efforts in building a secure base for industrialisation.

"In this regard, the support from the parent company with its worldwide experience will be provided whenever it is required," he said, noting that TBL was confident that it will make a meaningful impact across its entire value chain for customers, consumers, local communities and general stakeholders.

Jose Moran, the TBL managing director told shareholders that the company experienced some challenges in the past two years owing to the Covid-19 pandemic. But 2022 promises to be a good year not only to the firm but to the country's economy at large, he stated.

"We are doing better because we have made a number of transformations which include the introduction of new products in the market," he said, evaluating the company's future as bright in the wake of innovations and fielding new products.

Anna Mwambapa, a TBL shareholder, commended the company for devising and implementing sound and workable growth strategies, urging more Tanzanians to buy shares in the firm "as it is a reliable and secure business."

"Having a good number of shares in TBL is beneficial as it assures you of a reliable income every year," she added.

## Survey: Sentiments on taxes, mobile transfer levy mixed

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charged by the providers (66percent) and the view that the levy should only apply to large transactions (52percent), it asserted.

It added that among those who agree that the levy is an important revenue-raising tool for government, overall support for the levy is higher (26-percent) than among those who do not agree that the levy raises important revenues (11-percent).

"Nevertheless, even among those who say the levy is an important source of revenue, more disagree with the levy (36percent) than agree with it (26percent)," it elaborated.

Among the key findings in the report is that citizens point to the cost of living as the most serious problem facing their households today and they would like local governments to focus attention on improving public services delivery.

"Citizens' main priorities for action

by the president centre on the cost of living and medical care. They are more likely to say the country is heading in the right direction than the wrong direction, though many are uncertain and are largely positive about changes in public services, governance and security over the past six months. Buy they are concerned about the state of the economy, the report underlined.

Mobile money services are widely used and most people are aware of recent increases in taxes and charges on mobile money services, it said, affirming that most of them do not support these changes and fewer still are aware of subsequent reductions in the levies.

The survey results affirm that people report sending, spending and receiving less on mobile money services since July 2021, while the reduction in Dar es Salaam is dramatic, at over 70percent.

People are unsure what the revenue from the mobile money levy is spent on, the report added.

## Homera directs teachers to follow official syllabus

By Guardian Correspondent, Mbeya

MBEYA regional commissioner Juma Homera has called upon teachers in the region to teach students in line with the syllabus to ensure the knowledge they offer are linked to national development priorities.

Homera made the call yesterday when he opened an education review symposium which brought together various education stakeholders in the region.

The meeting was attended by various education officers both from regional and district levels as well as quality assurance officers from the Teachers Union of Tanzania (TTU).

Homera said the government has issued directives to ensure the education offered is in line with various government priorities to shape students and prepare a well informed population.

"Today we are reminding you about the directives which the government

has issued for you to implement, so that the government plans are reached," he said.

He said the government has put in place strategies to ensure all school age going children are taken to school saying it was the duty of all the stakeholders.

He added that the government has put in place a conducive environment for the education sector to flourish which goes together with better pay for teachers.

The education officer for Mbeya Ernest Hinju said the region targets to increase the pass rate to 100-percent in all levels.

He said in past year the region failed to reach its targets saying this year they have put up strategies in place to ensure all stakeholders take part.

According to him, the symposium was aimed at carrying a review of the education sector in the region as well as announcing the results of mock test.



TBL board chairperson Leonard Mususa (L) addresses shareholders during the company's 49th annual general meeting held in Dar es Salaam yesterday. He is with managing director Jose Moran (C) and head of finance, Avito Swai. Photo: Guardian Correspondent

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creating room for participation of other stakeholders.

Social welfare systems affect the pace and quality of socio-economic development, she stated, elaborating that the project focuses on developing policies and national guidelines, conducting community-level social services workforce training, among others.

It also involves strengthening systems and structures to ensure access to services for orphans and vulnerable children, adolescent girls and young women as well as people living with HIV, the team leader underlined.

Dr Chaula noted that there are over 9000 registered non-government organizations (NGOs) in the country, some of which hardly provide direct support to the government.

## USAID donates vehicles for welfare, health coordination

Some of the organizations are doing good work on the ground, while others support the government at higher levels in terms of capacity building on staff, equipment and other needed assistance.

Dr Chaula made the marks briefly before receiving a vehicle donated to the ministry by Pact International, an international organization operating in the country.

Through its ACHIEVE project, the organization handed over a brand new Toyota Landcruiser 76 Hardtop model worth over 75m/-.

ACHIEVE is a five-year, USAID-funded global cooperative

agreement with the dual objectives of attaining and sustaining HIV epidemic control among at-risk and hard to reach pregnant and breastfeeding (PBF) women, infants, children, and youth, as well as to mitigate the impact of HIV/AIDS and prevent HIV transmission among these populations.

It is also supporting the transition of prime funding and implementation to capable local partners in order to meet the PEPFAR goal of 70 percent of funding to local partners.

The project is funded by USAID in Tanzania to implement a four-year activity which aims to improve

national- and community-level social welfare systems in order to sustain support for orphans and vulnerable children as well as families affected by HIV.

On the other hand, it aims to strengthen the capacity of local organizations to deliver orphans and vulnerable children services.

Kikoyo also expressed the commitment to collaborate with the government in improving social welfare systems.

She said, since 2020, ACHIEVE has been working with the government through provision of technical and financial assistance.



Tanzania Revenue Authority commissioner general Alphayo Kidata introduces himself before members of the Parliamentary Accounts Committee at a meeting held in Dodoma city yesterday. Second left is TRA board chairman Uledi Mussa. Photo: Correspondent Ibrahim Joseph

## NMB hands 100m/- to Foreign Affairs for Diaspora digital hub

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banking products for those in the Diaspora to use in remittances.

NMB partnered with the government for various financial systems now applicable in the market, he said, glad to assist with the digital hub initiative, underlining that the system will be operational as soon as possible.

The bank has a department for the Diaspora and a tailor-made system for

bank services for those in the Diaspora, he said, noting that the system dispenses with filling several forms to effect transactions.

Ambassador Bwana highlighted government strategies to boost the contribution of foreign-based Tanzanians in the country's development.

The hub will help in tracking vital information for Tanzanians in the

Diaspora, linking them to various services locally like banking services, national identification services and current investment opportunities, he stated.

It is designed as a national database of Tanzanians in the Diaspora, with information like job descriptions and country of residence, so that they can be included in planning and economic projections, he further noted.

The government understands that Tanzanians in the Diaspora can play a pivotal role in the development process, setting up a specialized department at Foreign Affairs for this purpose, he remarked.

Foreign Affairs data shows that Tanzanians in the Diaspora remitted \$569.3m last year, representing a 42 per cent increase from the \$400m availed a year earlier, he added.





Prime Minister Kassim Majaliwa has an audience in Dar es Salaam yesterday with Austria's Ambassador to Kenya, Dr Christian Fellner (2nd-L). Photo: PMO

# Majaliwa to represent President Samia at TICAD-VIII in Tunisia

By Guardian Reporter

PRIME Minister Kassim Majaliwa yesterday left the country to represent President Samia Suluhu Hassan in the 8th Tokyo International Conference on African Development (TICAD) which is conducted in Tunisia from tomorrow. The two-day conference will be conducted from August 27 to 28 and aimed at discussing and

planning cooperation strategies and development agenda which will be implemented between Japan and Africa. Tanzania has been participating in the conference since its establishment in 1993 due to the continued growing relations between the country and Japan especially through the International Cooperation Agency (JICA). Through the cooperation, Tanzania has been

benefiting from various projects in the sectors of infrastructures, power energy, water, education, health and agriculture. This is the second time the conference is conducted in Africa after the first one which was held in Nairobi, Kenya. During the 7th conference held in Yokohama, Japan in 2019, Japan allocated \$20 billion to facilitate achievement of various development

goals for a period of three years (2019-2022). Nearly 50 African leaders are expected to attend the conference in Tunisia, along with over 200 African civil society and NGO representatives, 108 heads of regional and international agencies, and 120 leaders of trade, industry, and technology innovation-making it one of the biggest hybrid diplomatic events in Africa since Covid-19 outbreak.

# Tanzania is a sleeping vegetable giant, notes Dr Gabriel Rugalema

By Guardian Correspondent, Arusha

TANZANIA with 44 million hectares of arable land, plenty of surface and underground water and research institutions of world fame will easily become Africa's big producer of vegetables and fruits if these resources are put to optimal use. In an interview here, the Regional Director for Eastern and Southern Africa of the World Vegetable Centre, Dr Gabriel Rugalema, said if all agricultural stakeholders will collectively and seriously focus on research, distribution of seeds and production of vegetables and fruits Tanzania will easily become Africa's huge producer of the two. He explained that Africa has thousands of indigenous traditional vegetable and fruit seeds that have not been unearthed for research and distribution. "For centuries, crops in Africa have lacked research. So this centre was established here in Arusha to collect, process and store indigenous fruit, vegetable, spice, supplement seeds and finally work closely with agricultural stakeholders in order to produce improved seeds for rewarding horticultural farming," said Dr Rugalema adding that the centre has been asked by the government to research on parent stock and when research is complete the seeds are distributed to state research institutions like Tanzania Research Institute (TARI), Agricultural Seed Agency (ASA), Tanzania Official Seed Certification Institute (TOSCI) and other private partners for putting seeds on the market. The representative praised the government for reforms in the agriculture sector, saying: "these efforts are praise worthy because they will lead to national food security, will raise disposable income of the people and create jobs for women and youth."


The centre's seed researcher, Jeremiah Sigalla, said the researches undertaken by the centre are beneficial to Tanzania and other African countries. "We have in our seed bank over 4,000 seed varieties. We have 400 varieties of spinach seed and 1,600 varieties of okra and the number of varieties increases annually because we collect parent seeds from different African countries," Sigalla explained. The centre's coordinator of training and extension services, Hassan Mndinga, said the centre trains applicants from African countries and beyond Africa. "We train people from different African countries beyond our continent on how to improve health by growing and taking vegetables and fruits in a most beneficial way," he explained. Out of Tanzania's 44 million ha of arable land, only 24 per cent was being utilized by 2010 and experts say the situation has not changed drastically.

**“ We have in our seed bank over 4,000 seed varieties. We have 400 varieties of spinach seed and 1,600 varieties of okra and the number of varieties increases annually because we collect parent seeds from different African countries ”**

## Anglican Church sends 600 priests and their spouses to Ngorongoro

By Guardian Correspondent, Dodoma

IN support of President Samia Suluhu Hassan's efforts to advertise Tanzania's tourism sector within the country and abroad, Tanzania Anglican Church, Diocese of Central Tanganyika is planning to send a total of 600 priests and their wives to visit the Ngorongoro Conservation Authority Area (NCAA). The Anglican Church Bishop for Central Tanganyika Diocese Dr Dickson Chilongani made the remarks at the event to bid farewell to 111 wives of priests who left yesterday to Ngorongoro. He said the aim of the trip is to support President Samia's efforts to advertise the country's tourism sector. Dr Chilongani said in the first phase a total of 111 wives of priests from the Diocese left yesterday for Ngorongoro. "Even in the Holy Books it is written that God created the Garden of Eden in which Adam and Eve used to go and rest, praying to God so that upon their return they become stronger. He said the second phase will involve 100 priests' wives and a similar number for the third phase. "After completion a total of 600 people - priests and their wives will have toured Ngorongoro as our Diocese is the biggest Anglican diocese in the world," stressed Dr Chilongani. Earlier, speaking at the event, Dodoma Regional Commissioner Rosemary Senyamule praised the church for thinking of the plan to support president Samia.



**An Roinn Gnóthaí Eachtracha**  
Department of Foreign Affairs

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**Programme Manager Positions x 2**  
**Embassy of Ireland, Dar es Salaam**

**Our mission is to promote and protect abroad the values, interests and economic well-being of Ireland and its people**

The goal of the Embassy of Ireland is to advance Ireland's values and interests through support for peace, prosperity and equality, with a focus on women and girls in Tanzania. The Embassy has two strategic objectives for the period 2022-26: (i) To deepen and strengthen Ireland's political, economic and cultural relationships with Tanzania and countries of secondary accreditation and (ii) to support marginalised women and girls in Tanzania to realise their rights and fulfil their potential.

The Embassy wishes to contract the services of two full-time Programme Managers to support the management, oversight and implementation of our development assistance programme.

We are seeking a highly motivated, innovative and experienced manager with excellent knowledge of international development issues, substantive experience at a senior management level. The role will include strategy development.

**Overview of Roles**

- Programme Manager - Resilience**  
Under the direction of the Deputy Head of Cooperation, contribute to delivering the Embassy's Mission Strategy for Tanzania with a focus on outcome five on resilience ("Tanzanian institutions and vulnerable communities have increased capacity to analyse, anticipate and adapt to shocks, stresses and changing contexts"). Please refer to the annex setting out the six outcomes under the Embassy's 2022-26 strategy.
- Programme Manager - Inclusive Economies**  
Under the direction of the Deputy Head of Cooperation, contribute to delivering the Embassy's strategic objectives with a focus on the trade aspects of Outcome six ("promoting trade and people-to-people linkages between Ireland, Tanzania and secondary accreditations") and undertaking analysis related to macroeconomics, development finance and public finance to support all strategic outcomes. Please refer to the annex setting out the six outcomes under the Embassy's 2022-26 strategy.

**The primary tasks of the role are:**

- Promotion of regional trade in East Africa, through the Embassy's support to Trade Mark East Africa;
- Promotion of bilateral trade between Ireland and Tanzania;
- Provision of macro-economic analysis to the Embassy.

**Essential requirements candidates must be able to demonstrate:**

- Candidates must have a post-graduate qualification in international development, international relations, finance, economics, social development and/or international development
- Candidates must have a minimum of five years relevant experience working in a senior management role (managing people and projects) within a development and/or humanitarian organisation in an international and/or regional setting. International management experience will be recognised as advantageous.
- Demonstrable knowledge of leading strategic planning and monitoring/evaluation/learning initiatives resulting in well-defined and achievable workplans, strategies and analysis.
- Demonstrable experience (through examples) of financial analysis and budget management at a management level.
- The candidate must demonstrate using work based examples of providing excellent interpersonal & communications skills,

being persuasive, working in a team but also dealing effectively with people in external organisations;

- Proficient with MS Office Suite including Word, Excel, Outlook and Powerpoint; additional IT applications would be beneficial (e.g. working with datasets);
- The successful candidate must have a legal entitlement to live and work in Tanzania prior to recruitment.

**Desirable competencies candidates are able to demonstrate:**

- Experience working in or closely with European institutions in a process of mutual learning and exchange.
- Basic knowledge of climate change and climate action.

**Terms and conditions of employment:**

- The successful candidates will be hired on a three-year renewable contract.

The salary for the positions is TSH 8,743,994 per month paid locally (TSH 113,671,924 annually, including a 13th month). Salary scales are fixed and non-negotiable.

**How to apply**

Applicants should visit <https://www.dfa.ie/irish-embassy/tanzania/about-us/job-opportunities/> to access the Job Description and Application Form for these positions.

Completed application forms should be sent via e-mail only to [embassyjobs@dfa.ie](mailto:embassyjobs@dfa.ie) with the subject line "Programme Manager - Resilience" or if you are applying for Inclusive Economies then indicate "Programme Manager - Inclusive Economies"

**Applications must be received before 17:00hrs. (Local time) on Sunday September 11, 2022.**

CVs or cover letters will not be accepted. No applications will be accepted after this deadline. Please note that only short listed applicants will be contacted.

**Selection Process:**

- A short-listing of candidates to be called for a competency-based interview will be undertaken based on the Essential/Key Requirements above
- A test will be administered for those who will be called for the first interview
- A second interview may be included in the recruitment process
- A panel may be set up depending on the calibre of candidates
- It is planned that first interview will be conducted early October

**General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR):**  
When your application form is received, we create a record in your name, which contains much of the personal information you have supplied. This personal record is used solely in processing your candidature. Such information held is subject to the rights and obligations set out in the Data Protection Acts, 1988 and 2003 and The General Data Protection Regulation. As per the provisions of the Data Protection Act 1988 and 2003 and the General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR) and subject to the provisions of the Freedom of Information Act, 2014 applications will be treated in strict confidence.

**Security Clearance for Local Staff**  
Police security clearance will be sought in respect of individuals who come under consideration for appointment

**Please note that canvassing will disqualify applicants. The Embassy of Ireland is committed to a policy of Equal Opportunity.**

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## WFP presents 102m/- worth of IT tools to disaster dept

By Francis Kojubi

THE World Food Programme (WFP) has handed over information and technology equipment worth 102.78m/- (\$44,266) to the Disasters Management Department (DMD) to facilitate its operations.

The DMD which operates under the Prime Minister's Office has been handed over with two drones to be used for surveillance of hazards in areas prone to disasters particularly floods and cyclones.

Speaking at the handing over event held in Dar es Salaam yesterday, Sarah Gordon-Gibson, WFP Country Director and Representative said disaster management is crucial for the government to observe in realising people's social-economic development.

"WFP is also handing over three Laptops, an 85 inches smart Samsung TV, Logitech Larry Conference facility and three wireless Cisco for the purpose of improving the quality of teleconferencing between and among government and its partners," said Gibson.

She pledged that WFP will continue supporting the government to strengthen its systems aiming at reducing the impact of hazards most of which are associated with climate change.

According to her, WFP is currently working closely with the Prime Minister's Office Disaster Management Department to develop Emergency Preparedness and Response Plans (EPRPs) for Tandahimba and Masasi districts in Mtwara region and Ruangwa and Kilwa districts in Lindi region.

"We are also working with the Disaster Management Commission (DMC) in the Second Vice President Office in Zanzibar. WFP's focus in Zanzibar is to develop guidelines on streamlining DRR in the district development plans and budgets to ensure sustainability of the activities through government financing," she clarified.

Gibson commended the government's efforts and progress made to enhance its emergency preparedness team.

The team is critical in providing support during disasters that tend to create injuries, destroy lives and

infrastructure causing food and nutrition insecurity to the already vulnerable population notably women, children and adolescence.

On another development, Gibson said WFP started implementation of its new five-year Country Strategic Plan (July 2022 - June 2027) that focuses on refugee operations and development work that includes working with small holder farmers to promote food security and nutrition, social protection and strengthening government systems to prepare and respond to various types of disasters.

She noted that WFP is also aware that the government is currently reviewing its disaster management policies and strategies to help improve its coordination on Disaster Risk Reduction (DRR) activities which are multi-sectorial in nature requiring well-coordinated structures and mechanisms from central to community level.

"As you have also embarked on the midterm review of the Sendai Disaster Risk Reduction framework, WFP sees this as yet another important commitment of the government to assess its plans and priorities to invest in preparedness actions which are more cost effective than responding to disasters when they happen," she said.

She asserted that the results of the Midterm review of the Sendai DRR Framework will help inform another UN-initiated Capacity for Disaster Reduction Initiative (CADRI) process of assessing the capacities of the government and other stakeholders to prepare, respond and recover from disasters in Tanzania.

George Simbachawene, Minister of State, Prime Minister's Office (Policy, Parliament and Coordination) said that the handed over equipment such as laptops will enable officials from the DMD to take part in webinars hence save time and cost incurred through in person meetings.

In early June this year, WFP coordinated a training session to government officials from the DMD Dodoma and Dar es Salaam offices to impart knowledge and skills on becoming certified drone pilots.



Kaspar Mmuya (C, gesturing), Deputy Permanent Secretary in the Prime Minister's Office (Policy, Parliament and Coordination), makes a follow up of progress of the on-going national Population and Housing Census in Shinyanga municipality on Tuesday. At left is Theresia Kimondo furnishing census clerk Husna Hamza with her personal details. Photo: Correspondent Marco Maduhu

## RC for Singida instructs agency to complete water projects promptly

By Guardian Correspondent, Singida

SINGIDA Regional Commissioner, Peter Serukamba has instructed officials from the Rural Water Supply and Sanitation Agency (RUWASA) to ensure that water projects are finalised on time to benefit the population.

The RC made the directives when he handed over motorcycles to RUWASA workers in districts of Singida Region in Ikungi, Manyoni, Mkalama, Kiomboi Water Authority, Ikungi Community of Water Users

(CBWSOs) and Iramba.

The ministry of water provided motorcycles worth 29.2m/- for the basis of easing the movement of the officers. "The experts should continue supervising the water projects professionally and ensure all projects contracts that we enter with the contractors are completed timely," he said.

He added that the experts should ensure that the motorcycles are used for the intended purposes so that they stay long for the intended purpose.

The Regional Commissioner insisted on RUWASA workers to consider reviewing and setting up new prices for water in rural areas to relieve residents as the precious liquid's availability was a challenge.

Manager for RUWASA in Singida, Lucas Said, said the availability of water in rural areas is approximately 61.40-percent as of June 2022.

He said in the implementation of the 2021/2022 budget, RUWASA has approved 14.9bn/- as development funds.

He said the money has been used

to implement 47 water projects in the Singida Region Council and that in the 2022/2023 budget, the region has allocated 13.4bn/- which will build 42 projects.

"RUWASA Singida Region has a total of 134 water resources at community level (CBWSOs) where they are ensuring water services are available in rural areas, RUWASA headquarters has continued to facilitate RUWASA offices in District level, Kiomboi Water Authority and services delivery bodies at community Level.



Slipway Road, off Chole Road  
Plot # 1365 - Msasani  
PO Box 9270  
Dar es Salaam, Tanzania

### INVITATION TO BID

#### Provision of Catering Services in Makere processing centre

Date: 15 August 2022  
Ref: KSL/IOM/337/22

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

In the framework of Provision of Catering Service in Makere processing centre, Makere-Kasulu district-Kigoma region in accordance with the General Conditions of Contract and the Terms of Reference as set out in this Request for Proposal (RFP).

Below list of documents are valuable resources to enable you to submit your proposal:

#### Instruction to Bidders:

1. Instructions to Service Providers
2. Technical Proposal Standard Forms
3. Financial Proposal - Standard Forms
4. Terms of Reference
5. Contract Form

If you are interested in submitting a proposal in response to this RFP, please prepare your proposal in accordance with the requirements and procedure as set out in this RFP and submit it by the deadline for submission of proposals on or before **15 September 22**

Request for proposal documents can also be available at below sites:

IOM website: <https://tanzania.iom.int/do-business-us-procurement>

IOM Dar es salaam: Slipway Road, Off Chole Road Msasani Peninsula, Plot No. 1365, P. O. Box 9270, Dar es Salaam 1.

IOM Kasulu: Bogwe secondary road - opposite to Kasulu Teacher's College, P.O.BOX 303, Kasulu district  
We look forward to receiving your proposal.

The enclosed RFP form shall be submitted in original and duplicated copy and must be delivered by hand on or before the deadline of the RFP submission date. The currency of the RFP and figures should be clearly indicated to avoid ambiguity. RFP that do not fulfill this requirement will be disqualified.

1. RFP submitted after the closing date will not be considered.
2. RFP shall be valid for period of 90 (Ninety) calendar days after submission
3. IOM reserves the right to accept, reject or cancel any or all bids and to annul the selection process and

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## AU, WHO decry low investment, funding for TB control in Africa

By Guardian Reporter

AFRICAN Union (AU) and World Health Organisation (WHO) yesterday said investment and funding for tuberculosis control in Africa remain low, risking efforts to meet the global target of ending the disease by 2030.

The AU and WHO, on the sidelines of the 72nd session of the WHO Regional Committee for Africa in Lomé, Togo, said the African region requires at least \$1.3 billion for tuberculosis prevention and treatment every year, yet countries contribute 22 per cent of the needed budget, while external funding accounts for 34 per cent. The rest of the budget remains unfunded.

They, however, called for immediate and comprehensive measures to end the significant toll of tuberculosis among children in Africa. The appeal was made jointly with the Elizabeth Glaser Pediatric AIDS Foundation (EGPAF) and the Stop TB Partnership.

The partners called on African countries to prioritise funding for tuberculosis prevention and control and allocate sufficient financial,

technical and human resources to accelerate progress towards ending the disease in children and adolescents.

The AU and WHO, in a joint statement by WHO AFRO, said the African region is home to 17 of the 30 countries with the highest tuberculosis burden globally and accounts for around 322,000 children and young adolescents (aged 0 to 15 years) or a third of tuberculosis cases among those under 15 years of age worldwide.

Of particular concern is that two-thirds of children in the region are unreported or undiagnosed for the disease, leading to an increased risk of rapid disease progression and mortality, especially in younger children. Among children under five, just around a third (32 per cent) are diagnosed - the smallest proportion globally.

According to the statement, the low detection of tuberculosis arises from challenges in specimen collection as well as bacteriological confirmation of the disease among children who can display non-specific clinical symptoms that overlap those of other common

childhood diseases.

WHO Regional Director for Africa, Dr Matshidiso Moeti, said: "The epidemic of tuberculosis among children in Africa has been occurring in the shadows and has until now been largely ignored. We hope this call will galvanise action and ensure no child in Africa is lost to a disease, which in many parts of the world is now history. "Strong political leadership, accountability, financial support and global solidarity are critically needed to increase access to effective diagnostics, medications, vaccines and other tools for tuberculosis control."

The AU, WHO, EGPAF and Stop TB Partnership also called for swift measures to accelerate recovery from the impact of COVID-19 and urged countries to facilitate the scale-up of child-friendly tuberculosis diagnosis, treatment and care.

Executive Director of Stop TB Partnership, Dr Lucica Ditiu, said: "One child dies of tuberculosis somewhere in the world every two minutes, even though tuberculosis is curable and preventable. Children with tuberculosis almost never spread the disease and are always infected by an adult. So, their suffering is a metric of our failures to diagnose and treat tuberculosis in children.



Jamila Seaman (L), a teacher for children living in difficult conditions being cared for at Dar es Salaam's Marzia Daycare Centre, briefs Sheikh Hemed Jalala (2nd-R), the Shia Khoja Ithnaasher community leader in Tanzania, who visited a health screening camp the community hosted in the city yesterday. Photo: Guardian Correspondent





Kilindi constituency legislator Omar Kigua addresses Songe ward residents earlier this week on the need to engage more in development activities. Photo: Correspondent Dege Masoli

## Don't be drivers of sex corruption, women told

By Correspondent Sabato Kasika

THE Chairman of the Coast Region Campaign for Heroes on Community Development (SMAUJATA), Shemsuu Issaya has called on women not to be the cause of sex corruption in politics and other areas, instead they should be at the forefront to speak against the vice.

Shemsuu made the call at a seminar that discussed enhancing women participation in decision making positions in Dar es Salaam on Wednesday.

The seminar was organised by the Kipunguni Knowledge Centre and brought together over 40 women from Majohe and Kipunguni wards.

Shemsuu said some women engage in promiscuous acts by wearing provocative dresses designed to attract men.

"We have to abandon creating environments for sex corruption through provocative dressing, we should instead respect ourselves and be at the forefront in speaking against the vice," she said.

She added that women have the ability to lead and that there is no need to use improper dress to vie for leadership positions, education or other jobs.

Meanwhile, Asia Ally, Kipunguni street resident stressed on the issue of women maintaining confidence saying

that without that they can continue to be used for other people's interests.

"I was involved in the sex corruption issue in regard to politics, but I was firm and overcame the trap," she said.

She said there are people, who offer sex corruption and succeeded, but others are not so lucky, hence, she added the best way is to spurn sex corruption as it humiliates women.

The centre's director, Seleman Bishangazi said the seminar also aims to assist women to conduct their economic activities to avoid humiliation due to poverty.

"All these things, including sex corruption and gender based violence happen due to lack of income, hence Women Fund have empowered us to assist women and girls to avoid such humiliating environment," he added.



**I was involved in the sex corruption issue in regard to politics, but I was firm and overcame the trap**

By Correspondent Valentine Oforo, Dodoma

## TDB to establish more milk centres in Dodoma

THE Tanzania Dairy Board (TDB) is set to establish more milk centers for public servants at ministries and other public offices at government city in Dodoma.

TDB registrar Dr George Msalya said here yesterday that the board was currently working to increase the number of milk centers designated for the on-going vital exercise, to at least 20 centers from the current 10.

"The vision is to cater for more public servants in offices and ministries to help instill a culture of milk drinking, the trend which is both beneficial for human health improvement as well as the country's economic gains," he said, adding that the board has so far installed modern refrigerators at most ministries to facilitate smooth

dispensation of the programme.

He said that the focus was now to extend the programmes coverage to further ministries, noting: "We've imported the special modern refrigerators for professional milk storage, the facilities that are regularly inspected and filled with fresh milk to enable the public servants in the

relevant ministries accessing the services on a daily basis."

Dr Msalya said that the initiative targets to significantly spur a market for locally produced milk instead of imported ones, the move that will automatically improve incomes among local producers and processors.

"This move is not profit oriented,

but it is a service tailor -made that seeks to improve milk production and consumption records in Tanzania, and thus, the beneficiaries are only contributing a small amount of money to get the services (milk)," he stated, stressing that the board will continue improving the programme's services as well as expanding its coverage,

targeting to reach out to all public offices from across the country.

"We've vast plans and visions pertaining to implementation of this project, but unfortunately we're being constrained by unavailability of needed financial resources to help us run it at intended coverage and quality."



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## DECLARATION OF DIVIDEND

The Board of Directors of TOL Gases Limited is delighted to announce that the Annual General Meeting of shareholders held on **19<sup>th</sup> August 2022**, approved the declaration of dividend of Tsh. 40.00 per issued and fully paid up shares for the year ended **31<sup>st</sup> December 2021**.

The following timetable for dividend payment;

<b>Announcement of Dividend Payment:</b>	<b>19<sup>th</sup> August, 2022</b>
<b>Trading of Shares cum Dividend:</b>	<b>19<sup>th</sup> August 2022 – 9<sup>th</sup> September 2022</b>
<b>Trading of Shares Ex-Dividend:</b>	<b>10<sup>th</sup> September 2022</b>
<b>Closure of the Members Register:</b>	<b>14<sup>th</sup> September 2022</b>
<b>Re-Opening of the Register:</b>	<b>15<sup>th</sup> September 2022</b>
<b>Dividend Payment on/or about:</b>	<b>15<sup>th</sup> October 2022</b>

Dividend will be paid directly to shareholders bank accounts.

### BY ORDER OF THE BOARD

Directors:

M.N.Shirima – Chairman(Tanzanian), S. Mponji – (Tanzanian), J.Massawe – (Tanzanian), S.Selestine – TR – URT (Tanzanian), Prof.ATemu – (Tanzanian), Eng. J. Machange – (Tanzanian) L.Kitoka – (Tanzanian)



## JKT announces opening of new window for voluntary training

By Henry Mwangonde

THE National Service (JKT) yesterday announced the opening of a new window for the youth to join voluntary training for the year 2022.

Speaking at a press conference yesterday Head of administration branch for the national service Brig. Gen. Hassan Mabena said the process to apply and hence be selected to join the training is being coordinated by offices of Regional and District Commissioners across the country.

"Preparations for the processes to join the National Service begin today 25 August, those who will be selected are required to report in JKT camps by September," he said.

The National Service also used the opportunity to inform the general public that it is not involved in finding jobs for youth in security agencies or any other government institution saying the training they offer helps the youth to employ themselves upon completion.

Brig Gen Mabena said those qualified are supposed to be Tanzanian citizens aged between 16 and 18 for those who finished standard 7. For those who finished secondary education they are supposed to be aged between 18 to 22 and less than 26 years for those with a diploma and a degree respectively.

The National Service has for many years been training youth volunteers

countrywide, who are there after training to employ themselves after the end of the contract with JKT.

Some of them have been employed in other security organs upon completion of their training.

The mission of the training is to equip youth with the requisite knowledge, skills and culture values which will enable them to contribute positively to the social-economic development as well as to the defense and security of the nation.



**Preparations for the processes to join the National Service begin today 25 August, those who will be selected are required to report in JKT camps by September**



Tanga regional commissioner Omari Mgumba (C) has a word with Community Police Commissioner Faustine Shilogile in Tanga city yesterday. The latter is in Tanga region for a five-day visit meant chiefly to encourage cooperation between the police and local communities. Photo: Correspondent Hamida Kamchalla

By Guardian Correspondent, Morogoro

MOROGORO Urban Water and Sanitation Authority (MORUWASA) has allayed fears on Mindu Ward residents who depend on the Kasanga reservoir for their water supply saying that the project, which is still on trial after completion by the contractor, was built to the required standards.

The remarks were made by MORUWASA Managing Director, Eng Tamimu Katakweba after an inspection visit to the project accompanied by experts from the authority who walked for more than 6kms from the Mafiga Water Treatment Centre to Kasanga Reservoir.

The aim of the visit was to inspect the areas where water pipes passed for any deficiencies in regard to smooth

## Water reservoir has required standards, argues MORUWASA

water flow following directives from Morogoro Urban MP, Abdulaziz Abood who had received complaints from his constituents on water shortage due to leaking pipes.

However, Eng Katakweba said the inspection identified four leaking areas and that the issue was a normal, technical one that will be rectified as soon as possible.

He said apart from the normal water leakages the water flow to the 135,000-litre Kasanga reservoir has not been affected.

"The main task of the contractor was to make sure the water reaches the tank, and this was achieved after changing the water pipes from two-inch pipe to six-inch," he said.

He said the only remaining work, which is their responsibility, not contractor's is to make sure the water reaches the residents.

"I assure more than 10,000 residents of Mgaza and Kasanga that they will get adequate water supply, which will be a great relief from the water rationing in which people get water every 10 to 14

days," MORUWASA managing Director said.

A day before the inspection, Morogoro Urban MP Abdulaziz Abood visited Mgaza-Kasanga area, Mindu Ward and received complaints in regard to water supply claiming that water was not reaching the reservoir as there were many leakages along the main supply pipes.

In turn, Abood directed MORUWASA to make an inspection on the water infrastructures.

## African internet stakeholders discuss ways to improve network interconnection

KIGALI

A FORUM of internet stakeholders opened in Rwanda's capital Kigali to discuss how to improve local and regional network interconnection.

The Africa Peering and Interconnection Forum (AFPIF) was organized by the Internet Society (ISOC) and the African IXP Association (AFIX) in collaboration with the Rwanda Internet Community and Technology Alliance (RICTA).

"Broadband Internet access and utilization have a profound impact on the improvement of services delivery across all sectors of our economy. Today, Internet usage enables better outcomes in learning, delivering healthcare, managing better our energy resources, and achieving higher citizen engagement with the government," Rwanda's Permanent Secretary for the Ministry of Innovation and ICT Yves Iradukunda said while opening the forum.

Michuki Mwangi, a technologist at Internet Society said considerable progress has been made in the establishment of new Internet Exchange Points (IXPs) while supporting the growth of existing ones.

But the full impact of exchanging Internet traffic at the 49 IXPs across 35 countries in Africa is yet to be realized, he said.

Mwangi mentioned the need to enhance collaboration between Internet service providers, mobile network operators, content providers, large enterprise networks, and policymakers.

The three-day event has convened stakeholders from across the continent and globally, including Meta, Google, Liquid Intelligent Technologies, Microsoft, the Internet Initiative Japan Lab, and Africa Data Centers, among others.

The annual forum, now in its 11th edition, serves as a platform to expand and develop the African Internet.

Participants including infrastructure, service, and content providers, are seeking to identify ways to improve network interconnection, lower the cost of connectivity, and increase the Internet's resiliency and experience for

local users, according to a statement by the Internet Society.

The Africa Peering and Interconnection Forum was created to respond to the fact that most of Africa's local Internet traffic is exchanged outside the continent.

Exchanging traffic locally through IXPs reduces Internet access costs and network delays and increases content access speeds.

IXPs are technical infrastructures that enable a faster, cheaper, and more reliable Internet experience by bringing multiple networks from the private, public, and educational sectors together to connect and exchange Internet traffic.

Instead of using expensive international transit routes, Internet traffic is exchanged locally and access speeds for content can be up to 10 times faster.

This year's AFPIF focuses on Internet interconnection dynamics, content distribution, and transit obstacles at local and regional levels.



**Broadband Internet access and utilization have a profound impact on the improvement of services delivery across all sectors of our economy. Today, Internet usage enables better outcomes in learning, delivering healthcare, managing better our energy resources, and achieving higher citizen engagement with the government**



Zanzibar Electoral Commission director Khamis Kona Khamis (R) has a word with Tanzania Media Women's Association (Zanzibar chapter) director Dr Mzuri Issa after a meeting on gender equality held at the ZEC offices yesterday. Photo: Rahma Suleiman

## TAMWA calls for gender parity in ZEC structure

By Guardian Reporter, Zanzibar

TANZANIA Media Women Association Zanzibar (TAMWA-Zanzibar) has said the time has come for the Zanzibar Electoral Commission to make sure it has in place an environment for gender equality in its structure as well as in executing its responsibilities including the management of elections.

The call was made in a special debate following the conclusion of a meeting held in September last year during which both sides were handed responsibilities to review gender policy

for having in place a gender equality environment in the commission's structure and its operations.

Speaking at the meeting, TAMWA's Director, Dr Mzuri Issa said women's participation in ZEC's activities will provide more light which will eventually make more women attain their goals, including in leadership.

She said for many years, men were prominent in ZEC activities including election supervision, adding that if many women will participate in ZEC activities, it will spur many women to involve themselves in voting in fellow women or themselves vie for elective

posts.

TAMWA-Zanzibar Head of Projects Ali Mohamed said as changes for bringing about gender equality continue there is need to create an obligatory environment in the Political Parties Act that should stipulate equal gender representation for women.

He said the need for these amendments will provide a friendly environment for many women and remove oppression.

Earlier, ZEC Commissioner Khamis Kona Khamis said the meeting has come at the right time as the commission is in the process to deal

with the recommendations discussed.

He noted that apart from these challenges, to a large extent ZEC has continued to deal with gender issues, adding that are why some districts including those in Zanzibar North Region all of its officials are women.

TAMWA-Zanzibar in collaboration with other civil organisations have the responsibility to send their recommendations when they see there are system challenges and if they do that they will greatly help the work of the commission and advance development in the interest of the nation.



## NBS extended 5 cars to Kagera Region to help officers to get to remote areas

By Correspondent Mutayoba Arbogast, Bukoba

THE National Bureau of Statistics (NBS) has provided five vehicles to Kagera Region to enable officers to reach remote areas with logistical challenges during the ongoing Population and Housing Census.

The region borders countries of Rwanda, Burundi, and the Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC) and Kenya with various remote areas.

Speaking after receiving the vehicles, Kagera Regional Commissioner Albert Chalamila hailed the government for the vehicles which will be distributed in all the districts.

"We requested these cars to help us address challenges arising from the ongoing Population and Housing Census, so the vehicles will help to ensure that the exercise is fully implemented," he said.

He cautioned those who are speaking badly about the exercise saying the government will not hesitate to take serious actions against them because the exercise was important for national development.

In another development, some people who have not been counted

up to the second day were in a panic mood saying all their daily activities had stopped as they waited to be counted but they have not seen the Census clerks.

The RC however told the residents to be calm saying every household will be counted because the government was aware of the challenges that have emerged.



**We requested these cars to help us address challenges arising from the ongoing Population and Housing Census, so the vehicles will help to ensure that the exercise is fully implemented**

## Research on chemicals used in mining areas, NIMR urged

By Guardian Correspondent, Chunya

CHUNYA District residents have appealed to the National Institute for Medical Research (NIMR) to conduct research in mining areas to identify the effects from the use of chemicals.

Itumbi Village resident in the District, Elika Solomon said the issue of diseases in areas with mining activities is big and that its cause is probably the use of unsafe water they use.

"Here at Itumbi there is no pipe water services, we fetch water from ponds, canals and rivers which are not safe even in appearance, but since we have no alternative, we use it, hence we have no way of knowing how it affects our health," he said and appealed to NIMR to conduct research and to the government for safe and clean water supply.

Chunya District Medical Officer Dr Daison Andrew said mining activities have great health effects to the community; hence there is every reason for conducting research so that the community will be able to know about the effects of using water and other things that might have hazardous chemicals to humans.

"If we are educated about that then we can tell the people to take great care in regard to how they live even including changing their occupation to save lives and abandon activities

that could be life threatening for the people," he added.

Dr Andrew added that in these mining areas there is Tuberculosis (TB) disease; hence both issues need research to save the lives of Chunya residents.

Meanwhile, NIMR Director General, Prof Yunus Mgaya said every issue needs cooperation hence, he added, his institute will cooperate with all stakeholders to see how to reach the area and make in-depth research on the matter.



**If we are educated about that then we can tell the people to take great care in regard to how they live even including changing their occupation to save lives and abandon activities that could be life threatening for the people**

## 'Census will help government to identify actual water needs'

By Guardian Correspondent, Mbeya

THE Ministry of Water has said the ongoing Population and Housing Census will help in identifying the actual water needs that will enable it to provide reliable water supply services in urban and rural areas by taking into consideration the area's population.

The remarks were made here on Wednesday by Deputy Minister for water, Eng Maryprisca Mahundi after being enumerated at her home in Iwambi, Mbeya City.

She said the correct population and housing statistics will help the government to know the exact number of people to enable it to provide water services according to the number of the people in a particular area.

"We are thankful to the government that we have come to the much awaited exercise as we shall now have correct data on the people for provision of appropriate social services," the deputy minister said.

Speaking on the census exercise, the national assembly speaker, Dr Tulia Ackson called upon the people to continue providing the right information to the enumerators to enable the country to get the desired statistics for national development.

She said correct statistics on

population and people's settlements will assist the government know the actual requirements of its people and will enable the country to attain middle income status and improve the income of every Tanzanian.

Meanwhile, Mbeya Regional Commissioner, Juma Homera said this year's Population and Housing Census is conducted digitally to simplify compilation work, as compared to past censuses.

He said in the past the statistics were recorded on paper but this year they are collected digitally.



**We are thankful to the government that we have come to the much awaited exercise as we shall now have correct data on the people for provision of appropriate social services**



Mtwara resident Mohamed Hassan Jongo pictured in Mtwara-Mikindani municipality on Wednesday holding a dummy cheque for the 10.9m/- he had just won in a Bikosport raffle. Photo: Guardian Correspondent

## Driver linked to Inyala road crash arrested

By Guardian Correspondent, Mbeya

POLICE in Mbeya have finally nabbed the truck driver associated with the road accident that killed 19 people and injured 31 others down the slope on Inyala Mountain near Shamwengo Village, Mbeya Region ten days ago.

In the accident the truck rammed into three vehicles including a passenger bus.

Mbeya Regional Police Commander ACP Ulrich Matei named the truck driver as Mukhsin Gumbo (24) a Dar es Salaam resident saying he fled after the accident.

The accident that happened on

August 16 involved a goods truck Reg. T387DFJ hauled a trailer with Reg. T918DFE when the truck developed brake failure and hit the vehicles after which it plunged into a ravine.

RPC Matei said Gumbo was arrested on August 20 this year at his house in Mabibo Mvisho area in Dar es Salaam and handed over to Mbeya City for interrogations and other legal steps.

He said after initial investigations, the driver confessed to have driven the truck down the slope using wrong gear which he said was the cause for the brake failure.

"After the accident he fled but we used our own means to track him

down and after four days we managed to nab him in Dar es Salaam.

Initially he used to live in Tabata area with his uncle but after the accident he moved and lived with his brother in Mabibo," said RPC Matei.

He said as an initial step the police have suspended his driving licence for six months, adding that other legal steps will follow.

RPC Matei further said that from his young age Gumbo was not supposed to drive such a vehicle hauling a trailer and that there is a need to amend some of Road Traffic laws and regulations.

He also said the police have been instructed by IGP Camillus Wambura

to start providing special training to drivers aimed at reducing road accidents. "We shall start providing such training on Monday next week beginning with government and lorry drivers, we shall instruct them on how to manage vehicles along steep road gradients," he said.

A few days after the road accident, the Head of Police Operations and Training CP Awadh Juma Haji and National Road Traffic Commander, Wilbrod Mutafungwa visited the site of the accident and directed that big and small vehicles should be allowed to drive along the gradient in turn to minimize accidents.



Songwe Airport senior aviation management officer Emmanuel Wanje (L) briefs Works and Transport deputy minister (Transport Sector) Atupele Mwakibete (2nd-R) earlier this week on aircraft communication. The latter was on an inspection tour of progress on the construction of the runway and the passenger waiting wing. Photo: Correspondent Grace Mwakalinga



## Vision on tarmac roads essential for rural enterprise, youth occupations

REPORTS towards the end of last month showed clear preference of members of the national Road Fund Board that the Tanzania Rural and Urban Roads Agency (TARURA) should focus on improving district and ward roads - or village roads in particular - by using gravel as the major maintenance method.

The reason cited was that it is costly to build roads at tarmac level and maintenance is also expensive - implying that it is unaffordable, unlike gravel maintenance, leading to what the board members call all-weather roads. Experience shows those roads are a punishment everywhere.

What was essential to objections to tarmac-level rebuilding or elevation instead of cycles of maintaining dusty and bumpy roads that are 'beautified' using gravel and all-weather roads was that the tar used in tarmac roads is imported.

A section of those familiar with the industry however point out that it isn't expensive oil that is at issue but coal tar, and we have plenty of coal lying unused in the Liganga and Mchuchuma coal and iron bearing zone.

With some investment, it is evident the State Mining Corporation (STAMICO) can produce enough of the tar needed for district roads as well as the major roads managed by the Tanzania National Roads Agency (Tanroads).

The government is focused on inviting investments in all districts to create jobs to make youths elect to remain in the zones after secondary school and then vocational training.

Thus, electricity connection and tarmac roads are vitally essential components to this effort. Tarmac roads built to standards are durable and change the face or landscape in a qualitative manner, which needs a vision to keep focused. With vast coal potential and cash for infrastructure, opting for gravel roads could understandably be seen as a mistake.

District authorities used to undertake

dust roads with scattered stones for more than two decades, from the early 1990s to mid-last decade.

One reason was that road building was a special area for faulty procurement, while tarmac roads were being built for twice the cost in Zambia.

This was duly altered as latter-day authorities had a special liking for the 'big results,' not the merry-go-round with dusty roads - tied up with massive urban migration without ability to do anything worthwhile.

With the tarmac roads project being followed up keenly, we can ill afford to go for cheap roads that just cannot do without being rebuilt each rainy season.

Arranging the shipment of heavy oils for mixing with coal isn't difficult as the oils are primarily a waste product, especially after refining, even without an auxiliary modest loan facility to reduce quotations for private firms building tarmac roads.

In extreme circumstances, such funds are recovered with marginal increases in road tolls, vehicle licensing fees, and coal tar can be made here. We don't have to scale back rural tarmac roads or electricity connection as that would be to cloud the development vision.

As President Samia Suluhu Hassan intimated, those tasked with overseeing implementation in vital development sectors need to keep the vision of a modernised country through good roads and power connection all over.

Indeed, compromising on that would risk spoiling the pervasive enthusiasm for tarmac roads as a sure catalyst in social and economic development.

He put it excellently who said reducing the distance between people, markets, services and knowledge - or simply getting people connected - was a great part of what economic growth is all about.

For, surely, even as virtual connectivity will have become increasingly important today with the emergence of new communication avenues, a good and reliable transport network remains crucial.

## Commuter bus operators must be made to treat students fairly

COMPLAINTS are rising that primary and secondary school students in metropolitan Dar es Salaam are commonly compelled to spend long hours going from home to school and back.

This tiring decades-long situation arises as bus conductors routinely bar them from boarding buses, wishing to take passengers paying the full fare, especially in the wake of rising fares for ordinary and special routes.

With this scenario, the students' capacity for being early in school diminishes appreciably and impact on their learning.

Commuter bus operators, whether it is the conductor and driver on their own or it includes the bus owners, may have a point at hand. It is the fact that fares paid by students have not been reviewed in the wake of the fare hike from 400/- lower fare per trip to 500/- and for longer trips from 500/- to 600/- or from 600/- to 800/- as the case may be.

It is evident that this is a regulatory issue that ought to be examined by the competent authorities, as expecting goodwill from commuter bus operators on the basis of the maxim that 'your neighbour's child is also your child' is unlikely to work.

There was a time that police checks were being mounted on a routine or even regular basis to see if commuter buses were picking up students at peak hours, or push them to roadsides until the passenger flow thinned out.

Much the same thing is happening now, and perhaps with gusto because of the increase in fares, intensifying the sense of loss on the part of commuter bus operators. It is something that merits being set out at a round table or being resolved by regulatory bodies and then enforced by police.

The question that comes up is whether this issue merits stakeholder consultations or is merely a regulatory matter that is resolved by decree and duly enforced.

It is a multiple choice question where either potential response has attendant managerial or enforcement implications.

That would imply affirming that the fare stays at 200/-, ruling out consultations and prefiguring stern police enforcement of the rule that pupils pay that fare and not be discriminated upon. It looks simple, but it raises hard questions.

A preliminary issue is whether pupils' and students' fares need to be reviewed from time to time like the ones for adults' fare, where the response is likely to be in clear affirmation, in which case the fares ought to be reviewed.

The second aspect is the principle of such review, where the old rule was that pupils pay half the basic fare in whatever direction or destination. At present that makes 250/- the half fare to minimum single-trip standard fare, but it is evident that longer route operators will demand 300/- as minimum half fare. Another way out with respect to such dispute would be to simplify the matter with a median standard half fare of 300/- which is on the higher side for minimum fare buses and lower for long-route buses, if students use their services.

Studying far from home could suggest that the parents have considered the fare aspect, but sometimes there is just no better option.

All things considered, but still given the importance of education, the students' fare issue is too crucial to be left hanging in the air - as it were. It is one of those pressing issues all relevant stakeholders ought to really seriously address with the urgency they deserve.

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## Nine unintentionally demotivating things bosses say

By Max Klein

“SEE! You'll learn to stop questioning me!” my old boss barked through the phone as victory oozed from his voice.

He thought that he was proving his intelligence because he was right, and I was wrong about something. Fine. He was right. I was wrong. And he was intelligent. But his end goal of me never questioning his ideas was misguided and demotivating.

I had to respond: “You were definitely right. But are you saying ideally that your end goal is for me to say ‘yes, boss’ to everything you say even if I have concerns about it?”

He got my point. He just hadn't thought of it like that before. I give him credit for reconsidering his goal.

As someone who has studied and practised leadership for over 20 years in military, business, and volunteer settings, I have seen a few things that bosses say and aren't meant to be demotivating, but are.

Here are a few. **One:** “You have some big shoes to fill!” This phrase's impact ranges from benign to demotivating, so why use it?

Leaders say this to challenge someone new who is replacing someone good. But in my experience, this phrase creates only anxiety-based motivation. Challenging people to simply “measure up” isn't effectively motivational.

This phrase makes people feel like they're starting at a disadvantage - like the most that they can hope for with hard work is to achieve the status quo.

Instead of saying “you have some big shoes to fill!” you could say “I am confident you'll do an excellent job filling this role.”

**Two:** “Forget it. I'll just do it.” There is almost nothing more demotivating than your bosses doing work they assigned to you just because they don't think you can do it right.

A boss shouldn't assign work that people can't do, and if they do assign work, they should leave it to the assignee to finish it, then offer guidance or even help but only when help is truly needed.

Never should bosses take back a task and do it themselves. Instead, they should say: “Keep at it! You got this!”

**Three:** (On a weekend) “Get back to me ASAP (as soon as possible).”

Good bosses know that people need breaks from work to be their best at work. Sure, some work “emergencies” come up, which is understandable, but most business in most professions can probably wait until Monday.

When employees are forced to take their time to accommodate their bosses' needs, especially when it's not an “emergency”, they almost always resent it unless they like their jobs more than their personal time. And I don't know many people like that.



**Four:** “Run everything by me first.” Nothing says lack of trust like “run everything by me first.” Many employees, especially creative, hard-working, high-initiative ones, see this as a punishment.

Sure, the boss needs to know what's going on and maybe has to check what's going “out” and give the rubber stamp, but employees' initiative usually exists in direct proportion to the autonomy and trust a leader has given them.

If some things must be run by you, fine, but make sure that it's only what truly needs your “eyes on” and always err on the side of trusting those you lead.

**Five:** “The customer is always right.” No. Sometimes customers are wrong. And some customers are worth telling that they're wrong then dropping them as customers.

This phrase is a little antiquated, I believe. It's definitely highly demotivating to hear, though, when an employee is humiliated or disrespected or verbally abused by a customer.

On the other hand, sometimes the customer isn't right, but egos are involved - it's not a big deal, and the employee just needs a thicker skin.

**Six:** “(Pffft) That won't work.” A boss shouldn't belittle an employee's input, even if it's faulty. Looking back, I remember a few times when I first

started my job I had horrible ideas for improvement, but instead of my boss laughing it off, he took me seriously and encouraged me to keep thinking creatively.

Because he didn't dismiss me back then, I felt like I was free to think freely and be creative. And then, when I started getting more experience, this freedom led to much better ideas which he eventually implemented.

Good bosses don't discourage creative or critical thinking, even when that thinking is wrong.

**Seven:** “Hmmm...Look what co-worker 'x' did today.” I used to hate this in sales if the boss was serious about it.

The boss would think it was somehow motivating to create resentment between salespeople. There's a fine line between fun competition and genuine comparisons of co-workers making one of them feel inadequate.

But like I have said above, motivation by creation of anxiety isn't very productive. It's more motivating to encourage employees individually than to compare them publicly.

**Eight:** Monday: “Cool.” Tuesday: “Not cool!” A boss who can't stay somewhat emotionally consistent becomes an emotional drain on those she or he leads.

When employees do one thing one day and it's fine then the same thing the next and it's not, it creates confusion,

resentment and discouragement that they can't figure out what the boss expects.

Emotional intensity by a leader is fine, but emotional volatility isn't. Good bosses strive for stability in their temperament and expectations.

**Nine:** “When will you learn to stop questioning me?” As stated in the opener, bosses should want people to question them with tact and mutual respect - of course.

Insecure bosses value strict compliance over critical thinking. People do need to just follow orders sometimes but count yourself lucky if you have an employee who voices her or his earnest opinion when it runs counter to yours.

Those are the employees that will make you and the team better and smarter.

**Final thoughts:** Actions do speak louder than words, but words do speak pretty loud too when you're the boss. A few phrases off the cuff that may not mean much to you could erode the motivation of those you lead.

The more power you have, the more power your words wield. So choose your words wisely. And you'll motivate those you have the honour to lead.

• A medium.com dispatch. Max Klein is a US Marine Corps veteran with an MBA in Strategy and Management.



## To succeed as a leader, you must listen to and care for your subordinates

**T**HERE are many examples of people who got appointed or promoted to senior and lucrative leadership positions only to be demoted or relieved of those duties within months or even days. This means leadership is not a cup of tea that anyone can drink.

As a leader in the organization, whether you are the head of a department, the chief executive officer or human resource manager, you ought to be a great leader; give directions but allow your colleagues to be themselves.

It means you are visionary and have attempted to show the same to the team. You listen to your colleagues whenever they need someone to listen to and their go-to person when they want to bounce off ideas on how to get things done. Even if their ideas don't seem to make sense, you should have a way of just giving the listening ear.

Colleagues will certainly celebrate working with you because you are genuinely a team player. You actually want the best for the team. You want only what works well for the team and thus they'll enjoy being around you. They want to be associated with you in a lot of the things that they will do.

If you notice that even colleagues who are not in your department seem to want to be part of your departmental initiatives, then it means they do enjoy working with you and thus celebrate you too. That's a big sign of success and not every leader pulls it off.

As a mentor for aspiring colleagues and a coach to those already within the system, colleagues will tend to value your counsel. You are full of wisdom and understanding in dealing with issues. You are able to identify in them their talents and work with them on the same. Ability to respectfully correct them as a professional is very important. For, this sets apart a leader who is respected from the one who is feared namely the bossy, shouting fellow.

If you are the kind of colleague that makes others feel important and make them feel that they matter, then you are the kind that cares about colleagues' views irrespective of their rank in the



organization. Indeed, you are ripe for celebration within the organization and this will not go unnoticed.

Physical hygiene is an important aspect to uphold as a leader because there are certain things that colleagues take for granted in the workplace and yet form a very integral part of the work environment. Yes, personal hygiene cannot be ignored in any way.

To be honest, if this is a major issue then the converse comes to play. Colleagues will tend to tolerate you just because they have to work with you. Thinking of the times when you take that puff and the previous night's drink and then you run a one-to-one session with your staff.

Now I digress to the negative yet there is better to be found here. Think of the way you enter the office and they already know you are there. The celebration of such a person as a leader who is conscious about his hygiene is beyond measure as colleagues want to associate with well-groomed and hygienic colleagues.

Last, but definitely not least, you will be celebrated as long as you carry a genuine smile. I know recently I had a bad day when things were just not working in my

workplace. And it was clear they knew I had lost my smile for that day so I knew I was being tolerated.

If you are that kind of person who never produces positive vibes and energy, colleagues will avoid you. And indeed that day, I was totally avoided and my rabbit teeth were no longer visible. Check it out, in your workplace since energy boosters are people who make you laugh and smile even in the midst of all the drama.

I have had a few of them in my work life and indeed they have been so helpful and I celebrate them. Are you that one who colleagues know to go to when their energy levels are very low? Do you have that rare magic smile? Does it give the abracadabra feel? Then if they don't tell you this, I am telling you: I celebrate you, my dear colleague. It is not easy to maintain a smile in the midst of workplace drama. I salute you with my whole being.

The work environment can bring out certain qualities that may bring both features of tolerance and celebratory in the same breath. Be conscious enough to know when you are being tolerated or celebrated. Either way, let the latter tip the scale at all times.



## The world owes the Rohingyas their right to human dignity

NEW DELHI

**I**t has been five years since the forced exodus of the Rohingyas from Myanmar, and their plea for justice and accountability continues.

On August 25, 2017, "Myanmar military began a sweeping campaign of massacres, rape, and arson in northern Rakhine State", said Human Rights Watch in its latest report, Myanmar: No Justice, No Freedom for Rohingya 5 Years On: Anniversary of Atrocities Highlights International Inaction.

Today, this day is marked as Rohingya Genocide Remembrance Day, the day that forced almost 750,000 Rohingyas to flee to Bangladesh, while about 600,000 remain under "oppressive rule" in Myanmar.

"No one has been held accountable for the crimes against humanity and acts of genocide committed against the Rohingya population. This anniversary should prompt concerned governments to take concrete action to hold the Myanmar military to account and secure justice and safety for the Rohingyas in Bangladesh, Myanmar, and across the region," the report said.

For the hundreds and thousands of Rohingya refugees who entered southern Bangladesh through beaches and paddy fields in 2017, "they brought with them accounts of the unspeakable violence and brutality that had forced them to flee," UNICEF said in this report.

"Those fleeing attacks and violence in the 2017 exodus joined around 300,000 people already in Bangladesh from previous waves of displacement, effectively forming the world's largest refugee camp," the report said. As of August 2022, about one million Rohingyas live in refugee camps in Cox's Bazar in Bangladesh.

Dr Mohsina Chaklader, a doctor with Humanity Auxilium, in an exclusive interview with IPS, said: "Rohingya refugees arrived with physical and mental trauma that were directly attributable to the offenses from the Myanmar army - which includes physical violence, deaths of loved ones, many days of journey with no food."

Humanity Auxilium is a health-based NGO that provides health care and training to the world's most marginalized communities.

Chaklader said she treated visible wounds and deep psychological



**Dr Mohsina Chaklader, a doctor with Humanity Auxilium, walks through Cox's Bazar. Chaklader says while physical conditions in the refugee camps that house more than 900,000 more needs to be done. Credit: Humanity Auxilium**

trauma.

"The conditions I witnessed included fractures, deep wounds, malnutrition, infections, and post-traumatic stress disorders. Rohingya women and girls comprised more than 50 percent of the population that came to these camps. They faced unique challenges as many were tortured and gang-raped during the genocide, and many gave birth to children as a result of those rapes. These victims were also rejected by their husbands due to the rape and assault. These

days women are worried about the future of their children who are born in these camps."

While there have been improvements, the Rohingya refugees' conditions are still dire.

"From my very recent visits, I saw greater structural organization, but camps still continue to lack infrastructure - proper drainage systems, toilets, safe, clean water supply, and mudslides across the camps hinder mobility. The challenges are still enormous. Medical care is not suf-

ficient to meet the demands of a population living in cramped and unhealthy conditions," Chaklader said.

About half a million Rohingya refugee children are exiled from their home country. Many born into this limbo today have little access to education.

According to a study by the Norwegian Refugee Council, approximately 96 percent of surveyed youth aged 18 to 24 are currently unemployed, and 9 out of 10 aged 18-24 are in debt, having borrowed money within the

last six months. Ninety-nine percent of women aged 18 to 24 are unemployed.

"In the absence of a political solution and resettlement of refugees in third countries, it will be important to develop economic self-sufficiency within the camps," says Chaklader.

"While Bangladesh has been generous in receiving the refugees, the government can do more to provide educational and economic opportunities to the people in the refugee camps. Bangladesh, being a devel-

oping country, needs more urgent cooperation and funding from the international community in order to deliver to the needs of the refugees," said Chaklader.

Earlier this year, UN High Commissioner for Human Rights Michelle Bachelet met with religious leaders and women and visited camps in Cox's Bazar housing Rohingya refugees during her first visit to Bangladesh.

The High Commissioner reiterated the importance of ensuring that "safe and sustainable conditions exist for any returns and that they be conducted in a voluntary and dignified way. The UN is doing the best we can to support them, we will continue doing that, but we also need to deal with the profound roots of the problem. We need to deal with that and ensure that they can go back to Myanmar - when there are conditions for safety and voluntary return".

In Myanmar, however, most Rohingyas have no legal identity or citizenship, and statelessness remains a significant concern. Rohingya children in Rakhine State, meanwhile, "have been hemmed in by violence, forced displacement and restrictions on freedom of movement".

Until the conditions are in place in Myanmar that would allow Rohingya families to return, they continue to remain refugees or internally displaced persons living in overcrowded and sometimes dangerous conditions.

With looming evidence of human rights violations committed by Myanmar security forces against ethnic minorities in Myanmar, in November 2019, the Gambia initiated proceedings against Myanmar based on the Genocide Convention, invoking state responsibility for Myanmar's self-described "clearance operations" in 2016 and 2017 against the Rohingya, an ethnic Muslim minority in Myanmar.



# Keeping the promise of education for crisis-impacted children and adolescents

UNITED NATIONS

Syrian refugee children are among the most disadvantaged in Iraq. Even before the COVID-19 pandemic, only 53 percent of school-aged Syrian refugee children in the country were enrolled.

Across the globe, in Bangladesh, more than 890 000 Rohingya refugees live in 34 congested camps in Cox's Bazar. COVID, fire, monsoons, floods, and landslides impacted education.

In Nigeria, since the conflict began in north-eastern Nigeria in 2013, at least 2,295 teachers have been killed, more than 1,000 children abducted, and 1,400 schools destroyed.

Yet, Education Cannot Wait, the global fund for United Nations global fund for education in emergencies and protracted crises, believes that progress can be made to prevent the children from Syria, Bangladesh, Afghanistan, Chad, Ethiopia, Lebanon, Pakistan, and South Sudan among other regions, from falling off the education system and consequently missing out on lifelong learning and earning opportunities.

"There is no dream more powerful than that of an education. There is no reality more compelling than to attain one's full potential. We must keep our promise: to provide inclusive and equitable quality education and promote lifelong learning opportunities for all, as enshrined in the Sustainable Development Goals (SDG4) and Human Rights Conventions," says Gordon Brown, the United Nations Special Envoy for Global Education and former Prime Minister of the United Kingdom.

"While progress is being made, we still have a long way to go. Today, we are faced with the cruel reality of 222 million children and adolescents worldwide in wars and disasters in Africa, Asia, the Middle East, and South America who need urgent financial investments to access a quality education."

This progress has now been documented in ECW's We Have Promises to Keep: Annual Results Report released today. The annual report comes on the back of ECW's estimates laying bare the plight of crisis-impacted children and adolescents and how this plight remains less visible to the global community.

According to ECW, 222 million school-aged children and adolescents caught in crises urgently need educational support. These include 78.2 million who are out of school and 119.6 million who are in school but not achieving minimum competencies in mathematics and reading.



Rohingya refugee girl Rohima Akter, 13, is excited about learning to write in the Burmese language in the UNICEF learning centre in Cox's Bazar. The new curriculum provides Rohingya refugee children with formal and standardized education. Credit: UNICEF Bangladesh

Worst still, an estimated 65.7 million of these out-of-school children—or 84 percent—live in protracted crises, with about two-thirds or 65 percent of them in just ten countries, including Afghanistan, Ethiopia, the Democratic Republic of the Congo, Mali, Nigeria, Pakistan, Somalia, South Sudan, Sudan, and Yemen.

Conflict, forced displacement, climate-induced disasters, and the compounding effect of the COVID-19 pandemic fueled increased education in emergency needs, with funding appeal of US\$2.9 billion in 2021, compared with US\$1.4 billion in 2020.

While 2021 saw a record-high US\$645 million in education funding—the overall funding gap spiked by 17 percent, from 60 percent in 2020 to 77 percent in 2021, according to the newly-released annual report.

"ECW's solid results in our first five years of operation are proof of concept that we can turn the tide and empower the most marginalized girls and boys in crises with the hope, protection, and opportunity of quality education. We can make their dreams come true, whether it's to become

a nurse, a teacher, an engineer, or a scientist," said Yasmine Sherif, Director of Education Cannot Wait.

"With our strategic partners, we urge governments, businesses, and philanthropic actors to make substantive funding contributions to ECW to help turn dreams into reality for children left furthest behind in crises."

Towards delivering the promise of lifelong learning and earning opportunities, the report shows ECW investments with strategic partners reached close to 7 million children and adolescents, 48.4 percent of whom are girls, since becoming operational in 2017.

Despite the ongoing multiple and complex challenges of COVID-19, conflict, protracted crises, and climate-related disasters, the annual report reveals that the fund and its partners continue to expand the response to education in emergencies and protracted crises globally.

In 2021 alone, ECW mobilized a record-breaking US\$388.6 million. Total contributions to the ECW Trust Fund are now top US\$1.1 billion.

Across 19 countries supported through ECW's Multi-Year Resilience Programmes, donors and partners mobilized more than US\$1 billion in new funding for education programmes.

Through its strategic partnerships, ECW reached 3.7 million children and adolescents across 32 crisis-impacted countries in 2021 alone, including 48.9 percent girls. An additional 11.8 million children and adolescents were reached through the fund's COVID-19 interventions that same year, bringing the total number of children and adolescents supported by COVID-19 interventions to 31.2 million, of which 52 percent are girls.

But these highlights are tempered by concerns over an increase in the scale, severity, and protracted nature of conflicts and crises, continued attacks on education, and record-high displacements driven by climate change, conflicts, and other emergencies.

For instance, the COVID-19 pandemic significantly deepened the global learning crisis. In 2020 and 2021 alone, 147 million children missed over half of in-person

instruction, and as many as 24 million learners may never return to school, according to UN estimates.

These challenges notwithstanding, the report provides more evidence of progress made by focusing on quality learning outcomes for the most marginalized children in crises. Of all children reached by ECW's investments to date, half are girls, and 43 percent are refugees or internally displaced children.

Additionally, ECW grants indicate "improved levels of academic and or social-emotional learning; 53 percent of grants that measure learning levels showcase solid evidence of increased learning levels compared to 23 percent of grants active in 2020."

Overall, the share of children reached with early childhood and secondary education increased substantially. Early childhood education increased from 5 percent in 2019 to 9 percent in 2021. Secondary education increased from 3 percent to 11 percent for the same period.

On inclusivity, estimates show that 92 percent of ECW-supported programmes demonstrated an improvement in gender parity. Today, more girls and boys are completing their education and or transitioning to the next grade or level, with a weighted completion rate of 79 percent and transition rate of 63 percent.

Teachers were not left behind as nearly 27,000 teachers—52 percent female—were trained and demonstrated increased knowledge, capacity, or performance in 2021.

To address the special needs of children and adolescents traumatized by war and conflict, over 13,800 learning spaces now have mental health and or psychosocial support activities. The number of teachers trained on mental health and psychosocial support topics doubled in 2021, reaching 54,000.

Ahead of its High-Level Financing Conference in Geneva in February 2023, the organization called on government donors, the private sector, foundations, and high-net-worth individuals to turn commitments into action by making substantive funding contributions to ECW.

The funding has already made a difference in Nigeria, where since January 2021, ECW partners facilitated 26,775 new school enrolments, an increase of 49.4 percent over the previous year.

In Cox's Bazar, where 77 percent of children study at home, ECW partners supported the caregivers with bi-monthly visits and through radio broadcasting and the distribution of educational materials.

And in Syria, a consortium of partners was able to significantly improve conditions for children, with 74 percent of children showing an improvement in mathematics.

## CAPITAL RADIO

# RATIBA YA VIPINDI JUMATATU - JUMAPILI

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

Tembelea mitandao ya kijamii ya CAPITAL RADIO



CAPITAL RADIO



By Guardian Reporter,

Arusha

# Mauritania commends work of the African Court on Human and Peoples' Rights

THE Islamic Republic of Mauritania has commended the work of the African Court in deepening human rights on the continent.

"Mauritania greatly appreciates the work of the Pan African Judicial Organ in protecting human rights on the continent" the Prime Minister of Mauritania Mohamed Ould Bilal told the visiting President of the African Court Justice Imani Daud Aboud and her delegation in Nouakchott over the weekend.

Receiving the delegation at the Prime Minister's Office, Bilal assured that Mauritania was committed to human rights and the rule of law and expressed his optimism that Mauritania will, as soon as possible, deposit the Declaration to allow individuals access the African Court directly.

The African Court delegation was in

The African Court President Justice Imani Daud Aboud meets with the Prime Minister of Mauritania Mohamed Ould Bilal in Nouakchott on Wednesday.



Mauritania for a three-day sensitisation mission to encourage the North-West African country to deposit the Declaration.

The President of the Court thanked the government of Mauritania for the warm reception and for organising meetings with

all key stakeholders and a sensitisation seminar during the 15-17 August 2022 mission.

"I am convinced that

Mauritania is on its right course to uphold human rights and will shortly deposit the Declaration to allow Mauritians

access the Court directly," said Justice Aboud.

She added that the success of the Court as a human rights protection

mechanism requires a wider ratification of the Protocol by Member States, as well as their acceptance of the competence of the Court, by making the declaration under Article 34(6).

Mauritania acceded to the Protocol to the African Charter on Human and Peoples' Rights on the Establishment of an African Court on Human and Peoples' Rights on 14 December 2005 but is yet to deposit the Declaration under Article 34(6).

The States that have deposited the Declaration so far are Burkina Faso, Gambia, Ghana, Guinea Bissau, Malawi, Mali, Niger and Tunisia.

AFCHPR was established by virtue of Article 1 of the Protocol to the African Charter on Human and Peoples' Rights on the Establishment of an African Court on Human and Peoples' Rights,

to complement the protective mandate of the African Commission on Human and Peoples' Rights, with a view to enhancing the protection of human rights on the continent.

The pan African court's sensitisation visit is meant to enhance the protection of human rights in Africa. Specific objectives include raising awareness about the Court; encouraging the ratification of the Protocol and deposit of the Declaration that allows individuals and NGOs direct access to the Court; sensitising would-be applicants on how to access the Court and the procedures before the Court; encouraging the public to utilise the Court in settling human rights disputes and encouraging the utilisation of the Court for advisory opinions.

The Court is composed of 11 Judges, nationals of Member States of the African Union elected in their individual capacity and it meets four times a year in Ordinary Sessions and may hold Extra-Ordinary Sessions.



One of the residential addresses in Manyoni District, Singida Region

## South African jobless rate falls to 33.9 pc in Q2

JOHANNESBURG

SOUTH Africa's unemployment rate dropped to 33.9 per cent in the second quarter of this year, down 0.6 percentage points from the previous quarter's 34.5 per cent, Statistics South Africa has said.

"These results indicate that 648,000 jobs were gained between the first quarter of 2022 and the second quarter of 2022," Statistician-General Risenga Maluleke said in the latest Quarterly Labor Force Survey.

The most significant gains in employment occurred in community and social services, trade, finance, and construction. In contrast, manufacturing and transport lost jobs, according to the survey.

Youth remain vulnerable in the labor market, with the number of jobless aged 15-34 totaling 4.8 million in the second quarter, up 2.0 percent from that of the previous quarter.

Dawie Roodt, senior economist at Efficient Group, told Xinhua that companies are hiring as they recover from the pandemic's lockdown.

"The economy went through a huge lockdown over the last two years. The economy is getting better and companies are starting to employ more people," he said.

"Things are returning to normality. We are likely to do more of this in the next two quarters but not beyond that unless the economy grows at 5 percent," Roodt said.

# Residential addresses, postcode system ease execution of this year's census

By Guardian Reporter

THE invention of the residential addresses and postcode system by the Tanzania Communications Regulatory Authority (TCRA) ten years ago has helped in easy implementation of this year's Population and Housing Census (PHC).

With the system, census clerks and supervisors easily reach households to fulfill the counting duty.

In 2012, TCRA finalized the residential addresses and postcode system and published it in the government gazette and that was the beginning of a big transformation in providing Tanzanians with reliable addresses.

TCRA Director General, Dr Jabir Bakari said that the residential addresses and postcode system has addressed the hassle of directing people to reach someone's home.

"Before the system, it was so hard to direct someone to reach a house, somewhere using symbols or popular buildings to reach someone's home,

but now with the residential addresses, it is easy to find the areas and homes using names of roads or streets but also houses numbers," he said.

He said that apart from facilitating people to easily reach many places for various services, the residential address system makes it easier to identify houses and buildings, which is important for the country's development, noting that the system also facilitates timely response and delivery of services such as rescue during disaster.

According to Dr Bakar, the system increases efficiency in the management of people's housing and facilitates communication between the government and citizens for various purposes.

The system was launched by then President Dr Jakaya Kikwete and attended by Britain's Prince Charles; the postcode system helps to know the precise location of individuals by residential addresses in their suburbs thus facilitating easy delivery of services.

On February 8, this year, President Samia Suluhu Hassan added more strength to the system when she con-

vened a special meeting of government officials and regional commissioners in Dodoma and ordered that the system of identifying road names and house numbers across the country be completed before the ongoing national census exercise.

"Most of the times when Tanzanians are asked to fill in their addresses on the form; they put the postal addresses which are not theirs as many belong to institutions. The whole country has more than 200,000 post office boxes and most of them are not used due to technology changes that have enabled more effective means of communication," she said.

President Samia directed the residential address system be implemented as an operation directing the Ministry of Lands, Housing and Human Settlement Development, Ministry Information, Communication and Information Technology and the President's Office for Regional Administration and Local Government (PORALG) to supervise the exercise.

Dr Bakari said the implementation

of the operation commenced by forming a special programme for collecting information of roads, streets, ways and housing. Training was also provided to increase the awareness of leaders at the regional, council and local government levels on the residential and postal address system.

Each council prepared an implementation plan and gave the names of roads and streets and house numbers.

Nape Nnauye, Minister for Information, Communication, and Information Technology said the ministry has allocated 40bn/- for various activities to continue and improve the system, including reviewing the infrastructure installed during Operation Residential Addresses to ensure that the standards have been observed.

"There have been complaints from stakeholders about the quality of poles placed on roads and streets, the grammar of the names placed and where the poles were placed and these, and others that came up, will be fixed," he said.

According to him, the ministry will

also review the information collected in the operation, will improve the database and application of the System and will continue to connect this system with other systems to provide social services. Two computers with large data storage capacity will be purchased.

Other activities that will take place are providing education to the public; special social groups about the benefits and proper use of the system and building the capacity of public and private institutions to provide services through the system.

By-laws will be made to facilitate the construction and use of the System. The Electronic and Postal Communications Act (EPOCA) will be reviewed along with its regulations to bring efficiency to the use of the address system.

Another activity is to prepare a guide for a new way of doing business using the system.

A strategy for the management, operation, and development of the system will be established. In addition, monitoring and evaluation of its imple-

mentation will also take place.

The residential address system goes hand in hand with the postcode system, which is also known as postal code. These are a special system of symbols, numbers, and letters that identify the area or place where a person lives or does his activities.

Tanzania uses a number and letter system that has five digits. All five numbers indicate the ward; district, region, and region.

Postal codes of any place in Tanzania can be found through a mobile phone, using the menu on the phone.

Residential addresses and postcode systems are important in the digital economy, especially in e-commerce and electronic service delivery. They will be the center for the provision of internet business services, which is one of the goals of the digital Tanzania project.

In this regard, Tanzania should show the way; because our country leads the Postal Services and Internet Business Committee of the Universal Postal Union, headquartered in Berne, Switzer-







NAIROBI

# WHY INVESTORS FEAR TOUCHING AFFORDABLE HOUSING IN AFRICA

**P**atient capital (long-term capital) has been touted as one of the key solutions to the housing challenge in Kenya and the rest of Africa.

This is according to an analysis by two continental agencies - the Centre for Affordable Housing in Africa (CAHF) and African Union for Housing Finance. The analysis notes that the risk of investing in housing on the continent remains too high.

Some of the key challenges contributing to the risk include high prices of the land, the tedious process of acquisition of title or tenure and infrastructure.

Others are off-take (sales and rental), maintenance and ongoing improvements, and social and economic infrastructure. The report notes that land assembly and ownership are dependent on the government adding that acquisition has remained expensive and challenging.

The same applies to land administration and titling procedures which it notes, are slow and expensive.

The continent is also said to have a high cost of building inputs with credit being limited and expensive for property developers. This leads to developers becoming

ing financiers. The bureaucratic administrative procedures of securing permits and building codes and low construction productivity also affect the sector.

The analysis lists uncertainty about the construction process, pointing out major delays with little accountability and an uncompetitive market caused by a lack of a benchmark.

The report describes the off-take challenges as significant and links them to poor access to finance.

This is in addition to significant credit risks relating to high non-performing loans (NPLs) and inaccessible security.

A lack of long-term finance for mortgage lending banks and a high monthly payment rate of 14 per cent undermine borrower affordability.

"Insecure security and little information about borrower capacity and willingness to pay undermines trust and encourages investors to look elsewhere," the analysis reads in part. "Risk is expensive."



A Housing project in Tanzania

The July 2022 analysis is titled Effective Housing Finance: Data Lessons From Other Jurisdictions.

The analysis emphasises the need for data in the market, noting that it is the driving principle, particularly if

the private sector is to be interested. Data drives market interest, confidence, performance, investment and general activity. "Market intelligence and data is fundamental market infrastructure, in that it addresses risk," reads the analysis in part.

Market intelligence It adds that a major constraint undermining private sector participation and good policy engagement in affordable housing finance is the availability of data and market intelligence to facilitate risk-taking and decision-

finance arrangements that maximize and leverage capacity, and explicit pursuit of innovation are listed as the points that should accompany patient capital.

The report calls for a favourable policy and regulatory environment, with support for housing listing Kenya's Big Four Agenda as an example.

It also emphasises local capital markets, institutional investors and pension funds. The analysis states that land information is critical to land access and its cost.

Additionally, data on housing is the key in establishing the scope and nature of sector performance, enabling planning and supporting further investment.

"Financial sector data regarding access, targeting, performance, enable targeted interventions and risk-taking, and ultimately reduces the cost of capital," the analysis reads.

The report notes data across the value chain illuminates market activity and builds confidence. "Data transparency creates a basis for problem solving and innovation," it says.

CAHF runs the Open Access Initiative and the Data Agenda for Africa which carries out market intelligence for the housing sector in the continent.

## Uganda govt to collect US\$145bn from rental income tax

KAMPALA

Uganda government has indicated it expects to collect at least US\$145 billion from rental income tax within Kampala Metropolitan Area (KMA) during the 2022/23 financial year.

The target, if achieved, will reverse the weak performance registered during the period between July and December 2021, in which Uganda Revenue Authority (URA) registered a Shs95.6b deficit.

Responding to Monitor's inquiries about projected revenues from Rental Income Tax, Ramathan Ggoobi, the Ministry of Finance permanent secretary, said URA is expected to collect Shs145b this financial year within Kampala Metropolitan Area given that there has been a number of improvements effected by government to improve its collections.

However, the permanent secretary did not give more details about the matter.



Ramathan Ggoobi, the Ministry of Finance permanent secretary

Rental tax remains a major revenue source for government but has at the same time presented the threat of dampening growth in the real estate sector that continues to experience challenges due to Covid-19 related disruptions and a slowdown in economic growth.

Robert Lumanyika, the URA acting

public and corporate affairs manager, told Monitor that the new rental income tax amendments had already taken effect, which means that as of July 1, individuals earning an income from rentals will be required to pay 12 percent of annual income after removing the Shs2.82m threshold, while companies will be required

to pay 30 percent after expenses, which are capped at 50 percent.

Recently, John Musinguzi Rujoki, the URA commissioner general, noted that whereas there were a lot of Ugandans earning sizable incomes, many of them were not paying taxes and they continue to demand and enjoy services paid by a few Ugandans.

URA estimates that there are about two million Ugandans on the tax register, out of which only a million are consistently compliant.

Government has previously indicated that there is need to widen the tax base with each person, who has an income, contributing towards national development.

In 2020, the Ministry of Finance entered into an agreement with RippleNami with the view of building a system that would improve tax-rated property mapping to improve rental income tax compliance.

The system, which has since been developed and codenamed the Rental Tax Compliance System visualises data, matches rental

properties with their owners and estimates the value of rental income from a property.

The Rental Tax Compliance System is part of a larger digital component under the Domestic Revenue Mobilisation Strategy 2019/24, in which government seeks to increase the rate of tax to gross domestic product from under 11 per cent.

Compliance for Rental Income Tax remains a challenge but with the current improvements, government is hoping to realise targeted collections.

Compliance for Rental Income Tax remains a challenge but with the current improvements, government is hoping to realise targeted collections.

While signing the agreement in 2020, Rujoki said URA would work closely with government and utility companies to provide the necessary data which will be integrated with the Rental Tax Compliance System to come up with credible rental data.

## Boeing out to build on what investments it runs in india

NEW DELHI

Plane maker Boeing plans to build on its existing investments in India in areas such as defence supply chains and manufacturing, the company has announced.

The world's second-largest plane maker is offering its F/A-18 fighter jet for sale to India's armed forces and said the selection of the jet would help boost investments in the country's defence industry.

"Boeing anticipates \$3.6 billion in economic impact to the Indian aerospace and defence industry over the next 10 years, with the F/A-18 Super Hornet as India's next carrier-based fighter," the company said in a statement.

The company is yet to secure an order for the jet from the Indian navy.

India is one of world's largest arms importers, spending \$12.4 billion between 2018 and 2021, the SIPRI Arms Transfers Database shows.

Prime Minister Narendra Modi's government is looking to domestic firms and eastern European nations for military gear and ammunition and has identified 25.15 billion rupees (\$324 million) worth of defence equipment it wants domestic firms to manufacture in 2022, Reuters reported earlier this year.

## Emerging Africa infrastructure fund rated A2 by Moody's

JOHANNESBURG

Moody's has assigned the Emerging Africa Infrastructure Fund (EAIF) a foreign currency long-term issuer rating of A2 with a stable outlook.

Martijn Proos, Director at Ninety One, the fund manager of the Emerging Africa Infrastructure Fund, said: "We are proud to initiate a rating with Moody's, which recognises the Fund's unique business model, 20-year track record of success and conservatively levered balance sheet".

"The A2 rating evidences our ability to take on and proactively manage risk to deliver returns and generate sustainable development impact. We are committed to building our diversified portfolio as

we ramp up vital funding for strategic projects that boost Africa's resilience. This rating will assist us to further diversify the types and sources of funding we can access as we build our business in the years to come."

EAIF mobilises public and private debt capital to deliver transformative infrastructure in sub-Saharan Africa.

Since its establishment in 2001, up to December 2021, EAIF has closed 90 projects for a total investment of \$2.1bn, and mobilised private sector investment commitments of \$15.2bn.

International Rating Agency Moody's confirmed that the main factors underpinning the EAIF's A2 rating are: a strong capital position that re-



The 40MW Kesses solar generation project to be built near Eldoret in Kenya, one of the projects financed by the Emerging Africa Infrastructure Fund (EAIF) PHOTO/EAIF

flects moderate but rising leverage, and a diversified lending portfolio notwithstanding weak asset credit quality; a robust base of liquid assets stemming from highly-rated

development finance institutions and commercial lenders; and a high level of member support from a base of highly-rated shareholders, reflecting EAIF's strategic position in the

broader Private Infrastructure Development Group (PIDG).

The rating affirms EAIF's leading position as an attractive vehicle for investors seeking exposure to the burgeoning African infrastructure asset class, with strong Health, Safety, Environment and Security (HSES) performance, a proven ability to generate sustainable development impact and significant downside mitigation due to strong anchor support from four European governments.

EAIF's unique blended finance model is backed by leading development finance institutions and commercial and institutional lenders, with a dual mandate to deliver commercially competitive returns and sustainable impact.

The Fund has received \$395m of equity capital from four Governments (United Kingdom, Switzerland, the Netherlands, and Sweden) through the Private Infrastructure Development Group.

Retained earnings are over US\$100m and have been recycled back into the Fund.

The Fund's loss rate has been low, demonstrating the essentiality and commercially conservative financing structures of the projects it funds.

The Emerging Africa Infrastructure Fund (EAIF) managed by Ninety One is a multi-donor fund mobilising capital to provide long-term debt to businesses creating, expanding or improving essential infrastructure in Sub-Saharan Africa.



**Boeing anticipates \$3.6 billion in economic impact to the Indian aerospace and defence industry over the next 10 years, with the F/A-18 Super Hornet as India's next carrier-based fighter**



# THE NETHERLANDS' STATE RAILWAY DUE TO SELL ABELLIO IN UK MANAGEMENT BUYOUT

LONDON

The Dutch state railway is to pull out of the UK with a management buyout of its subsidiary Abellio, which runs four rail lines and a number of London bus routes.

Abellio, which for 20 years has run East Midlands Railway, Greater Anglia, Merseyrail and West Midlands Railway and employs 15,000 staff, is to be sold by the Netherlands state-run Nederlandse Spoorwegen to its UK management.

The business will be operated by a new firm, to be known as Transport UK Group Limited.

The deal for the proposed buyout remains subject to formal approval from partners including the Department for Transport, Transport for London and Merseytravel, as well as regulatory consent from the Office for Rail and Road.

Abellio UK's chief executive, Dominic Booth, is understood to be leading the buyout and will help fund the deal using his own money.

He said: "I've been a railwayman all my life. I am thrilled to have the opportunity to return key public transport services back into UK ownership at a time when some of our competitors look destined for overseas ownership.

"We expect the business to transfer by the end of the year, following which we will focus all our energies and expertise on continuing to deliver the best possible services for our passengers, investing in our train and bus routes, and helping to develop a



future-ready, low-emission UK transport network."

Abellio's parent company said it decided to withdraw from the UK market "to focus on domestic service provision within, and international railway services to and from, the Netherlands".

Archie Bland and Nimo Omer take you through the top stories and what they mean, free every

weekday morning

Booth added: "This deal will put us in a strong position to continue the smooth operating of our current routes as well as giving us the capability to grow the business and bid for new franchises in the future."

The move to bring an operator back into British ownership would be uncommon at a time

when foreign investment is flowing into the market.

A German infrastructure fund recently acquired Stagecoach in a £600m deal, while Go-Ahead Group is reportedly nearing a £660m deal with overseas operators backed by Canadian pension money.

First Group also rejected a £1.2bn takeover approach from a

US private equity firm.

Bert Groenewegen, the acting CEO of Nederlandse Spoorwegen, said: "NS is proud to support this natural next step for Abellio UK as it transitions with our blessing into a new management-owned passenger transport group."

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## Vodacom Tanzania introduces digital loans for agents to boost capital

NEW YORK

Guardian Correspondent, Mwanza Vodacom Tanzania Plc has introduced a new credit services for agents with the aim of increasing their capital and enables them to continue serving customers even if they run out of balance in their accounts.

M-Pesa Marketing Manager, Noel Mazoya said the service will give agents the opportunity to borrow capital up to Sh6 million and thus will end the problem of agents being unable to serve their customers when they have no sufficient balance.

Speaking during the introduction of the service to M-Pesa agents in Mwanza region, Mazoya said that through customer education that goes by the name of Agent Ticha, M-Pesa agents will earn income based on the number of customers they educate and get to join and access various services.

"The company has also increased the commission for agents while reducing the fee for sending and withdrawing money to M-Pesa customers," said Mazoya.

He said that through the M-Pesa Imeitika campaign, the company has set aside more than Sh350 million for cash gifts as well as Bajaj, Motorcycles, fuel filling coupons and a furnished house to be given to agents and customers of the M-Pesa service.

"Through our campaign that started on July 6 and is expected to end on September 6, M-Pesa agents and customers will stand to win a cash prize every day. Also 4 bodabodas and one bajaji every week, an offer to fill up with fuel will be up for grabs and the grand prize is a fully furnished house in the final draw," said Mazoya.

"Vodacom has invested more in empowering agents because despite being the M-Pesa service engine, it is also an area that provides employment opportunities for young people. Currently more than 150,000 people are directly employed through the service while its value chain benefits more than one million people," added Mazoya.

Victoria Chale, Vodacom's senior sales manager in the Victoria region, which includes the regions of Mwanza, Kagera, Geita and Mara, urged agents, especially women who previously faced capital problems, to use the new service of Wakala Songesha to grow their capital.

An M-Pesa agent at Pasiansi market in Mwanza, Salum Rweyagaza thanked Vodacom for developing the Agent Songesha service, saying that it has solved the problem of lack of balance that was facing agents, especially those with small capital.

"Currently I can borrow capital up to Sh6 million and continue to serve customers with a low interest rate of 10 percent. This service is liberation for us agents," said Rweyagaza.

# MeTL Bajaj launches fire, burglary insurance scheme

By Guardian Reporter

Over 70 dealers of insurance and tricycles from across the country came together in an annual conference to discuss various strategies to improve businesses which include provision of quality services to people.

Organized by MeTL Group in Dar es Salaam recently, the conference also saw the company through its Bajaj division, unveiling a full insurance scheme including fire and burglary so as to protect the businesses.

Speaking during the conference, MeTL marketing director Fatema Dewji said the MeTL group has always prioritized assistance for business partners and appreciates all of the dealers for their support and performance thus far.

She said the major objective was to bring together the dealers, listen to challenges and come up with solutions to further improve the business.

She urged the dealers to look forward to greater and improved business services reaching various parts of the country under the theme; "Let's grow together".



Ashish Joshi, CEO of MeTL's Bajaj Division thanked the team and channel partners of the division for their continued efforts and support.

"The new insurance scheme of fire and burglary further assures dealers and customers of more

protection and we hope that this service will benefit a number of people," he said.

Gregory Fortes, Mo Assurance chief executive officer, thanked MeTL Bajaj for rewarding their partners with fire and burglary policies.

"Mo Assurance offers a wide range of insurance products including fire, allied and special perils, burglary, consequential loss insurance, accident, theft and fraud, product liability, public liability, marine cargo, motor insurance, contractor's all risks

and many others," he noted.

The Assurance strives to become the top insurer in the next five years and to permeate further and become a leader in Micro-Finance products.

# German gas storage now more than 80pct full

BERLIN

Germany's natural gas storage facilities are now more than 80 percent full, showing steady progress despite a drastic reduction in deliveries from Russia amid the war in Ukraine.

Gas storage in Europe's biggest economy has reached 80.14 percent of capacity, according to industry figures released Tuesday this week.

The head of Germany's network regulator, Klaus Mueller, tweeted that storage is "being filled steadily" but cautioned that a planned three-day halt to deliveries through the Nord Stream 1 pipeline from Russia next week "could temporarily dampen" the effort.

Natural gas is used to power

industry, heat homes and offices, and generate electricity. Increasing the amount in reserve has been a key focus of the German government since Russia invaded Ukraine to avoid rationing for industry as demand rises in the winter.

The country's storage was about 56% full when Russian state-owned energy company Gazprom started cutting supplies through Nord Stream 1 in mid-June. It cited technical problems that German authorities have dismissed as cover for a political power play.

In recent weeks, Nord Stream 1 has been running at only 20% of capacity. Gazprom announced Friday that the pipeline will shut from Aug. 31 to Sept. 2 for what it said is "routine maintenance"

at a compressor station.

Germany is one of several European countries to be hit by reductions in Russian natural gas supplies since the war started. Dwindling supplies, fears of further cutoffs and strong demand have sent natural gas prices on Europe's TTF benchmark soaring to record highs this month, fueling inflation and raising the prospect of a recession in Europe.

A month ago, the German government moved to tighten storage requirements. It introduced a requirement for storage to be 75% full by Sept. 1 - a target that already has been surpassed - and raised the targets for October and November to 85% and 95%, respectively, from 80% and

90%.

The joint managing director of gas industry coordination group Trading Hub Europe, Torsten Frank, cautioned in comments to the daily Rheinische Post that "we will be able to fill many facilities to 95% by November, but not all."

However, he said that he doesn't expect a nationwide gas shortage to arise, though he can't rule out regional shortages. He said he is "very confident that private households won't have to freeze this winter."

Russia accounted for a bit more than a third of Germany's gas supplies before the supply reductions started. In addition to prioritizing storage, authorities also are trying to encourage energy saving.



In this file photo taken on June 10, 2022 an employee of Uniper Energy Storage walks through the above-ground facilities of a natural gas storage facility at the Uniper Energy Storage facility in Bierwang, southern Germany.



## CONSTRUCTION

# INVESTORS PRICE IN \$130BN LOSS ON CHINA BONDS

## BEIJING

Investors are pricing in almost \$130bn in losses on Chinese property developers' dollar debt on mounting worries the country's housing market will face a protracted crisis unless Beijing steps in with a large-scale bailout.

Two-thirds of the more than 500 outstanding dollar bonds issued by Chinese developers are now priced below 70 cents on the dollar, a common threshold for distressed status, according to a Financial Times analysis of Bloomberg data.

The rising pressure on the market comes a year after Evergrande, the world's most indebted developer, began spiralling into default, unleashing tumult throughout a sector responsible for roughly 30 per cent of the country's annual economic output.

Beijing's response has been limited to incremental measures, including a cut this week to the mortgage lending rate. But analysts said policymakers' refusal to launch a sweeping bailout may only add to the ultimate cost of rescuing the industry and could worsen the fallout for global markets and trade as Chinese growth grinds slower.

"With the industry headwinds and negative news, it's very



A bond of the same size from Shanghai-based Shimao maturing in just over a year is priced just below \$0.10 on the dollar, indicating a potential \$268mn loss.

clear many more developers' offshore [dollar] bond prices have fallen sharply since last year," said Cedric Lai, a senior credit analyst at Moody's Investors Service. "We still believe defaults will continue through the rest of 2022, particularly for developers with large offshore debt maturities and weak sales."

Many developer dollar bonds are now priced at a level that implies a very high risk of default. One bond maturing on September 7 issued by Kaisa Group, one of the

first in the sector to miss a dollar payment late last year, is priced at \$0.09 on the dollar, implying a loss of about \$272mn on principal of \$300mn.

A bond of the same size from Shanghai-based Shimao maturing in just over a year is priced just below \$0.10 on the dollar, indicating a potential \$268mn loss.

Taken in aggregate, investors have priced in almost \$130bn of losses on the more than \$200bn in outstanding dollar bond repayments owed by Chinese real estate

groups, reflecting a discount of nearly two-thirds to the market's presumed value if all repayments were made successfully.

China's real estate groups have missed payments on a record \$31.4bn worth of dollar bonds in 2022. The companies have faced particular strain due to maturity walls, in which several developers are expected to pay back principal, or the amount they initially borrowed, at once. Companies often seek to roll over borrowings into newly issued debt to extend these maturities, but ructions in the market have made this nearly impossible for most issuers.

The drumbeat of defaults is the result of what one veteran investment banker in Hong Kong described as a "perfect storm" for developers, who must try to refinance to stave off more missed payments while struggling to assuage growing doubts among Chinese homebuyers and top leaders in Beijing.

"There's a good reason these bonds are trading at distressed levels," said the banker, who is head of debt syndicate for Asia at a major European lender. "The odds of a lot of these guys ever repaying is anyone's guess."

Investors had initially hoped the worst of the pressure would be limited to the most debt-laden groups, such as Evergrande, which

had grown more reliant on presales of unfinished housing in recent years in response to a crackdown on excess leverage in the sector.

But stalled construction on projects at Evergrande and a handful of high-risk developers stoked broader fears among the general public that other groups might go bust before finishing pre-sold homes. That triggered a crisis of confidence that has throttled sales revenues and thrown large swaths of the industry into a liquidity crunch.

"A more centralised bailout is probably the necessary solution here," said Robin Xing, chief China economist at Morgan Stanley, of the looming crunch in the country's housing market.

Xing said a Beijing-led bailout to address an estimated financing gap of up to Rmb1tn (\$146bn) for unfinished housing projects would take "very strong political capital" and that the problem would become worse the longer policymakers waited to step in. "In six months that gap could expand significantly if you don't backstop the downward spiral," he added.

Line chart of Asian dollar high-yield corporate China issuer total return index showing Chinese developers' dollar bonds hit by punishing sell-off

Widespread work halts on pre-sold homes have already spurred hundreds of thousands of homebuyers across China to join a nationwide boycott of mortgage payments, which analysts said had further undermined confidence in the industry.

## Sharjah-based real estate department records 2,417 deals in July

## SHARJAH

Sharjah Real Estate Registration Department (SRERD) has revealed that total transactions carried out during the past month amounted to 2,417 transactions across 71 different areas distributed over the Emirate of Sharjah.

The transactions are broken down as follows: 588 sales transactions, 338 mortgage transactions, and 1,491 classified as other miscellaneous transactions.

SRERD monthly report showed percentages of real estate transactions; sales transactions were recorded at 24.3 percent, while mortgage and other miscellaneous transactions hit 14 percent and 61.7 percent, respectively.

Abdulaziz Rashid Al Saleh, Director of the Sharjah Real Estate Registration Department, said, "Total trading volume this past July 2022 amounted to AED 1.4 billion; the number of mortgage transactions reached 338 in total, valued at AED 487 million, solidifying that the Department is working consistently on its vision to increase investments in the Emirate of Sharjah."

Furthermore, the (SRERD) seeks to be a strong and confident presence in the investment and real estate sector, by implementing its mission through various targeted programmes and strategies, in addition to working diligently to activate various opportunistic channels and mechanisms of communication and interaction with investors.

"We hope to continue contributing to quality real estate provisions in Sharjah, and are working hard to enhance attracting investment to this sector, to ultimately push the wheel of economic growth to cover wider surrounding areas," Al Saleh said.

He added, "The results of July 2022 confirm the accelerated progress, growth, and demand for real estate in the Emirate of Sharjah. The (SRERD) upholds its vision of transparency on all fronts, as it aligns with our institutional volumes. We commit to striving towards excellence in line with Sharjah's economic vision to witness a remarkable turnout from investors, and to set the stage for showcasing Sharjah as a safe and comfortable locality to thrive and invest in."

The Department's statistics indicated that the Muwaileh Commercial area boasted the highest number of sales transactions in the Emirate of Sharjah, amounting to 266 transactions in total.

For further breakdown based on highest area in terms of trading volumes per city, the report ranked Muwaileh Commercial as the highest in Sharjah, Al Bardi 2 as the highest in Khorfakkan, Blida in the central region, and Al Baraha in Kalba city.

# Average rent in South Africa provinces sees rise

## JOHANNESBURG

PayProp has published its latest rental index for the second quarter of 2022, showing South Africa's rental growth is continuing its upwards trend since April last year.

Over the second quarter, the group tracked rental growth of 2.5%, 2.6% and 2.7% in April, May and June, respectively.

Johette Smuts, the head of data analytics at PayProp South Africa, said: "Inflation, unfortunately, also continued to rise in the most recent quarter with CPI breaching the Reserve Bank's target upper limit of 6% during May and June."

"The rising cost of fuel and food contributed to the current high levels of inflation, which can be seen around the world. Central banks are responding by increasing interest rates - including the Reserve Bank, which has raised it at every bimonthly meeting since November 2021."

Smuts said that in July of this year, the repo rate was increased by 75 basis points, and further aggressive hikes can be expected during the rest of the year.

High levels of inflation and increasing interest rates could, however, continue to put pressure on tenants who are already under financial strain.

This may force some to seek out more affordable accommodation - preventing further rental market recovery, said Smuts.

"On the other hand, higher interest rates and a reduced ability to save may mean that some higher-income tenants decide to keep renting instead of buying their own properties, which would have the opposite effect."

For the first time since 2017, all nine provinces recorded year-on-year (YoY) rental growth.

PayProp also noted that various factors, including the recovery from the Covid-19 pandemic, house prices, housing shortages, development, short-term rental listings and the overall economic performance of the country, could affect rental growth rates.

Data shows that nationally



Over the second quarter, the group tracked rental growth of 2.5%, 2.6% and 2.7% in April, May and June, respectively.

rents increased by 2.6% in the second quarter of the year while the average cost of rent increased by R193, reaching R7,971 per month. According to PayProp, this shows a clear upward trend.

Data shows the +4.4% Rental growth in the Eastern Cape outperformed the national average in all but one of the last ten financial quarters said PayProp. Rents in the area have increased to R6,451 from R6,365 the year before.

According to PayProp, rental

growth in the Free State has rebounded +1.9%, but overall performance remains weak. Despite the increase over the second quarter, it is still the second lowest country in terms of average rent at R6,328.

In Gauteng, the country's economic hub some recovery was seen with the first +0.30 pct increase since the start of 2021; the increase, however, is the lowest of all nine provinces. Average rent increased to R8,319 in the second quarter of this year.

PayProp reported that the coastal province has been outperforming the national average for five consecutive quarters since Q2 2021. Average rents have increased to R8,443 from R8,200 the year before.

Limpopo continues its winning streak by outperforming the national average every quarter since Q2 2021. Despite this, PayProp said that by looking at the overall trend, Limpopo's rental growth might be levelling off. Rents in the province now average at R7,350.

PayProp has recorded steep upward growth over the last year for Mpumalanga with above 3% increases each quarter. The second highest rental increase has seen rents in the area average R7,870.

The North West province saw a substantially higher increase when compared to the national average. The province has the cheapest rent on average at R5,468 in Q2 2022.

Marking the most significant increase across all nine provinces, the Northern Cape now has an average rent of R8,626. According to PayProp, this is up R715 from the year before. The province is the second most expensive to rent a house or apartment in South Africa.



Still, affordability remains challenged, even as higher rates slow activity in the market.

# US housing market 'in much worse shape', says economist

## WASHINGTON

The US housing market is under pressure. Data this week on new home sales and pending home sales reflected sharp drops from last year and showed the impact higher interest rates continue to have on prospective buyers.

On Wednesday, the latest report on pending home sales from the National Association of Realtors showed contracts to buy previously owned homes fell 1% from June to July and 19.9% from July 2021 to July 2022.

The Pending Home Sales Index - a measure of signed contracts on existing homes - dropped to 89.8 last month, the lowest since the start of the pandemic. Contracts declined for the eighth time in the last nine months, the report said.

On Tuesday, data on new home sales in July showed sales fell 12.6% from the prior month and 29.6% from last year, signaling demand for housing continues to wane as the Federal Reserve continues raising interest rates to slow inflation.

"The housing market is in much worse shape than the Fed has been willing to ad-

mit," Ian Shepherdson, chief economist at Pantheon Macroeconomics, wrote in a note following Tuesday's data. "But policymakers have made it clear that inflation is their primary objective, and housing is collateral damage."

Mortgage rates have leveled out in recent weeks, but the average 30-year fixed mortgage rate is 5.13%, according to Freddie Mac. Earlier this month, rates had dropped below 5% for the first time since April. At the start of 2022, the average 30-year fixed mortgage rate stood at 3.22%.

"The sharp drop in new home sales is another clear indicator that housing is in a recession," Danushka Nanayakkara-Skillington, NAB's assistant vice president for forecasting and analysis, said in a release on Tuesday. "The combination of higher prices and increased interest rates are generating a notable slowing of the housing market."

Still, affordability remains challenged, even as higher rates slow activity in the market.

Tuesday's data showed the median price for a new house stood at \$439,400 in July, up from \$402,400 in June. Data from the

National Association of Realtors' showed the home affordability index, a measure to gauge whether a typical family qualifies for a mortgage, fell to a 33-year low in June.

"In terms of the current housing cycle, we may be at or close to the bottom in contract signings," said NAR Chief Economist Lawrence Yun in a press release on Wednesday. "This month's very modest decline reflects the recent retreat in mortgage rates. Inventories are growing for homes in the upper price ranges, but limited supply at lower price points is hindering transaction activity."

Pricing pressure, however, does look set to be alleviated in the coming months.

"The inverse relationship between new home supply and prices broke down at the start of 2021, as a lack of existing homes pushed buyers into the new home market and sent prices soaring," Shepherdson wrote. "But now existing home supply is rocketing too as homeowners scramble to sell before prices fall too far. This in turn will pressure homebuilders to cut new home prices. We expect sharp month-to-month declines in new home prices for the foreseeable future."



## WORLD

## UK leadership candidate Sunak attacks virus lockdown response

LONDON

FORMER finance minister Rishi Sunak, one of two candidates vying to be Britain's next prime minister, said it was a mistake to have "empowered" scientists during the coronavirus pandemic and that the downsides of lockdowns were suppressed.

The ruling Conservative Party is choosing a new leader after Prime Minister Boris Johnson was forced to quit when dozens of ministers resigned in protest at a series of scandals and missteps. Party members are voting to select either Sunak or Foreign Secretary Liz Truss.

Sunak said the government was "wrong to scare people" about coronavirus. He said he was banned from discussing the "trade-offs" of

imposing coronavirus-related restrictions, such as the impact on missed doctor's appointments and lengthening health waiting lists in the state-run National Health Service.

"The script was not to ever acknowledge them," he told the Spectator magazine. "The script was: 'oh there's no trade-off, because doing this for our health is good for the economy'."

Sunak said it was a mistake to allow the about 50 scientists on the Scientific Advisory Group for Emergencies, the group which helped the government respond to the outbreak, to have so much influence on decision making such as closing schools.

He said: "We shouldn't have empowered the scientists in the way we did."

Asked why opinion polls showed that the pub-



Rishi Sunak addresses Conservative Party members during the Conservative leadership election hustings at the NEC, Birmingham, England on Tuesday. AP

lic was eager for the country to be in a lockdown, Sunak said: "We helped shape that: with the fear messaging".

Britain under Johnson was slower than most of its European peers to lock down in early 2020. After suffering some of the highest death rates at the start of the pandemic, it later became one of the first major economies to reopen.

A government spokesperson defended its record on COVID, saying the economy and children's education were central to the difficult de-

isions made during the pandemic.

Sunak, who resigned from Johnson's government last month, suggested schools could have stayed open during the pandemic. He said during one meeting he tried to voice his opposition to closing schools, saying he got "very emotional about it".

"There was a big silence afterwards," he said. "It was the first time someone had said it. I was so furious."

Agencies

## Angola's first provisional results show MPLA wins election

LUANDA

PROVISIONAL results from vote counting in Angola's general election indicate the ruling party People's Movement for the Liberation of Angola (MPLA), which has been in power for nearly five decades, holds a strong lead over the main opposition party, the National Electoral Commission (CNE) said yesterday.

With 33 percent of the votes counted, CNE said the first provisional results showed the MPLA, led since 2017 by President Joao Lourenco, who is seeking a second five-year term, garnered 60.65 percent of the vote.

The National Union for the Total Independence of Angola's (UNITA), the opposition party led by Adalberto Costa Junior, received 33.85 percent, CNE said.

Since independence from Portugal in 1975, Angola has been run by the MPLA. Political analysts believed UNITA had its best-ever chance of victory yet as millions of youth left out of its oil-fuelled booms were likely to express frustration with nearly five decades of MPLA rule.

Abel Chivukuvuku, UNITA's vice-presidential candidate, said the provisional results were not reliable and the party would publish its own based on a parallel vote count using the same data as the CNE.

"Tomorrow morning we will have clearer and more concrete indicators and whoever wants to celebrate will...I hope it's us,"

Chivukuvuku told a news conference.

The election was widely seen as the country's most competitive in decades. An Afrobarometer survey in May showed UNITA increasing its share to 22 percent, from 13 percent in 2019.

That is still seven points behind the MPLA, but nearly half of voters were undecided. Many young people - under 25s make up 60 percent of the southern African country - were voting for the first time.

Angola is Africa's second biggest oil producer, but as with many poor nations sitting on oil wealth, decades of pumping billions of barrels of crude has done little for most except jack up the cost of living.

Half of Angolans live in poverty and more than half of under-25s are unemployed. In the capital Luanda, one of the world's most expensive cities, jobless people ply petty trade in trash-strewn streets overshadowed by skyscrapers.

"The people have nothing - no water, no light, kids eat from rubbish bins," a 59-year-old former military officer who gave his name as Salomão told Reuters after voting in the neighborhood of Nova Urbanização.

President Lourenco, who is seeking a second five-year term, urged voters after casting his ballot at Lusitania University in Luanda to go out and do the same.

"In the end, we will all win, democracy wins and Angola wins,"



Angola President Joao Lourenco shows his marked finger during the voting process at a polling station in Luanda, Angola, on Wednesday. AP

Lourenco told reporters.

## Tensions over fears of fraud

Many voters were less confident in Angolan democracy.

An activist monitoring group, Mudei Movement, has taken pictures of results sheets at as many polling stations as possible, fearing the fraud that marred past polls.

UNITA urged voters to stay near polling stations after casting their ballots, a call many seemed to be heeding as polls closed in the evening.

"The police said to vote and go home. I told them I would vote and sit down," said Severano Manuel, 28, in Cacuanu, outside Lu-

anda.

"School is awful. Health system is awful. They get richer, and we suffer," he said, echoing the sentiments of other young voters around him.

The electoral commission earlier said there had been no disturbances that could jeopardize the process.

Tweaked vote-counting rules were expected to delay official results by days, analysts had said. The announcement of the provisional results was not expected so soon.

"Voting is over, the vote count continues and we cannot have any predictions on the (announcement of) final results until

this (process) is concluded," CNE spokesman Lucas Quilunda said.

A report by the Institute for Security Studies said that if an MPLA win is perceived as fraudulent, unrest could follow.

If UNITA pulls off a win, its victory could weaken decades of close ties with Moscow, for whom the MPLA was a Cold War proxy during Angola's 27-year civil war which ended in 2002. The United States backed UNITA.

Costa Junior also traveled to Brussels and Washington to build ties with Western partners before elections.

Russian Ambassador Vladimir Tararov was quoted in Angolan media in March as praising Angola for its neutrality in abstaining from the United Nations resolution condemning the Ukraine conflict. He lambasted UNITA for wanting to show it "stands with the West, the so-called civilized countries."

"A UNITA win would mean a distancing of Angola from Russia," Charles Ray, head of the Africa Programme at the Foreign Policy Research Institute, told Reuters, but only if it can consolidate power over a pro-Russian military first.

Lourenco has tried to improve relations with Washington, and just before the elections applied to join a trade agreement with the European Union and southern African states that has been in force since 2016. Talks start in a few months.

Agencies

## Finnish journalists on trial in rare defense intelligence case

HELSINKI

THREE journalists from Finland's largest daily are expected to appear in a Helsinki court on Thursday, suspected of publishing classified defense intelligence in an unprecedented case for the Nordic country renowned for its press freedom.

Two journalists at Helsingin Sanomat, and their former editor, who all deny any wrongdoing, may face a prison sentence of between four months and four years if found guilty of revealing national defense secrets in a report published in 2017.

The case is unusual in Finland because it has for years been among the top countries in a global press freedom ranking published annually by Reporters Without Borders.

But it slipped to a fifth position this year, partly due to the upcoming court case, the journalist association's Finnish branch said.

The 2017 investigative report by Helsingin Sanomat, entitled "Finland's most secret place", revealed the rough location and tasks of an intelligence unit of the defense forces at a time when Parliament was debating whether to expand its powers to

monitor private data in digital networks.

According to the prosecutor, the article contained harmful information the publication of which was against the law.

Helsingin Sanomat Editor-in-Chief Kaius Niemi, who had charges against him in connection with the case dropped earlier for lack of evidence, said the journalists had not broken the law.

"We can show for each published sentence that the information could be found on the internet or in books prior to the publication of our article. Public information cannot be classified," he told Reuters.

Hanne Aho, chairwoman of the Finnish Journalists' Union, said the case was first of a kind.

"It is completely exceptional that Finnish journalists are being accused of high treason," she told Reuters.

Aho said it was problematic that most of the legal proceedings in the case had taken place behind closed doors and called for the court to publish its reasoning to explain on what grounds freedom of speech could be restricted if the journalists were found guilty.

Agencies

## US the one creating troubles in Taiwan Strait

SPEAKER of the U.S. House of Representatives Nancy Pelosi recently made a provocative visit to China's Taiwan region. The U.S., in disregard of facts, made irresponsible remarks before and after the visit, in an attempt to accuse China of escalating tensions in the Taiwan Strait, find excuses for its behaviors that change the status quo in the strait, and smear China's legitimate and reasonable countermeasures.

The U.S. fallacies exposed the country's extortionist logic, and further revealed the true colors as the largest destroyer of regional stability and peace in the Taiwan Strait.

The U.S. smeared that China's countermeasures were overreacting, irresponsible and provocative, and claimed that China's practices undermine regional peace and security, which is totally putting the blame on the victim.

China has lodged strong opposition and serious representations before Pelosi's visit. The fact is clear that the U.S. made a malicious provocation first, and China has been compelled to act in self-defense. China's response was reasonable, legitimate and necessary. The international community has its fair judgment, and the scheme of the U.S. to distort facts will only end up in vain.

Pelosi's visit to Taiwan seriously violated the one-China principle and the provisions of the three China-U.S. joint communiqués. It deviated from the U.S. political commitment to "maintain cultural, commercial, and other unofficial relations with the people of Taiwan."

The U.S. Congress is a part of the U.S. government, and Pelosi is the third-

highest ranking figure in the government. The U.S. is well aware of the severe consequences caused by Pelosi's provocative visit. Before the visit, some voices in the U.S. had warned that the visit would be a huge mistake and an unnecessary provocation, and might escalate tensions in the region. U.S. mainstream media generally believed that "nothing good" but more instabilities will come of Pelosi's risky move.

China has every reason to take resolute and forceful countermeasures to safeguard its core interests.

To safeguard the peace in the Taiwan Strait, China has always acted responsibly and made diplomatic efforts to the greatest extent. The coun-

try has repeatedly warned the U.S. of the severe consequences of Pelosi's visit to Taiwan and made clear that China would not sit idly by. It said it allows no room for any form of "Taiwan independence" separatist forces and all consequences arising therefrom should be borne by the U.S. side.

The international society has also warned the U.S., pointing out the visit was an unnecessary provocation and would trigger a serious crisis.

However, the U.S. politician still arrived in Taiwan which is obviously a deliberate provocation and a result of the U.S. side's indulgence.

As the one that escalated the tensions in the Taiwan Strait, the U.S. is not reflecting on its mistakes, but

blaming China for taking "irresponsible" countermeasures.

If China took no action when the U.S. interfered in its domestic affairs and infringed on its sovereignty, respect for the sovereignty and territorial integrity, as well as other principles of the UN Charter and the basic norms governing international relations would be proved valueless. The interests of developing countries, which account for over 80 percent of the global population, would also be left unprotected.

The practice of the U.S. government, which always pays lip service to protect international relations, once again proved to the world that the U.S. is indeed the biggest destroyer of inter-

## Japan police chief to resign over Abe shooting, citing 'fresh start'

TOKYO

JAPAN'S National Police Agency chief said yesterday he will resign to take responsibility for the murder of former Prime Minister Shinzo Abe, citing the need for a "fresh start" for the organization and its security duties.

Itaru Nakamura (pictured) is the most senior official to step down in connection with Abe's assassination at a campaign rally in the western city of Nara on July 8, where experts have said security was seriously flawed.

"In the process of verifying our new security plan, we have come to realize that our security duties would need a fresh start," Nakamura told a news conference.

"To mark our fresh start with a new security plan, it is only natural for us to build a new organization."

Security in Nara on the day of the shooting had been widely seen as insufficient, experts have said. Bodyguards could have saved Abe by shielding him or pulling him from the line of fire in the 2.5 seconds between a missed first shot and the second, fatal round of gunfire, eight security experts who reviewed the footage have told Reuters.

The chief of the Nara police also announced his intention to resign, Japanese media said.

Japanese officials, including Prime Minister Fumio Kishida, have acknowledged flaws in the security around Abe's appearance at the election campaign event.

The National Police Agency previously told Reuters the killing had been the result of police failing to fulfill their responsibility, adding that it had set up a team to review security and protection measures and develop preventive steps.

The suspected assassin, arrested at the scene moments after the shooting, is undergoing psychiatric evaluation, Japanese media reported last month.

## African Internet stakeholders discuss ways to improve network interconnection

KIGALI

A forum of internet stakeholders opened Wednesday in Rwanda's capital Kigali to discuss how to improve local and regional network interconnection.

The Africa Peering and Interconnection Forum (AfPIF) was organized by the Internet Society (ISOC) and the African IXP Association (AFIX) in collaboration with the Rwanda Internet Community and Technology Alliance (RICTA).

"Broadband Internet access and utilization have a profound impact on the improvement of services delivery across all sectors of our economy.

Today, Internet usage enables better outcomes in learning, delivering healthcare, managing better our energy resources, and achieving higher citizen engagement with the government," Rwanda's Permanent Secretary for the Ministry of Innovation and ICT Yves Iradukunda said while opening the forum.

Michuki Mwangi, a technologist at Internet Society said considerable progress has been made in the establishment of new Internet Exchange Points (IXPs) while supporting the growth of existing ones.

But the full impact of exchanging Internet traffic at the 49 IXPs across 35 countries in Africa is yet to be realized, he said. Mwangi mentioned the need to enhance collaboration between Internet service providers, mobile network operators, content providers, large enterprise networks, and policymakers.

To run from Aug. 23 to Aug. 25, the event has convened stakeholders from across the continent and globally, including Meta, Google, Liquid Intelligent Technologies, Microsoft, the Internet Initiative Japan Lab, and Africa Data Centers, among others.

The annual forum, now in its 11th edition, serves as a platform to expand and develop the African Internet. Participants including infrastructure, service, and content providers, are seeking to identify ways to improve network interconnection, lower the cost of connectivity, and increase the Internet's resiliency and experience for local users, according to a statement by the Internet Society.

The Africa Peering and Interconnection Forum was created to respond to the fact that most of Africa's local Internet traffic is exchanged outside the continent. Exchanging traffic locally through IXPs reduces Internet access costs and network delays and increases content access speeds.

Xinhua

national rules.

The fallacies of the U.S. fully revealed the country's hegemonic thinking and hypocritical double standard. They mark another bankruptcy of American credibility.

Pelosi's visit proves that the U.S. doesn't allow others to take justifiable and reasonable countermeasures though the country itself has broken its political promises, violated another country's sovereignty and territorial integrity, and breached the basic norms governing international relations.

The White House said its provocative practice was "peaceful," but called China's legitimate action to safeguard national sovereignty and territorial integrity "extreme, disproportionate and escalatory military response." It shows nothing but hegemonic thinking and extortionist logic. **People's Daily**



## US, NATO urged to stop adding fuel to fire in Ukraine conflict

UNITED NATIONS

A Chinese envoy on Wednesday asked the United States and NATO to stop adding fuel to fire in the Ukraine conflict.

Peace can never be achieved by imposing sanctions and pressure or sending weapons. Peace must be strived for and maintained by all parties working together.

No matter how complex the situation is, how serious the differences are, the door to diplomacy and dialogue cannot be closed. Zhang Jun (pictured), China's permanent representative to the United Nations, told a Security Council meeting on the Ukraine conflict.

The positive progress on the grain export agreements demonstrates the potential of diplomacy and the possibility of a political solution. China hopes Russia and Ukraine will continue the dialogue and communication between them so as to return to diplomatic negotiations at an early date, and create the momentum needed for a cease-fire, he said.

The United States and NATO should seriously reflect on the role they have been playing, and focus their efforts on what truly is conducive to peace, instead of adding fuel to the fire, he said.

There is a need to set up a safety valve for the Ukraine conflict, Zhang said.

International humanitarian law should guide the conduct of parties to the conflict. Civilians and civilian facilities cannot be the target of military strikes.

Recently, frequent attacks on the Zaporizhzhia nuclear power plant have led to widespread attention and concerns, casting a nuclear shadow over the world.

China once again calls on all relevant parties to exercise restraint, act with caution, refrain from any action that may compromise the safety and security of the nuclear facility, and avoid crossing the nuclear safety red line, the envoy said.

"We also expect the International Atomic Energy Agency to conduct a site visit to the Zaporizhzhia nuclear power plant as soon as possible to make a professional and technical assessment of the situation, so as to take follow-up measures to prevent a nuclear disaster," Zhang said.

There is also a need to reduce the humanitarian impacts of the Ukraine conflict, he added.

The international community should, on the one hand, help Ukrainian refugees and internally displaced persons tide over the difficulties, and on the other hand, reduce the impacts of the conflict on global food, energy and financial stability, he said.

China commends UN Secretary-General Antonio Guterres and relevant parties for their efforts to facilitate the grain export agreements. China is pleased to see that over 20 ships carrying over 700,000 tons of grain have left Ukraine for multiple destinations around the world. This will play an important role in curbing rising food prices, stabilizing the international food market, and easing the food shortages in developing countries, he said.

"At the same time, removing barriers to the export of food and fertilizers from Russia is also highly



important. We hope that the United Nations can, in accordance with its memorandum of understanding with Russia, help address the chilling effect caused by relevant countries' abuse of sanctions, and ensure the stable and smooth running of the global industrial chains and supply chains," said Zhang.

China's position on the Ukraine issue is consistent and clear. China always maintains that the sovereignty and territorial integrity of all countries should be respected, the purposes and principles of the UN Charter upheld, the legitimate security concerns of all countries taken seriously, and all efforts conducive to the peaceful settlement of the crisis supported. China is ready to work with all peace-loving countries to promote peace and dialogue and facilitate the easing of the situation, he said.

Zhang also warned of the dangers of a new Cold War and stressed the importance of safeguarding global strategic stability.

"The Ukraine crisis and a series of recent tense developments around the world show that ... we must be highly vigilant against any deliberate attempts to provoke troubles and intensify division and confrontation, and we must safeguard global strategic stability," he said at the meeting.

"We should never allow the world to slide into a new Cold War." Facts have proved that the Cold War mentality and bloc confrontation must be firmly rejected, he said.

Over 30 years after the end of the Cold War, NATO kept expanding eastward, which has not made Europe any safer, but sowed the seed of conflict.

All humanity lives in an indivisible security community, and common security is in the utmost common interests of all countries.

Security of one country should not come at the expense of that of another country, and regional security cannot be realized by beefing up military blocs, he said.

Today in the 21st century, the Cold War mentality and zero-sum game are long-outdated concepts. Obsessing over military forces and seeking absolute security will only lead to constant escalation of tensions, which is not in the interests of any party, he said.

Facts have proved that decoupling and choosing sides must be firmly rejected, said Zhang.

The economies around the world are deeply integrated. Certain countries wantonly imposing unilateral sanctions and long-arm jurisdiction, politicizing and weaponizing the economy, trade and technology, and insisting on decoupling and building "small yard, high fence" has led to further difficulties in people's livelihoods in developing countries, and threatened global food, energy and finance security, he said.

Xinhua

## Tigray forces loot 570,000 liters of fuel destined for aid distribution - UN

UNITED NATIONS

IN renewed Ethiopia fighting, Tigray forces on Wednesday looted 570,000 liters of fuel from the United Nations for aid distribution trucks, further undermining humanitarian work, a UN spokesman said.

The World Food Programme warehouse in Mekelle, capital of the Tigray region, was forcibly entered by Tigray forces, who took 12 full fuel tankers with 570,000 liters of fuel, said Stephane Dujarric, chief spokesman for UN Secretary-General Antonio Guterres. The team at the warehouse unsuccessfully tried to prevent the looting, he said.

These fuel stocks were to be used solely for humanitarian purposes, for the distribution of food, fertilizer and other emergency relief items. This loss of fuel will impact humanitarian operations supporting communities in all of northern Ethiopia, said Dujarric.

"We condemn any looting or confiscation of humanitarian goods or humanitarian premises, and we call on all par-

ties to uphold their obligations under international humanitarian law and to respect humanitarian personnel, activities, assets and goods," he told a regular press briefing.

"We are very concerned for the civilians in front-line areas and call on all parties to adhere to their obligations under international humanitarian law to ensure their protection," he added.

Ethiopia is facing a very difficult humanitarian situation, to say the least, as the country is facing its worst drought in the past 40 years, said the spokesman. Some 17 million people are now targeted for assistance as worsening levels of malnutrition are reported.

More than 3.5 million heads of livestock have died, he said. Parts of the country face a risk of flooding in the coming weeks and more than 1.7 million people are likely to be impacted, including more than 400,000 men, women and children at risk of displacement, he said.

Xinhua

## Extreme weather in Britain takes grim economic toll

LONDON

BRITAIN has experienced severe heatwaves this summer like never before, with temperatures hitting a record high and droughts threatening the public water supply. Experts expect to see more such extreme weather events due to climate change.

Experts warn that one spell after another of hot and dry weather could take a grim economic toll. During the summer, infrastructure in Britain was put under mounting pressure amid the heat, with agriculture disrupted by a lack of water.

Britain baked in its hottest day ever on July 19 as a village in the East Midlands of England saw air temperature reach 40.3 degrees Celsius, beating the previous record of 38.7 degrees in July 2019. Before that, the national weather service Met Office had issued its first-ever red extreme heat warning.

Amid the sweltering heat, wildfires broke out in multiple areas. London Fire Brigade called that Tuesday the "busiest day since World War II," as firefighters dealt with more than 1,146 incidents across London, and Brigade Control took 2,670 calls.

According to the service, more than 40 houses and shops were destroyed. Scorching weather also disrupted traffic as several rail services had to close, and a speed limit was imposed.

Buckled rail, fires and sagging overhead line equipment are just some of the problems impacting the railway, according to Network Rail, owner and infrastructure manager of most of the railway networks in Great Britain.

British Travel Secretary Grant Shapps said the country's Victorian-built railway lines were not designed to withstand such high temperatures. "It will be many years before we can replace infrastructure with the kind of infrastructure that could, because the temperatures are so extreme," Shapps noted.

Extreme heat could put Britain's power grid under mounting pressure as well. By the end of the century, air conditioning could increase Britain's electricity consumption by up to 15 percent during the summer, said an official report. Increasingly frequent heatwaves may eventually make summer just as stressful for the power grid as winter, said Kathryn



Come rain or shine: The Wye Valley, Herefordshire, under water after Storm Dennis in February 2020. The Met Office's annual UK climate report shows a trend towards weather extremes. File photo

Porter, an energy analyst at Watt Logic, an independent energy consultancy. "At the moment we just don't have the infrastructure for these hotter temperatures."

A drought was officially declared in mid-August across a large swathe of England amid a new heatwave and prolonged dry weather. More restrictions were placed on water use in affected areas.

The last drought in England was in 2018. England has experienced an arid summer this year, with the driest July since 1935. During the month, rainfall was classed as exceptionally low for the time of year in most areas, said the British Environment Agency.

This July was also the fifth consecutive month across England with below-average rainfall. "River flows decreased in July at most of the indicator sites we report on, and the majority of sites are classed as notably low for the time of year," it added.

Mike Rivington, senior scientist at the James Hutton Institute in Britain, said drought "is a warning signal that the issue of water needs to be taken a lot more seriously as droughts have consequences on the ability of nature to function and provide society with the essentials for life." "Biodiversity, particularly soil micro-organisms that maintain soil fertility, may

struggle to recover, impacting next year's farming productivity," Rivington noted.

"Climate change makes droughts more likely, meaning agricultural productivity will be further reduced, leading to even higher food prices."

Howard Griffiths, co-chair of Cambridge's Global Food Security Interdisciplinary Research Centre, said drought has brought an added burden to the challenges already facing farmers in Britain.

"Overall, the climate extremes associated with climate change have led in recent years to two successive autumns in which it was too wet to sow many of our overwintering crops, whilst more extensive summer droughts further constrain the growing seasons," Griffiths said.

"Climate extremes are major challenges facing food security in the UK, in addition to rising costs of energy and fertilisers," he added.

Extreme weather is considered an indicator of climate change. In July, an annual report on Britain's climate in 2021 was released by Britain's national weather service Met Office, which shows the continuation of warmer-than-average years and rising sea levels around the country.

This "continues to show the impact of global temperature rises on the climate in the UK, reaffirming that climate change is not just a problem for the future and that

it is already influencing the conditions we experience here at home," said the Met Office.

This summer, the impact was already visible and expected to persist. "Hotter and drier summers in the UK is something we know will get worse in the future due to human-induced climate change. We have known about this for a long time," said Dann Mitchell, professor of climate science at the University of Bristol.

Also, the economics of climate change stretch far beyond the impact on growing crops, according to Kamlar Mohaddes from the Cambridge Judge Business School. Heavy rainfall, said Mohaddes, prevents mountain access for mining and affects commodity prices, and cold snaps raise heating bills and high street spending drops.

Xinhua

## US global military presence poses grave security threat to the world

BEIJING

"COME on! Who is making the most trouble in the world?" U.S. investigative journalist Seymour Hersh asked in a recent media interview.

"Do you know how many (overseas military bases) America has? 800!" the Pulitzer prize-winning journalist exclaimed, revealing that the U.S. government has spent "an unbelievable amount of money" planting and maintaining these bases.

With flowery prose, Washington depicts itself as a champion of world peace and stability. But it is worth asking why such a self-claimed peace lover is so obsessed with projecting its military might and what its 800 overseas military bases -- a startling number -- mean for the world.

OUTPOSTS OF U.S. EMPIRE

As critical symbols of American power, U.S. military bases have sprawled all across the world, American writer Mark L. Gillem described in his book *America Town: Building the Outposts of Empire*, bluntly calling the military bases outposts of the American empire.

Gillem is not exaggerating. In 2017, a U.S. GPS tracking company published a heat map showing where people have used fitness tracking devices. In remote areas and conflict zones in countries like Iraq and Syria, where the heat map became almost entirely dark, there were quite a lot of unusual small lights.

News reports state that zooming in on the spots brings into focus the locations and outlines of known U.S. military bases and other unknown and potentially secret sites, with U.S. military personnel using the fitness devices.

What the heat map exposed is just the tip of a horrific iceberg.



Police officers hold back protesters who demand the reduction of the U.S. base-hosting burdens and even a total withdrawal of the U.S. forces in Okinawa, Japan, May 15, 2022. File photo

In a report published in 2021, the Quincy Institute for Responsible Statecraft, a U.S. think tank, said that the United States maintains around 750 military bases abroad in 80 foreign countries and regions, nearly three times as many as U.S. embassies, consulates and missions worldwide.

According to the report, with large concentrations of facilities in the Middle East, East Asia, parts of Europe, and Africa, the overseas U.S. bases are three times as many as all other countries combined, costing U.S. taxpayers an estimated 55 billion dollars annually.

Data released from the U.S. military indicates that there are 119 base sites in Germany and another 119 in Japan. In South Korea, there are 73. "Other U.S. bases dot the planet from Aruba to Australia, Kenya to Qatar, Romania to Singapore, and beyond," said the report.

As U.S. scholar David Vine demonstrated in his book *Base Nation: How U.S. Military Bases Abroad Harm America and the World*, more than two decades after the end of the Cold War, the United States still stations its

troops in military bases encircling the globe, raising geopolitical tensions and provoking widespread antipathy towards the country.

SOURCE OF WARS, CRIME

For decades, the hundreds of military bases have been used by Washington to export ideology-driven wars, subvert governments, and instigate violence and crimes.

Since its founding in 1776, the United States has been at war for 93 percent of its existence. As U.S. historian Paul Atwood has revealed in his book *War and Empire: The American Way of Life*, U.S. history is one of constant wars of aggression and imperial expansion, which is the "American way of life."

In a special report in 2019, *Smithsonian Magazine* found that under the name of anti-terrorism, the United States engaged in military operations in 80 nations on six continents, "more than 40 percent of the world's countries."

In these military operations, overseas military bases were taken as the bridgeheads for the United States to exercise deterrence and direct military intervention.

After the 9/11 terrorist attack, the United States launched the war in Afghanistan, bombing the country for over two months. During the war, the Prince Sultan Air Base operating in Saudi Arabia was the command center for the U.S. military's joint air operations.

Wherever there are military conflicts, U.S. military bases are involved. The *New York Times* reported that the U.S. military has provided tactical and technical support to the Ukrainian air force at Ramstein Air Base in Germany in the ongoing Ukraine crisis. In June, U.S. President Joe Biden announced plans to build a permanent military base in Poland, further raising regional tensions. Xinhua



## Keeper Juma Kaseja yet to consider retirement

By Correspondent Ismail Tano

VETERAN goalkeeper Juma Kaseja said he is not thinking of retiring from football at the moment.

Kaseja insisted he is waiting for an offer from any of the Premier League outfits in the 2022/23 registration window.

The shot-stopper made the statement after it was confirmed that he has left Dar es Salaam's Kinondoni Municipal Council FC as his contract with the side ended the past season.

The goalkeeper, who had served prominent local sides Simba SC and Yanga a few years back, said he has been receiving messages from many football fans who are asking about his future and he has responded.

Kaseja noted he is actively taking part in football and will continue to appear on the pitch should he find a team that will sign him.

He said that a large percentage of fans who contact him do not believe that he has left Kinondoni Municipal Council FC, despite the list of players registered

by the club for this season having been announced.

The shot-stopper stated: "Many people did not want to believe that I am not with KMC FC, when they announced their team my name was not there because my contract was over, I am continuing with other activity, now I am a free player."

The keeper revealed he is ready to be registered by any of the outfits this season, which will witness the transfer window come to close at the end of this month.

He stated he will be ready to serve any club, even the one taking part in First Division League should the club reach an agreement with the shot-stopper.

"I will play for any team that needs my services, even if it is a First Division League club, if we agree I will play for it," Kaseja disclosed.

In addition to turning out for Simba SC, Yanga, and KMC FC, Kaseja served Mbeya City FC and Kagera Sugar which participate in Mainland Tanzania Premier League

## Geita Gold FC tactician aims to strengthen squad during international break

By Correspondent Nassir Nchimbi

GEITA Gold FC's head coach Fred Felix, alias 'Minziro', is optimistic his club's two NBC Premier League games against Simba SC and Azam FC have allowed him to identify its strengths and weaknesses.

The gold miners started the season by losing 3-0 in a match against Simba SC at Benjamin Mkapa Stadium in Dar es Salaam, then forcing a 1-1 draw with Azam FC at the Azam Complex Stadium, Chamazi.

Minziro noted that the away games have enabled him to realize how he will regroup this season to achieve the goal of finishing in one of the top positions in the standings, as was the case with the previous season.

He said that the games were a good test for his players, and it has become a springboard in his technical bench to start working on the shortcomings that were seen while improving the good ones that were in view.

The tactician revealed: "I got a good and outstanding



Geita Gold FC head coach Fred Felix.

measure because we are facing many Premier League ties, we will also participate in the CAF Confederation Cup from next month."

"It has become a springboard

for me and my colleagues on the technical bench to realize where we have gone wrong and where we should increase our efforts to continue the good things we have achieved."

"We have played with good outrageous teams in the Premier League, they have given us enough opposition because we have lost one game and got a draw, not a bad result because we started away from home," 'Minziro' disclosed.

The tactician said: "After the Simba SC loss, I sat with my players and told them that we lost by a large number of goals, thanks God they listened to me and fought in the game against Azam FC, we got one point."

"We will use these two weeks to prepare well by looking at the weaknesses that made us start badly in the Premier League, I believe this preparation will help us a lot until the CAF Confederation Cup," 'Minziro' stated.

Geita Gold FC will play the third round of the NBC Premier League against Kagera Sugar at CCM Kirumba Stadium in Mwanza on September 6.

On September 9, Geita Gold FC will play in this season's CAF Confederation Cup, locking horns with Hilal Alsahil SC, which will host the first leg at home in Sudan, before the second leg takes place in Tanzania on September 16.

## Taifa Queens bow out of Africa Netball World Cup Qualifiers

By Correspondent Joseph Mchekadona

TANZANIA Netball Association (Chaneta) has conceded that the country's national netball side 'Taifa Queens' has crashed out of the 2023 Africa Netball World Cup Qualifiers that are taking place in Pretoria, South Africa.

Taifa Queens have lost all three games they have played so far in the continental qualifiers.

They lost 51-40 to Namibia in the first game, then conceded a 58-30 defeat to Africa's top-ranked netball team, South Africa, and also lost 31-22 to Zimbabwe. Taifa Queens on Thursday came up against Botswana.

Rose Mkisi, Chaneta Secretary-General, said the only hope is the squad's improvement in International Netball Federation (INF) rankings.

"We do not have a chance to qualify for the next year's World Cup but I'm sure the players have learned a lot and we will also improve in INF rankings," Rose said.

South Africa and Uganda, the top-ranked national netball teams in Africa, had already qualified for the World Cup which will take place in Cape Town, South Africa from July 28-August 6.

In the previous interview, Rose said Taifa Queens has made the first appearance in Africa Netball World Cup Quali-

fiers lacking experienced players.

Taifa Queens were put in Pool A of the qualifiers which had others namely Zimbabwe, Botswana, and hosts, South Africa. Pool B has Uganda, Malawi, Zambia, Kenya, and Eswatini.

"Tanzania's squad is coached by Hafidh Tindwa and his assistant Zuwena Farouk," Rose said.

Coach Tindwa had in a previous interview said he was optimistic that his squad will qualify for the 2023 World Cup.

He said although Group A was regarded as the 'group of death', he has players who had what it takes to cause an upset in the qualifiers.

"It's a group which has teams which have been active for many years, South Africa was in the just ended Commonwealth Games but that is not a cause of worry for us, we are well prepared and I'm sure we will qualify for the World Cup," the coach said.

The top two sides in the groups will qualify for the semi-finals whereas the other teams will be involved in classification matches. The semi-finals and classification matches will take place this weekend.

This is the first time in many years that Tanzania's netball team is competing in the Africa Netball World Cup Qualifiers.

## Singida Big Stars FC vows to collect more points in early Premier League fixtures

By Correspondent Nassir Nchimbi

AFTER having a tremendous start in 2022/23 NBC Premier League, Singida Big Stars FC's leadership has emphasized their desire to ensure the club continues to collect points in the early league fixtures.

The team led by Dutch tactician Hans van der Pluijm is sitting third in the Premier League standings, preceded by the defending champions Yanga sitting second, while Simba SC is at the top after winning two games.

The Chief Executive Officer of Singida Big Stars FC Dismas Ten revealed they are aware that this season's Premier League is competitive but the leadership has big plans to ensure that their team finishes in one of the top three positions.

Ten stated their leadership is working closely with the technical bench to understand what is needed to make their team continue to perform well.

The official said: "We are not looking at one player, but we are happy with the performance of the team as a whole and we are not going to underestimate any team, whoever we meet should make a tough game but we will prepare."

He stated: "We have our goals and we need to do well, we know the potential of our team, we know how many opportunities we can achieve from the technical bench but the



Singida Big Stars Football Club

leadership has planned to provide support to achieve the goals."

Singida Big Stars FC will confront Dodoma Jiji FC at Liti Stadium in Singida on September 11.

Attacking midfielder Deus Kaseke revealed Singida Big Stars FC is compact and made up of quality signings proven by showing clean and impressive football that gave them good results in the previous games, so he stressed the club's followers ought to cooperate

with it.

He said that they will continue to fight to achieve the goal of the team, namely participating for the first time in the Premier League making themselves regular in the domestic top flight.

The midfielder revealed: "Singida Big Stars has many experienced and competent players, that's why in our last two games we met a lot of competition because our opponents already know how we

are." He disclosed: "We will fight in every game and, as the CEO said, we will play every game like a final and we will do it according to the environment that exists in the team, we have very good and excellent players."

Singida Big Stars have played two games and won both, beating Tanzania Prisons 1-0, and in the second game, they beat Mbeya City FC 2-1 with both games taking place at Liti Stadium.

## Defense: Key government witness tried to extort R. Kelly

CHICAGO

DEFENSE lawyers at R. Kelly's child pornography trial in Chicago sought Wednesday to portray a key government witness as a liar and extortionist, contending the man first approached the R&B star in 2001 and demanded that Kelly pay \$1 million or he'd go public with video that could put Kelly in serious legal peril.

Those assertions came during seven hours of often blistering cross-examination of Charles Freeman, a former merchandizing agent for Kelly who testified Tuesday that it was Kelly who first approached him, eventually offering Freeman \$1 million to recover a VHS tape featuring Kelly.

"Your entire relationship with (Kelly) centered around stealing from him and lying to him," lead Kelly attorney Jennifer Bonjean,

raising her voice, told Freeman Wednesday. Minutes later, she added, "You were part of a shakedown scheme, right?" Freeman shot back, "No!" He also said, "I am not a thief."

Federal prosecutors charged Kelly with production of child pornography based in part on that recording, which they say shows him sexually abusing a 14-year-old. He and co-defendant Derrel McDavid are also accused of successfully rigging Kelly's 2008 state child pornography trial by threatening witnesses and concealing video evidence.

Freeman's testimony at this trial helps buttress prosecutors' claims that both Kelly and McDavid knew that videos Kelly had lost track of in the early 2000s were incriminating and could lead to his conviction at the 2008 trial.

McDavid's lawyer, Beau Brindley, started the cross-examination Wednesday by pacing,

waving grand jury transcripts at Freeman and several times telling the 52-year-old to "be quiet and listen" to his questions as he sought to tear down Freeman's credibility.

"How many times have you told lies about videotapes connected to Robert Kelly?" Brindley asked, using Kelly's full first name. "It's multiple times right?"

Freeman agreed it was. Freeman, who is testifying under an immunity agreement, also agreed when Brindley asked if it was difficult "to trust a person who lies ... who will cheat and steal to get money."

Kelly, 55, was handed a 30-year prison sentence by a federal judge in New York in June for convictions on racketeering and sex trafficking charges. If convicted in U.S. District Court in Chicago, he could see years added to that sentence.

Brindley also accused Freeman of lying when he testified that he found the video Kelly was looking for in Atlanta in 2001 and when he said he didn't know its contents until he watched it later the same day. Brindley suggested Freeman never actually went to Atlanta and that he already possessed a potentially compromising video of Kelly, using it to extort Kelly.

"That's how all this happened, isn't it?" Brindley asked. Freeman said that wasn't true.

Freeman said money wasn't his only motivation for agreeing to hunt down the video, insisting he also wanted to help his friend, Kelly, whom he had known since around 1990.

Freeman conceded that he kept copies of videos for nearly 20 years. Not until a lawyer warned him in 2019 that police were poised

to arrest Freeman for possession of child pornography did he finally turn them over to law enforcement, he testified.

After Freeman smiled as Brindley questioned him about holding onto child pornography for so long, Brindley asked: "Is this funny? Are you having a good time?" Freeman responded, "Yes, I am."

"You aren't upset with what you've done?" Brindley asked.

"I am not," Freeman answered. After acquitting Kelly in 2008, some jurors told reporters they had no choice because the girl - who then was in her 20s - did not take the witness stand to confirm it was her in the video that was at the heart of the state's case. Last week, she testified at the federal trial in Chicago, saying she was the child in the video and Kelly was the adult man.

AP



## Bernardo Silva 'likes Barcelona a lot' - Guardiola

BARCELONA

MANCHESTER City coach Pep Guardiola continues to leave the door open for Bernardo Silva to join Barcelona despite the remote chances of a move to Camp Nou materialising for the midfielder this month.

Guardiola mischievously quipped that Silva is fond of Barcelona and said that while he wants him to stay he does not want unhappy players at City.

"I'm not one to tell Barca to forget about [signing] Bernardo," Guardiola said in a news conference after City drew 3-3 with Barca at Camp Nou in a friendly on Wednesday.

"We want him to stay with us, but I don't want anyone who's not happy. The first thing would be for the clubs to come to an agreement, but there has been no offer for him in these last two years.

"I don't want him to go, he's a superlative player and a great person... and there are only seven or eight days left [in the window] and we would have to turn to the transfer market. I want him to stay.

"That said, it is true Bernardo likes Barcelona a lot."

Seated alongside Guardiola, Barca coach Xavi Hernandez was asked if he would like to sign Silva.

"Who doesn't like Bernardo Silva?" he replied. "And [Kevin] De Bruyne, [Erling] Haaland, what a team... but [Bernardo] is a very important player for City, someone who makes the difference.

"I love how he plays because there are very players like him, but [a move] depends on City."

City CEO Ferran Soriano had earlier been less welcoming of a late move from Barca with the transfer window due to close on Sept.1.

"The market's closing," he told TV3. "There's no Bernardo Silva case and there has not been one."

Silva himself told ESPN this month that his future is uncertain. This is the second consecutive summer he has been open to leaving City.

However, Barca's financial situation makes any deal difficult. They are still yet to register €55 million signing Jules Kounde due to LaLiga's financial regulations and to do so they must first move on other players.

That makes any deal for Silva, who would cost an estimated €80m, unlikely at this stage of the window, with City not keen to lose one of their star players this late in the market despite Guardiola's comments.

Silva was cheered by Barca fans in Wednesday's friendly game, which finished 3-3 and was held to raise funds and awareness for amyotrophic lateral sclerosis (ALS), the most common form of motor neurone disease (MND), which former Barca goalkeeper and coach Juan Carlos Unzué was diagnosed with in 2020.

Unzué played alongside Guardiola and worked on his coaching team at Camp Nou when Xavi was still a player at the club.

A crowd of over 90,000 attended the game at Camp Nou, with Pierre-Emerick Aubameyang, Frenkie de Jong and Memphis Depay all on target for the home side.

(Agencies)

## World-record fee needed to sign Fofana - sources

LONDON

LEICESTER City are continuing to demand a world-record fee for Wesley Fofana as the defender trains away from the first-team squad amid Chelsea's ongoing interest, sources have told ESPN.

Chelsea have made three offers for Fofana, the third of which totalled £70 million and was instantly rejected by Leicester on Tuesday.

Leicester value the 21-year-old at the same level as Harry Maguire, who left the club in 2019 to join Manchester United for £80m -- a figure which still stands as the highest-ever paid for a defender.

Fofana was left out of Leicester's 2-1 home defeat to Southampton last weekend with manager Brendan Rodgers admitting the Frenchman was not in the right state of mind to play.

He is now training with the club's Under-23s and Rodgers said he is seeking a quick resolution to the situation after weeks of speculation.

"Of course if it happens, the sooner the better, because it might allow us to do some work [in the transfer market]," he said.

Chelsea are now weighing up whether to improve their overall offer or modify the terms so a greater chunk of the proposed £70m is paid up front rather than in additions.

Fofana is Thomas Tuchel's top defensive target and sources have told ESPN he is keen to make a fourth offer before next Thursday's transfer deadline.

Chelsea have signed Kalidou Koulibaly from Napoli and Brighton's Marc Cucurella but are seeking further reinforcements after losing Andreas Christensen and Antonio Rudiger to Real Madrid and Barcelona respectively.

Chelsea are also pursuing deals for Everton winger Anthony Gordon and Barcelona forward Pierre-Emerick Aubameyang while Callum Hudson-Odoi looks set to join Bayer Leverkusen on loan.

The two clubs are yet to finalise terms but Chelsea are keen to avoid an option or obligation to make the deal permanent for Hudson-Odoi, who is keen to secure first-team football having yet to play any part for Chelsea this season.

Meanwhile, Newcastle United have agreed to sign striker Alexander Isak from Real Sociedad for €70 million including €5m in add-ons, sources have told ESPN.

The Premier League club have been looking to add a striker to their squad and have decided to smash their club-record transfer to land the Sweden international.

(Agencies)

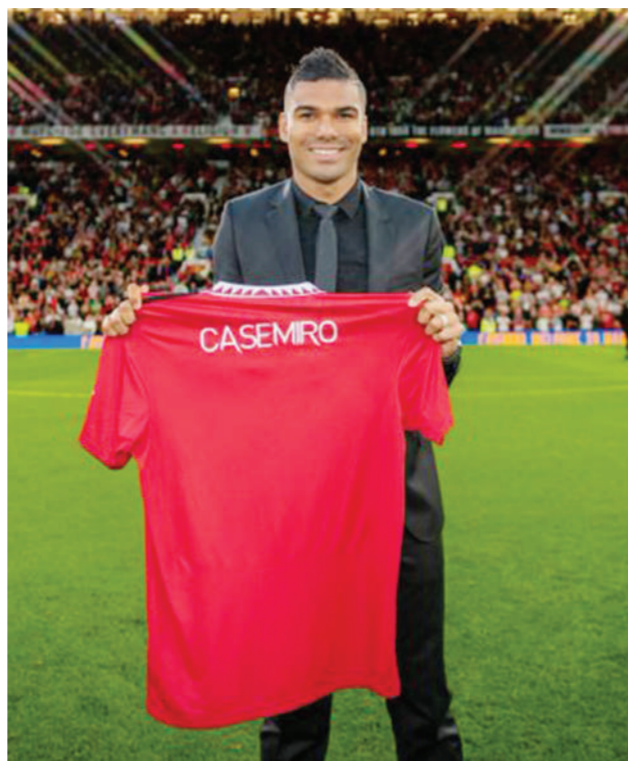
# Why Man U signed Casemiro when older players weren't in their transfer plans

By Rob Dawson, ESPN Correspondent

DEPENDING on who you ask, Casemiro is either Manchester United's heir to midfield legend Roy Keane or a washed-up has-been Real Madrid couldn't wait to offload.

The Brazilian's €70 million arrival at Old Trafford on Monday has split opinion and raised questions about what the transfer policy at Old Trafford actually looks like. Is handing a 30-year-old a four-year contract worth more than £350,000-a-week bad business or does it not matter when you're getting one of the best defensive midfielders in the world who also happens to be a serial winner? Ultimately, like all transfers, only time will tell.

United didn't start the summer thinking they would be signing players over the age of 30, but sources have told ESPN the deal for Casemiro was more a case of an opportunity presenting itself at the right time. Much of the transfer window has been spent trying to land 25-year-old Frenkie de Jong, but while the Dutchman continued to chase



Casemiro

deferred wages from Barcelona, United decided it was becoming too complicated to pursue.

United boss Erik ten Hag made it clear to football director John Murtough and the recruitment team as early as March that his priority in the transfer market was to sign a No. 6 to play at the base of his midfield. De Jong, once his player at Ajax, was the top target2,

but Casemiro was, even then, considered a suitable alternative.

It is an example, according to sources, of the club becoming more "agile" in the market. Sources close to United insist Casemiro was always high up on their list of options if a deal for De Jong wasn't possible and that negotiations moved quickly, not out of panic after a poor start to

the season, but because he was keen to move.

Defender Raphael Varane made a €48m move last summer after being part of a Real Madrid team, alongside Casemiro, that won the Champions League four times between 2014 and 2018.

"I know exactly what he feels and why he's coming here after what he lived in Madrid," said Varane. "He needs a new challenge, I know exactly what he feels, and I know exactly why he chose this club. It's a similar process that I had so obviously I wish him the best."

United have agreed to pay Real Madrid €70m with another €11m in add-ons, making it the second most expensive transfer fee paid for a player over the age of 30 after Cristiano Ronaldo's €100m move from Real Madrid to Juventus in 2018.

Sources have told ESPN that Casemiro has instantly become one of the club's highest-paid players and that his wage will increase "significantly" if United get back into the Champions League. Club sources insist the outlay will be worth it if Champions League football -- and the revenue that comes with it -- returns

quickly while Ten Hag has been keen to stress that there is an added benefit to signing a player with so much experience.

"He has won so many trophies in his career," he said. "He knows the road, how you win games and how you win trophies. We have more players who have already won trophies in their career. That has to be a guidance for the rest of the team so they know and understand how to win things."

Leadership has become an issue early in Ten Hag's reign with captain Harry Maguire dropped for the 2-1 win over Liverpool alongside the club's most experienced player, Ronaldo, who is still keen to leave.

Ten Hag accused his team of being "naive" during the 4-0 defeat to Brentford, and there is hope that Casemiro's arrival will help a relatively young squad become a bit more streetwise. Sources have told ESPN there is a feeling that even after beating Liverpool there will be tough periods this season and that Casemiro is the type of character, along with Varane and Bruno Fernandes, who can be a steadying influence during

runs of poor form.

There is, though, a debate about whether Casemiro is the right man for Ten Hag's system.

De Jong is a passer and the type of midfielder who can help a team press high up the pitch. Casemiro, meanwhile, is more comfortable playing deeper, breaking up attacks and giving the ball to the technical, more talented, attacking players.

It is more evidence that Casemiro is a compromise for Ten Hag, but one that he couldn't turn down. Sources have told ESPN the question he asked himself and assistants Steve McClaren and Mitchell van der Gaag was would the Brazilian improve the team? The answer they reached, along with Murtough and the recruitment department, was yes.

Regardless of age, wage and transfer fee, Casemiro has filled a desperate need for United in a position that was a problem long before Ten Hag arrived. For the Dutchman, it is a calculated risk he believes he needs to take to kick-start his first season in charge. If Casemiro makes United better, on and off the pitch, then it will have been worth it.

# Ronaldo wants a new team, but nobody wants him

By Henry Bushnell

CRISTIANO Ronaldo wants to leave Manchester United. He wanted to leave before manager Erik ten Hag benched him for Monday's massive game against Liverpool; and before the two humiliating defeats that preceded it. He wants to leave because, according to widespread reports, he wants to play in the Champions League, at a club that can match his ambition.

There is, though, a particularly inhibitive problem for soccer's biggest celebrity: No such club seems to want him.

Ronaldo informed Man United of his wish on or before July 2. Seven-and-a-half weeks later, the most legitimate interest in his services has apparently come from his teenage team, Sporting Clube de Portugal. There was also reportedly a lucrative offer from an unnamed club in Saudi Arabia, which Ronaldo, of course, turned down. There have been none from anything remotely resembling a Champions League contender.

Because Ronaldo, at 37, is no longer the serial winner he once was. He remains a ruthless goalscorer, but has been either unwilling or unable to spearhead the type of defensive press that increasingly defines modern soccer. He is a depreciating asset on an astronomical salary whose stature and corresponding ego now outweigh his abilities, to the detriment of his club.

United now seems to understand all of this. It was better without Ronaldo on Monday, and might be going forward. Ten Hag has publicly backed him, but privately, according to reports, the club is willing to let him leave.

United, though, has merely realized what most of its superclub peers did long ago.

When reports of Ronaldo's transfer request emerged in early July, they came accompanied by lists of potential suitors. Chelsea and Bayern Munich were initially mentioned. PSG, Atletico Madrid, Inter Milan and AC Milan have since appeared in headlines. Borussia Dortmund supposedly joined the fray last week.

But almost invariably, and uncharacteristically, those clubs have actively distanced themselves from Ronaldo -- in some cases publicly. Bayern CEO Oliver Kahn told German outlet Kicker that, "as highly as I rate Cristiano Ronaldo as one of the greatest, a transfer wouldn't be a fit with our philosophy."

Dortmund CEO Hans-Joachim Watzke called a move for Ronaldo "a charming idea," but said there'd been "no contact whatsoever between the parties involved."

At Atletico Madrid, fans unveiled a blunt banner -- "CR7 NOT WELCOME" -- as club president Enrique Cerezo confirmed that they had nothing to worry about. "I don't know who invented the Cristiano story," Cerezo said, "but I'll tell you that it's practically impossible that he comes to Atletico de Madrid."

Reports out of other countries, meanwhile, hinted at who the inventor might be. PSG and the two Milan giants "rejected" Ronaldo after he was offered to them -- not by Manchester United, but by his agent.

That agent, Jorge Mendes, is the most powerful in global soccer, and a master generator of interest via media. Over the years, countless agents have leaked fabricated or embellished news to instigate or accelerate bidding wars for their players. It's unclear whether that is happening here, or where the noise around Ronaldo



Cristiano Ronaldo

has originated, but the dots are connectable.

The noise, though, cannot drown out several immutable truths. Ronaldo is 37, going on 38 by season's end. He is reportedly the highest-paid player in England. In his past two seasons, he has scored goals but hasn't done much else without the ball, and therefore hasn't contributed to winning.

In 2021, he was part of the first Juventus team to surrender the Serie A title in 10 years. In 2022, United slumped to a sixth-place finish.

At his age and on his eight-figure salary, he is almost surely not worth a transfer fee. According to Transfermarkt data, no team has paid one for a player over 35 this summer, and no team had ever paid more than \$2.5 million for a non-goalkeeper of that age until United shelled out \$16.5 million for Ronaldo last summer -- a move the Red Devils are surely now regretting.

He is also not worth his salary, and so, unless he is willing to take a massive pay cut, or United is willing to eat a chunk of that salary to push him away, or Mendes can wield his power, Ronaldo and the club are stuck in a strained marriage devoid of its old magic.

Which is not to say that Ronaldo can't or won't help United over the remaining lifetime of his contract -- it expires next summer, though there's an option for a further year. Ten Hag made this point after a stirring 2-1 win over Liverpool, to which Ronaldo hardly contributed.

"We have a squad and we have a way of playing, a style and a game plan," the Dutch coach said, and on Monday Ronaldo didn't fit either. But, Ten Hag continued, "Saturday [at Southampton] it could be different."

There will be games, in other words, in which United needs a goal, or perhaps a savior, and Ronaldo answers the call.

But of course, Cristiano Ronaldo, of all people, does not see himself as a role player.

He wants something more, something and someone better.

Nobody better than United, however, wants him -- nor should they.

Gwiji by David Chikoko





# SPORT

Why Man U signed Casemiro when older players weren't in their transfer plans

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**TO NIGHT @ 9:00**

**Friday Night Live** is where EATV and EA Radio combine to bring you an explosion of Friday Night entertainment. The base gets louder, the fun gets addictive and the guest list is exclusive! It's a party on TV. Whatever happens on TV, stays on TV.

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12:00 Mpera Mpera  
13:30 Kall Za Wana  
14:00 NIRVANA (r)  
14:30 Bongo Hits  
15:00 Funguka  
15:30 Mpera Mpera  
16:00 Zote Kuntu  
16:30 #HASHTAG  
17:00 SSELEKT  
17:55 Kuraso  
18:00 eNewz  
18:30 SKONGA  
19:00 EATV SAA 1  
20:00 DADAZ (r)  
21:00 Friday Night Live  
23:00 Kuraso (r)  
23:05 EATV SAA 1 (r)

**east africa RADIO**

06:00 Supa Breakfast  
10:00 MAMAMIA  
12:00 Kipenga Xtra  
13:00 Planet Bongo  
16:00 EA Drive  
20:00 Kipenga  
21:00 Friday Night Live

**88.1FM DAR ES SALAAM**

## Taifa Stars braced for a tough game against Uganda, says Poulsen



Taifa Stars' players take part in the squad's training session in Dar es Salaam recently to shape up for African Nations Championship (CHAN) qualifiers' tie against Uganda's Cranes that will take place in the city on Sunday. PHOTO: CORRESPONDENT JUMANNE JUMA

By Correspondent Michael Mwebe

TANZANIA'S senior national football team 'Taifa Stars' head coach Kim Poulsen is expecting Uganda to provide them with a tough physical challenge in the upcoming 2022 African Nations Championship (CHAN) qualifiers game.

Taifa Stars will face Uganda in the first leg scheduled for Sunday at Benjamin Mkapa Stadium in Dar es Salaam while the return leg will be played on September 3 at St. Mary's Stadium, Kitende.

The aggregate winner will qualify for the final tournament slated for January in Algeria. Tanzania eliminated Somalia in the previous round.

Speaking after Wednesday's training session at JMK Youth Park in Dar es Salaam,

coach Poulsen said his team is working hard to prepare against Uganda that he termed as a team that plays direct and physical football but he is positive.

Poulsen revealed: "The team plays quite directly, they are aggressive. It will be a tough game because it is tough against Uganda... I think it will be a physical battle."

The gaffer noted: "We now have a few days to do our training and we have a topic every day. Today was about defending and then we will have a session for attacking

and so on."

"I can see the players enjoy seeing each other again and there are some new faces and they will quickly adapt to the family," Poulsen added.

Poulsen who is on his second spell as Taifa Stars head coach will be aiming to guide Tanzania to qualification for CHAN for the third time.

Tanzania qualified for the inaugural CHAN edition held in Ivory Coast in 2009 before making a comeback in the last tournament hosted by Cameroon in 2020.

The Danish tactician will be

facing Uganda Cranes in CHAN

qualifiers for the second time.

In 2013, Poulsen's Taifa Stars failed to go past Uganda Cranes under the current coach Milutin Sredojevic 'Micho' after losing 1-0 in Dar es Salaam and 2-1 in Kampala to go out on a 3-1 aggregate score.

Overall, Tanzania and Uganda will face off for the fourth time in the CHAN qualifiers.

They first met in 2009 when Taifa Stars under Marcio Maximo edged out Cranes on a 3-1 aggregate victory.

The two neighbours were

once again paired in the 2014 and 2016 qualifiers where Uganda triumphed on both occasions.

In a related development, on Wednesday evening Uganda Cranes suffered defeat in their final friendly game ahead of the weekend game with Taifa Stars.

Despite being dominant and creating better goal-scoring opportunities, Uganda fell 1-0 to Zanzibar at Amaan Stadium. Ibrahim Mkoko scored the lone goal of the game in the 76th minute to hand the Zanzibar Heroes victory.

## Sports stakeholders raise 1.26bn/- for Serengeti Girls, Tembo Warriors

By Guardian Correspondent

SPORTS stakeholders in Tanzania have donated a total of 1.26bn/- in response to President Samia Suluhu Hassan's call to help the national U-17 women's football squad 'Serengeti Girls' and national amputee football squad 'Tembo Warriors' that will participate in international tournaments later this year.

'Tembo Warriors' will take part in the 2022 Amputee Football World Cup slated to take place in Turkey in October, whereas 'Serengeti Girls' will battle it out in U-17 Women's World Cup which will be played from October 11-30 at a country to be announced later.

Prime Minister Kassim Majaliwa was presented with the stakeholders' pledges and contributions at a session held at the Julius Nyerere International Conference Center in Dar es Salaam on Wednesday.

Majaliwa stated: "This meeting has been convened by President Samia Suluhu Hassan and I have chaired it in collaboration with the Minister for Culture, Arts and Sports, Mohamed Mchengerwa."

The PM revealed the donations are a sign that the stakeholders want to witness the two sides bring World Cup titles to Tanzania.

In addition to financial contributions, the stakeholders promised to pay for flight tickets for both teams, and insurance for the teams' players.

They will further make and brand jerseys and tracksuits, as well as buy shoes and socks for both teams.

Majaliwa thanked all stakeholders for their contributions and promised them that the government will continue to appreciate the contributions.

The donations have been made by stakeholders from the financial/banking sectors, telephone network service providers, industries, government institutions, media, private stakeholders, and institutions under the Ministry of Culture, Arts, and Sports.

Mchengerwa said that for the teams to get adequate preparation, 3.76bn/- is needed to cover both teams, of which, 'Serengeti Girls' need 2.57bn/- whereas 'Tembo Warriors' need 1.19bn/-.

The minister noted: "To prepare well, we have planned to send both teams abroad for the final camps before going to the tournaments."

Mchengerwa disclosed: "We have planned to send 'Serengeti Girls' to England for the Southampton Club's camp and later to Dubai for a special competition."

The minister revealed: "We will also send 'Tembo Warriors' to Turkey two weeks before the tournament to prepare them and get used to the weather... earlier, we sent this team to Poland for a special competition."

By Guardian Reporter

ALL Season Lions' cricketers have bounced back in this year's Petrofuel Dar es Salaam Cricket (DC) Caravans T20 Cup tournament, having garnered a seven-wicket victory over Horizon Teleports Dar Cricket Club (DCC) last Sunday.

Having lost their previous match in less than 24 hours, All Season Lions gained confidence with a spirited performance, cruising to the convincing victory over Horizon Teleports DCC in group A's clash which took place at Annadil Burhani oval last Sunday.

Horizon Teleports DCC's skipper Adil Kassam won the toss and elected to bat. The experienced Kassam that is regularly an opener was the first to be dismissed without scoring and any score on the board in the fourth ball of the innings.

He was clean bowled by All Season Lions' Abubakar Selemani who went on to take his second wicket that of the other opener Sufian Usman.

At the score of 29 runs, the batting squad had lost both openers, as Usman had made 21 runs which included three fours, being caught by Rijali Fentu.

Except for Meet Jetha (25 runs in 32 balls) and Sajad Ratansi (25 runs in 20 balls), none of Horizon Teleports DCC's other batsmen could manage a double-digit score.

All Season Lions managed to restrict Horizon Teleports DCC for just 106 runs in the allotted 20 overs.

Shamil Hameer, Goodluck

**PETROFUEL**  
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**DC CARAVANS T20 CUP 2022**

**Colorflex** Man of the Match

**Mohamed Salim of All Season Lions (L) is presented with the ColorFlex Man of the Match prize when the side played against Horizon Teleports DCC in the 2022 Petrofuel Dar es Salaam Cricket (DC) Caravans T20 Cup competition match that took place last Sunday. PHOTO: COURTESY OF CARAVANS CRICKET CLUB**

Other sponsors: Aruti, All Season Hotel, Novum Energy, DTB, Azania Bank, Horizon Teleports, Flashnet, Rotana, Bank of India, The Works, One, Data Manics, Delta, MoblDoc, Colosseum, Ashton, IgaBet, W&M, Aurobindo, Harab Motors Ltd, Jiuzhou.

Andrew, Abdulsamad Ahmed, and Fentu took one wicket each and contributed with some good economic bowling for All Season Lions.

Set to score 107 runs in 120

deliveries. All Season Lions reached the target in 86 balls and so far lost three of their batsmen.

The highlight of the short and breezy achievement of the target was a splendid knock of 43 runs in

31 balls by Mohamed Salim which included seven hits to the fence.

Abdulsamad Ahmed gave Salim good company and remained unbeaten, scoring 33 runs from 39 deliveries.

Moez Imtiaz was Horizon Teleports DCC's most successful bowler, taking two of the three wickets, and conceding just 12 runs in his three overs.

Hiren Sharma was the club's other wicket-taker, ending with one wicket and conceding 17 runs in his two overs.

Salim of All Season Lions was adjudged the ColorFlex Man of the Match for his superb batting display.

The Petrofuel DC Caravans Cup is an annual T20 Cricket Competition hosted by Caravans Cricket Club.

Petrofuel Limited is the title sponsor of the tournament, while co-sponsors of the showdown include Alliance Insurance, Colourflex, and Pepsi.

Other sponsors are Aruti, Pigabet, Black and Decker, Harab Motors, All Season Hotels, Novum Energy, Diamond Trust Bank, I&M Bank, Aurobindo Pharma, Azania Bank, and Horizon Teleports.

Jihusu, Flashnet, Ashton Media, Rotana, Aura Suites, Bank of India, Datamanics, Samaki Samaki, A One Bottlers, and G1 Security complete the showdown sponsors' list.

## Flexibles by David Chikoko

