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"The government has everything in place to ensure there is a conducive environment for peaceful and transparent elections"

By Polycarp Machira, Dodoma

PRIME Minister Kassim Majaliwa has reaffirmed the government's commitment to work closely with religious leaders for improving social cohesion, appealing to clerics to help raise awareness and readiness to take part in the coming elections.

Officiating at the climax of the annual meeting of the Council of Pentecostal Churches in Tanzania (CPCT) at the denomination's Central Bible College in the capital, he asked religious institutions to help push government agenda for development, as apart from spiritual guidance they also play a big role in providing social services, promoting economic growth.

Asserting that religious institutions have been part of the solution to various challenges that face the people of Tanzania, he said the government values the contribution of religious institutions in preserving the country's peace and unity.

Expressing commitment to reinforce cooperation with the civic organisations in executing development plans, the premier affirmed that religious leaders are closer to the people and can thus espouse the development agenda and plans.

He stressed on preparing for the local government elections towards the end of the year, vowing to ensure peaceful elections in the civic polls and in the general election next year. "The government has everything in place to ensure there is a conducive environment for peaceful and transparent elections," he said, appealing to religious leaders to ask people to exercise their constitutional rights of voting and being elected.

"It is evident that religious institutions have been supporting the government in addressing various challenges in education and health sectors as well as helping

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Govt orders 800 power tillers to replace ploughs



Muhimbili National Hospital specialists pictured at the weekend performing throat surgery on Maliki Hashimu (5) of Dar es Salaam's Goba suburb, who was injured on the night of last Monday. The incident was reported the next day, upon which President Samia Suluhu Hassan volunteered to cover the child's medical expenses. Story on Page 3. Photo: MNH

"These initiatives are set to revolutionise farming in the region, positioning Katavi as a leader in agricultural modernisation"

By Guardian Correspondent, Katavi

THE government has ordered more than 800 power tillers to be distributed to smallholder farmers across the country to boost food crop production and an export surplus.

Hussein Bashe, the Agriculture minister unveiled this plan over the weekend in a meeting with farmers in Mpanda, Katavi Region, at an inauguration of two new warehouses and launching the rehabilitation of an irrigation scheme by the National Irrigation Commission (NIRC).

The government's idea is to empower farmers to venture into modern farming and move away from traditional ways of farming, implying the hoe or the plough, as they are inefficient, he said.

"That's why President Samia Suluhu Hassan directed the government to order such farming tools to support smallholder farmers who fail to increase acreage due to high costs of farming," he said, noting that more farmers are unable to purchase power tillers due to the costs.

"That's why we decided to buy them for the interest of our farmers," he stated, elaborating that power tillers are more efficient, and in

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WWF leads the way in ticking Rufiji Delta biosphere reserve

By Correspondent Joseph Mwendapole

THE World Wildlife Fund (WWF) is leading the way in international recognition of the new Rufiji Delta biosphere reserve encompassing Rufiji, Mafia, Kibiti and Kilwa districts, lately launched to start various tourism activities.

Khamis Hamza Khamis, the Union and Environment deputy state minister in the Vice President's Office (VPO) officiated the launch over the weekend in Rufiji, Coast Region.

Top officials from the Tanzania Forest Services Agency (TFS), the Tanzania For-



...it is a matter of pride for the area to be included in world records given its endowment with important resources

estry Research Institute (TAFORI), the Tanzania Wildlife Management Authority (TAWA) and the National Environment Management Council (NEMC) attended the launch

The biosphere reserve decision was made May 2023 at plenary session of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) at its headquarters in the French capital of Paris.

The decision provides an opportunity to join forces with the World Network of Biosphere Reserves, he said, noting that

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TCRA hails sharp growth in mobile money accounts

By Guardian Reporter

THE current sharp growth in mobile money accounts shows that digital payment systems are becoming a pillar of economic activity in Tanzania, the latest communications sector status report has indicated.

Dr Jabiri Bakari, the Tanzania Communications Regulatory Author-

ity (TCRA) director general, says in an April-June 2024 communications statistics report that mobile money accounts almost doubled in five years, with a five per cent increase in just three months.

Such accounts increased from 25.8m in June 2019 to 52.8m in June 2023 and 55.5m in June 2024. These accounts were used in 5.2bn transactions in June 2024 compared to 3.02bn in 2019, mark-

ing a 19 per cent annual growth rate, he stated.

TCRA licences mobile telecommunications service providers offering mobile money services, where the financial services aspect licences by the Bank of Tanzania (BoT).

Mobile money subscriptions increased by five per cent from 53m accounts in

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SPORTS



GAMONDI PROUD OF YANGA'S 'DECENT' DISPLAY AGAINST AUGSBURG

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MARTA PURSUES SOCCER GOLD AT THE OLYMPICS WHILE PREPARING TO PASS THE TORCH TO BRAZIL'S YOUNGSTERS

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PM, CPCT, in synchrony for cohesion, civic polls turnout

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in alleviating poverty in the society," he declared.

He similarly appealed to religious institutions to help address issues like religious beliefs so that they uphold unity, while in Dar es Salaam, 'Arise and Shine' tabernacle leader apostle Boniface Mwamposa urged the government to leave issues of religious disputes to the various denominations.

He said in a massive open air ceremony that failing to recognise services rendered in this or that denomination or following was a problem of faith and how it is demonstrated, not a matter for public administration.

Archbishop Dr Barnabas Mtokambali, the CPCT chairman, reaffirmed the council's intention to collaborate with the government

in developing education and health services by setting up and running hospitals, health centres, schools and various colleges.

This not only reduces the heavy burden on the government in serving the public but also helps to alleviate the major problem of youth unemployment. The denomination would also collaborate with the government in promoting good morals through teachings to counteract the global trend of moral decay, the cleric declared.

CPCT was vocal in opposing same-sex marriages or liaisons along with irresponsible parenting as it leads to an increase of street children, similar to rejecting archaic customs like female genital mutilation and superstitious beliefs resulting in the killing of people with albinism, he added.

Govt orders 800 power tillers to replace ploughs

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cases where farm labour and oxen need hiring, this equipment saves time and money.

Agricultural mechanisation reduces time from three days it used to take to plough five acres of land where the power tiller can take just over two hours, he said.

The government allocated 55bn/- for improvement and expansion of irrigation schemes to boost agricultural productivity, he said, reaffirming the government's dedication to ensuring food security, drive farm sector jobs and faster growth through agriculture.

He also assured farmers that pledges issued by President Samia while visiting the region will be implemented, as those efforts are meant to transform agriculture, boosting productivity.

He praised the NIRC for having carried out 29 projects in the region, outlining government plans to put up irrigation infrastructure across 27,000 hectares, starting with 6,000 hectares. This will enable farmers to cultivate crops two or three times a year, he said, pointing at the Itenka irrigation scheme covering 4,500 hectares, the Kakese scheme with 3,000 hectares, and the Kalema scheme, spanning over 5,000 hectares.

"These initiatives are set to revolutionize farming in the region, positioning Katavi as a leader in agricultural modernisation," he stated, hinting at the construction of reservoirs to enable farmers to cultivate effectively during the dry season.

Raymond Mndolwa, the NIRC director general, said that all projects directed by the government will be executed, as substantial investments have been made to strengthen the irrigation sector.

NIRC will ensure no project implementation stalls, he said, noting that in addition to irrigation infrastructure projects, water reservoirs for livestock will be put up to mitigate ongoing conflicts with other water users.

Mwamvua Mrindoko, the regional commissioner, urged residents in Mwamkulu ward to seize opportunities presented by the rehabilitation of irrigation infrastructure to effectively engage in agriculture for economic uplift. They need to avoid unnecessary conflicts that could impede development efforts, she similarly appealed.

Jamillah Yusufu, the Mpanda DC, expressed desire to work with other leaders to ensure that government directives regarding infrastructure maintenance and irrigation agriculture are timely implemented.

TCRA hails sharp growth in mobile money accounts

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April this year to 56.0m in June, the report noted, indicating that those accounts made 295.2m transactions in June, nearly the same quantity as in April.

M-Pesa brand was fielding 20.6m subscribers, followed by Tigopesa with 17.8m and Airtel Money with 11.02m subscribers from 10.8m earlier. Halopesa had 4,567,319 subscribers and T-Pesa had lined up 1.4m accounts. Azam Pesa increased its subscribers by 258 per cent, from 52,560 in March 2024 to 187,691 in April, the report noted.

Mobile money subscriptions refer to all active SIM cards with mobile

money service accounts that have been used at least once in the past three months. Transactions refer to deposits and transfers between accounts in the corresponding period.

The 10-year Tanzania digital economy strategic framework, being implemented up to 2034, identifies digital financial services as a pillar of economic activity in the coming years.

Others key requirements include an enabling digital infrastructure and technologies that promote inclusion, good governance, digital literacy and skills development, alongside a digital innovation culture, the strategic framework affirms.

Microsoft says 8.5m devices affected by global IT outage

WASHINGTON DC

TECH giant, Microsoft has said that around 8.5 million computers and devices around the world using Windows were affected by the recent global IT outage.

The glitch was caused by a corrupted update issued by security company CrowdStrike, which created havoc worldwide from Thursday into Friday.

"We currently estimate that CrowdStrike's update affected 8.5 million Windows devices, or less than one per cent of all Windows machines," it said in a blog post.

The update triggered systems problems that crippled the day-to-

day working of businesses and individuals.

It also resulted in thousands of flights being grounded, forced broadcasters off air, and left customers without access to services including healthcare and banking.

The former head of Britain's National Cyber Security Centre, Ciaran Martin, said he was not surprised by the scale of disruption.

"We've talked for a long time in the industry about the inherent fragility of foundational parts of the internet, these little bits of activity and infrastructure that underpin the whole thing and if they go wrong they can have really serious global consequences," he said.



China's Ambassador to Tanzania, Chen Mingjian, (2nd-L) introduces Defence and National Service ministry permanent secretary Dr Faraji Mnyepe (L) to 'Peace Ark' hospital ship Mission commander Rear Admiral Ying Hongbo (3rd-R) at the Dar es Salaam port at the weekend. The Chinese naval vessel has docked at the port since Tuesday last week providing free medical services to the public set to end tomorrow. Photo: Correspondent Mary Kadoke

WWF leads the way in ticking Rufiji Delta biosphere reserve

FROM PAGE 1
the work, parameters and principles of biosphere reserves are detailed in the statutory framework of the network.

It has 10 articles and provides guidelines for establishing biosphere reserves, with criteria for advertising and managing protected areas, taking into account particularities in each country and institutions managing the reserves.

All articles of the document have their importance, especially on managing the protected areas, he said, noting that RUMAKI is now on the list of biosphere reserves recognized by UNESCO.

This implies that the mangrove forests and natural forests located

in Kibiti and Rufiji, the Kilwa ruins and the Mafia sea wilderness reserve will be supervised in accordance with local legislation.

"So after this launch, all the stakeholders of this reserve will be responsible for carrying out the duties of contributing to conservation and biodiversity in the sense of the richness of existing species in their areas, and genetic heritage," he stated, urging NEMC to work with other institutions to protect the newly proclaimed reserve.

He was asked the various agencies to ensure that the number of people does not increase in the reserve as increase in population causes destruction, putting at risk the new entity's reputation as a bio-

sphere reserve.

"Since experience shows that this reserve has not overlapped with other reserves in experiencing the challenges of fire, environmental pollution, deforestation including mangroves and illegal fishing, you should put in place systems of alert while conducting regular monitoring," he further appealed.

Dr Menan Jangu, the NEMC research director, said it is a matter of pride for the area to be included in world records given its endowment with important resources.

The reserve has helped to increase the number of biosphere reserves in the country, doing well due to efforts of government officials in t Coast and Lindi regions.

The area has been recognized as a biosphere reserve internationally due to having major characteristics of community development, conservation and spheres of living things that people will love to see for generations to come, he stated.

There are some areas where residents can carry on economic activities without affecting conservation but there are other areas that should be left untouched by such activities, he specified.

The new conservation zone will help to enhance tourism activities whereby, along with the benefits of the reserve, there will be challenges of fire and environmental impacts so people should work to protect the area, he added.



Prime Minister Kassim Majaliwa launches the updating of the Permanent Voters' Register in Kigoma Region on Saturday. Photo: INEC

Zimbabwe upgrades road network ahead of SADC summit

HARARE

ZIMBABWE is upgrading roads in and around Harare ahead of an August summit of the Southern African Development Community (SADC) in the capital city.

The 44th Ordinary SADC Summit of Heads of State and Government is scheduled for Aug. 17 in Harare, which is also expected to host more than 150 companies from across the 16-member regional block during the July 28-Aug. 2 SADC Industrial-

ization Week at the Harare International Conference Center.

The SADC groups Angola, Botswana, Comoros, the Democratic Republic of the Congo, Eswatini, Lesotho, Madagascar, Malawi, Mauritius, Mozambique, Namibia, Seychelles, South Africa, Tanzania, Zambia and Zimbabwe. Construction of the main road leading to the Chinese-built new parliament building, where the summit will be held, was recently completed, and landscaping is now in progress.

"It's a welcome development. At least we will now spend less time on the roads with smooth traffic," said Wish Gahadza, a Harare resident.

Another resident, Tachiveyi Mukonorwi, said the rehabilitation of highways will stimulate economic development. "The good thing is that we are mobilizing domestic resources to build our infrastructure."

Other roads leading to the new parliament building are either complete or under reconstruction.

Sitting on Mount Hampden on

the outskirts of Harare, the six-story parliament building complex was officially handed over to Zimbabwe in October 2023.

Efforts are also under way to rehabilitate roads linking the new parliament building with the capital city's Robert Gabriel Mugabe International Airport.

In addition, the government is upgrading the country's road network, including the Harare-Chirundu highway that connects Harare with neighboring Zambia.



Khamis Hamza Khamis, Deputy Minister Office of State in the Vice President's Office (Union and the Environment), pictured in Rufiji District at the weekend speaking at the launch of Rufiji, Mafia, Kibiti and Kilwa biosphere reserves. Photo: Guardian Correspondent

Housing projects to transform real estate sector, says director

By Correspondent James Kandoya

THE government has said that the newly launched housing projects are set to transformation in the real estate industry in the country.

Dr Upendo Matotola, the Director for Real Estate at the Ministry of Lands, Housing and Human Settlements Development said this in Dar es Salaam over the weekend, when speaking at the launch of the Phoenix Condos housing project.

Dr Matotola lauded TT Investments for initiating the project and REMAX Coastal Realty who are marketing the development.

"Our commitment to these principles is unwavering, and we take great pride in fostering an environment where the real estate industry can thrive," she said.

"The main objective of their unit is to regulate, coordinate, and promote the real estate sector and strive to ensure a stable and transparent real estate market, protect the interests of all players involved, and enhance government revenue," she added.

She further noted that Phoenix Condos is more than just a collection of luxury homes as it symbolizes a new standard of excellence in Dar es Salaam.

"The project's design, location, and amenities all contribute to a superior living experience, reflecting the high standards we promote within the industry," she said.

According to her, the involvement of the REMAX brand in the project has been instrumental in ensuring transparency and integrity in the real estate sector adding that it has provided buyers and investors with a sense of comfort and confidence in their transactions, knowing that they are dealing with a reputable and trustworthy entity.

Yongjun Liu, TT investment director said what makes new housing

projects special wasn't just design, but the promise of a better lifestyle.

"While they're priced for quality, I believe the project offers the best value as they feature spacious layouts and modern facilities, all designed to the highest standards," he noted.

Liu said that apart from a new housing project, they also have other developments such as Mwenge Tower, the Tanzanite Tower along Sam Nujoma road on the way to Mlimani City, Tanzanite Park Office building in Victoria, Tanzanite Serviced Apartments, Phoenix City 102 apartments in Oyster Bay, and several upcoming projects.

Happiness Watimanywa, REMAX Coastal Realty managing broker said they were proud to present the new housing and were confident that the development will set a new standard for luxury living in Dar es Salaam.

"Developments of housing projects similar to this are powerful economic engines that drive growth and development," she said and added that investment in real estate bolstered the construction and development sectors, igniting ancillary industries and creating a ripple effect that fuels economic expansion.

The event was attended by various dignitaries and stakeholders within the housing sector, underscoring a major commitment to providing high-quality, accessible living solutions and transforming the real estate industry.

"The main objective of their unit is to regulate, coordinate, and promote the real estate sector and strive to ensure a stable and transparent real estate market, protect the interests of all players involved, and enhance government revenue"

Samia to settle medical bills of injured child

By Correspondent Christina Mwakangale

PRESIDENT Samia Suluhu Hassan has said that she will pay for the medical expenses of the child Maliki Hashimu (5), a resident of Goba, Dar es Salaam, who is allegedly injured in the throat with a housemaid and is unable to speak and is currently under special care.

Health Minister, Umyy Mwalimu unveiled this yesterday in Dar es Salaam shortly after visiting the Muhimbili National Hospital (MNH) where the child is getting medical treatment.

According to the Dar es Salaam Special Zone Police Commander, Jumenne Muliro, the incident happened on the night of July 15, this year, and was reported the next day.

Mulilo said that after the incident, due to the serious injuries after being cut by a sharp object

on his neck that separated the airway under the voice box, he was brought to Mloganzila Hospital.

Then, later the child was transferred to MNH for further treatment because after being injured it caused him to be unable to breathe, speak, and experience pain and loss of blood.

Specialists at MNH have already performed a major surgery on the child, which took four hours to repair the airway, voice box, and injured glands and treat the back

of the neck wound.

The experts noted the wound in the front of the neck, damaged the front gland called (the thyroid gland) by cutting it in the middle and causing the child to bleed profusely, to experience severe pain due to cutting the part called (the trachea) where the air from the lungs passes.

Since Monday, last week, the child has been under special care, continuing to receive treatment from the hospital's specialists.

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Pioneering Infrastructural Development for Tanzania's Economic Growth

In a remarkable display of leadership and vision, Stanbic Bank Tanzania recently hosted a high-level media engagement, shining a spotlight on its pivotal role in financing and developing infrastructure projects within the country. The event brought together key figures from the banking industry, including Stanbic Tanzania's Chief Executive, Manzi Rwegasira, Head of Corporate and Investment Banking, Ester Manase, and Standard Bank Group Head of Corporate and Investment Banking Africa Regions, Hasan Khan. Their insights underscored the group's unwavering commitment to propelling Tanzania toward becoming a regional trade hub, leveraging its strategic location and robust infrastructure initiatives.

Being a Catalysts of Change

As part of the larger Standard Bank Group, which operates across 20 African markets and key global financial centres, Stanbic Bank Tanzania is uniquely positioned to facilitate trade and infrastructure development. Manzi Rwegasira, Chief Executive of Stanbic Tanzania, emphasized the bank's strategic advantage, stating, "With over 29 years of presence in Tanzania, Stanbic Bank has solidified its expertise in offering strategic domestic and international trade solutions. Being part of the Standard Bank Group and leveraging our cross-border connectivity, we stand as the go-to bank, offering sector-specific expertise and seamless payment solutions within the region."

Tanzania's geographical significance, bordering eight countries, six of which are landlocked, positions Stanbic Bank to play a critical role in the region. Ester Manase, Head of Corporate and Investment Banking at Stanbic Tanzania, highlighted this opportunity: "Our logistical advantage allows us to provide essential support to these neighbouring regions. We are committed to seizing the opportunity to drive economic growth for Tanzania." Stanbic Bank's strategic initiatives focus on fostering domestic trade and infrastructure development, aligning with the Tanzanian government's ambition to transform the country into a regional trade and infrastructure hub.

Strategic Infrastructure Investments

Infrastructure investments are at the heart of Stanbic Bank's commitment. Projects like the Standard Gauge Railway (SGR) and port renovations enhance Tanzania's connectivity with neighbouring countries, positioning it as a logistics and trade hub. Manase explained, "The SGR connects more than four countries through corridors making it a strategic hub for the landlocked countries within the region. This, combined with Tanzania's projected growth rate of 5.6% this year makes it an attractive investment destination."

Prudent Financial Management

Stanbic Bank Tanzania believes in responsible financing and our strategy emphasizes prudent financial management, ensuring sustainable and beneficial investments. Rwegasira emphasized responsible borrowing, stating, "Debt isn't inherently bad if it's employed wisely." This philosophy reflects the bank's dedication to long-term returns and sustainable growth as well as aligns with the Government of Tanzania's fiscal policies.

Tanzania's high credit rating within the region serves as a resounding validation of its prudent approach to financial management. The government's commitment to balanced fiscal policies ensures that the nation's debt remains manageable, while strategic investments are channeled into transformative infrastructure projects. Notably, the Standard Gauge Railway (SGR) and the East African Crude Oil Pipeline (EACOP) exemplify sound investments that promise long-term dividends, enhancing connectivity and fostering economic integration across the region.

Commitment to Africa's Growth

Standard Bank Group, with its unwavering commitment to Africa's growth, recognizes Tanzania as a pivotal market. "Africa is our strategy," affirms Mr. Khan, emphasizing the bank's belief in the continent's potential. The group's extensive footprint and seamless integration of operations across Africa underscore this commitment. While Stanbic Bank may not be the largest institution in Tanzania, its impact is profound. By driving economic growth and supporting local clients, Stanbic embodies the principles of economic freedom and sustainable development.

Tanzania's Unique Potential

"Tanzania's strategic advantage is its vast landmass, four times that of the UK, a youthful population, 50% under 18, and exceptional leadership positions it as a central player in East Africa's economic landscape. Stanbic Bank's support for critical infrastructure projects extends beyond immediate gains; it lays the groundwork for sustained growth. Each project catalyzes a ripple effect, creating a more robust and interconnected economy," Mr. Khan added.

In pursuit of Tanzania's infrastructure ambitions, Standard Bank Group also relies on insights gained from projects and partners from other developed countries that have mastered streamlining port operations contributing to expedited clearance of goods. We intend to utilize this expertise while aligning with Tanzania's national initiatives working together to position Tanzania as a leading infrastructure hub, poised for continued growth.

Ester Manase Lobore

Head, Corporate & Investment Banking
Stanbic Bank Tanzania

By Polycarp Machira, Dodoma

MINISTRY of Culture, Arts and Sports is finalizing the guidelines to identify and acknowledge traditional chiefs in the community throughout the country, it has been revealed.

The major objective of the guideline is to officially identify them, the kinds of works they do within their communities so that they can be accorded all due respects within and outside their communities.

They also aim to empower chiefs and ensure they receive the respect they deserve while facilitating their role in upholding cultural practices and rights.

Minister for Culture, Arts and Sports, Dr Damas Ndumbaro made the revelation at State House in Chamwino on Saturday before President Samia Suluhu Hassan, stating that preparations of the guidelines were at the final stages and that it would soon be presented to the Head of State.

Dr. Ndumbaro also highlighted that the cultural and arts sector has shown significant growth, with a 177 percent increase in economic contribution as reported by the Bank of Tanzania for 2023.

His statement came briefly before President Samia Suluhu Hassan ad-

Govt out to identify traditional leaders' role in the community

dressed a gathering of chiefs from various regions of at the State House.

During her speech, she highlighted the ongoing conflicts between farmers and herders, sharing her personal experience with the issue and urging chiefs to find solutions within their communities.

The President detailed the struggles faced by farmers whose crops are often destroyed by roaming livestock.

She recounted a particularly distressing incident that occurred on her own farm in Dutumi, Morogoro Region. President Samia had invested all her savings into cultivating rice, only to have her crop destroyed by around 300 cattle.

"At first I thought I had overcome poverty with my thriving rice crop but within minutes, the entire crop field was eaten by the cattle leaving me helpless," she said.

Despite this setback, she attempted to replant half of the area, only for the cattle to invade and destroy the new crop as well.

According to the Head of State, when she sought justice, the herder denied responsibility, claiming that

the cattle had only eaten grass.

This response, according to President Samia, highlighted the lack of accountability and respect for farmers' hard work, noting that such dismissive attitudes towards someone who has invested their time and money are unacceptable.

President Samia called on chiefs to play an active role in resolving these conflicts and ensuring fairness. She urged leaders, government officials, non-governmental organizations, and religious leaders to condemn unethical practices and uphold Tanzanian values.

"As leaders we should not be passive. If you see a district leader or any official failing to do their job, speak up. We need to hold people accountable to maintain integrity and effectiveness in our governance," she emphasized.

The President also advised Tanzanians to follow proper procedures when moving from one area to another, such as obtaining and presenting relocation documents. This, she noted, helps in managing migration and prevents encroachments into unallocated lands and forests.



Rombo district commissioner Raymond Mwangwala (C) pictured in Moshi municipality yesterday presenting the national flag to the leader of Kilimanjaro Region's participants in the GGM Kil Challenge 2024 campaign organised by Geita Gold Mining Limited in collaboration with the Tanzania Commission for AIDS. The event involves 52 climbers and 19 cyclists and is aimed at supporting government efforts to combat HIV and AIDS. Photo: Guardian Correspondent

Muslims in Arusha ask for President Samia's intervention to save mosque

By Correspondent Marc Nkwame, Arusha

MEMBERS of the Arusha Muslim Union are requesting the intervention of President Samia Suluhu Hassan, in saving the main Bondeni Friday Mosque from being turned into a bazaar.

"We have discovered that there are some ongoing developments to erect trading stalls, surrounding the prayer house, contrary to the Islamic faith," pointed out Sheikh Aziz Bashir on behalf of other Arusha Muslim Union (AMU) members. According to the Union, the Bondeni Friday Mosque, standing on Plot Number 478 mapped within Blocks H' and I' in the Area 'F', between Pangani and Bondeni streets, is an important religious property on that National Leaders including Presidents, Ministers and Permanent Secretaries usually worship there.

"It is therefore against both our faith and the safety of our government leaders

to have retail frames surrounding the mosque," pointed out the AMU elders. They are confident that President Samia will solve the issue.

At the moment the area has the Friday Mosque and the Bondeni Secondary School on the adjacent wing, while a stretch of land serving as green-belt garden remains vacant to be used for outdoor prayers or religious rallies. The Arusha Muslim Union (AMU) which retains the ownership of the plot through official title deeds, had plans to construct a larger and modern mosque building of international standards, replacing the current prayer house.

"But we were shocked to discover that some mosque officials have issued out the plots for the construction of small shops around the worship house, contrary to plans," said the AMU leader, adding that should the situation prevail, they will be forced to take the matter to court.

The Arusha Regional Sheikh Shaaban Bin

Jumaa has admitted that there were indeed plans to erect some structures around the Friday Mosque for investments but the project has however stalled for a while pending more consultations.

"It was all meant to generate more income for the mosque, not otherwise, but we are still discussing the matter through a series of meetings," he said, adding that at the moment he was in

Zuberi Ally is one of the residents who attend prayers at the Friday Mosque of Bondeni who says the decision to erect shops around the house of prayers was uncalled for.

"The Bondeni Mosque is the symbol of Arusha, top government leaders, including Heads of State and Ministers use the facility for prayers whenever they are in the city, it is therefore not advisable to build trading stalls around the area, for safety," said Ally.

One of Arusha residents, Mama Aisha Jumanne pointed out that a Mosque is a sensitive institution strictly meant for religion and education.

"It is should be a place where there are buildings for prayers and provision of education and not otherwise," she said, adding that: Muslim elders can still invest but should establish commercial projects elsewhere.

A visit to the Bondeni Mosque area revealed a perimeter corrugated iron sheets fencing indicating some construction work going on.

A wooden signboard bearing construction permit Number 163/2023 for the commercial shops project was erected on the plot.

The Tanzania Muslim Council (BAKWATA) Arusha City Secretary Seif Banka, admitted there were some developments going on at the Friday Mosque but all pending on ongoing discussions.



REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS FOR PROVISION OF INSURANCE BROKERAGE SERVICES & INTERNET SERVICES

Church World Services Inc. (CWS) is a faith-based organization transforming communities around the globe through just and sustainable responses to hunger, poverty, displacement, and disaster. Church World Services Inc. invites applications from qualified, competent, eligible, and interested firms for the submission of Expression of Interest for the services stated below: -

Item No	Tender Number	Description	Closing Date
1	CWS/RSC/TZ/KSL/002/FY24	Provision of Dedicated internet services/ Secondary links for various locations. i) Dar es Salaam - 10Mbps ii) Kasulu - 50Mbps iii) Makere IOM - 20Mbps iv) Nyarugusu - 20Mbps v) Mary GH, Makere - 10Mbps	August 05 th , 2024, 5:00pm EAT
2	CWS/RSC/TZ/KSL/003/FY24	Provision of Insurance covers through brokerage firms for the four categories. i) Medical Insurance Cover ii) Group Life Assurance (GLA) iii) Group Personal Accident (GPA) iv) Motor Vehicles and Assets	August 05 th , 2024, 5:00pm EAT

Request for Proposals documents detailing the requirements of the above are available through the link below: -

<https://cwsafrica.org/tenders/>

Completed tender documents should be submitted through tenders@cwsafrica.org clearly indicating the tender number and description being applied for.

Late submissions will not be accepted.

Queries should be addressed to Procurement@cwsafrica.org

Deadline for submission of queries; **July 22nd, 2024 5pm EAT** and responses to queries will be posted on the link below:

<https://cwsafrica.org/tenders/> by **July 29th, 2024 5pm EAT**.

Church World Service Inc. reserves the right to accept or reject any or all bids/proposals and is not bound to give any reasons for its decision.

Chinese ship receives 5,000 patients in Dar

By Correspondent Mary Kadoke

THE Chinese Naval Hospital Ship 'Peace Ark' has conducted free humanitarian treatment to 4074 patients, 1280 auxiliary examinations, and 11 surgeries until Friday last week, the Mission Commander has stated.

The strategic support that initially started on Thursday last week after the ship docked at the Dar es Salaam port, intentionally aims to commemorate 60 years of Tanzania-China bilateral cooperation that will also engage the

Tanzania People's Defence Force (TPDF) and the Chinese People's Liberation Army (CPLA) to mark military friendship.

Ying Hongbo, Rear Admiral Peace Ark Mission Commander announced the achievement in the City, over the weekend during a short ceremony organized at the port to commemorate the achievements of engaging the Peace Ark and TPDF officials.

He said until Friday, last week, they received many local patients who visited the ship aiming to attain medical care from Chinese doctors.

"Tanzania being the second country in the 2024 Mission Harmony, a total of 4074 patients have received free humanitarian treatment, conducted 1280 auxiliary examinations and performed 11 surgeries until Friday last week," he said.

More on that, the mission had also conducted and witnessed the birth of a healthy baby boy on Thursday, making it the first 'Peace Ark' baby among the three harmonious visits made in the country.

According to him, the two countries have cemented unwavering support of each other on issues of common interests at bilateral and international levels.

Su Qinfeng, the Ship's Commander also noted among 11 operations, cataract extraction surgery emerged as the most attended case.

He added: "We are also happy that we managed to recover an 82-year-old man's vision in this mission."

Chen Mingjian, Chinese ambassador to Tanzania said Military exchange and cooperation has always been a very important pillar of the overall relations between China and Tanzania for the past decades noting on the other hand that the military forces have been brothers and sisters enjoying a stable, close, and jovial relationship.

The envoy said China and Tanzania's cooperation is in a good status, especially after President Samia Suluhu Hassan's visit to China in 2022 where she met Chinese President Xi Jinping and the two leaders agreed to upgrade bilateral relations to a comprehensive strategic cooperative partnership.

The ambassador said during the visit to Tanzania in 2013, President Xi Jinping proposed the principle of sincerity, real results, amity, and good faith for China's African policy and solemnly announced that China and Africa always stand together as a community with a shared future.

Naza Fadhili, a mother to a new Peace Ark baby who named her son Zakhir after birth, acknowledged the doctors who made sure that she had a safe delivery.

"I was initially admitted at Lugalo Military Hospital and contacted later by doctors that I was to be transferred to the Chinese Navy Hospital Ship for delivery; with all initiatives made, on Thursday at 12am I delivered my son, I am happy and thankful I had a safe delivery."

Briefing journalists last week Dar es Salaam Regional Commissioner Albert Chalamila, said the strategic support was scheduled to start on July 18th and end on July 23rd this year.


He said the medical services will include

preliminary diagnosis and medication treatment suggestions for common diseases, such as respiratory infections, gastrointestinal diseases, surgical injuries, and skin diseases, health guidance for chronic diseases, such as hypertension, diabetes, heart disease medication adjustment, and lifestyle advice and Health consultations to help the local population understand their health status and provide lifestyle recommendations.

According to him, the Ark Peace medical officials will provide the services in support with TPDF, Muhimbili National Hospital (MNH), Tumbi Regional Referral Hospital (TRRH), Amana Regional Referral Hospital (ARRH), Mwananyamala Regional Referral Hospital (MRRH), Temeke Regional Referral Hospital (TRRH), and Jakaya Kikwete Cardiac Institute (JKCI).

The Chinese naval hospital ship Ark Peace consists of more than one hundred medical personnel. Since its commission, Ark Peace has carried out the Mission Harmony to provide medical service nine times (in 2010, 2011, 2013, 2014, 2015, 2017, 2018, 2022, and 2023), visited 46 countries and regions across three oceans and six continents, provided medical services to over 290,000 people, thus, it is reputed as the 'Ship of Life'.

THE UNITED REPUBLIC OF TANZANIA



**IN THE FAIR COMPETITION TRIBUNAL
AT DAR ES SALAAM**

APPEAL NO. 3 OF 2024

BETWEEN

COLIN HIGGINS & RISHMA SOMJI APPELLANT

AND

ORYX OIL COMPANY LIMITED 1ST RESPONDENT

**ENERGY AND WATER UTILITIES
REGULATORY AUTHORITY** 2ND RESPONDENT

(Notice pursuant to Rule 16 of the Fair Competition Tribunal Rules, 2012)

TAKE NOTICE THAT an appeal has been lodged in the Tribunal against the whole decision of the Energy and Water Utilities Regulatory Authority (EWURA) dated 28th March 2024 in which EWURA dismissed appellant's complaint for compensation for being out of time pursuant to rule 26(1) of the EWURA (Consumer Complaints Settlement Procedure) Rules, 2020.

The appeal is based on the grounds, among others, that **EWURA** erred in deciding the limitation period of the dispute commenced from April, 2022; failing to appreciate that application for extension of time is not provided under the EWURA Rules, 2020; and failing to discover that EWURA Rules, 2020 are not applicable for the part of the claim between 2012 to 2019. Thus, the Appellant prays for orders to dismiss the decision of EWURA and declaration that the Appellant's claim is not time barred.

BY THIS PUBLIC NOTICE any person who considers that he has sufficient interest may apply to intervene in the proceedings within seven days of the first publication of this notice to the Fair Competition Tribunal, 2nd Floor, Ministry of Higher Education, Science and Technology Building, Jamhuri Street, Dar Es Salaam.

GIVEN UNDER MY HAND AND SEAL of the Tribunal this **22nd July 2024.**

REGISTRAR



Tanga Water supply and Sanitation Authority managing director Godfrey Hilly (R) and STC Construction Co Ltd director Allan Makame pictured in Tanga city at the weekend displaying documents on agreements they had just signed on the implementation of improvements on water projects. Looking on (C, facing camera) is Water minister Jumaa Aweso. Photo: Correspondent Hamida Kamchalla

Multiple Vacancies Health Research Organization



Our esteemed client, one of Africa's leading health research organizations, is seeking talented individuals to join their team in various technical and strategic roles. With a strong track record of developing, testing, and validating health innovations through community-engaged research activities, this organization is at the forefront of advancing public health.

This is a unique opportunity to join a market leader that has significantly improved public health in local communities for decades and has influenced international development policy, including those set by the WHO.

We welcome highly talented candidates to explore these unique opportunities and be part of this incredible journey of impact. Full role profiles for each position are available on www.empower.co.tz

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- Senior Research Coordinator
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- Director of Resource Mobilization & Stakeholder Engagement
- Senior Management Accountant
- Senior Finance Manager


How to Apply

1. Interested and qualified candidates are invited to register their application at www.empower.co.tz
2. Once your account is activated, setup your profile and upload the following documents:
 - CV
 - Academic Certificates
 - 3 References from industry professionals


Register
www.empower.co.tz


Complete Profile
Upload Documents


Apply
Search for Specific Job Title


Deadline
16:30 EAT
26 July 2024



NOTICE FOR ASSETS DISPOSAL OF VARIOUS BANK ASSETS

CRDB Bank PLC (the Bank) is an African Bank and a leading financial services provider in Tanzania with a current presence in Tanzania and Burundi, East Africa. The Bank intends to sell the below items to any interested buyer.

A. ICT EQUIPMENT LOCATED AT MABWEPANDE

SN	ITEM NAME	QUANTITY	LOCATION
1	USED ATM	54	MABWEPANDE
2	UPS SKVA STABILIZER (LARGE)	22	MABWEPANDE
3	UPS-SKVA GAMATRONIC FOR HOSPITAL	39	MABWEPANDE
4	ICT SERVER AND OTHER EQUIPMENT	10 BOXES	MABWEPANDE
5	MAGAL SECURITY EQUIPMENT	16 BOXES	MABWEPANDE

B. FURNITURE LOCATED AT MABWEPANDE.

SN	ITEM NAME	QUANTITY	LOCATION
1	TREASURY TABLE	12	MABWEPANDE

C. GENERATORS LOCATED AT MABWEPANDE, KILOSA, NYERERE, KAKONKO, UDOM BRANCH, CHAMWINO SOKONI, DIDIA, KISHAPU AND ISAKA.

NO	TYPE/MAKE	MODEL	CAPACITY	CURRENT LOCATION
1	GHADDAR	PT 60	60 KVA	MABWEPANDE
2	MARAPCO	MP66E	66 KVA	MABWEPANDE
3	MARAPCO	MP66E	66 KVA	MABWEPANDE
4	GHADDAR	PT15	15 KVA	MABWEPANDE
5	FG WILSON	P27	27 KVA	KILOSA BRANCH
6	ELEMAX		5.5 KVA	NYERERE HYDROPOWER PROJECT
7	Generator	PT13	13KVA	KAKONKO BRANCH
8	FG WILSON	P40	40 KVA	MABWEPANDE
9	STERLING	SGP22PR	22 KVA	MABWEPANDE
10	ELEMAX	SH6500EX	6.5 KVA	MABWEPANDE
11	ELEMAX	SH7600EX	7.6 KVA	MABWEPANDE
12	ELEMAX	SH71500	11.5 KVA	MABWEPANDE
13	FG WILSON	P40	40 KVA	MABWEPANDE
14	FG WILSON	P40	40 KVA	MABWEPANDE
15	ELEMAX	GX200	5.5 KVA	UDOM BRANCH
16	ELEMAX	GX200	5.5 KVA	CHAMWINO SOKONI
17	ELEMAX	GX200	5.5 KVA	DIDIA
18	ELEMAX	GX200	5.5 KVA	KISHAPU
19	ELEMAX	GX200	5.5 KVA	ISAKA
20	SKVA STABILIZER (LARGE)		22 KVA	MABWEPANDE
21	UPS-SKVA GAMATRONIC FOR HOSPITAL		39 KVA	MABWEPANDE

D. ELEVEN MOTOR VEHICLES LOCATED AT ADA ESTATE (DAR ES SALAAM), ZONAL OFFICE (ARUSHA), HOSHI, TURIANI (MOROGORO), NGARA (KAGERA), SAUTI (MWANZA), LUPATINGATINGA -CHUNYA (MBEYA)

SN	Registration Number	REG No.	CHASSIS No.	YOM	ASSET No.	LOCATION
1	Toyota Landcruiser Hard Top	T424 BTY	NIL	6/2/2011	500000859	ADA ESTATE
2	Toyota Landcruiser Hard Top	T123 ALW	JTER-B71400048477	9/2/2014	500000980	ADA ESTATE
3	Toyota Landcruiser Hard Top	T492 BDU	NIL	24/01/2014	500000754	ZONAL OFFICE (ARUSHA)
4	Toyota Landcruiser Hard Top	T496 BDU	JTER-B71600048409	25/01/2014	500000857	MOSHI (KILIMANJARO)

SN	Registration Number	REG No.	CHASSIS No.	YOM	ASSET No.	LOCATION
5	Hilux D/ Cabin	T216 DHA	AHT-FR22G0012957	27/01/2014	500000995	ZONAL OFFICE (ARUSHA)
6	Mercede Benz - Mobile17	T613 DCW	BVFEB5P-GE5Y14502	30/01/2014	800000044	ADA ESTATE
7	Mercede Benz - Mobile14	T603 DCW	BVFEB5P-GE5Y14501	31/01/2014	800000041	ADA ESTATE
8	Mitsubishi Canter - Mobile21	T354 DGH	BAVFEB5C-GF5Y02452	1/2/2014	800000045	TURIANI (MOROGORO)
9	Mitsubishi Canter - Mobile18	T348 DGH	BAVFEB5C-GF5Y02450	2/2/2014	800000049	NGARA (KAGERA)
10	Mitsubishi Canter - Mobile1	T590 DCW	NIL	4/2/2014	800000043	SAUTI (MWANZA)
11	Mitsubishi Canter - Mobile16	T594 DCW	BVFEB5P-GE5Y14500	5/2/2014	800000042	LUPATINGATINGA (CHUNYA)

E. THREE PLOTS LOCATED AT MSIJUTE DANGOTE AREA -MTWARA, NANYAMBA - MTWARA, AND CHAKE CHAKE LUSHOTO - TANGA.

S/N	Plot No	Location
1	Plot No. 88 Block A Mtwara (3.755)	MSIJUTE (DANGOTE AREA MTWARA)
2	Plot No. 38 Block A (2.120)	NANYAMBA
3	Plot No. 97 Block E (2.708)	CHAKE CHAKE (LUSHOTO TANGA)

The Bank intend to sell the above items to any interested buyer under the below conditions:

- The sale of the items will be conducted in line with the Bank's Procurement Policy and Procedures. The selection will be conducted based on the highest evaluated bidder.
- All interested bidders are requested to visit at the mentioned location. The site visit can only be done on weekdays during normal working hours (0900 hours to 1500 hours) from July 16th, 2024 to July 31st, 2024.
- The successful bidder must pay a deposit of 100% not later than five (5) working days after being awarded. In the event of failure to do so, the award will be cancelled and given to the second bidder.
- The purchaser will be liable for all taxes relating to this purchase.
- The deadline for submission of the proposals will be before 1500 hours local time on July 31st, 2024. All bids/quotations will be opened in public on the same date at 1500 hours, online via the link available on the bank's website.
- All bids and quotations must be submitted in electronic form. Tenders should be sent to tenders@crdbbank.co.tz in PDF format ONLY, encryption is advised. The tender must be addressed to the secretary of the Management Tender Committee, CRDB Head Office, Plot No. 25 & 26 Ali Hassan Mwinyi Road and Plot No. 21 Barack Obama Drive, P.O. Box 268, Dar es Salaam.
- Opening of the submitted bids/quotes will be conducted online via a link to be found on the Bank website. The opening is scheduled to be done on July 31st, 2024, at 1500 hrs.
- For further information, please contact the office of the secretary of the CRDB Bank PLC Tender Management Committee, which is located on the 6th floor of the CRDB Head Office, along Ali Hassan Mwinyi Road, and is open from 08:00 to 16:00 Monday through Friday, excluding public holidays.

The Managing Director

CRDB Headquarters,
Plot No.25 & 26 Ally Hassan Mwinyi Road & Plot No.21 Barack Obama Road
P.O. Box 268, 1101 Dar es Salaam, Tanzania
Tel: 0755197700 / 0714197700 / 022 2197 700 / 0800 008 000
Fax: +255 (0) 22 211 6714
Email: info@crdbbank.co.tz
Website: http://www.crdbbank.co.tz

By Gwamaka Alipipi

CHINESE contractor Sinoma International Engineering Co. Ltd who is building the compressed natural gas (CNG) filling station at the University of Dar es Salaam (UDSM) has been directed to complete the project by December, this year.

Dr. James Mataragio, Deputy permanent secretary in the Ministry of Energy issued the directives in Dar es Salaam over the weekend after inspecting the ongoing project along the Sam Nujoma Road in the city.

He stated that the station will have the capacity to produce three million cubic feet of CNG per day and will serve vehicles and industries, including the Kairuki Pharmaceuticals factory located in Kibaha, Coast Region.

"This is part of the country's strategies that President Samia Suluhu Hassan has been advocating for us to use clean energy, so through this project, in areas where we lack gas projects, we will use this station to transport gas via vehicles

Govt directs CNG contractor to complete project by December

to provide this service. That's why I have instructed that this project be completed before December," he said.

Dr. Mataragio added that the station being constructed at the UDSM will serve vehicles and natural gas filling stations, emphasizing that investment in the gas sector will continue to increase, mentioning that after December, anyone in the region can establish their own gas station and enter into agreements with TPDC to receive gas services.

He noted that Tanzania is estimated to have 230 trillion cubic feet of natural gas, although only 57.5 trillion cubic feet have been confirmed so far, ranking it 82nd globally.

The PS stated that the gas has already begun to be extracted from Songosongo Island in Kilwa District, Coast Region, and from the Msimbati area in Mtwara Region, primarily for electricity generation and industrial

use in the country.

Emanuel Gilbert, Director of Downstream Operations at the Tanzania Petroleum Development Corporation (TPDC), said once completed, residents of Morogoro, Mbeya, and Tanga will have access to CNG.

He explained that this access will be facilitated through specially equipped gas transport vehicles.

According to the Comprehensive Natural Gas Utilization Master Plan for Tanzania 2016-2045, 8.8 trillion cubic feet are allocated for households, 3.6 trillion cubic feet for industries, and 600 billion cubic feet for vehicles.

TPDC is collaborating with the private sector to construct 30 refilling stations in Dar es Salaam, including locations such as Muhimbili, Kibaha, University of Dar es Salaam, Sinza, Mwenge, Goba, Mbezi Beach, and Mbagala.

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THE STATE UNIVERSITY OF ZANZIBAR

RFB REFERENCE NO: SUZA/BADEA/G.2/2023/2024

FOR

SUPPLYING OF ONE BRAND-NEW MOTOR VEHICLE TO SUPPORT PROJECT IMPLEMENTATION

INVITATION FOR BIDS

COUNTRY : THE UNITED REPUBLIC OF TANZANIA
NAME OF PROJECT : EXPANSION OF THE STATE UNIVERSITY OF ZANZIBAR
PROJECT SITE : THE STATE UNIVERSITY OF ZANZIBAR, TUNGUU CAMPUS
CONTRACT TITLE : SUPPLYING OF BRAND-NEW VEHICLE TO SUPPORT PROJECT IMPLEMENTATION
LOAN NO : 0922
RFB REFERENCE NO : SUZA/BADEA/G.2/2023/2024

- The Government of United Republic of Tanzania represented by the Revolutionary Government of Zanzibar under the State University of Zanzibar has received a loan from the Arab Bank for Economic Development in Africa (BADEA) towards the cost of **THE EXPANSION OF THE STATE UNIVERSITY OF ZANZIBAR PROJECT**, and it is intended that part of the proceeds of this loan will be applied to eligible payments under the contracts for supplying Brand-New Vehicle to Support Project Implementation.
- The State University of Zanzibar now invites sealed Bids from eligible Bidders for Supplying of One Brand-New Motor Vehicle with delivery period of Three Months from the date of Signing contract.
- Procurement process will be conducted through National Competitive Bidding using a Request for Bids (RFB) and is open to all eligible Bidders as defined in the Procurement Act No. 11, 2016 with its Regulations of 2021.
- Interested eligible bidders may obtain further information and inspect the bidding document at PDMU office, The State University of Zanzibar, **TRANSLD** Building, **TR-05-PMU** office during office hours 08:00 to 16:00 hours.
- The bidding document in English may be purchased by interested Bidders upon the submission of a written application to the address below and upon payment of a nonrefundable fee of Tanzania Shillings One Hundred Thousand only (TZS. 100,000). The method of payment will be through Bank using control number requested from **pmu@suza.ac.tz**.
- All Bids must be delivered to the Secretary of the Tender Board, The State University of Zanzibar, **TRANSLD** Building, TR-05- PMU, Tunuu Campus on or before 10:30 Hours 09th August, 2024. Electronic Bidding will not be permitted. Late Bids will be rejected. Bids will be publicly opened in the presence of the Bidders' designated representatives and anyone who choose to attend at the address below:-

The State University of Zanzibar,
HEET Conference Room,
Computing Building 2nd Floor, Tunuu Campus, Southern Region, Unguja

- All Bids must be accompanied by a Bid Security in the form of Bank Guarantee/Banker's Cheque of Tanzania Shillings One Million only (TZS. 1,000,000).
- Attention is drawn to the Procurement Regulations requiring the Borrower to disclose information on the successful bidder's beneficial ownership, as part of the Contract Award Notice, using the Beneficial Ownership Disclosure Form as included in the bidding document.
- The address(es) referred is:

The State University of Zanzibar,
Vice Chancellor,
P.O.Box 146, Tunuu Zanzibar
vc@suza.ac.tz, pmu@suza.ac.tz.
www.suza.ac.tz

Dr. HASHIM H. CHANDE
For VICE CHANCELLOR,

THE STATE UNIVERSITY OF ZANZIBAR
TUNGUUU MAIN CAMPUS ZANZIBAR.



Tanzania Red Cross Society, Mwai Kibaki Road, Plot no. 53 Block C, Mikocheni B,
P.O. Box 1133, Dar es Salaam Tanzania. Phone +255 22 2780948, 0800 750 150/51
Email: info@trcs.or.tz, Website: www.trcs.or.tz

INVITATION TO TENDER

The Tanzania Red Cross Society (TRCS), together with the Spanish Red Cross, invites interested and eligible **NATIONAL CONTRACTORS** registered by Contractors Registration Board (CRB) as Building Contractors registered from Class I to class VII to submit their **VALID CERTIFICATES** and best bids/proposals for the **CONSTRUCTION OF POUR FLUSH LATRINES AND WATER SYSTEM AT UVINZA DISTRICT, KIGOMA REGION (LOTS I & II)** by Engineering Procurement Construction and Financing (EPC-F Contract).

Only contractors who are officially registered/have a physical address and office in Kigoma region are eligible for this call. Supporting documents such as TIN certificate with TRA Location in Kigoma region or equivalent documents need to be presented.

Tendering will be conducted through the **NATIONAL COMPETITIVE BIDDING** procedures specified in the public Procurement Regulation, 2013-Government Notice No.446 and are open to national Tenderer only as defined in Regulations unless stated in the **TENDER DATA SHEET**.

INSTRUCTIONS:

- Interested and eligible contractor can obtain a complete set of documents from procurement and Logistics Unit (PLU) contacting the two following email addresses by the 31st July.** Please use the email subject that follows: 8240 - Bid for construction of latrines and water scheme in Uvinza. Please note that all contacts **MUST** be in copy on the email requesting the set of documents:
 - bertha.mwaseba@trcs.or.tz
 - anna.albiol@cruzroja.es
- Further instruction will be shared together with the set of documents for bidding.
- Fee per tender is Tanzania Shillings One Hundred Thousand Only (TZS 100,000) and it is nonrefundable Pay by using NBC Bank Account number 011103002443, Name of Account: **TANZANIA RED CROSS SOCIETY**.

SAGCOT training on soil health to up rice productivity in Mbeya

By Guardian Correspondent, Mbeya

THE Southern Agricultural Growth Corridor of Tanzania (SAGCOT) has brought together rice farmers from the Mwendamitu Irrigation Scheme in Ubaruku Ward, Mbarali District, Mbeya Region and the Madibira Rice Farmers Cooperative Society (MAMCOS) to share knowledge aimed at enhancing productivity in rice production across the country.

During the training visit to the MAMCOS farm in Mbarali District on March 20, 2024, Mayasa Kalungwana, SAGCOT Assistant Advisor in Mbarali district, emphasized that the centre continues to foster partnerships between the public and private sectors.

She said that these collaborations empower both small and large-scale farmers and other stakeholders to work together efficiently and profitably.

"In 2023, SAGCOT, in collaboration with the Mbeya Regional Commissioner's (RC) office and the Tanzania Agricultural Research Institute (TARI) launched a soil health assessment program".

"This initiative educates farmers on the benefits of soil health assessment, which has yielded positive results in increasing productivity," Kalungwana stated.

She added that, based on these guidelines, MAMCOS anticipates a significant increase in crop yield on their farm from 6 tonnes per hectare to 12 tonnes per hectare.

Kalungwana also highlighted that the training, focused on knowledge-sharing, aims to double rice production capacity while prioritizing environmentally friendly agricultural practices.

"Our visit showcased the exchange of innovative methods between farmers from the Mwendamitu Irrigation Scheme and the MAMCOS," she said.

"Farmers from Mwendamitu had the opportunity to witness the effectiveness of the new sand mining plant that was recently acquired by MAMCOS," Kalungwana remarked.

She noted that the presence of the plant has significantly reduced costs previously incurred for external services to clear irrigation channels blocked by sand.

Kalungwana emphasized SAGCOT's commitment to promoting agricultural innovation and sustainability, which are crucial for advancing the agricultural sector's development in the country.

"The Government, through the National Irrigation Commission, has developed the National Irrigation Master Plan for the period 2020-2035."

"This plan aims to enhance all irrigation schemes nationwide, including the construction of dams for irrigation and other purposes," she added.

It encourages citizens to prioritize environmental conservation to ensure the sustainability of water resources," she concluded.



In 2023, SAGCOT, in collaboration with the Mbeya Regional Commissioner's (RC) office and the Tanzania Agricultural Research Institute (TARI) launched a soil health assessment program

'Africa faces shortage of 15million teachers'

ACCRA

AFRICA faces a deficit of 15 million in the supply of teachers, which hinders the continent's development, a senior African Union (AU) official said Friday.

Mohammed Belhocine, the AU commissioner for education, science, technology and innovation, made the remarks at a press briefing at the ongoing 45th Ordinary Session of the Executive Council of the AU in Accra, the Ghanaian capital, warning that this deficit has a negative impact on the continent's ability to meet its education and development aspirations.

The commissioner, therefore, called on the continent to take steps to bridge this gap to achieve the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) in education by 2030 set by the United Nations.

"This teacher deficit is huge, and we need strong efforts to bridge the gap and make the best use of what we are already investing in our educational systems," Belhocine said.

Africa needs an investment of about 90 billion U.S. dollars to bridge the gap, improve infrastructure in education, and meet the SDGs on schedule, observed the commissioner.

The situation in Africa is due to the diminishing social status of the teaching profession, according to Belhocine. "Today, it is more flamboyant to be a businessman than to be a teacher. This is what is creating the gap in the supply of teachers."

He urged the rebranding of the teaching profession to motivate more competent people to embrace the profession.

"The other solution is to use digitalization as a shortcut so that with digital infrastructure in

place, one teacher can reach more children at the same time using the electronic platform and reduce the burden of the deficit," Belhocine said, adding that information and communications technology proficiency should be part of teacher training for this solution to succeed.

He also called for global support for improving educational systems in Africa to achieve better outcomes, because the entire world might need to depend on African youth in the next 20 years due to the low population growth in other parts of the world.

The AU Executive Council's 45th Ordinary Session, a meeting of foreign ministers of AU members, is a prelude to the 6th Mid-Year Coordination Meetings of the heads of state of AU members.



The other solution is to use digitalization as a shortcut so that with digital infrastructure in place, one teacher can reach more children at the same time using the electronic platform and reduce the burden of the deficit



Dr Upendo Matotola (C), Director of Real Estate in the Lands, Housing and Human Settlements Development ministry, graces the launch of a housing project in Dar es Salaam's Masaki suburb on Friday. Photo: Guardian Correspondent

Tanzanian writers launch book at Ghanaian varsity

By Guardian Correspondent, Accra

AFTER making a great success in Tanzania, Kenya and South Africa an historical book titled: "Hurdles and Prospects of African Integration" has been launched at the Institute of African Studies at the University of Ghana in Legon, the Republic of Ghana.

Authored by Tanzanian historians, Dr Maximilian Julius Chuhila and Dr James Zotto and published by APE, African Proper Education Network, the book was exposed on Tuesday seeing participation of a huge number the Institute academicians and historians especially the experts relevant from the Departments of History and Social Sciences.

Speaking during the launch, the authors called for a collective African integration arguing that

separatism and separation do not defend the interests of Africa as unified content in terms of culture and customs in spite of its ethnic and linguistic diversity.

Among the challenges that hinder African integration are historical divisions, economic disparities, security concerns, infrastructure deficits, and governance complexities.

According to them, Unity and integration are the soft arms to face any outside threat.

The two highlighted the historical background of the question of Sahara, pointing out that there is an historical link between the Moroccan sultans and the Sahrawis tribes according to the historical archives on which they depended on during their visit to Sahara.

Their presentations

demonstrated that the Sahara region has seen a socio-economic development due the efforts made by the Moroccan government, making it a hub for development and investments. It is a region that rejoices in all the living conditions in contradiction of what people they are marketing.

They cited that the development has also been due to the good intention of the Moroccan King who keeps deploying boundless material and moral efforts to make Sahara a hub for development and investments.

The historians further called for an effective and constructive dialogue based on common man interests in order to put an end to this long-term conflict taking into consideration the efforts made by the United Nations and the African Union to end the historical dispute.

In pointing out some of the hurdles to African integration, the authors say it depends on the sustainability of the political, social, and economic development of the continent. "Massive diversities in these major factors impede a smooth and rapid transition towards an integrated continent."

"To achieve an integrated continent, countries need to start settling their internal divisions and tensions before advancing to the level of the continent," said the authors.

At the end, the historians called for an effective and constructive dialogue between Moroccans themselves based on common interests in order to put an end to this long-term conflict taking into consideration the efforts made by the United Nations and the African Union to end this historical dispute.



A small trader (L) engaged in roasting sweet potatoes in style near the Sido open market in Mbeya city attends to his customers, as found at the weekend. Photo: Correspondent Nebart Msokwa

US Under Secretary of State Bass to visit Tanzania

By Guardian Reporter

ACTING Under Secretary of State for Political Affairs John Bass will travel to Chad and Tanzania from July 20 to July 25.

According to a statement issued yesterday by the US Embassy in Dar es Salaam, in Chad, Under Secretary Bass will consult with senior Chadian leaders on common priorities, including reinforcing bilateral cooperation, providing humanitarian support for refugees, responding to the humanitarian crisis in Sudan, and coordinating on regional security.

In Tanzania, Under Secretary Bass will meet with senior Tanzanian government leaders to discuss areas for increased bilateral cooperation, progress on political and economic reforms, human rights, and regional peace and security. He will also engage with civil society leaders on issues related to Tanzania's democratic trajectory.

John Bass was confirmed by the U.S. Senate on December 17, 2021, as the Under Secretary for Management. The Secretary of State designated John Bass as Acting Under Secretary for

Political Affairs on March 23, 2024.

A career Senior Foreign Service officer, he served as Senior Advisor at the Foreign Service Institute from 2020-2021, U.S. Ambassador to Afghanistan 2017-2020, U.S. Ambassador to Turkey from 2014 to 2017, Executive Secretary of the State Department from 2012 to 2014, and U.S. Ambassador to Georgia from 2009 to 2012. He began his diplomatic career in 1988 and has also served in positions in U.S. missions in Iraq, Italy, Belgium, and Chad.

In Washington, Ambassador Bass's assignments have included

service on Vice President Cheney's staff, as Chief of Staff and advisor to Deputy Secretary of State Strobe Talbott, as Director of the State Department's Operations Center and in several assignments focused on European security issues. He has received numerous State Department performance awards.

The son of a public servant and a U.S. Air Force officer, Bass was born and raised in upstate New York. A graduate of Syracuse University, he speaks Italian and French. He is married to U.S. diplomat Holly Holzer Bass.

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MNH's use of 1.439bn/- on 24 patients gives limits to NHIF's financing design

IT is hard to say how much relief was registered with the news that 1.493bn/- has been spent on 24 patients who underwent kidney, heart and cochlear implants in the past few months at the country's top health care facilities.

The Muhimbili National Hospital (MNH) executive director has been informing a restricted audience on the use of allocated funds amounting to 5bn/- in facilitating specialised treatment at relatively manageable costs.

While the number of transplants was arguably limited, details that MNH has performed kidney transplants on 100 patients, receiving 100 to 150 patients per day for dialysis looked perceptibly better.

The detail that each patient spends four hours undergoing routine kidney treatment helped to illustrate why such services need to be available in regional hospitals to be more accessible.

What was uncertain, though, was how the gesture of accessing specialised treatment at MNH facilities would be a reality for most of those needing the care.

For instance, it was not clear how far the government's allocated funding set at 2bn/- for MNH was adequate and effective in supporting the patients - and, indeed, how many made it to the treatment out of how many who sought it.

The Health minister is on record as having declared that the government is committed to investing more in training healthcare professionals across various specialities to enhance the delivery of specialised medical services throughout the country.

That affirmation at least suggests that the government has the capacity for such training, as at times it involves direct instructions with acknowledged local and foreign specialists.

While the point about the specialised treatment facilities at MNH is all too often that their availability helps to appreciably reduce overseas referrals and

the attendant costs, the real issue is where we are with the wider initiative of improving access to specialised medical services for underprivileged citizens.

Without details on the 24 patients and the amount of money spent on their treatment, it is not easy to say how 'underprivileged' they are and exactly how they many will benefit?

That is why it is vital to reiterate the point that the universal coverage formula that is now law and presumably being pursued in terms of hospital compliance with tendering of cards issued by the National Health Insurance Fund (NHIF) in particular us likely to face limits or hurdles.

There is in the first place the issue of cost accounting, including how come a heart transplant costs 30m/- when doctors' salaries are paid by the government at scales not quite top secret.

The usual justification is to compare with how much it would cost to take the patient to the likes of India, while not explicitly saying the patient would be treated as a foreigner or a 'medical tourist' and so the bill is, yes, onerous.

These are some of the worrisome aspects to universal insurance coverage rather than basic free medical care and individual insurance at upper levels, while there are clear distinctions between charging locals and foreigners or medical tourists.

There is an apparent inward-looking mannerism which shifts MNH from being a local referral hospital to running as an island of medical specialisation.

Under the latter scenario, the method of charging for services has precious little to do with what Tanzanians earn save perhaps for patients at the highest level, among their senior public officials and heavyweights in the diplomatic corps and commerce.

This does not present a realistic picture of the situation on the ground - and therefore calls for a serious re-evaluation and reconsideration.

Our youths need marketable managerial, and other skills for good of the economy

CGK Africa Ltd, a company not very well-known in Tanzania, is reported to have expressed readiness to invest in youth education and career capacity building in the country.

The idea is to foster a wider professional network locally, seeing that a crucial launchpad for economic development.

It is understood that CGK Africa Ltd's vision is to contribute to building a sustainable economy for the current and future generations.

The five-year-old firm has its roots in the UK but its original proprietorship is largely Asian, and it is effectively this section of investors that is now out to bring Europe and America to this part of the world.

It is said that the firm's African operations started with Tanzania, and last year it underwent a significant shift in its focus by prioritising environmental sustainability and community development.

This was reported to be set in line with the idea of attaining Vision 2030 targets, which would rapidly represent the 17 global sustainable development goals, rather than the local vision.

Accordingly, CGK Global Ltd is determined to support individuals in achieving success as it defines it, contributing to the building of a sustainable economy for Tanzania.

Thus, the firm is committed to empowering youth and women, promote education and championing sustainability and environmental conservation.

As to how far this will make a difference in enabling government

initiatives to empower young people through strategic planning and enhancing skilled workforce delivery by 2030 is another issue remains anyone's guess.

The big issue is still how far training will be conducted for young people as, increasingly, trained young people still find it hard to put their training to work.

This is chiefly because job openings are minimal in industry or professional services, expanding singularly in lower-level commercial activity, construction, etc.

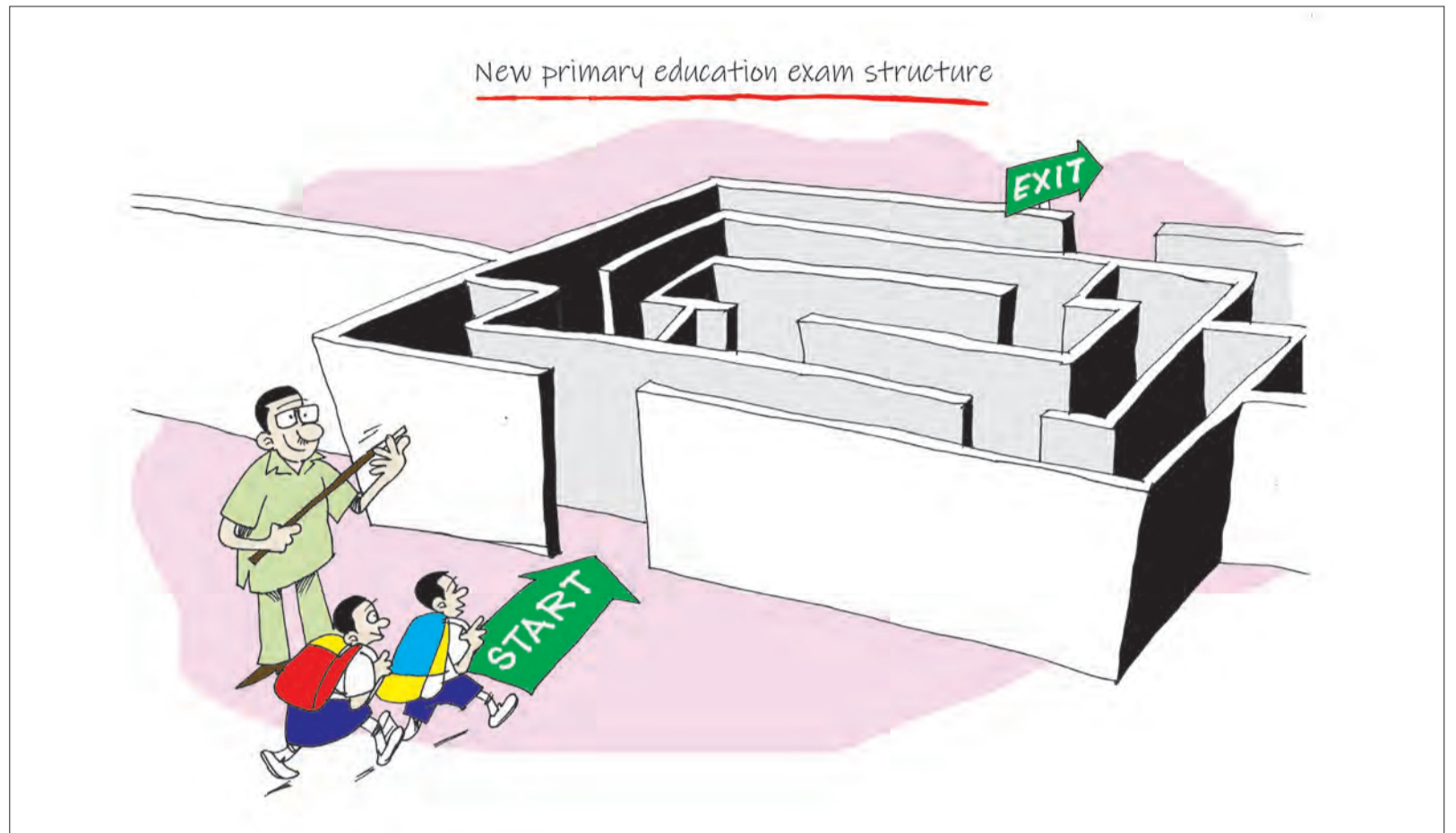
Some will point at farming as an expanding sphere though it is chiefly still for those retiring, not so much the youth.

Were the government ready to issue large amounts of shares to the private sector in exchange for liquidating the foreign debt in all of its 350 or so commercial organisations, it could expect large numbers of takers from this group.

With the implanting of scores of companies from other countries, not speak of banks and experts they find abroad who see this country as familiar and welcoming to well-meaning investors, all is possible.

The country stands to gain from divergent private sector efforts in elevating youth capacity or readiness to join this or that sector, in line with what CGK Africa Ltd says of the training lined up or in progress.

Arming the youths with marketable managerial skills is vital in boosting economic empowerment, but policies also need to change accordingly if the training is lead to gainful engagement in the widest sense of the term.



By Kettie Chipeta

STATE-OWNED enterprises (SOEs) are designed to drive stability and prosperity. Yet, despite the government's efforts to instill ethical leadership into them and grant them autonomy, their success in meeting performance goals may remain elusive.

While setting targets and establishing key performance indicators (KPIs) looks promising on paper, history reveals a consistent failure in execution.

The issue is not lack of targets or KPIs - these are well-documented in five-year strategic plans - but the chasm between strategy and actual implementation.

Understanding this persistent gap requires diving into the profound impact of national culture on organisational behaviour and performance.

National culture, encompassing shared values, beliefs, norms and practices, shapes how individuals think, behave and interact - thus, determining leadership styles, decision-making processes, and overall organisational behaviour.

Geert Hofstede, a renowned Dutch social psychologist, developed six key dimensions of national culture: Power Distance, Individualism versus Collectivism, Masculinity versus Femininity, Uncertainty Avoidance, Long-Term Orientation versus Short-Term Normative Orientation, and Indulgence versus Restraint.

Each dimension profoundly influences performance even within Tanzanian SOEs, creating distinct organisational challenges and opportunities.

Power Distance reflects a society's acceptance of hierarchical order. In Tanzania, this high Power Distance signifies a culture that respects authority figures without question.

Decisions are often centralised, and lower-level employees may hesitate to voice concerns, this leading to the stifling of innovation and responsiveness.

For instance, a junior employee might refrain from proposing a new idea owing to fear of repercussions. This deference to authority can hinder the flow of creative ideas and slow down problem-solving processes.

The lack of open communication channels means that valuable insights from employees are often overlooked, leading to missed opportunities for improvement.

Individualism versus Collectivism highlights the preference for group harmony over individual achievement in Tanzania. This collectivist culture fosters strong team cohesion but can dilute individual accountability.

Shared responsibility may lead to a lack of clear ownership, resulting in poor performance. When tasks and goals are shared among team

Tangled web of culture and performance: Tanzania's state-owned firms in dilemma



members, individual initiative and accountability may diminish, leading to inefficiencies and lacklustre performance.

The strong emphasis on group consensus often means that critical issues may not be addressed promptly, as the desire to maintain harmony can overshadow the need for urgent action. This cultural trait can make it difficult to identify and reward high performers, further demotivating employees.

Masculinity versus Femininity indicates a leaning towards femininity, emphasizing cooperation and quality of life over competitiveness.

This supportive work environment prioritises teamwork but may slow decision-making and reduce urgency in addressing performance issues.

The emphasis on harmonious relationships and mutual support often means that aggressive goal pursuit and competitive drive take a backseat. This can lead to slower progress and a potential lack of clarity in strategic direction.

In a setting where cooperation is highly valued, there may be less impetus to push for rapid changes or to take bold risks that could drive significant improvements.

Uncertainty Avoidance shows a preference for structured conditions, leading to resistance to new ideas and methods. Within organisations, this can manifest itself as reluctance to adopt modern technologies or innovative practices.

The desire for predictability and clear procedures often results in adherence to established routines even when such routines may no longer be the most effective.

This cultural trait can hinder the adoption of innovative strategies and technologies that are crucial

for improving performance and driving growth.

The tendency of sticking to known paths can prevent organisations from exploring new opportunities that could lead to substantial advancements.

Long-Term Orientation versus Short-Term Normative Orientation reflects focus on immediate gains over sustainable success. This short-term focus can hinder long-term strategic planning essential for SOE performance.

The tendency of prioritising short-term financial results over long-term investments can undermine efforts to build a robust and sustainable organisational foundation.

For example, prioritising immediate financial gains might undermine the investment needed for long-term infrastructure improvements and maintenance, adversely affecting overall performance.

The short-term mindset can lead to decisions that yield quick benefits but do not contribute to the enduring health and competitiveness of the organisation.

Indulgence versus Restraint captures a tendency of controlling and regulating personal gratification. This restraint can result in reduced motivation and enthusiasm, with employees concentrating solely on fulfilling basic responsibilities.

A restrained cultural orientation often means that personal ambitions and desires are subdued, which can adversely affect overall organisational dynamism and drive. Employees may become more focused on adhering to established norms and rules rather than seeking out opportunities for innovation and improvement.

The lack of a culture encouraging

and rewarding personal initiative can stifle the potential for significant contributions from all levels of the organisation.

Comparing Tanzania with other African countries reveals similar cultural patterns affecting organisational performance. Nigeria and Kenya both exhibit high Power Distance and Collectivist values, leading to centralised decision-making and reduced accountability.

In Nigeria, these traits have resulted in persistent corruption and inefficiency, particularly in the state-run oil sector. Similarly, Kenya's SOEs, such as Kenya Airways, struggle with performance issues primarily owing to poor management practices.

In contrast, Asian countries like China and South Korea have High Power Distance and Collectivist values but have managed to transform their SOEs into global powerhouses.

China's SOEs such as the China National Petroleum Corporation benefit from strong government control and rigorous performance incentives. Executives face significant penalties for underperformance but enjoy substantial rewards for meeting targets.

China's low Uncertainty Avoidance and high Long-Term Orientation foster innovation and strategic planning, enhancing accountability and focusing on strategic objectives.

South Korea's SOEs, including Korea Electric Power Corporation, similarly excel owing to high-performance expectations, rigorous monitoring and substantial investments in managerial talent and technology.

South Korea mitigates high Uncertainty Avoidance by investing heavily in these areas, balancing potential drawbacks and maintaining global competitiveness.

The strategic emphasis on technology and talent development enables South Korean SOEs to stay ahead of global trends and maintain their competitive edge.

In Europe, Germany and Sweden exemplify flat organisational structures and decentralised decision-making. Germany's emphasis on employee participation and consensus-building contrasts sharply with Tanzania's hierarchical and collectivist tendencies.

This focus on transparency, employee involvement and innovation fosters efficiency and competitiveness. Germany's management approach encourages active participation and accountability at all levels, promoting a dynamic and responsive business environment.

TURN TO PAGE 9

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The German model demonstrates how empowering employees and encouraging open communication can lead to significant improvements in organisational performance.

Sweden's low Masculinity reflects a cooperative approach, differing from the competitive drive seen in a range of other countries and regions. Swedish organisations prioritise quality of life, work-life balance and inclusive decision-making processes.

This approach enhances employee satisfaction and drives high productivity and innovation. Sweden's emphasis on consensus and collaboration creates a supportive work environment where employees feel valued and empowered.

Given these insights, what is the way forward for Tanzania's SOEs? Management within SOEs must address any cultural underpinnings hindering performance. Fostering a culture of accountability through decentralising decision-making and encouraging open communication is paramount.

By empowering lower-level employees to voice their concerns and suggestions, organisations can tap into a wealth of ideas and perspectives that can drive innovation and improve performance.

Training programmes designed - and meant - to instill the importance of individual responsibility and performance could also play a pivotal role in shifting organisational culture towards greater accountability.

Performance-based incentives similar to those in Asian countries could create direct incentives for SOE managers to place a premium on performance.

Linking executive compensation and career advancement to the achievement of targets and KPIs would motivate managers to focus on achieving strategic objectives. This approach can help align individual goals with organisational goals, in turn fostering a culture of high performance and continuous improvement.

Embracing long-term strategic planning could shift the focus from immediate gains to sustainable success. This involves a commitment to continuous improvement, innovation and adaptability in the face of changing market dynamics.

Investing in infrastructure, technology and human capital development is also essential for building a strong foundation for long-term success.

Reinforcing ethical leadership and transparency is another crucial step. Establishing independent monitoring and evaluation units within SOEs could ensure that performance metrics are diligently tracked and reported without bias.

This would help build a culture of trust and integrity essential for long-term success. Transparent and accountable leadership practices can enhance stakeholder confidence and drive organisational performance.

Additionally, fostering a culture of continuous learning and development can help SOEs stay competitive and responsive to emerging challenges and opportunities.

Encouraging employees to pursue professional development and stay abreast of industry trends can enhance organisational capabilities and drive innovation.

Creating a supportive environment for learning and growth can also improve employee engagement and retention, contributing to overall organisational success.

While Tanzania's SOEs face significant cultural challenges, a clear path forward exists. By addressing these cultural factors and implementing targeted reforms, the government - through management - can transform these entities into engines of economic growth.

Achieving this requires the balancing of respect for cultural values with the introduction of new norms of accountability, innovation and ethical leadership.

Kettie Lomaquala Chipeta (pictured) is a freelance writer specialising in business analysis and strategic management. She is also an avid reader of The Guardian newspaper. Contact: kettieloma@gmail.com. Phone: +255 692 108 677.

Empowering female entrepreneurs key to economic stability, poverty reduction

By Correspondent Beatrice Philemon

EMPowering women especially those in the food processing value chain can significantly enhance their potential to combat poverty, and establish their own enterprises. This empowerment can lead to creation of employment opportunities, contribute to economic growth, and transform women into agents of change within their communities.

When women have the same access as men in terms of capacity building training, capital, market information as well as other resources, they can increase production in their enterprises, reduce food and fruit waste.

Hadija Fussi is the Executive Director of Sunna Food Processing based in Mbalamo village, Mbalamo ward in Muheza District, Tanga Region, she has benefitted from a number of women empowerment programmes including capacity building training conducted by the Small Industries Development Organization (SIDO), Equal Opportunities for All Trust Fund (EOTF), International Labour Organization (ILO), Tanzania Bureau of Standards (TBS) and the Tanzania Women Chamber of Commerce (TWCC).

She was one of the 53,484 female entrepreneurs who have benefited from training programmes conducted by SIDO from 2004 to 2008 in Dar es Salaam Region.

Fussi's journey began in 1997 when she joined SIDO and acquired a various skills, including food processing, juice and jam production as well as vegetable and spices processing.

In 2010, Fussi expanded her knowledge by attending training courses organized by ILO whereas she was equipped with necessary skills in customer care, product packaging and business presentation.

"Our appearance and behaviour can significantly impact how customers and others perceive us; the impression they have about us would somehow represent how we do our businesses and market of our products," she told The Guardian, noting that she also learned valuable skills, including the importance of financial record-keeping, money management, cross-border trade and how to access loans from financial institutions.

TBS conducted capacity building to en-



Hadija Fussi, Executive Director, Sunna Food Processing showcasing some of her products at the recently ended 48th Dar Es Salaam International Trade Fair (DITF). Photo: Beatrice Philemon

trepreneurs in 2011 where she was among beneficiaries. At this training, participants were taught on how to obtain the standards mark certification, an important certification that allows manufacturers whose products originates from Tanzania to use the TBS quality mark on their products.

EOTF through its sustainable program - Women in Poverty Eradication (WIPE) trained female entrepreneurs on how to obtain a business license, save money, label and package products and improve product quality. The training also covered income and expenditure management, cross-border trade, issues related to the Tanzania Revenue Authority (TRA), mental health, and other relevant topics.

"With the acquired knowledge; I was able to produce high-quality products that meet customers' needs. I formalized my business and registered it at the Business Registrations and Licensing Agency (BRELA) and finally established my own company - Sunna Food Processing.

Fussi has successfully established her own food processing company where she produce a wide range of high-quality products. Her products, which include 'mbilimbi' pickle, mango pickle, tea masala, orange juice, jam, fish masala, 'pilau' masala, mchuzi mix

masala, and dried fruit and vegetable products, have found significant markets in Tanzania, Rwanda, Burundi, Kenya, Uganda, and the United Kingdom.

"Right now, my business is doing well; "I can supervise my own business, and the money I earn allows me to buy raw materials, pay school fees for my children and pay salaries. I have been able to build a modern house and purchased four hectares of land where I plan to construct another food processing plant," explained Fussi.

In addition to her business success, Fussi has trained a total of 155 women and young girls in fruit and vegetable processing, including how to make orange jam and juice, 'mbilimbi' pickle, and various spices. Her training aims to empower them to become entrepreneurs thus reduce financial dependency on their husbands.

"I am glad with what I have so achieved. I have been able to transform the lives of hundreds women entrepreneurs and created jobs to a number of women and youth," she added, commending EOTF for facilitating her presence at the DITF where she was able to sell her products and create networks with other spice manufacturers, importers and exporters.

It is through DITF that Fussi was able to secure markets in the United Kingdom.

Deogratius Mosha, EOTF Program Manager said a total of 6,000 women entrepreneurs in both Tanzania mainland and Zanzibar have benefited from EOTF's training and exhibitions since 1997.

He said under the WIPE program, women have been trained on how to obtain business licenses, access loan from financial institutions, receive mental health training, and ensuring proper packaging and labelling of their products.

EOTF is a registered non-profit, non-governmental charitable organization founded in June 1997 by Tanzania's former First Lady, Mama Anna Mkapa. Its mission is to empower marginalized women and youth to fight ignorance, poverty, and disease.

EOTF works with business officers in each districts and regions to identify women who are operating their businesses in poor environments and assist them to secure loans to expand their business.



AUDITED FINANCIAL RESULTS FOR 2023

Commentary

The directors are pleased to present the audited financial statements for 2023. The company experienced a 3% overall increase in income and a 1% increase in profit after tax compared to the previous year. This growth is attributed to improved capital market conditions, leading to higher dividend and interest income, as well as capital gains from the disposal of government securities and listed shares. However, earnings per share decreased to 24 in 2023 from 25 in the prior year due to the issuance of additional shares in 2023.

The company's investment portfolio grew by 23%, driven by its diversification strategy and operational efficiency. In 2023, the company expanded its equity investments into the Nairobi Securities Exchange to capitalize on opportunities in the broader East African region.

Dividends

The Directors recommend for the payment of a final dividend of TZS 13 per share for 2023, unchanged from 2022, subject to shareholder's approval at the the upcoming Annual General Meeting.

STATEMENT OF PROFIT OR LOSS AND OTHER COMPREHENSIVE INCOME			
	2023	2022	
	TZS '000	TZS '000	
Income	3,086,834	2,997,973	
Other Operating income	159,304	256,091	
Other operating gains (losses)	184,951	154,457	
Operating expenses	(1,049,723)	(1,072,564)	
Operating profit	2,381,366	2,335,957	
Finance costs	(345,233)	(349,966)	
Profit before taxation	2,036,133	1,985,991	
Taxation	(59,790)	(26,181)	
Profit for the year	1,976,343	1,959,810	
Other comprehensive income:			
Items that will not be reclassified to profit or loss:			
Gains on valuation of investments in equity instruments	4,181,980	3,839,666	
Other comprehensive income for the year	4,181,980	3,839,666	
Total comprehensive income for the year	6,158,323	5,799,476	
Basic and diluted earnings per share	25.71	25.23	

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION AS AT 31 DECEMBER 2023			
	2023	2022	
	TZS' 000	TZS' 000	
Assets			
Non-Current Assets			
Property, plant and equipment	109,068	117,257	
Investment property	221,347	221,347	
Right of use assets	59,711	31,050	
Intangible assets	3,040	3,000	
Loans receivable	73,173	28,734	
Equity investments	25,357,243	19,626,034	
Investment in government securities	15,037,876	13,589,143	
Other financial assets	600,000	150,000	
	41,461,458	33,766,565	
Current Assets			
Loans receivable	28,954	32,994	
Trade and other receivables	1,036,105	599,931	
Current tax receivable	308,164	286,996	
Other financial assets	455,000	335,000	
Cash and cash equivalents	6,704,875	195,185	
	8,533,098	1,450,106	
Total Assets	49,994,556	35,216,671	
Equity and Liabilities			
Equity			
Share capital	12,746,812	2,167,952	
Reserves	12,559,826	8,883,288	
Retained income	22,218,290	21,277,811	
	47,524,928	32,329,051	
Non-Current Liabilities			
Borrowings	1,895,443	2,157,961	
Lease Liability	32,944	-	
Deferred tax	1,784	1,784	
	1,929,171	2,159,645	
Current Liabilities			
Trade and other payables	200,758	127,863	
Borrowings-CL	272,398	330,428	
Dividend Payable	51,922	30,603	
Lease Liability	24,379	30,603	
	549,457	727,975	
Total Liabilities	2,468,628	2,887,620	
Total Equity and Liabilities	49,994,556	35,216,671	

STATEMENT OF CASH FLOWS			
	2023	2022	
	TZS '000	TZS '000	
Cash flow from operating activities			
Cash generated from operations	1,296,072	2,080,332	
Finance costs	(345,233)	(349,966)	
Tax paid	(80,958)	(92,602)	
Net cash from operating activities	869,881	1,637,764	
Cash flow from investing activities			
Purchase of property, plant and equipment	(16,928)	(10,567)	
Acquisition of right of use assets	(57,323)	(57,323)	
Purchase of intangible assets	(2,053)	-	
Movement in investments in government securities	(1,549,229)	(527,028)	
Movement in equity investments	(3,214,829)	(1,009,953)	
Movement in loans receivable	(40,399)	(61,728)	
Acquisition of other investments	(570,000)	(135,000)	
Net proceeds on disposal of equity investments	1,951,047	560,371	
Net cash from investing activities	(3,499,714)	(1,241,228)	
Cash flow from financing activities			
Proceeds on share issue	10,578,860	-	
Movement in borrowings	(239,101)	(209,251)	
Movement in lease liability	26,720	30,603	
Dividends paid	(1,226,956)	(684,002)	
Net cash from financing activities	9,139,523	(862,650)	
Cash and cash equivalents:			
Total Cash movement for the year	6,509,690	(466,114)	
Cash at the beginning of the year	195,185	661,299	
Total Cash at the end of the year	6,704,875	195,185	

STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN EQUITY							
	Share capital	Share premium	Fair valuation reserve	IPO Cost	Total other reserves & IPO Cost	Retained earnings	Total equity
	TZS '000	TZS '000	TZS '000	TZS '000	TZS '000	TZS '000	TZS '000
Previous year							
Balance as at 1 January 2022	1,459,153	708,799	5,957,424	(629,662)	5,327,762	19,908,600	27,404,314
Profit for the year						1,959,810	1,959,810
Other comprehensive income			3,839,666		3,839,666		3,839,666
Transfer between reserves			(284,140)		(284,140)	284,140	-
Dividends						(729,577)	(729,577)
Final WHT on dividend income-prior years						(145,162)	(145,162)
Balance as at 31 December 2022	1,459,153	708,799	9,512,950	(629,662)	8,883,288	21,277,813	32,329,051
Current year							
Balance as at 1 January 2023	1,459,153	708,799	9,512,950	(629,662)	8,883,288	21,277,813	32,329,051
Profit for the year						1,976,343	1,976,343
Other comprehensive income			4,181,980		4,181,980		4,181,980
Issue of Shares	1,459,153	9,119,707					10,578,860
IPO costs on right issue shares			(599,426)	(599,426)			(599,426)
Transfer between reserves			93,984		93,984	(87,414)	6,570
Dividends						(948,450)	(948,450)
Balance as at 31 December 2023	2,918,306	9,828,506	13,788,914	(1,229,088)	12,559,826	22,218,292	47,524,928

We, the undersigned, attest to the faithful representation of the above statements. We declare that the Statements have been examined by us and, to the best of our knowledge and belief, having been prepared in conformance with International Financial Reporting Standards, they present a true and fair view.

Name	Signature	Date
Mr. Fortunatus M. Magambo		25/06/2024
Chairman		
Prof. Lucian A. Msambichaka		25/06/2024
Director		

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By Luigi Avantsaggiato

'The sea has taken everything': How rising salt is destroying Italian coast

FARMERS and residents of the Po River delta are struggling as landmarks are lost to the water and crops are poisoned by salt.

Only the locals are daring enough to venture into the waters of the Po Delta, where the Po River flows into the Adriatic Sea off the coast of northern Italy. That is - only those among the locals who still remember the position of the river banks and lands which have long since sunk into the water.

Subsidence - the slow and progressive sinking of the ground over time - is a phenomenon which has become very familiar to the inhabitants of the Po Delta region. It has caused the complete submergence of entire stretches of coast over the past 50 years.

The "Isola Bonelli Levante" in Porto Tolle is among the most striking examples of segments of land which have slipped into the sea. A large rice farm, which was in use from the 1970s, has sunk almost 3 metres (nearly 10ft) below sea level and was abandoned in the 1990s.

Another example is the vanishing "Isola Batteria" along the Po della Pila, one of the smaller channels within the wider delta. Once a German military fortification built during World War II on the island which took its name, today it is mostly a lagoon, nearly completely submerged, and can only be reached with difficulty by boat. Just a few buildings remain, reduced to skeletons and semi-submerged ruins.

The murky waters covering the seabed here are shallow. For the boats and kayaks of tourists accompanied by local guides who venture here, the risk of running aground is very real.

Of the old banks of the river, only a few shy reeds break through the surface of the water, showing where until not many years ago you could walk, sow rice or go fishing for hake. Today, those reed beds which once adorned the river bank in abundance seem to be an anomaly as the sea has repossessed land labouriously removed from the waters by centuries of reclamation.

"I was born there," says Luciano as he steers his boat safely through the waters of the Po. The retired fisherman points to the opposite bank of the river, directing his gaze towards Pila, a small village of fishermen and farmers. "There were embankments and dirt roads to reach the countryside. On Sundays, the holiday, I came here with my father by bicycle. The sea has taken everything back" he says.

Salt of the earth

At the mouth of the Po River, where the river meets the Adriatic Sea, saltwater infiltration is reaching worrying levels.

Despite being a natural phenomenon when the freshwaters of the river mingle with the saltwater of the sea, the "salt wedge" - the area in which saltwater has sunk through the subsoil beneath the surface of the land - can spread, particularly in the summer months when there is less rain to help disperse it.

In 2022, which had a particularly dry summer, this salt wedge extended more than 40km (25 miles) inland from the Adriatic Sea. Last year, when there was more rain, the salt wedge spread for 17km (10 miles).

The delta area of the Po River extends for 140 square kilometres (54 square miles) between the regions of Veneto and Emilia Romagna in northeast Italy. Approximately 70 percent of the territory is made up of agricultural land.

The rising salinity of the water is causing damage to the ecosystems along the coast, and to agricultural, livestock and industrial activities, according to a recent report from ARPAE, the Emilia Romagna Agency for the Environment.

There are several factors contributing to rising salt levels in this part of the river, some linked to climate change such as reduced rainfall, drought and the over-consumption of freshwater.

Compounding these issues, the area was heavily mined for methane gas until 1961, when the Italian government halted operations because of subsidence.

Along the rice fields of Porto Tolle in Veneto, the areas damaged by salt seeping into the soil are clearly visible. It has been caused by both direct irrigation with brackish water and by saltwater rising from the subsoil.

In the Po Delta, the problem is particularly bad because the fields are below sea level - a consequence



A ruin of the 'Isola Batteria' in Porto Tolle, Rovigo, Veneto. Before being submerged by the sea, the area was the site of a German military post during World War II.

of centuries of farming, which has slowly lowered the ground level by reclaiming terrain from the sea.

The salinisation of the soil here is having a catastrophic impact on agriculture.

"The limit on salinity for distributing water is one gramme per litre," explains Rodolfo Laurenti, deputy director of the Consorzio Bonifica Delta del Po, the regional regulator that ensures the hydraulic safety of the Veneto area hit hard by the salt wedge.

The delta territory, being a reclaimed area below sea level is a large network of communicating channels of water within which the water must be continuously drained and moved along the canals to prevent any risk of the whole territory being flooded with water.

To manage this, the regulating body carries out hydraulic defence, irrigation and environmental protection works. It oversees the embankments protecting against flooding, the irrigation network systems, the delta lagoons and the outlets merging into the sea and the canals and facilities serving the fishing valleys.

"Even in Taglio di Po, a city 30km from the Adriatic Sea, last summer the salination value was 10 times higher," Laurenti explains.

This poses a serious problem for the crops - rice, corn, soya, other cereals, fodder and fruit. In two years, the area of land which can be cultivated in the district of Polesine has reduced by more than 30 percent, according to a 2022 report from Coldiretti, an agricultural producers' association.

Last year, the production of rice fell by 20 percent in this region as a direct result of the rising salination of the water.

Rice is a typical crop in the Po Delta that has been cultivated since the Middle Ages. The rice fields cover ap-

proximately 9,000 hectares of delta territory, and the European Union has listed the rice produced here as a Protected Geographical Indication (PGI) brand to validate its flavour and important nutritional qualities.

Many rice growers are increasingly concerned about the rising saltwater and climate change. "The cultivars we grow have a different scent and flavour from those grown far from here as they breathe the air of a territory reclaimed from the sea," says Elisa Moretto as she shows a photograph of her rice field in Porto Tolle flooded by seawater that has risen into the canals used by farmers to irrigate the fields.

"Now my greatest fear is that the sea is taking back the land," she says. In 2022, when the drought hit and the salt wedge spread, her farm's output of rice fell from 3,600kg (7,900lbs) to just 900kg (1,980lbs).

Marco Uccellatori, a young agronomist who owns a farm in Taglio di Po that has been producing rice since 1700, is similarly concerned.

To irrigate his rice fields, he takes freshwater directly from the Po della Pila. "Rice is vital for us. During the summer season, we measure the salinity level of the river water so as not to damage the soil and not to lose the harvest," he says as he leans out from a small wooden pier to measure the salinity level of the river through a conductivity metre.

To protect agricultural and industrial areas in Volta Vaccari, in the municipality of Porto Tolle, the Consorzio Bonifica Delta del Po has installed a dam capable of collecting freshwater in a dead branch of the river - a curved lake formed where the main stream of the river has cut across the narrow end of the oxbow and no longer flows around the loop of the bend.

"It is an automated barrier that is activated when the

sea current hits it and guarantees one million cubic metres of freshwater for local farms during the most critical periods," says Laurenti.

Salt intrusion has reached particularly worrying levels in this region in recent years but the phenomenon has been known since the 1990s, when the Consorzio di Bonifica Delta del Po began installing barriers to limit the spread of salt into the various tributaries.

These are complex installations made up of poles driven into the riverbed perpendicular to the current to which unidirectional mobile fins are anchored. They remain open to accommodate the flow of water towards the sea and close, automatically forming a barrier, when the water from the sea advances towards the river.

The barriers have worked well in the past, but today they run into an insurmountable obstacle: they were calibrated with the minimum flow values of the Po at the time - 450 cubic metres per second - in mind.

Today, lower rainfall means the flow of the river has slowed to around 113 cubic metres per second. This has caused the barriers to be much less efficient - and less able to counteract the incoming flow of seawater, Laurenti explains.

The regulator has now submitted a proposal to the government for a new barrier in the Po della Pila, the main branch of the river that flows into the Adriatic Sea, which would help farmers across the entire delta area.

"It would guarantee in the remaining branches of the Po freshwater flow three times higher than that which would pass without the barrier," says Laurenti.

In Emilia Romagna, scientists are monitoring rising salt levels through the analysis of water samples taken from the underground aquifer - the layer of flowing water beneath the soil and the main source of freshwater.

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

Embrace smart agriculture to scale up food security, DC tasks farmers

By Guardian Correspondent, Kilolo

FARMERS have been urged to embrace smart and sustainable agriculture which also goes along with applying modern farming tools to improve income and livelihoods.

Kilolo District Commissioner Joachim Nyingo made the call here over the weekend when handing over 60 modern planting tools (jab planters) to various farmers' groups.

The handover is part of interventions under the European Union (EU) funded Capacity Building related to Multilateral Environmental Agreements in African, Caribbean, and Pacific Countries - Phase III (ACP-MEAs 3) project, which is implemented by the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO) in six districts across the country.

According to him, despite efforts by the government to transform the agriculture sector and increase productivity, many farmers are still lagging behind in utilizing properly the available land for farming and income generation activities due to various challenges including awareness and capital.

"Considering that we are moving from traditional agriculture to transformed agriculture, these tools are important and will help our farmers use less time and labor in farms, increase production and harvests," he explained.

Nyingo encouraged farmers who have received the tools to properly utilize them to bring change in their farming but also remember to support others with the tools.

Furthermore, he emphasized that the handover of modern farming tools has come at the right time as the sixth phase of government has invested efforts to transform the agriculture sector by promoting production to heighten food security and change people's lives.

He commended FAO and EU for the initiative which helps foster sustainable agricultural practices, improve farmers' livelihoods, and empower communities with skills to enhance environmental conservation.

"We appreciate FAO and EU for their support, this project which has been implemented in various districts in the country for the past three years, has greatly helped transform agricultural practices as well as heightened environmental conservation," he said.

The DC promised to ensure that the tools are well managed and protected to bring the intended outcomes to the villagers.

Anna Msola, Kilolo District Council Chairperson wanted the beneficiary farmers to take good care of the equipment for them to last long and produce intended outcomes.

"These tools have been purchased at high costs, so go and make sure that you utilize them as advised by experts but also put them in a safe environment," she added.

Local farmers expressed gratitude for the support they received, acknowledging the impact it will have on their livelihoods.

Joseph Mbwilo, a farmer at Mbigiri village in Lugalo ward thanked FAO for bringing the project to the vulner-



Kilolo district commissioner Joachim Nyingo (L) hands over a hand planting machine (jab planter) to one of the farmers. This is one of 60 machines donated by the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations to help boost food production. Photo: Guardian Correspondent.

able communities who could not afford purchasing the modern farming tools.

"We are really grateful for this, many of us here are low-income earners, and accessing training as well as tools to improve our farm production can be a little bit hard, but with the support from FAO and EU, we are

among farmers who own modern tools to heighten production," Mbwilo explained.

Hongera Kalinga, a farmer from Lukani village in Ng'uruhe ward said the tools and training on modern and sustainable farming will help them transform farmers in the village and increase productivity.

Yosefa Mdemu, another farmer at Lukani village emphasized the importance of sharing the received modern farming skills and tools to empower more farmers in the community.

She said that the donated tools will help women plan their daily activities well and get ample time to rest because they will be spending less time

on farms due to the availability of the jab planters.

Through comprehensive training and modern tools, initiatives like the ACP-MEAs 3 project aim to promote environmentally friendly farming practices, benefiting both farmers and the ecosystem.

Programme becomes a game-changer in education industry

By Guardian Reporter

SOME students who have benefited from the Future Forward Education Programme in mineral-rich regions have applauded the initiative, saying it has been a game-changer in Tanzania's education sector.

The programme has been developed by Barrick-Twiga and is aimed at transforming education in Tanzania. It meant to improve education infrastructure in primary schools, secondary schools, and technical colleges surrounding their operations.

In its first phase, the programme has achieved significant progress, including the construction of 374 modern classrooms, 89 dormitories, and 569 sanitation facilities. The programme has been designed to reinforce and upgrade infrastructure in advanced-level government secondary schools and aims at improving access to education for students previously limited by inadequate infrastructure. It also creates an enabling learning environment.

In separate interviews, students said it has improved academic outcomes and increased university enrolment in the country as a result of transformative efforts.

Prisca Mawaga, a Form Five student at Lucas Malia Secondary School in Ruangwa District, Lindi Region said: "The programme has helped to reduce congestion in dormitories, classrooms, and toilets. We now study in an enabling and friendly environment."

Prisca said: "With the current situation, I believe my long-term dream of becoming a surgeon will come true."

Rushda Idd, a student, at Mamire Secondary School in Babati District, Manyara Region also attested that the programme enabled him to study in a friendly environment.

"We are studying in a friendly environment compared to previous years when there was inadequate infrastructure, especially for us girl students who used to suffer from communicable diseases due to unfriendly toilets and overcrowded dormitories, with at least two students sleeping on one bed," she explained.

Gilbert Chiyumbe, a student at Ibwaga Secondary School in Kongwa District, Dodoma Region said he was impressed with the improved learning environment and was hopeful that the situation would be sustained.

Similar views were expressed by Simon Bujiku from Sumve Secondary School in Mwanza Region and Mwa-



These are some of the students who have benefited from the Future Forward Education Programme

juma Omar from Ifunda Girls Secondary School.

Some secondary headmasters/mistresses said that the programme enabled both teachers and students to work in an enabling and friendly environment.

One of them, Maria Kitakala, Sumve Secondary School acting headmistress said: "This project is excellent and has successfully enabled schoolchildren to study in an enabling environment. It has reduced truancy rates and benefited not only A-level students but also O-level students and those who come from rural areas, who face various transport challenges to and from school."

Some parents are happy too with the project which they say has played a significant role in the mitigation of shortages of dormitories, toilet facilities, and classrooms. "Now, children study in an enabling and friendly environment, which undoubtedly will increase their academic achievement. The project has also contrib-

uted to reducing truancy rates and instances of gender-based violence against girls," said Issa Nkunga, from Mamire Village in Babati District, Manyara Region.

He pointed out that new dormitories were a panacea for challenges that faced lower-grade students from rural villages who previously would risk their lives as they traveled long distances to and from school and could meet fierce wild animals. "All these are now accommodated in new dormitories built through the project," he said.

While several parents commended similarly, education officers in the districts and regions that had benefited from the project said the project had increased the number of students enrolling in A-level schools.

"The project has come at the right time when the number of students selected for advanced level education has increased. It has helped to improve the learning environment, and I believe many students will join

higher education as a result of studying in an enabling and friendly environment," said Ashura Mpambije, Acting Secondary Education Officer for Ruangwa District in Lindi Region.

Announcing the outcomes of Form Five and vocational college selection for the academic year 2024, Minister of State in the President's Office (Regional Administration and Local Government) Mohamed Mchengerwa said 188,787 students had been selected to join Form Five schools. "Out of that number, 123,948 students have secured places in boarding secondary schools for Form Five."

Mark Bristow, Barrick Gold Corporation President and Chief Executive Officer (CEO) once stated that the initiative had improved the performance of schools in mining regions, whereby education stakeholders and beneficiaries lauded commended the programme as

Bank in campaign to scale up financial inclusion in Tanzania

By Guardian Reporter

BANK of Africa (BoA) has ventured into a new campaign to scale up financial inclusion in Tanzania by rewarding better customers.

The bank awarded the first raffle draw for its digital campaign in Dar es Salaam over the weekend, whereby winners went away with different awards including mobile phones.

The draw was witnessed by the Gaming Board of Tanzania (GBT) inspector Pendo Mfuru, whereby Ebby Shabani Abdallah, the bank's customer,

emerged as the lucky winner of the mobile phone.

Fortunatus Joachim, the bank's product & digital coordinator said that the campaign represents a means for its customers to interact with the bank's improved mobile banking platform, which has been updated with robust features to meet customer's needs.

The campaign is a reflection of the bank's strategic objective to digitize its products and services in turn promoting financial inclusion as well as ease for customers to access the bank's services.

Nandi Mwiyoombella, the bank's head of marketing & communications explained: "Through the campaign, existing and new mobile banking users will enter directly to the grand raffle draw when

one performs at least 10 bank-to-wallet transactions and at least one withdrawal via bank's agent.

"As a bank, we are committed to provide excellent products and services that meet customer needs," he said.

"The bank will continue to develop and bring forth innovative ideas to suit the growing pace of digitization of the banking industry (banking on the Go!!) for further promotion of the financial inclusion agenda," he added.

Ingia B-Mobile utoke na iPhone 15 pro campaign kicked off on 10th June 2024 and will run for 3 months and more-phone 15 Pro to be won by the lucky customers.

The Pan-African banking group operating in 18

African countries including: West Africa, East Africa, Central Africa and has representative offices in Paris, Spain, London, UK and China. It's a private commercial bank operating in Tanzania serving Corporate, SME and Retail customers. It began operations in Tanzania in June 2007 after acquiring Eurafrican Bank which had been operating in Tanzania since September 1995.

It's a multinational is one of the Africa's largest banks in Africa and present in 31 countries and 4 continents.

In Tanzania has a network of 18 retail branches including 9 in Dar es Salaam and 9 upcountry Arusha, Mwanza, Zanzibar, and all other major cities.

BUSINESS

New partnership to spur country's water, sanitation financing

By Guardian Reporter

TANZANIA water and sanitation's research and financing have got new boost, after a local bank partnered with the global water and sanitation charity organisation to enhance access to essential commodity in line to attaining the 6th Sustainable Development Goal (SDG).

Through the SDGs, the global community is targeting to ensuring availability and sustainable management of water and sanitation for all by 2030.

Statistics show that by the end of 2022, 2.2 billion people around the world lacked safely managed drinking water, 3.5 lacked safely managed sanitation and 2.2 billion lacked basic hand washing facilities.

The new partnership forged between CRDB Bank and Water.Org is aimed at improving access to water and sanitation services across the country to sup-

port sustainable economic development among Tanzanians.

According to the SDGs Indicator for 2022, one out of ten Tanzanians uses a safely managed drinking water, while three out of ten people use safely managed sanitation services; and 89 percent of monitored water bodies has good ambient water quality.

However the country's snapshot show eight out of ten people are using an improved drinking water sources.

Speaking during the signing of the partnership agreement, Francis Musunguzi, executive director Water.Org said the partnership is aimed at improving the lives of people as it will enable the enhancement of funding the research for water and sanitation bonds and establishment of sustainable water and sanitation projects.

"This partnership will enable the sponsoring of collaborative researches between the public and private sector



Access to clean and safe water in rural areas increased from 70.1 percent (2019) to 74.5 percent (2021). File Photo

in financing large water and sanitation projects as well as funding innovative management of water technology," he said.

He said the partnering bank, through its foundation, will also sponsor educational water campaigns on the importance of cleanliness to protect against water-borne diseases.

Speaking during the signing, the CRDB Bank acting managing director and chief operating officer Bruce Mwile said the partnership is part of

implementation of the bank to offer innovative solution to improve the welfare of the people.

"We are proud to see that we are continuing to walk the talk to stimulate the welfare of the people through the partnership with our strategic partners. I congratulate our teams of experts for this achievement to attain this opportunity for the community to benefit from water and sanitation sector," he said.

He said the partnership will enable water and

sanitation projects to use allocated funds for other development projects including researches and sponsoring water and sanitation projects as well as related credit facilities. "The bank is expected to offer credits to individuals, entrepreneurs, business communities and institutions for the purpose of installing water infrastructures to households, water use facilities as well as construction of toilets and safe and waste water storage facilities.

The financing will also directed to agriculture sector, specifically irrigation schemes for sustainable water use and insurance schemes to protect against uncertainty for water infrastructure.

The Tanzania's 2023 voluntary national review report on the implementation of the 2030 agenda for sustainable development by the ministry of finance indicates that here is notable progress since 2019, in terms of improving access to both water and sanitation.

In Tanzania Mainland, access to clean and safe water in rural areas has increased from 70.1 percent (2019) to 74.5 percent (2021).

In urban areas, access to clean and safe water has increased from 84.0 percent to 86.5 percent over the same period.

Access to improved sanitation in rural areas has increased from 36 percent to 57 percent over the same period.

In Zanzibar, the proportion of households using a protected water source for drinking in the dry season has increased from 90.5 percent in 2014/15 to 91.5 percent in 2020/21.

NMB wins 5 Euromoney awards for excellence

By Guardian Reporter

NMB Bank has maintained its award-winning streak by scooping 5 prestigious international accolades last week, recognizing its invaluable contribution to national growth and development efforts.

The lender bagged more than 30 local and international awards last year.

The service superiority prizes NMB Bank received at the 2024 Euromoney Awards for Excellence included being named the Best Bank in Tanzania for the 11th time in 12 years.

Euromoney Magazine, the world's leading capital markets and financial think tank, also awarded NMB two new accolades, namely Best Bank for ESG and Best Digital Bank in Tanzania.

Euromoney through its Global Private Banking Awards that is the ultimate accolade for private bankers and wealth managers across the globe, also recognised NMB as Tanzania's Best Domestic Private Bank and Tanzania's Best bank for High-net-worth.



NMB's Chief of Wholesale Banking, Alfred Shao (2nd L), holds Best Bank in Tanzania trophy awarded by Euromoney awards for Excellence during a ceremony held in London. Others are Louise Bowman, Editor in chief of Euromoney (R), NMB's Senior Investor Relations manager, Edgar Ndani (2nd R) and awards host Ed Balls (L). Photo: Guardian Correspondent.

Speaking after receiving the awards in London on, Wholesale Banking Chief Alfred Shao stated that NMB was honoured for its top-notch financial solutions and its catalytic contribution to the growth of the national economy.

"NMB believes in providing financial services that are accessible to customers 24/7 as a way of enhancing convenience. As such, we keep innovating our online as well as digital platforms to maintain access for every customer and satisfy their financial service needs," Mr Shao said.

Established 30 years ago, the Euromoney Awards for Excellence celebrate the achievements of banks and bankers from across the globe. This year, 600 banks from 100 countries participated in the awards, making it the most comprehensive accreditation programme in the industry.

NMB was named the Best

Bank for ESG 2024 in Tanzania, recognizing its sustainable finance expertise and its commitment to improving the communities it serves.

This recognition stems from the bank's dedication to placing sustainable finance at the core of its strategy, ensuring it provides impactful advisory, financing, and investment solutions.

Shao stated that with a robust ESG commitment and ambition, the bank leverages its extensive experience and deep environmental and social expertise to support clients in their sustainability and transition journeys.

"These five awards are not just a reflection of our past achievements but also a motivation for the future. We remain committed to upholding the highest standards of excellence, integrity, and service. We will continue to innovate and adapt to

meet the evolving needs of our customers and the financial industry," he explained.

"Whether it's through financial literacy programmes, supporting small businesses, or fostering diversity and inclusion within our workforce, we strive to create a positive social impact and empower individuals to achieve their goals," he added.

Commenting on this monumental achievement, Euromoney's Editor-in-Chief, Louise Bowman, praised NMB for implementing a robust digital and agency banking model.

She highlighted that this significant investment has resulted in 96% of the bank's transactions occurring outside of branches.

"The bank now has over 28,000 agents, from under 19,000 in 2022, and has launched a digital campaign to raise awareness of its digital products including digital micro-loans," she noted.

Africa's trade deficit with China shrinks

By Jevans Nyabiage, Nairobi

CHINA'S imports from Africa rose by 14 per cent year on year to reach US\$60.15 billion in the first half of 2024, according to the latest Chinese customs data.

During the same period, however, Chinese exports to the continent fell marginally by 2.3 per cent to US\$84.85 billion, figures from the General Administration of Customs showed. Over the six months, total China-Africa trade grew by 3.9 per cent year on year to US\$145 billion.

Observers attributed the boost in imports from Africa to the increased production of minerals, rising commodity prices and the depreciation of key African currencies. But, they said, while a shrinking trade deficit was good news for Africa, it was not likely to last.

Resource-rich African countries have seen heavy investment from Chinese companies as they ramp up mineral production amid the global push for green energy. One such country is Zimbabwe, a major source of lithium, which has had an influx of billions of dollars worth of investments and acquisitions from China in the Asian giant's push to dominate the lithium-ion battery market.

Similarly, the Democratic Repub-

lic of the Congo (DRC), which is the world's largest producer of cobalt and a major source of copper, remains a major source of materials for China's electric vehicle battery industry. China also imports minerals such as bauxite from Guinea and oil from Nigeria, Angola, Gabon and Ghana.

China's largest trading partner in Africa is South Africa. In the first half of the year, the value of that trade hit US\$27.5 billion, according to Chinese customs data.

During that period, imports from South Africa rose 10.7 per cent to US\$17.29 billion year on year, but Chinese exports to the African nation fell 18.6 per cent to US\$10.2 billion.

South Africa's exports to China are mainly minerals and metals, but more recently China has started buying products such as soybeans, wine, rooibos tea, aloe vera gel and citrus fruits.

Later this year, avocados will join that list after the two countries signed a deal at the Brics summit in Johannesburg last year.

"China stands ready to speed up the process so that avocados from South Africa will be enjoyed by the Chinese people as soon as possible," Chinese ambassador to South Africa Wu Peng wrote on X on Wednesday.

The deal comes amid Beijing's plan to diversify its food and agricultural trade and reduce its dependencies on countries like the US and Australia. China is importing more food products from Africa as a result - avocados from Kenya and Tanzania, fruit from South Africa and Zimbabwe, coffee from Ethiopia and chillies from Rwanda.

It has signed trade deals with dozens of African countries, waiving tariffs on 98 per cent of the taxable items originating from those nations.

China's trade with Africa appeared to buck the general trend, with China recording an overall increase in exports. In June, exports grew at their fastest in over a year, rising 8.6 per cent that month, while imports shrank 2.3 per cent to hit a four-month low in June, amid a weak domestic demand caused by the property crisis and slowing economy.

Regarding the African exports to China, Mark Bohlund, a senior credit research analyst at REDD Intelligence, said higher copper prices are one factor in the increased figures.

"Higher production volumes are also playing a part," he said.

"The depreciation of the Nigerian naira, and to a lesser extent,



the South African rand and Kenyan shilling, have likely played in to reduce Chinese exports given that these are the largest markets in sub-Saharan Africa."

But, he said, African exports to China would probably weaken somewhat in the second half of the year, mainly due to lower copper exports.

While copper prices slumped as a result of the coronavirus pandemic

and the slowdown in the Chinese economy, the price recently rallied to reach an all-time high in May of about US\$10,900 per tonne, breaking its previous record of US\$10,845 per tonne in March 2022.

The price has dipped a little since May's record high but remains strong at more than US\$9,500 per tonne.

"I expect growth in Chinese exports to Africa to remain relatively

weak as growth in Nigeria and South Africa is likely to remain weak in the near term," Bohlund added.

Charlie Robertson, head of macro strategy at asset management firm FIM Partners, said Chinese exports to Africa may have dropped because of the big currency devaluations in Egypt, Nigeria and Ghana, foreign currency restrictions in Ethiopia, and austerity measures in Kenya and other countries.

Fund uplifts 400,000 from extreme poverty

By Francis Kajubi

THE Tanzania Social Action Fund (TASAF) has successfully uplifted 400,000 households from abject poverty through extension of Livelihood Productive Grants (LPG).

Shedrack Mziray, TASAF Executive Director said recently that the Fund had since 2014 provided LPG to beneficiaries as it now considers to exist the mentioned uplifted beneficiaries as per the programme design, who are then provided with coaching and mentorship training during payment windows.

He said that cumulatively LPG disbursed to 83,666 beneficiary households amounted to 17.1bn/- as the first installment and 77,972 beneficiary households received a full amount valued at 13.9bn/-.

The maximum amount of LPG per beneficiary households is 350,000/- which has been helpful to widows, youths and people living with disabilities to establish income generating activities such as small scale businesses.

Shufaa Mfinanga, a retail shop owner and resident of Kalemani Street in Kaloleni ward of Moshi Municipality is one of the LPG beneficiaries. She said in a recent interview that she has invested in a café of fried food staff with the 350,000/- TASAF grant.

A mother of four of which two benefits from TASAF grants is living a happy life by generating income from a business that she established with LPG grants.

"I have successfully expand-

ed my business investment to a retail soft drink shop. As I speak the business capital has grown to 1.5mn/-," she said.

Hamad Masumbuko, another resident of Kalemani Street in Kaloleni ward of Moshi Municipality owns a liquefied petroleum gas cylinders retail shop that he established from the funds extended by TASAF. He started the business in September last year with eight cylinders which have increased to 20 cylinders.

Masumbuko, who is a person living with disability, said that LPG grants have helped him grow the business from which he generates a maximum of 58,000/- in profit a month.

Sarah Shengwatu, a tailor and resident of Kalemani Street said that she became a TASAF beneficiary for the first time in 2015. A mother of three children, she now owns a tailoring shop from which she generates not less than 150,000/- in profit a month.

Denis Robert, TASAF Coordinator Moshi Municipality said that at the beginning in 2014, the municipality reached 35 streets with 5,071 households identified where 2,691 households met the qualifications of being enrolled in the programme.

Beneficiaries were subjected to cash transfer grants until 2019 where in 2020 the second phase was enrolled with an addition of new 25 streets with 1,073 households.

Executive Director Mziray had earlier told this journalist that basic livelihood support is provided to all beneficiar-



Shufaa Mfinanga sells vegetables in her retail shop. Photo: Francis Kajubi

ies with labor capacity to promote self and wage employment. It enables beneficiaries to save money through groups for investing in livelihood enhancing activities.

According to him, TASAF further supports these investments with business development skills and technical training. A total of 60,327 beneficiaries' savings groups with 838,241 members have been formed.

He said the cumulative amount of savings in the groups currently stands at 7.9bn/-. Out of these savings, 3.2bn/- was given out as loans to members for investing into their income generating activities since 2019.

"As of June 2024, a total of 5,195,605 direct beneficiaries have been enrolled in the program, with 55.7 percent being females and 44.3 percent being males," said Mziray.

John Stephen, TASAF's Director of Community Services said that beneficiaries have also been taking part in Public Works Programmes (PWP) with the intention of generating additional income far from the grants.

He said that PWP empowers communities by creating assets that provide employment opportunities for beneficiary households, generating additional income to smooth consumption and mitigate the impact of lean seasons.

"This initiative prioritizes subprojects with high labor requirements, utilizing 75

percent unskilled labor and 25 percent procurement of necessary tools," said Stephen.

Since the program's inception, he explained, a total of 37,311 public works sub-projects have been implemented across 123 PAAs.

As a result, 662,234 members from beneficiary households have been employed in these subprojects, providing a vital source of income and social protection.

Josephine Joseph, TASAF Coordinator for Electronic Payment said that the Fund has continued to promote the adoption of electronic payment methods to minimize cash-based risks & enhance transparency. Payments are now made directly into their mobile wallets/bank accounts, ensuring a secure and convenient transfer of funds.

She asserted that for those beneficiaries without a bank account or Mobile Wallet, TASAF has partnered with GePG and Payment service providers (Vodacom, Airtel, Halotel, TigoZantel and TTCLPesa) to offer an Over-the-Counter (OTC) payment solution allowing beneficiaries to collect their payments at designated locations, providing an additional layer of accessibility and flexibility.

She said OTC is a mobile application where beneficiaries use NIN details to be authenticated and receive their benefits through payment agents.

"E-payment has been successfully implemented for 42 percent of the 1.3 million beneficiary households, with the remaining 58 percent still receiving benefits through cash payments. All 186 PAAs have been enrolled in the e-payment program," said Joseph.

According to her, some PAA like Bukoba MC has reached 100 percent ePayment enrollment, others like Kinondoni MC, Mwanza City, Itemela MC are over 96 percent.

"Resistance to change, unavailability of financial services, and inadequate coverage of Mobile networks and lack of NIN to beneficiaries are some of the challenges hindering enrollment to E-payment. Most of these challenges impact more in rural areas," said Joseph.

Sarah Mshiu, TASAF Savings and Household Poverty Reduction Manager said that the Fund has been playing a critical role in infrastructure development projects.

She said to date, the program has funded a total of 962 subprojects, with 484 projects completed and 478 projects at various stages of completion. The infrastructure sectors supported by targeted infrastructure development (TID) include education, healthcare, water, roads, environment, and agriculture.

According to her, over 1,500 targeted infrastructure sub projects were implemented in PSSN II with funding from OPEC/OFID (TPRP IV) and the government. Cumulatively, over 21,800 TI subprojects were implemented from TASAF I to TASAF III across the country.

"Over 4,600 Students from poor beneficiaries HHs joined various Higher Learning Institutions. All were linked to HESLB and obtained 100 percent loan. Recertification exercise shows over 20 percent of Households have improved past the poverty line and may exit the program," said Mshiu.

Japhet Boaz, TASAF ICT, Monitoring and Evaluation Director said that to ensure the success of the TASAF program, the Fund will prioritize collaborative initiatives with developmental partners, Implementing

Partners (PAAs) and other stakeholders on specific projects that align with the program's objectives.

Boaz said that one such initiative is the "Climate Smart Public Works" project, which aims to address climate change mitigation and adaptation through sustainable agriculture practices.

"The government is in preparation for the next phase of the program to continue the positive impacts and support the poor households in the country," he said.

Established in 2000, TASAF is a government agency dedicated to advancing social protection and poverty reduction efforts in Tanzania. Its implementation has been observed through phases namely TASAF I & 2 (2000 - 2012), followed by the first phase of Productive Social Safety Net (TASAF3- PSSN I) from 2012-2019 and currently implementing TASAF3-PSSN II from February 2020 to September 2025.

PSSN II has the objective of improving access to income earnings opportunities and socio-economic services for targeted households while enhancing and protecting the human capital of their children. Implementation of PSSN II is based on two major components: Productive household support and strengthening institutional Capacity and Integrated Delivery System.

With regard to empowering households through integrated support there are three sub-components: Conditional Cash Transfers (CCT), Public Works & Targeted Infrastructure (PWP & TI) and Livelihood Support (LE) (Productive Inclusion).

PSSN II covers all households targeting the 8 percent of the Tanzanian population below the food poverty line as per the Household Budget Survey (HBS) 2017/18.

He said that CCT is provided to eligible households to enable them ensure a minimum level of consumption, invest in productive activities, build resilience against shocks & invest in their children's health and education to break the intergenerational transmission of poverty.

By Guardian Correspondent, Morogoro

Minister Jafo vows to protect industries

THE Minister of Industry and Trade, Dr. Selemani Jafo, has vowed to protect all industries, as they are main sources of employment among Tanzanians.

He made the remarks when visiting the tobacco processing factory owned by Alliance One based in Morogoro Municipality.

During his tour, the minister was briefed several challenges facing the company, including the lack of running water and the confusion in the construction of the electricity infrastructure between the company and the power utility company, Tanesco.

"I have been told that you built a dedicated line to bring electricity to the factory with a special agreement with Tanesco at a cost of approximately 1bn/-, and that you could paid back the money via your monthly expenses, but a controversy has emerged and has been going on for two years now," he said.

He said, the company has been using self-harvested rainwater reservoirs, as they do not have water infrastructure from the municipal water authority (Moruwasa), despite of regular request for many years.

"I have taken note of all these challenges and this is my responsibility to ensure that all industrial problems come to an end," he said.

Minister Jafo has also congratulated the company for providing



Industry and Trade minister, Dr Selemani Jafo (C) listens to Alliance One Tobacco Company's tobacco leaf receiving Manager, Elizabeth Chuma (R), during a tour of factory. Left is the company's spokesperson John Magoti. Photo: Guardian Correspondent

208 permanent jobs and 3,500 short-term jobs.

In addition, Minister Jafo has instructed the management of the company to ensure that they pay all legal taxes.

He promised to take note of the company's recommendations regarding the presence of

similar taxes on the tobacco sub-sector.

In his presentation, the Company's Spokesperson, Advocate John Magoti, said that the company, which has invested 182bn/- in the factory, cooperates with a total of 150 primary cooperatives, with a total of 13,000 members

in tobacco contract farming located in Kigoma, Tabora, Shinyanga and Mara regions.

"Our factory has the capacity to process 80 million kilos for 7 months, with the ability to store 64 million kilos at the same time," he said and added that, this year alone his company

has bought 26 million kilos worth 162bn/-, all of which have reached to the farmers.

He said that his company is a good tax payer of various taxes as well as legal contributions, including crop cess which for this year alone the company has paid 4.2bn/- to respective district councils where the crop is grown.

"We not less than 2.6bn/- as income tax annually, as well as millions in skills levy, withholding tax and other statutory contributions to tobacco cooperatives including Wetcu, Latcu, Katcu, Cetcu etc," he said. Regarding the worker's remunerations, he said the company has over the last past five years, paid 41.5bn/- in terms of salaries other benefits, while the employees' contributions to the social security funds amounted to 2.1bn/-.

He said that his company runs corporate social responsibility in three areas of health, education and environment at the budget of 400m/-.

Earlier, the Acting Factory Director, Shepherd Kaluwa, said that the company is embroiled in a wrangle with Tanesco due to the agreement entered into to build electricity infrastructure from the Msamvu area to the factory, which has currently been a bone of contention for two years now.

"We agreed that we should use our resources to construct electricity infrastructure, which we did, but using their contractors and the work was completed and supervised Tanesco," he said.

Countries advised to invest in research & development

By Correspondent Beatrice Philemon

THE Eastern and Southern Africa countries have been advised to invest in Research and Development (R&D) on new varieties for farmers to cope with the effects of climate change and assist businesspersons to obtain high quality grain for export value chain and domestic use.

Dr. Abel Mtembeji, market officer, Ministry of Agriculture's department of food security and made the statement last week when speaking to private and public sector players in the staple foods export value chain, government agencies and regulatory authorities from nine countries who attended two-days Eastern and Southern Africa Public-Private Policy and grain trade Business to Business (B2B) forum.

He named countries as Tanzania, Kenya, Ethiopia, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Rwanda, Uganda, Zambia, Burundi and Malawi.

Also, he said countries should invest in irrigation infrastructure development to help farmers in their respective countries manage risks caused by climate change, increase resilience to climatic shocks, increase food security, farmers' incomes and boost grain exports.

Tanzanian government has been able to set-aside 30 percent from the 2024/2025 agricultural budget for irrigation infrastructure and 30 percent for Research and Development (R&D) to produce high quality seed for agricultural activities and grain production.

The forum was organized by the Eastern Africa Grain Council (EAGC), TradeMark Africa (TMA) with funding from UK International Development, Alliance for a Green Revolution in Africa (AGRA), Feed the Future, the United States Agency for International Development (USAID) and Food Trade Coalition for Africa.

"You as importer, exporter, you have to sit together to discuss and see that Non-tariffs barriers does not affect our people, disturbing your grain trade, identify all challenges affects your grain trade for export and later on submit it to the government in your respective countries to facilitate grain trade," he said

Nicholus Mainza, Zambia Ministry of agriculture, chief agricultural Economist trade and agribusiness added that in promoting grain production, other countries can learn from Zambia on what has been done so that they can do better to feed ourselves as Eastern and Southern Africa.

He said through Sustainable Agriculture Financing Facility (SAFF), Zambia has embarked on the provision of affordable loans to medium scale farmers to enhance production of maize and soybean and diversify into livestock pro-

duction.

"We use commercial banks to disburse loans to farmers, we provide oversight for sustainability and we have also enticed commercial farmers to grow maize at an agreed price, which reflects the real deal.

Zambia targets to reach 10, 000, 000 metric tons of maize by 2027, also 1, 000, 000 metric tons of Soybeans by year 2027, and 1, 000, 000 metric tons of Wheat by 2027 as our priority value chains. So far, we are on course despite the draught for last season.

Also they have opened up 10 farm blocks with 100, 000 hectares each in 10 provinces of our country.

Mainza noted that, despite going through a devastating year or season 2023/24 with a serious draught which impacted negatively on our maize and other grain production.

AfDB's \$260m loan to strengthen agriculture in DRC

KINSHASA

THE Board of Directors of the African Development Bank Group has approved a loan of \$260.4 million to the Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC) to help finance the Project to Support the Development of Value Chains as part of its backing for the Agriculture Transformation Programme (PADCV-PTA).

The project, totalling \$311.6 million, is being funded by a \$250.4 million loan from the African Development Fund, the Bank Group's concessional window, and another \$10 million loan from the Transition Support Facility, a Bank Group mechanism for countries undergoing periods of transition.

The DRC government and beneficiaries will provide counterpart funding of \$51.2 million.

The project will contribute towards the country's food self-sufficiency by boosting production of the main staple food crops of rice, cassava, maize and soya.

This will significantly reduce large-scale food imports which amounted to \$3 billion in 2023 – 19 per cent of the national budget – and its vulnerability to external shocks, including climate change and armed conflict.

More specifically, the project aims to rebuild the seed capital of the rice, cassava, maize and soya value chains, to improve yields in a sustainable manner and to structure and facilitate the access of stakeholders in these value chains to markets and suitable financing.

Consequently, 295,000 hectares of maize, soya, cassava and rice will be sown, using improved seeds that are resistant to climate change.

Some 1,600 farmer field schools and demonstration plots will be set up and run by supervisors for extension activities, including climate-smart farming techniques. The development of irrigated rice-growing areas will enable intensive production levels to be attained, with at least two cycles per year.

The project will make inputs available to producers on credit at the start of the cropping season, repayable at harvest time, to build up working capital to facilitate long-term access to said inputs and equipment for the pre-processing of agricultural produce (threshers, winnowing machines, tarpaulins/drying areas) for the co-operatives of rice-growing area operators.



Some 600 km of rural tracks will be upgraded to open up production basins and facilitate access to consumption areas.

The project also aims to organise the value chain stakeholders into cooperative companies so that they can benefit from economies of scale through grouped orders and sales. It will bolster the bargaining power and capacity of small-scale

producers to enter into 'win-win' partnerships. To facilitate access to funding, the project provides for a shared-cost financing mechanism.

In addition, it will also build the capacity of national agricultural research and seed system stakeholders in order to reestablish the national seed capital.

The project will be implemented in six

provinces, namely Kongo Central, Kwango, Maï-Ndombe, Kasai Oriental, Lomami and South Kivu – areas that are part of the direct supply basins of major cities and that can also supply neighbouring countries. All told, the area covered by the project is home to 24 per cent of the Congolese population, and some 900,000 farming households, including internally displaced

people, will benefit directly from the project.

Ultimately, the project should increase yields of the targeted crops by 80 per cent, and boost agricultural production by 1.68 million tonnes per year and private agricultural processing by 4.1 million tonnes over five years, while reducing the DRC's food imports by \$500 million a year.

All female heads of household in the area will benefit from the project, as will two million households, on an indirect basis.

This pertains to three of the country's major urban centres, Kinshasa, the capital city, Mbuji-Mayi and Bukavu, where food security will be strengthened for around 21 million inhabitants. The project will also enhance regional integration between the DRC and neighbouring Angola via trade in agricultural products.

Other beneficiaries of the project include government services (agricultural research units, seed sellers, farmers' organisations), private organisations (processors and service providers), decentralised regional bodies, and women's and youth organisations.

"The African Development Bank is a strategic partner of the DRC, whose top authorities have decided to make agriculture the priority sector for the country's development," said Serge N'Guessan, the Bank's Director General for Central Africa. "This project, which has just been approved by the Bank Group's Boards of Directors, will enable the rapid implementation of the National Food and Agriculture Pact, which is part of this national vision."

US debt about to hit US\$35 trillion

NEW YORK

THE national debt is on the cusp of a grim milestone, but it's one of the least discussed topics at the Republican National Convention this week.

President Joe Biden hasn't mentioned it much either as he has campaigned across the country.

Outstanding government debt stood at \$34.9 trillion (\$34,940,154,000,000 to be somewhat more precise) as of Tuesday, according to the latest data from the Treasury Department.

That's a debt load that now represents over 120 per cent of GDP. Earlier this year, the cost of interest payments alone passed the cost of defense spending.

The psychologically important \$35 trillion milestone will likely be crossed sometime between this week's Republican National Convention and when the Democrats gather in a few weeks' time in Chicago – if debt continues to grow by an average of about \$8 billion a day.

All told, the debt could represent 166 per cent of America's GDP by 2054.

Yet a Yahoo Finance review of this week's flood of political commentary – both Republicans in Milwaukee and Biden on the campaign trail – underlines a political reality of this election season: This historic debt is simply not a front-burner issue.

"We stand for fiscal sanity, for low taxes, and for reduced debt," said Florida Gov. Ron DeSantis as he endorsed Republican nominee Donald Trump on Tuesday night.

What the line contained in snappiness it perhaps lacked in internal consistency. Lowering taxes is likely to increase deficits and debt.

"Our government sold us a false bill of goods with the Iraq war and the 2008 financial crisis loading up our national debt that falls on our generation's shoulders," added former presidential candidate Vivek Ramaswamy during his speech.

He overlooked how 2017 tax cuts and other policies enacted by Trump as president have contributed mightily to the current total.

The debt rose by nearly \$8 trillion during Trump's time in office. Biden is on pace to oversee a similar rise. In total, the national debt has ballooned by more than 70% over the last 7.5 years, fueled by a flood of new spending as well as these obligations stretching back decades.

All told, the vast majority of the major convention speeches so far this week haven't brought up debt or deficits at all, according to a review of transcripts and videos. The Republican platform offers promises to cut "wasteful government spending" but doesn't discuss debt or deficits directly.

It's a notable shift for the Republicans who in years past campaigned on ideas like a balanced budget amendment and fielded major candidates who rose through the ranks as members of the deficit hawk wing of the party. That wing of the party still exists but was far from prominent this week.

"The fiscal warning signs are really just so bright, so loud, and it's as though nobody who's running for office is paying attention," said Maya MacGuineas, the president of the Committee for a Responsible Federal Budget, in a recent Yahoo Finance interview.

Before cutting his trip short after a positive COVID test, he said that his plan to make billionaires have to pay a minimum tax of 25 per cent will generate \$500 billion over the next decade, "allowing us to do more for child-care, eldercare, bring down the federal deficit, and so much more."



ITV PGM SCHEDULE			
SATURDAY 20 July	<p>5:30 Uwanja wa Mazoezi 6:00 HABARI 6:40 Kumekucha 7:00 Habari 8:00 Al Jazeera 9:00 Watoto wetu 10:05 Shika Bamba 5 10:35 Mjuzi Zaidi 11:15 Chetu ni chetu rpt 11:50 Hawavumi lakini wamo 12:50 Art and Lifestyle 13:20 Shamba lulu 13:50 Soap rpt: Laws of love 15:45 Igizo: Mizengwe 16:10 Igizo: Hakufuma 17:00 Shamsam za Pwani 18:00 Hapa na Pale 18:10 ITV Top 10 rpt 19:00 Jungu kuu 19:30 Shika Bamba 20:00 Habari 21:05 Igizo: Hakufuma 21:35 Kipindi maalum: Michezo Supa Min Jackpot 21:45 Art and Lifestyle 22:15 ITV Top 10 23:00 Hawavumi lakini wamo 23:40 Soap: Uzalo rpt 00:30 Al Jazeera</p> <p>SUNDAY 21 July</p> <p>5:30 Uwanja wa Mazoezi 6:00 HABARI 6:40 Kumekucha 7:00 Habari 8:00 Al Jazeera 9:00 Watoto wetu 10:00 Soap rpt: Laws of love 11:45 Hawavumi lakini wamo rpt 12:45 Mjuzi zaidi 13:30 Igizo: Hakufuma 14:00 Tamasha la Michezo 15:30 Mwangaza 16:30 ITV Top 10 rpt 17:20 Kipindi cha vikwazo 18:00 Hapa na Pale 18:15 Mapishi 18:30 Matukio ya wiki 19:30 Igizo: Hakufuma 20:00 Habari 21:05 Igizo: Mizengwe 21:20 Kipindi maalum: Michezo Supa Min Jackpot 21:40 Mjuzi Zaidi 22:15 Soap: Uzalo rpt 00:30 Al Jazeera</p> <p>MONDAY 22 July</p> <p>5:00 Soap rpt: Uzalo 5:30 Uwanja wa Mazoezi 6:00 HABARI 6:40 Kumekucha</p>		
7:30 HABARI 8:00 Kumekucha Michezo 8:55 Habari za saa 9:00 Kumekucha Kishindo 9:30 Soap: Laws of love rpt 9:55 Habari za saa 10:00 Watoto wetu 10:55 Habari za saa 11:00 ITV Top Ten rpt 11:55 Habari za saa 12:00 Al Jazeera 12:30 Jungu Kuu 12:55 Habari za saa 13:00 Mjuzi Zaidi 13:40 Art and Lifestyle 13:55 Habari za saa 14:00 Art and Lifestyle 14:20 Soap rpt: Hakufuma 14:55 Habari za saa 15:00 Meza Huru 16:30 Watoto Wetu 17:00 Music: The Base 18:00 Hapa na Pale 18:15 Mapishi 18:30 DW: Afrimaza 19:00 Alya ya Jami 19:30 Soap: Laws of love 20:00 Habari 21:05 Duka 45 22:00 Our Earth 22:30 Soap: Uzalo 23:00 Jiji letu 23:30 Music: The Base 00:30 Al Jazeera 02:00 DWTV	<p>18:00 Hapa na Pale 18:15 Mapishi 18:30 Kipindi maalum: Sema na Mahakama 19:30 Soap: Laws of love 20:00 Habari 21:05 Kipindi Maalum: Maisha ni Nyumba 21:35 Kipindi maalum: 22:00 Chetu ni chetu 22:30 Soap: Uzalo 23:00 Jiji letu 23:30 Music: The Base 00:30 Al Jazeera</p> <p>WEDNESDAY 24 July</p> <p>5:00 Soap rpt: Uzalo 5:30 Uwanja wa Mazoezi 6:00 HABARI 6:40 Kumekucha 7:30 HABARI 8:00 Kumekucha Michezo 8:55 Habari za saa 9:00 Kumekucha Kishindo 9:30 Soap: Laws of love 9:55 Habari za saa 10:00 Watoto wetu 10:30 Jungu Kuu rpt 10:55 Habari za saa 11:00 Mjuzi zaidi 11:40 Maji Kimanjoro 11:55 Habari za saa 12:00 Al Jazeera 12:30 Our Earth: 12:55 Habari za saa 13:00 Dakika 45 rpt 13:55 Habari za saa 14:40 Chetu ni chetu rpt 14:55 Habari za saa 15:00 Meza Huru 16:30 Watoto Wetu 17:00 Music: The Base 18:00 Hapa na Pale 18:15 Mapishi 18:30 Jarida la wanawake 19:00 Kipindi maalum: BOT 19:30 Soap: Laws of love 20:00 Habari 21:05 Abu Yako 21:05 Kipindi maalum: Watumishi housing 21:20 Kipindi maalum: Tanesco 21:50 Ripoti maalum 22:30 Soap: Uzalo 23:00 Jiji letu 23:30 Music: The Base 00:30 Al Jazeera</p> <p>Sat 20 July</p> <p>08:00 Al Jazeera 08:00 Rev rpt 08:30 Jagina rpt</p>	<p>10:00 Culinary delight rpt 10:30 Innovation rpt 11:30 Sports Gazette rpt 12:00 Shamba Lulu rpt 12:30 Our Earth rpt 13:00 Business edition rpt 13:30 Al Jazeera 14:30 Telenovela rpt: In Love With Ramon RPT 17:15 EcoAfrica 17:45 Bundesliga kick off 18:15 Capchat rpt 19:15 Mizengwe 19:30 The Decor 19:30 The Decor 20:00 Special Pgm : Culinary Tourism 20:30 Tomorrow Today 21:00 Out n' About 21:30 Capchat Rpt 23:00 Al Jazeera 01:00 Al Jazeera</p> <p>Sun 21 July</p> <p>08:00 Al Jazeera 09:00 In good shape 10:00 Capchat rpt 11:00 Sports Gazette rpt 11:30 DW 12:30 Jagina rpt 12:30 Bundesliga Kick Off rpt 13:00 In good shape rpt 13:30 Dw 15:15 Abu yako 15:30 Rev rpt 16:00 Dakika 45 rpt 16:45 Mizengwe rpt 17:00 The Decor rpt 17:30 Meza Huru 18:00 EcoAfrica 19:30 Cookery pgm: Culinary Delights 20:30 Jagina 21:00 Out & About rpt 21:30 Dw News Africa 21:30 Capchat live 22:15 Telenovela rpt: In Love With Ramon 00:00 Al Jazeera</p> <p>Mon 22 July</p> <p>06:00 Al Jazeera 09:00 Kumekucha Michezo rpt 10:00 Meza Huru Rpt 11:30 Business edition 11:30 Out and About 12:30 Our earth 13:00 Telenovela rpt: In Love With Ramon 13:00 Ripoti maalum 14:45 Sports Gazette 15:15 Jagina 16:00 Tomorrow Today 16:30 EcoAfrica 17:30 Dw News Africa rpt 17:30 Meza Huru 19:00 The Decor rpt 19:30 Special Pgm : Culinary Tourism rpt</p>	<p>20:00 Innovation Rpt 20:45 The Monday Agenda 21:30 Capital Prime News 22:00 Kigima Joto 00:00 Al Jazeera</p> <p>Tues 23 July</p> <p>06:00 Al Jazeera 09:00 Kumekucha Michezo rpt 10:00 Meza Huru Rpt 11:30 Monday agenda rpt 12:15 Sports gazette 12:45 Filler doc 13:00 Telenovela rpt : I Plead Guilty Rpt 14:00 Business Edition Rpt 14:30 Ingood Shape 15:00 Shamba Lulu 15:30 Bundesliga Kick off 16:00 Culinary Delights Rpt 16:30 Capchat rpt 17:30 Meza Huru 19:00 Innovation 19:30 Our Earth 20:00 Decor Rpt 20:45 Telenovela: In Love With Ramon 21:30 Capital Prime News 22:00 DW 22:30 Jagina rpt 23:00 EcoAfrica Al Jazeera</p> <p>Wed 24 July</p> <p>06:00 Al Jazeera 09:00 Kumekucha Michezo rpt 10:00 Meza Huru Rpt 11:30 Tomorrow Today rpt 12:00 Dw News Africa rpt 12:30 Our Earth 13:00 Telenovela In Love With Ramon rpt 14:00 Capchat 15:00 Out&About rpt 15:30 Special Pgm : Culinary Tourism rpt 16:00 Business Edition Rpt 16:30 Culinary delight rpt 17:00 Innovation rpt 17:30 Meza Huru 19:00 Sports Gazette 19:30 Chetu ni chetu 20:00 Monday Agenda Rpt 20:45 Telenovela: In Love With Ramon 21:30 Capital Prime News 22:00 Dakika 45: 22:45 The Decor 23:15 Al Jazeera</p> <p>Thurs 25 July</p> <p>06:00 Al Jazeera 09:00 Kumekucha Michezo rpt 10:00 Meza Huru Rpt 11:30 Sports gazette 12:00 Innovation 12:30 Culinary 13:00 Telenovela rpt: In Love With Ramon rpt 14:00 Our Earth rpt 14:30 DW News Africa rpt</p>

WORLD

Biden campaign outraises and outspends Trump campaign in June

WASHINGTON

US President Joe Biden's election campaign last month outraised and outspent his challenger Donald Trump, according to disclosures published on Saturday that showed the president's coffers initially swelling even after a disastrous debate performance.

The main campaign account for Biden, a Democrat, took in \$64 million in June and spent \$59 million, largely on campaign ads, ending the month with \$95 million in the bank, according to a filing submitted to the Federal Election Commission.

Republican Trump's main account reported raising \$21 million in June and

spending about \$10 million, while having \$128 million in cash at the close of the month.

Biden, 81, raised more than \$5 million in the three days following his June 27 debate against Trump, 78, in which the president stammered throughout and failed to energetically challenge Trump's attacks, which included numerous false claims.

But this month Biden has faced a wave of calls from Democratic lawmakers to bow out of the race, and his fundraising has reportedly sagged so far in the month.

Biden and Trump have been locked in a tight race in national polls, though Trump has led in several polls in battle-



This combination of pictures created on July 18, 2024 shows former US president and 2024 Republican presidential candidate Donald Trump (left) in Milwaukee, Wisconsin, on July 15, 2024; and US President Joe Biden clearing his throat as he speaks on economics in Las Vegas, Nevada, on July 16, 2024. (PHOTO / AFP)

ground states that could determine the winner of the Nov 5 presidential election.

Since early July, 35 congressional Democrats have publicly called on Biden to end his re-election bid, with many citing his advanced age and difficulties on the debate stage. Several Biden fundraising events are reportedly on hold as some big-money donors have urged Biden to bow out.

Should Biden exit the race, control of his campaign's funds could potentially pass to his running mate, Vice-President Kamala Harris, should she become the Democratic nominee. Alternately, Biden could transfer his war chest to the Democratic Party, which is already a major fundraiser for his re-election effort and reported raising \$39 million with its main fundraising group June.

The main fundraising account for

Trump's Republican Party raised \$67 million during the month.

Trump had outraised Biden in May, when the former president's supporters stepped up donations in the run-up to his May 30 conviction on business fraud charges, a case that Trump has decried, without evidence, as politically motivated.

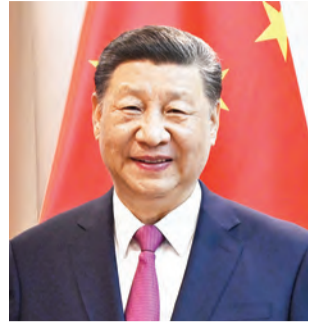
The largest super PAC supporting Trump, known as MAGA Inc, reported raising over \$22 million during the month, including \$5 million contributions by hotelier Robert Bigelow and by Linda McMahon, a former professional wrestling entrepreneur.

On Biden's side, LinkedIn co-founder Reid Hoffman gave \$3 million to FF Pac, a super PAC backing the president's re-election effort, a separate filing with the Federal Election Commission showed. **Agencies**

Xi urges all-out rescue, relief efforts after bridge collapses in northwest China

BEIJING

CHINESE President Xi Jinping has urged all-out rescue and relief efforts to safeguard people's lives and property after the collapse of a highway bridge in northwest China's Shaanxi Province.



Xi (pictured), also general secretary of the Communist Party of China (CPC) Central Committee and chairman of the Central Military Commission, made the instructions after the bridge, located in Zhashui County in Shangluo City, collapsed at approximately 8:40 p.m. on Friday due to flash floods caused by heavy rain. Eleven people were killed while over 30 others remained missing as of 10 a.m. on Saturday.

The immediate priority is to carry out rescue operations, make every effort to search for the missing and minimize casualties, Xi said in the instructions, also urging efforts to assist the families of the affected. Xi emphasized the importance of well-planned rescue and the prevention of secondary disasters.

He stressed that as the critical period of flood control approaches, it is imperative for regions and relevant departments to be extra vigilant, fulfill their duties diligently, improve monitoring systems and early warning mechanisms, strengthen inspections, and implement various measures meticulously to guarantee the safety of people's lives and property.

Premier Li Qiang, who is also a member of the Standing Committee of the Political Bureau of the CPC Central Committee, has given instructions to spare no effort in searching for and rescuing the missing people, investigate the cause promptly and take measures to prevent secondary disasters.

Vice Premier Zhang Guoqing, also a member of the Political Bureau of the CPC Central Committee, has led a working team to the site to guide rescue efforts. **Xinhua**

I took a bullet for democracy - Donald Trump

WASHINGTON

"I took a bullet for democracy," former US President Donald Trump said on Saturday, addressing a first rally after he was shot in the ear during an assassination attempt on his life last week. **The Hill** reported.

Trump returned to the campaign trail in Michigan's Grand Rapids, days after accepting the Republican nomination for president at the Republican National Convention.

"I don't want to know anything about it. But what they do is misinformation and disinformation, and they keep saying he's a threat to democracy," Trump continued, referring to Democrats. "I'm saying, 'What the hell did I do for democracy? Last week, I took a bullet for democracy,'" Trump said.

Speaking about Project 2025, Trump said, "They're seriously extreme, but I don't know anything about it."

Democrats have tried to tie Trump to Project 2025, a conservative policy platform organised by the Heritage Platform, whose contributors include former Trump administration officials, according to **The Hill** report. Former US President and his campaign have denied any support for Project 2025.

During the rally, he said, "I stand before you only by the grace of Almighty God." Trump was wearing a smaller beige coloured bandage on his right ear at his rally, different from the larger white one he wore at the Republican National Convention earlier this week, according to **The Hill** report.

It was Trump's first rally after surviving an assassination attempt at a rally in Pennsylvania last Saturday. He was shot in the ear and was escorted off the stage by US Service agents. One attendee and the shooter died during the attack, while two others were injured in the shooting incident in Pennsylvania.

Many Trump supporters who came to attend the rally were wearing shirts featuring the image of Trump holding his fist in the air and telling his voters to "fight" as Secret Service agents were escorting him off the stage after the shooting incident in Pennsylvania, **CNN** reported.

Many of the merchandise tables outside the venue in Michigan's Grand Rapids were selling shirts to attendees as they waited in queues to enter the indoor arena.

At the same rally in Michigan, Republican Vice presidential nominee JD Vance slammed US Vice President Kamala Harris, questioning her achievements and defending his own loyalty to the country. **CNN** reported.

Vance said, "There's some bad news actually, Vice President Kamala Harris, she doesn't like me."

"Kamala Harris said something to the effect that ... I have no loyalty to this country. Well, I don't know, Kamala, I did serve in the United States Marine Corps and build a business. What the hell have you done other than collect a check?," Vance said.

ANI

Chinese envoy urges countries to enhance ties with Shanghai Cooperation Organization

UNITED NATIONS

FU Cong, China's permanent representative to the United Nations, on Friday emphasized the importance of international cooperation with the Shanghai Cooperation Organization in maintaining global peace and security.

Speaking at the Security Council debate on collaboration between the United Nations and regional organizations, Fu highlighted the SCO's critical role in addressing global challenges and promoting a multipolar world and inclusive economic globalization.

"The international community should heed the calls of SCO members," Fu stated, urging stakeholders to leverage the Summit of the Future as a pivotal opportunity to advance equity and fairness in global governance.

He emphasized the need for a balanced approach to fostering a multipolar world and enhancing inclusive economic globalization to address the complexities of today's international landscape.

"We must practice true multilateralism under the guidance of the UN Charter," the ambassador said, advocating for reinforced dialogue and cooperation between the UN and the SCO to strengthen international peace efforts.

Emphasizing the necessity of multilateralism, Fu praised the SCO's efforts to uphold the principles of the UN Charter and resist the pressures of a Cold War mentality and bloc confrontations.

He recognized the SCO's adherence to the Shanghai Spirit and promotion of values of partnership, openness, and inclusiveness.

Further elaborating on the SCO's role in regional security, Fu called for a joint commitment to combat terrorism, separatism, and extremism, which he described as significant threats to global security.

He encouraged the United Nations to



China's permanent representative to the United Nations Fu Cong (center, front) speaks at the Security Council briefing on cybersecurity at the UN headquarters in New York, on June 20, 2024. **XINHUA**

collaborate with the SCO in areas such as counter-terrorism, narcotics control, and combating transnational organized crimes, and to assist in building capacities for security and law enforcement in the region.

Addressing the situation in Afghanistan, Fu urged cooperation between the SCO and the United Nations Assistance Mission in Afghanistan to foster international engagement with the Afghan interim government.

This collaboration aims to help Afghanistan steer clear of terrorism and

achieve lasting peace and stability.

On economic and social development, Fu lauded the SCO's alignment with the United Nations' goals, highlighting its contributions to regional cooperation in trade facilitation, infrastructure, agriculture, poverty reduction, and sustainable development.

He expressed support for the SCO's increased interactions with UN entities and emphasized the importance of the upcoming SCO Year of Sustainable Development in 2025 to bolster regional development efforts.

Fu reiterated China's dedication to supporting deeper engagement between the UN and regional organizations like the SCO.

"As a founding member and the rotating president of the SCO, China remains committed to supporting, together with the international community, even deeper engagement between the UN and regional organizations such as the SCO, and making unremitting efforts to promote world peace and development and build a community with a shared future for mankind," Fu said. **Xinhua**

DR Congo sees exponential increase in monkeypox, regional spillover lurking

KINSHASA

AN exponential increase in the number of monkeypox cases has been reported in the Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC), warned the DRC government, with a vaguely-known variant and potential spillover in neighboring countries lurking.

EXCEPTIONAL INCREASE, NEW VARIANT

Since the beginning of 2024, a total of 11,166 suspected monkeypox cases, including about 450 deaths, have been

reported, said Patrick Muyaya, DRC government spokesperson on Saturday, noting that the western province of Equateur has been worst hit.

Thus far, 23 of the country's 26 provinces have reported monkeypox cases since 2022.

In December 2022, the DRC declared a national outbreak of monkeypox, and an incident management system has been in place since February 2023, based on the increasing number of reported cases.

Since 2022, more than 21,000 cases have been reported with more than 1,000

deaths in DRC, according to the World Health Organisation (WHO). In 2023, a total of 14,626 cases and 654 deaths were recorded.

In a report published in May 2024, WHO warned that the current situation of the monkeypox outbreak in the DRC is of "grave concern" due to the sustained increase in suspected cases compared to previous years, with a significant burden in younger populations, particularly children under 15 years of age, who constitute the majority of both suspected cases and

deaths.

According to WHO, a new variant of the clade I monkeypox virus has been described in the eastern province of South Kivu, and it was estimated to have emerged around mid-September 2023.

However, "It is not known if this variant is more transmissible or leads to more severe disease than other clade I monkeypox virus strains," said WHO. To date, only clade I MPXV has been detected in the country, which in the WHO African region, reports the highest number of cases.

In 2022, a worldwide outbreak, notably in Europe and the U.S., which prompted the WHO to declare a public health emergency, was caused by clade II of the monkeypox virus which has a relatively low death rate.

HEALTH SYSTEM DRAGGED DOWN

In the eastern province of North Kivu, where conflicts have been raging between DRC military and rebel groups, the health system, which already struggles with overflowing, is hanging on by

a thread with the monkeypox outbreak.

In the Mudja camp for war-displaced people, located in the territory of Nyiragongo, monkeypox had no mercy, as a three-year-old child Rebecca was struggling to get back on her feet.

"It's a very contagious disease. The virus doesn't discriminate when it comes to age. Everyone could catch it," said Francine Mbawerimana, Rebecca's mother, complaining about the lack of clean water to clean her daughter.

Healthcare workers are

on alert and trying to raise awareness among residents to be vigilant in the war-hit North Kivu province, which announced in late June 2024 the first eight confirmed cases. According to local health experts, the number has risen to over 30 in a few weeks, with diagnostic testing remaining inaccessible.

"To date, we have 31 confirmed cases spread across three health zones of Goma, Karisimbi, and Nyiragongo," Dr. Dan Kapuku, the Nyiragongo Health Zone director, told **Xinhua** in mid-July 2024.

US-China sister cities summit eyes boosting sub-national exchanges

TACOMA

THE sixth US-China Sister Cities Summit was held Friday in Tacoma, a port city in western US state of Washington, aimed at deepening friendship and strengthening sub-national exchanges between the two countries.

The summit, themed "Shared Visions for a Brighter Future," is co-sponsored by the Chinese People's Association for Friendship with Foreign Countries and Sister Cities International, a nonprofit which serves as the national membership organization for individual sister cities, counties, and states across the United States.

Featuring panel discussions, keynote addresses and case studies, the summit brought together more than 140 representatives from 14 Chinese provinces and more than 100 representatives from 21 US states, to explore shared opportunities, exchange insights, and address common challenges affecting communities in both nations.

"Sister provinces/states and sister cities are important platforms for promoting mutual understanding and friendship between the people of China and the United States, and important windows for deepening exchanges and cooperation for mutual benefit and win-win results," said Yang Wanming, president of the Chinese People's Association for Friendship with Foreign Countries, in his remarks during the summit.

The city of Tacoma and the State of Washington are the symbol of friendship between the people of China and the United States, he said.

"In the future, we are willing to give

full play to the role of the sister city conference as a bridge and link, and play a greater role in enhancing mutual trust, strengthening friendship, and deepening cooperation between the local governments of the two countries."

Tacoma, about 50 kilometers southwest of Seattle, established a sister city relationship with Fuzhou, capital of East China's Fujian province, in 1994. The two cities are celebrating 30 years of ties.

"I truly believe that if we can work together to address all the challenges and opportunities that lie ahead, we can and we will create a future that is bright and prosperous for every one of our communities," Victoria Woodards, mayor of Tacoma, said in her speech.

She pointed out that "Our sister city relationships allow us to build bridges of friendship and cooperation that transcends borders and brings all of our communities closer together."

Chinese Ambassador to the United States Xie Feng said the "unique importance" of the summit in a video speech.

"It is the first national, comprehensive event on China-US subnational exchanges held in the United States in five years. It also coincides with the tenth anniversary of the first China-US Sister Cities Conference, and the 30th anniversary of the sister-city relationship between the host city Tacoma and Fuzhou," he said.

"The China-US relationship is still facing grave challenges. We need to pool strength from all to get the relationship better," the ambassador said, adding that "The closer subnational exchanges and cooperation are, the more solid the



popular foundation for China-US relations will be, and the greater room we will have for taking this relationship forward."

US Ambassador to China Nicholas Burns also sent a warm congratulation to the summit.

"Sister Cities relationships spur investment, expand exchanges in education and culture, and encourage people to learn more about their counterpart cities through tour-

ism," said Burns, noting that "it is heartening" so many Americans and Chinese are gathering in Tacoma this week for "reinvigorating and expanding the people-to-people connections."

Five previous sister cities summits were held - 2014 in Washington, D.C.; 2015 in Chicago; 2016 in Nanchang, China; 2019 in Houston; and 2023 in Suzhou, China.

The establishment of sister city relation-

ship between China and the United States started soon after the two countries established diplomatic ties in 1979, when central China's Hubei Province and the US state of Ohio, and eastern China's Nanjing city and the US city of St. Louis, forged sister relationships.

Forty-five years on, China and the United States have built 286 pairs of sister relationship at different levels. **Xinhua**

Russian forces destroy two Patriot launchers in past day

MOSCOW

RUSSIAN forces destroyed two launchers of the US-made Patriot missile system and its radar in the past day, the Russian Defense Ministry said in a statement.

"Russian tactical aircraft, drone teams, missile forces and artillery units destroyed two launchers and an AN/MPQ-65 radar of the US-made Patriot missile system. In addition, enemy troops and equipment were hit in 113 areas," the statement reads.

Ukraine loses up to 140 troops in area of responsibility of Russia's Battlegroup Dnepr

Ukraine lost up to 140 troops in the area of responsibility of Russia's Battlegroup Dnepr in the past day, the Russian Defense Ministry said in a statement.

"Units of Battlegroup Dnepr inflicted a defeat on the forces of the 141st Infantry Brigade and the 128th Mountain Assault Brigade of the Ukrainian armed forces, as well as of the 106th and 108th territorial defense brigades,



near Kamenskoye, Belogorye, Mirnoye and Pyatikhatki in the Zaporozhye Region. The Ukrainian army lost up to 150 troops," the statement reads.

Ukraine also lost several armored combat vehicles, six motor vehicles, a US-made Paladin 155 mm howitzer, a Giatint-B 152 mm gun and a D-20 152 mm howitzer. "A Nota electronic warfare system, a US-made AN/TPQ-36 radar system and a field ammunition depot were destroyed," the Russian Defense Ministry added.

Russia's Battlegroup North repels three Ukrainian counterattacks in Kharkov Region

Russia's Battlegroup North inflicted a defeat on three enemy brigades in the Kharkov Region, repelling three counterattacks by assault teams and making the enemy lose up to 185 troops, the Russian Defense Ministry said in a statement.

"Units of Battlegroup North hit the troops and equipment of the 42nd

Mechanized Brigade of the Ukrainian armed forces, the 127th Territorial Defense Brigade and the 13th National Guard Brigade near Volchansk, Staritsa, Malye Prokhoty and Liptysi in the Kharkov Region. Attacks by assault teams of the 92nd Assault Brigade of the Ukrainian armed forces and the 26th Marine Brigade were repelled. The enemy lost up to 185 troops, two pickup trucks, a D-30 122 mm howitzer and a Plastun radio-electronic reconnaissance station," the statement reads.

Russia's Battlegroup Center repels eight Ukrainian counterattacks in past day

Russia's Battlegroup Center improved its tactical positions and repelled eight Ukrainian counterattacks in the past day, the Russian Defense Ministry said in a statement.

"Units of Battlegroup Center improved their tactical positions, inflicting a defeat on the forces of the 32nd, 41st and 47th mechanized brigades of

the Ukrainian armed forces near Toretsk, Novgorodskoye, Rozovka, Progress and Novosyolka Pervaya in the Donetsk People's Republic. They also repelled eight counterattacks by assault teams of the 31st and 151st mechanized brigades and the 95th Airborne Assault Brigade of the Ukrainian armed forces and the Ukrainian Interior Ministry's Liut Assault Brigade," the statement reads.

The ministry added that the ministry had lost up to 280 troops, four armored combat vehicles, five motor vehicles, a Gvozdika 122 mm self-propelled howitzer, two D-30 122 mm howitzers and two Rapira 100 mm anti-tank guns.

Battlegroup East makes Ukraine lose up to 110 troops in past day

Russia's Battlegroup East moved to more advantageous positions in the past day, making Ukraine lose up to 110 troops, the Russian Defense Ministry said in a statement.

"Units of Battlegroup East moved to more advantageous positions, hitting the trips and equipment of the 72nd Mechanized Brigade of the Ukrainian armed forces, the 120th and 129th territorial defense brigade and the 21st National Guard Brigade near Vremevka, Makarovka, Storozhevoye, Vodyanoye, Razliv and Oktyabr in the Donetsk People's Republic," the statement reads.

Agencies

PM Modi, his New Zealand counterpart Luxon reiterate 'firm' commitment to take bilateral cooperation to new heights

NEW DELHI

PRIME Minister Narendra Modi received a congratulatory phone call from his New Zealand counterpart, Christopher Luxon, on his victory for the third time in the general elections and the two leaders, during their interaction, reiterated their firm commitment to take bilateral cooperation to new heights in the years to come.

"Noting that India-New Zealand ties are anchored in shared democratic values and close people-to-people ties, both leaders reiterated their firm commitment to take bilateral cooperation to new heights in the years to come," per the press release from the Ministry of External Affairs on Saturday.

PM Modi took the oath as Prime Minister of India for his third successive term on June 9 at an impressive ceremony at the Rashtrapati Bhavan, which was attended by leaders from India's neighborhood and the Indian Ocean region.

President Droupadi Murmu administered the oath of office to Narendra Modi, followed by other members of his team of ministers. Prime Minister Modi also thanked counterpart, Luxon, for looking after the interests of the Indian community in New Zealand.



"Highlighting the momentum generated by recent high-level contacts between the two sides, they agreed to advance mutually beneficial bilateral cooperation in various areas, including trade and economic cooperation, animal husbandry, pharmaceuticals, education, and space, among others," the MEA release read.

"Prime Minister Modi thanked Prime Minister Luxon for looking after the interests of the Indian diaspora in New Zealand. Prime Minister Luxon assured of continued efforts towards their security and well-being," it added.

The two leaders agreed to remain in touch. **ANI**

Emirates unveils first destinations to be served with renovated Boeing 777

DUBAI

MIRATES has unveiled the first cities on its network to be served with its newest Boeing 777 cabin interiors. The airline plans to introduce its refurbished B777s to Geneva, Tokyo Haneda, and Brussels, offering customers more opportunities to experience the airline's signature Premium Economy on this aircraft, and for the first time Emirates' next-generation Business Class seats, set in a new 1-2-1 configuration.

Emirates flights on the refreshed Boeing 777 to Geneva, Tokyo Haneda, and Brussels go on sale today and can be booked on emirates.com, the Emirates App, or via travel agents.

Deputy President and Chief Commercial Officer, Emirates Airline Adnan Kazim, said: "With the addition of the newly retrofitted Boeing 777s to our fleet, we're capturing the opportunity to introduce our highly acclaimed products like Premium Economy to more cities already served by this aircraft type in our network, in addition to more seating variety in four classes."

He added: "Borrowing inspiration from our flagship A380 in every cabin, our Boeing 777 with revamped interiors boasts the very best in customer comfort and will feature modern design details and signature cabin finishings, with a new Business Class cabin that provides more privacy for our customers, in addition to other thoughtful touches that underscore our excep-



tional value proposition. Our investment and intense focus on offering the best possible product across every cabin class also ensures we provide a consistent experience on both the Boeing 777s and A380s."

The first upgraded Emirates Boeing 777 products will operate on the following destinations, EK 83/84 to and from Geneva from 11 August, EK 312/313 to and from Tokyo Haneda from 1 September, and EK 183/184 to and from Brussels from 11 September

The first Emirates Boeing 777 will undergo its nose-to-tail cabin interior facelift with the whole process taking approximately two weeks before the aircraft goes back into service.

Plans included the refurbishment of the First Class cabin, the installation of 38 new Business Class seats in an updated 1-2-1 seating configuration, and 24 of the latest Premium Economy seats, along with 256 Economy Class seats.

All Business Class seats on the newly refurbished Boeing 777 focus on personalised privacy and elevated comfort, converting to a comfortable flat bed, with 20.7-inch wide seats, pitched up to 44 inches apart.

The staggered seating arrangement ensures aisle access for every seat, with direct entry and exit for customers. The seat is accentuated with a touch screen seat controller for in-flight entertainment and seat op-

eration, a personal 23-inch HD screen, one of the biggest in the skies, linked to the airline's award-winning ice entertainment system, in addition to a personal mini-bar, a large table, and ample stowage for individual devices, charging outlets and much more. The Boeing 777 Business Class cabin will also include a small bar for customers to grab mid-flight snacks and refreshments quickly.

In total, 81 Boeing 777s will be refurbished as part of Emirates' investment in its retrofit programme, and more destinations to be served with the airline's latest products will be announced over the next few months.

The airline has earmarked 191 aircraft for a full revamp as part of the largest known retrofit programme in the industry, an investment of over US\$3 billion to deliver the best products and customer experience in the air.

Emirates currently operates its refurbished A380 aircraft fitted with Premium Economy to New York JFK, Los Angeles, San Francisco, Houston, London Heathrow, Sydney, Auckland, Christchurch, Melbourne, Singapore, Mumbai, Bangalore, Sao Paulo, Tokyo Narita, Osaka and Dubai.

The airline aims to serve over 36 cities with Premium Economy by February 2025 with the A350 entering its fleet in September of this year, in addition to more refurbished A380s and Boeing 777s rolling into service and flying to more cities in the coming months. **Agencies**

SPORT

200bn/- to be collected through sports betting by the end of this financial year

By Guardian Reporter

A TOTAL of 200bn/- is expected to be collected through sports betting by the end of the 2024/2025 financial year.

This was stated by the Director General of the Gaming Board of Tanzania (GBT), James Mbalwe, during the launch of the new betting company, Betwinner, which took place in Dar es Salaam.

Mbalwe said that the amount is an increase of 30bn/- compared to last year's collections, which totaled 170bn/-.

He said that the sports betting sector is now growing to the extent that it contributes to the national fund and boosts the country's economy.

"The sports betting sector has made significant progress and has a substantial contribution to the national fund. Therefore, the arrival of the firm will join other companies in contributing to the national fund.

"I urge companies to be ethical, responsible, and transparent in their operations to attract customers and continue growing," said Mbalwe.

He noted that the arrival of the firm will also stimulate the development of this sport in the country and bring competition.

Sabrina Msuya, Tanzania Sports Betting Association (TSBA) chairperson, commended the company for entering the Tanzanian market.

"I congratulate you on entering the Tanzanian market and advancing this rapidly growing sector," said Msuya.

Aaron Nyanda, Tanzania Football Federation

(TFF), marketing director urged the company to support their various leagues, including the Championship and others.

He also cautioned the company against using players' images in advertisements without proper rights to avoid legal issues that have affected other companies.

For his part, the firm's managing director, Jesse Ndambala, said they are very happy to enter the country and contribute to the national income, and increase employment with other goals including supporting sports and community development.

Ndambala said that their aim is to offer customers better odds compared to other betting companies while stressing that their firm has brought significant innovation to their betting games, including offering a 100 percent bonus for new customers as part of a welcome offer.

"Apart from having good odds, we have introduced significant innovations in our games, and we offer a 100 percent bonus for new customers. Our goal here is to enhance entertainment and competitive spirit in the sports betting sector. Apart from football, we will also look into investing in various sports such as golf, netball, and others," he said.

He explained that the firm is prepared to face competition in the betting sector by providing excellent services that offer modern services to enable winners to get their money immediately after being confirmed.

James hits game winner with 8 seconds left, US avoids upset and escapes South Sudan 101-100

By TIM REYNOLDS

LeBRON James saved the U.S. from what would have been a stunning loss.

James' layup with 8 seconds left was the go-ahead basket Saturday, and the U.S. Olympic team that'll soon head to the Paris Games escaped with a 101-100 win over South Sudan in London, rallying from a 16-point deficit to avoid perhaps the biggest upset in the program's history.

South Sudan, the African nation that gained its independence just 13 years ago and is about to play in the Olympics for the first time, led for more than half the game and had a chance to win at the end. But Carlik Jones' runner off the glass missed with about 4 seconds left, and the Americans survived.

"I'm going to be honest: I like those better than the blowouts," James said as he walked off the court. "At least we get tested."

Oh, they got tested – by a team that came into the game as 43.5-point underdogs, according to BetMGM Sportsbook.

"A good reminder that when we play against teams, it's the biggest game of their lives," U.S. coach Steve Kerr said. "We have to expect everyone to play like that."

Down by 16 at one point, the Americans dug out of that hole with an 18-0 run in the second half – then needed heroics at the end anyway. JT Thor's 3-pointer with 20 seconds left gave South Sudan a 100-99 lead, then the Americans called timeout and put the ball in James' hands.

He made it look easy: He waited, waited, waited, then drove and laid it in with ease to put the U.S. back on top, and the Americans got the stop they needed at the end.

James finished with a game-high 25 points, six rebounds and seven assists for the U.S., which improved to 4-0 with one game left – Monday vs. World Cup champion Germany – on its pre-Olympic exhibition tour. Anthony

Davis added 15 points and 11 rebounds for the Americans.

Marial Shayok had 24 points for South Sudan and Jones had a triple-double – 15 points, 11 rebounds and 11 assists.

The teams will meet in group play in the Paris Olympics on July 31.

"It's basketball. It happens," U.S. guard Stephen Curry said. "You want to play perfect every game; it doesn't happen. But can you dig deep and do the little things that help you win? Offense can come and go, but defense is the thing that helps you win championships, medals, all that stuff."

It should have been a mismatch, and for the first half, it was – just not in the way anyone would have expected.

The U.S. roster has 12 players, all of them All-Stars or NBA champions or both, with a total of 189,038 points in their regular-season careers, with 7,832 combined starts. South Sudan has four players who have appeared in an NBA game. They've scored a combined 1,228 points and started 19 games.

Didn't matter. It was 8-0 U.S. after 2 1/2 minutes. The rest of the half: South Sudan 58, U.S. 34. The Americans allowed South Sudan to shoot 61% in the first half and got outscored 21-3 from 3-point range in the first 20 minutes.

"I did not do a great job preparing our team," Kerr said. "We did not focus enough on what they're capable of, and that's on me. I think that really allowed South Sudan to gain confidence early. ... They were great. They played a wonderful game and the ending was good for us, just to feel that, to feel what it's going to be like in Paris and Lille."

An 18-0 run in the second half – James involved in most of it – was what really saved the U.S., turning a 76-65 deficit into an 83-76 lead.

South Sudan led by 16 late in the first half – 58-42 – before the Americans got the last basket to cut the deficit to 14 at the break.



United States forward LeBron James runs as he advances to score past South Sudan's Khaman Maluach during an exhibition game at the O2 Arena in London on Saturday. Photo: AP

SPORTS

What next for Simba goalkeeper Aishi Manula?

By Correspondent Michael Mwebe

THE future of Simba goalkeeper Aishi Manula has become more complicated after he was left out of the side's preseason training tour of Egypt.

Manula was not with his Simba team-mates as they flew to Egypt for a three-week training camp under newly appointed South African coach Fadlu Davids.

There is no official statement on why Manula remained behind but there is strong suggestion that his absence has to do with a potential move away from the Msimbazi Street-based side.

There are unconfirmed reports the shot stopper is not in Simba's plan for the new season due to a combination of factors, including falling out with the club management and poor form.

Manula is in an awkward situation. He has a year left to run on his contract and could join a club of his choice on a free transfer next year, but he would clearly prefer to move this season.

The 28-year-old was the first choice goalkeeper for five consecutive seasons since his arrival from Azam in July 2017. In that time he won the goalkeeper of the season award three times in a row.

His trouble began towards the end of the 2022/23 campaign after he picked up an injury that kept him off the pitch for six months.

Ayoub Lakred's arrival at Simba at the start of last season was the beginning of the end for Manula, whose career is now at a crossroads.

In the early weeks of Lakred's takeover, it was fair to ask whether the Moroccan was an upgrade on Manula.

Lakred looked shaky, and supporters and even coach Robert Oliveira were unconvinced.

The debate has died, though, as Lakred has established himself. It is why Simba extended his contract and he is now in Egypt as he looks to start the season better than he did last year.

Last season, Manula made only four league appearances, two of those ending in embarrassing defeats for Simba including the historic 5-1 loss to arch-rivals Young Africans.

Even more telling is the fact that his last appearance for Simba came at the mid-way point of the season in a 2-1 home defeat to 'minnows' Tanzania Prisons.

For one reason or the other, he was overlooked for the remainder of the 15 league games. There was no place in the



Simba shot stopper Aishi Manula. (Agencies)

starting eleven in the mundane cup games. It is clear Simba have moved on.

The question now is not whether Manula can re-establish himself as Simba's No. 1, but where he might move next.

One way or another, for the sake of his career, the goalie has to leave Simba before the transfer window shuts down.

The biggest issue for Manula right now is that there are no vacancies among the big boys who can afford his reportedly ten million per month salary.

Young Africans have Malian national team first-choice goalkeeper Djigui Diarra. He is the guy who dethroned Manula as arguably the best goalkeeper in the league.

Diarra signed a contract last month after three successful seasons since his arrival from Real Bamako.

Abutwalib Mshery is the second-choice goalkeeper while the newly signed Aboubakar Khomein is third in the pecking order.

Azam only recently spent a tidy sum to secure Mohamed Mustafa from Al Merreikh on a permanent deal.

The Sudanese goalkeeper impressed Azam officials, having arrived in January on a six-month loan deal.

It means Azam is not ready to spend big on another goalkeeper though they could still be interested in Manula preferably on a loan deal arrangement.

Having Mustafa and Manula certainly adds

to their squad depth.

Singida Black Stars are another top spending side who could afford Manula's wages but they have just signed Sierra Leone national team Mohamed Kamara.

From a Simba perspective, it's probably for the best that Manula is not sold or loaned out to a fellow Mainland Premier League title contender.

A more exciting alternative, perhaps, would be a move outside of Tanzania, which cannot be ruled out.

Sudanese giants Al Merreikh have been mooted as a possible destination for Manula though it remains to be seen if they are interested and, more importantly, if the player is willing to join them given their rumoured financial troubles.

It'll be interesting to see how this situation plays out over the next coming days.

Maybe Azam will have to up their offer if they are to land one of the best local goalkeepers, but right now, it's not certain that they will.

CECAFA announces ambitious expansion plans for Kagame Cup

By Correspondent Seth Mapoli

THE Council of East and Central African Football Associations (CECAFA) aims to significantly elevate the Kagame Cup from next season, according to the body's president Wallace Karia.

During a press briefing in Dar es Salaam on Friday, Karia revealed ongoing negotiations with various sponsors to ensure the championship is organized on a grander scale.

Karia emphasized the importance of including the Kagame Cup in the annual calendars of member countries' football associations to prioritize regional tournaments. He believes that scheduling a dedicated month for the competition will help teams preparing for international championships to maintain their competitive edge.

"We have integrated the Kagame Cup into our calendar, and I urge member countries to do the same so that teams can start their preparations early," stated Karia, who also serves as the president of the Tanzania Football Federation (TFF).

To streamline the tournament and accommodate other competitions, Karia announced that next year's Kagame Cup will commence from the quarter-final stage. This change is intended to provide teams with ample time to prepare for other engagements, including their respective Premier Leagues.

Karia also highlighted a series of upcoming competitions within the CECAFA zone. These include the qualifiers for the CAF Women's Champions League, the CAF U-17 and U-20 championships, the CAF Schools Championship, and the CECAFA U-20 Women's Championship. These events are scheduled for the end



President of the Council of East and Central African Football Associations (CECAFA), Wallace Karia, speaks during a press briefing in Dar es Salaam on Friday. Photo: Agencies

of this year and aim to foster competitive football across various age groups and categories within the region.

He expressed gratitude to this season's sponsors, including President Dr. Samia Suluhu Hassan of Tanzania, and President Paul Kagame of Rwanda. Their support has contributed to the competitiveness and success of the tournament.

CECAFA executive director John Auka Gecheo also addressed the media, expressing appreciation for their coverage and urging continued support for football in the CECAFA region.

The expansion plans for the Kagame Cup reflect CECAFA's commitment to enhancing the profile and competitiveness of football in East and Central Africa.

By attracting more sponsors and ensuring the tournament is prominently featured in national calendars, CECAFA

hopes to provide a robust platform for teams in the region to hone their skills and achieve greater success on the international stage.

The Kagame Cup, named after Rwandan President Paul Kagame, who has been a key sponsor, has long been a prestigious tournament in the region. This initiative to amplify its scale and reach is expected to bring more excitement and opportunities for both players and fans.

With the support of regional football associations, governments, and corporate sponsors, CECAFA aims to create a thriving football ecosystem that can compete with other major football regions in Africa.

The upcoming competitions and the planned enhancements for the Kagame Cup are steps towards this vision, promising a bright future for football in East and Central Africa.

Rangnick was right about Man Utd problems - Ten Hag

LONDON

MANCHESTER United manager Erik ten Hag says former interim boss Ralf Rangnick was "absolutely right" about the club needing "open-heart" surgery.

Ten Hag, 54, was appointed manager in 2022 after Rangnick's seven months in charge.

The German, now in charge of Austria, guided United to sixth in the Premier League but won just 11 of his 29 matches.

Rangnick concluded that the club required "open-heart" surgery and their troubles could not be solved through "minor changes".

Ten Hag, who signed a one-year contract extension this month, says Rangnick's analysis was correct.

"Rangnick was absolutely right," Ten Hag said in an interview with Dutch newspaper AD Sportwereld.

"We have been working very hard on this for two years, but he said it exactly right: it is a thorough, very complex operation. And I knew when I started that it was going to be a tough job."

United have undergone major changes off the pitch since Sir Jim Ratcliffe acquired a 27.7% stake in the club last December.

Omar Berrada, Dan Ashworth, Jason Wilcox and Christopher Vivell have all joined in positions at board level this year, while the

club have committed £50m to improving the training ground.

Forward Joshua Zirkzee and defender Leny Yoro have joined from Bologna and Lille respectively in the past week, while Ten Hag has confirmed interest in Bayern Munich and Netherlands centre-back Matthijs de Ligt.

"It remains to be seen whether De Ligt will come," said Ten Hag.

"Of course I know Matthijs well, I'm not going to deny that. I wanted to sign him two years ago, but he had already gone a long way with Bayern Munich."

Despite working with De Ligt at former club Ajax, Ten Hag says it was United's scouting department that suggested the centre-back as a transfer target.

Ten Hag also confirmed that forward Jadon Sancho, who last appeared for the club in August 2023 and spent the second half of last season on loan at Dortmund after falling out with the manager, is available again for selection.

"Everyone can make a mistake," said Ten Hag.

Sancho and Yoro both started as goals from Amad Diallo and Joe Hugill saw United beat Rangers 2-0 at Murrayfield in a friendly on Saturday.

"The standard was much better, we were much more on the front foot," Ten Hag told MUTV. "It was enjoyable to watch."

BBC

Lionel Messi's slow limp shows his return from Copa America injury might be far off

FORT LAUDERDALE, Fla.

LIONEL Messi smiled and waved to adoring fans during a celebration Saturday before Inter Miami's 2-1 win over Chicago Fire FC to honor his latest Copa America title.

Messi stood near Inter Miami co-owner Jorge Mas as a video filled with highlights from his illustrious career was shown inside Chase Stadium. They stood on a custom mat, with "Lionel Messi 45 titles," covering the center circle of the pitch.

"Tonight, we celebrate a great milestone of our captain Leo Messi in becoming the footballer who has lifted the most trophies in the history of this sport," Mas said.

"And I am sure he won't stop at 45. We hope he can lift many more in the future."

No player has won more titles for club and country.

No player has celebrated more success in the sport's history.

However, this celebration was brief and somber. And the quest to Messi's 46th title is on standby.

Messi slowly limped to and from midfield, wearing a walking boot on his injured right ankle. He wasn't inclined to say a few words, allowing his smiles and waves to speak for him.

Every step he took was a reminder of the awkward play that caused his right ankle to twist inside, swelling to the size of a softball, as he wept on Argentina's bench in the second half of the Copa America final before victory.

It was also a telling barometer of just how soon Messi will return from injury: It might not be soon at all.

Messi's ankle will be evaluated on a week-to-week basis, Inter Miami coach Tata Martino said earlier this week.

Martino was mum about Messi's status after the game, including his potential to miss the MLS All-Star game this week.

The way Messi walked showed it could be a month-to-month affair.

The bad news: Leagues Cup begins next Saturday, and Messi will likely be unavailable to help Inter Miami defend its title (the 44th of his career).

The tournament is a five-week dash with a final set for Aug. 25. It might not be enough recovery time for Messi to make his return.

The good news: Inter Miami is in tremendous shape for the rest of the MLS season, and a playoff run where home-field advantage and less travel for Messi could also play its parts.

Inter Miami has won six of seven matches without Messi since Copa America began, adding another on Saturday thanks to goals by Matias Rojas in the sixth minute and Jordi Alba in the 75th minute in a 2-1 win over Chicago.

"We tried to put together a team where we could hide the absences, especially Leo's absence," Martino said of squad. "And well, I think, in that sense, the guys who had to take charge have given very good (performances)."

Inter Miami has 53 points after the Chicago match, and a first-place lead in the MLS Eastern Conference strengthened with two wins and two losses by second-place Cincinnati this week.

If Inter Miami failed to gain another point, they likely could still qualify for the MLS playoffs.

The 50-point threshold alone would be good for at least a Top 7 seed in each of the last three seasons, and MLS playoffs welcome nine teams from each conference into the postseason.

Not only has Inter Miami won without Messi, they're on prime footing to continue competing for a top playoff seed in anticipation for his return. Seeing Messi raise another trophy this year would be a sight to see.

But just seeing Messi return to action - when he's not injured, crying or limping - would be good enough for his legion of adoring fans.

USA TODAY

Marta pursues soccer gold at the Olympics while preparing to pass the torch to Brazil's youngsters

BY ANNE M. PETERSON

MARTA can't help but be a bit nostalgic heading into her last big tournament with the Brazilian national team.

But for the 38-year-old six-time world player of the year, the time has come to finally step away.

"I contributed what I supposed to give to the national team, you know? I'm feeling so comfortable to leave because when I look around me and I see really, really good players, young players, who can keep doing the work and keep representing Brazil so well," Marta said.

Marta (pictured) will be playing in her sixth Olympics in France before handing the team she captains over to the next generation.

"It's been so much of my life, since I was 14, I left home and then I just live soccer every single day," she added. "I just feel like maybe it's time to just take a little bit away from that and let the young players shine."

A tournament championship would be the perfect way to cap an international career that has spanned more than 20 years, and her teammates know it.

"I feel like every time you step on the field, playing with Marta by your side, it's such a great responsibility. She's a great player and we have to play for her now," said defender Rafaelle. "She was like my biggest idol since I was growing up. So playing with her now is such a dream for me."

Better known just by her first name, Marta Vieira da Silva has scored a record 118 goals in 183 international appearances with Brazil. In addition to her six Olympics, she has also played in six women's World Cups.

She has the record for most World Cup goals with 17, and she has 13 Olympic goals, one away from matching fellow Brazilian Cristiane's record.



Marta grew up playing street soccer with the boys in Dois Riachos, a town in eastern Brazil some 1,250 miles (2,011 kilometers) north of Rio de Janeiro. She was just 17 when she appeared at the 2003 World Cup, held in the United States.

Over time, her role has changed with Brazil. In recent years she's been more of a player coach, guiding the team's up-and-coming stars.

"Of course I bring all of the experience that I achieved in my career, like playing in big tournaments like the Olympics and the World Cup, playing against good teams, against good players," she said. "So I try to share the best of me and the best of what I live in soccer with the players to make them feel comfortable, or make them feel proud to be there."

Like, we expect the best of you. That's why you are here, so this is the goal and then do your best."

Marta is still a valuable asset on the field, and she's proven it this season with the Orlando Pride, her club team in the National Women's Soccer League. She's got five goals in 12 games this year with the Pride, who are undefeated and sit atop the league standings. Marta has played with Orlando since 2017.

"I still can read the game, like, really well," she said. "And I try to put myself in a good situation to give my best to the team. So I'm not going to compete all the time with a player that's 10, 11 years younger than me. But I may be able to put my brain to work a little faster and then read the situation and try to do my best."

AP

After Friedkin's decision, are Everton now the unbuyable football club?

By Richard Jolly

IT seemed too good to be true. Sadly for Everton, it proved too good to be true. When the Friedkin Group entered into an exclusivity agreement to buy the Merseyside club, it seemed as if owner Farhad Moshiri had fallen on his feet.

After the increasingly farcical saga of the supposed takeover by 777 Partners, with warnings rolling in from Australian airlines, American courts and foreign football clubs alike, Everton instead looked destined to be bought by someone far more credible.

Dan Friedkin has a reported worth of \$6.2bn. His ownership of AS Roma has been a qualified success. He has a range of companies, none seemingly offering cause for concern, and is well connected in Uefa.

If there are skeletons in his closet, no one had found them. Friedkin seemed the anti-777, the American owner Everton could welcome. Except that, now, he will not own Everton.

Friday's announcement that the Friedkin Group were ending their agreement with Blue Heaven Holdings, Moshiri's company, means that, for the second time in two months, Everton are searching for a new buyer. And while 777 are gone, they left a toxic legacy.

The problems created by Moshiri's disastrous attempt to sell to them remain, and unless resolved could deter any other suitors.

Because while the summer has shown that Everton remain an attractive proposition, with Sean Dyche securing their Premier League status, a new £760m stadium due to open next year and a status as perhaps the last great institutional English club available to investors, the Friedkin Group concluded that the debt Everton owed to 777 - and now contested by their successors and litigants - was unresolvable.

That may be what a period of due diligence is for, but if their lawyers and advisors determined that proceeding with the deal was too great



Dan Friedkin has pulled out of buying Everton. Agencies

a risk, it also contains the possibility that others would reach the same conclusion.

A few weeks ago, there were a host of interested parties. John Textor, the Crystal Palace co-owner, was one. Vici, a private investment fund, was another. The businessman Vatche Manoukian and his consortium made a £400m offer.

There were two groups - one involving MSP Sports Capital, the other the Everton-supporting millionaires

Andy Bell and George Downing - who were looking into bids. MSP, Bell and Downing have less direct reason to intervene now, as they were owed £160m as part of a loan Moshiri took out. Friedkin repaid that, investing £200m.

That now becomes a debt, which is secured against Everton's new ground at Bramley-Moore Dock. Friedkin is not calling it in now, so it does not present an immediate problem. Everton also owe £225m to Rights and Media Funding, also secured against the stadium. While less than ideal, that is also not an existential threat.

But 777 had loaned Everton around £200m. It is not as simple as just repaying it; not when the collapse of the empire 777 has created complications. The 777 co-founders Josh Wander and Steven Pasko were removed from the board of their football division.

The power may instead rest with A-Cap, the company who had underwritten 777's expansion but the Friedkin Group decided the loan was unresolvable now.

Leadenhall Capital launched a \$600m lawsuit against 777 in a civil court in New York in May, accusing them of fraud on a vast scale; as part of that, last month, they got an injunction putting a temporary restraining order over their assets.

Among other elements, they are contesting who assumes the debt. Should a prospective buyer want to negotiate - and as 777 had less secu-

With the many accolades Marta's earned throughout her career, one thing has eluded her: A championship trophy in a major international tournament.

Brazil's best finish at the World Cup was runner-up in 2007. Brazil won silver medals at both the 2004 and 2008 Olympics, but a gold medal has remained out of reach.

"With her saying it's her last Olympics, it just brings more responsibility to her and to us to end this tournament on a good note with this title that the national team doesn't have and she doesn't have either," Brazilian teammate Adriana said. "So it's more motivation for us to help her with this and to hopefully win."

While the Women's World Cup will be hosted by Brazil in 2027, Marta is not thinking about sticking around for another three years. But she's told the federation she'll help in any way possible.

She's wistful as she thinks about her favorite moment with the national team. The two that stick out are the 2004 Olympics, her first, when Brazil advanced to the final but fell 2-1 to the United States, and the 2007 World Cup when the Brazilians beat the Americans 4-1 in the semifinals. Marta scored twice in that match and won the tournament Golden Boot with seven goals despite Brazil dropping the title match against Germany.

"It's the passion," she said about her love for the game. "The passion that we show when we play, the passion that we see from when the people celebrate a goal. We make people happy."

"You make all the people happy and you make people dream - and it's not only about soccer - it's about what it's like to believe. Believe in yourself. Believe in your potential. So soccer gives you a lot of things like that. And for me, it's the best part."

AP

Gwiji by David Chikoko



SPORT

Marta pursues soccer gold at the Olympics while preparing to pass the torch to Brazil's youngsters

COMPREHENSIVE REPORT, PAGE 19



Simba SC line up Rwandan champions APR for 'Simba Day' celebration

By Correspondent Nassir Nchimbi

SIMBA are expected to wrap up their pre-season friendlies with a clash against Rwandan powerhouse APR on Simba Day, August 3, at the Benjamin Mkapa Stadium.

Tanzania Mainland Premier League giants Simba will be marking their 88th anniversary with the grand 15th edition of Simba Day.

The stadium, with a capacity of 60,000, is expected to be filled to the brim with passionate fans and football enthusiasts, all gathered to celebrate the illustrious club's rich history and exciting future.

Before the main event, Simba Week will kick off on July 24, featuring various social activities such as blood donation drives and contributions to those with special needs. These activities reflect the club's commitment to community service and engagement.

To celebrate the day, Simba previously lined up South African top-tier sides, Orlando Pirates and Sekhukhune United. However, Rwanda Premier League Champions APR emerged as heavy favorites this year according to reports from the club.

APR assistant coach Thierry Hitimana, a former Simba gaffer, said they have received an invitation from Simba which they consider a good offer to test their guns before facing Azam FC for the CAF Champions League preliminary stage.

"Our team officials confirmed to us that they have received an offer from Simba to play against them on Simba Day, an invitation we wouldn't pass on and we look forward to that day. It will give us a good test of our preparations for the CAF Champions League preliminary stage.

"Playing Simba will give us a highlight of what we should expect, especially as we head for the CAF Champions League fixture against Azam FC because these are the best teams in Tanzania. We didn't play against either of those teams at Kagame Cup, so to play Simba before the season begins will be a major bonus," said Hitimana.

According to reports from Simba, the club views APR as a good team to play against on Simba Day to give the team a championship taste before playing their semi-final match against Young Africans for the Community Shield mini-tournament slated on August 8 at the Benjamin Mkapa Stadium.

Simba are currently in Ismailia, Egypt, where they will play various friendlies, including two this week after playing an indoor friendly last week. They aim to make amends and retain trophies after poor seasons in recent years.

The past three seasons have been challenging for Simba. Last season, the club was eliminated at the quarter-final stage of the CAF Champions League by Al Ahly. In the domestic league, they finished third in the Mainland Premier League and were knocked out of the Federation Cup by Mashujaa FC.

Despite these setbacks, the club is optimistic about the upcoming season. The comprehensive preparations and new signings are expected to bolster the team as they strive to reclaim their dominance in Tanzanian football and make a deeper run in continental competitions.

Simba Day has become a significant event for the club, not only for introducing new players but also for fostering a sense of unity and excitement among fans. The week-long celebrations leading up to the main event will further strengthen the bond between the club and its supporters.

As Simba gear up for the new season, fans eagerly await the announcements and festivities planned for Simba Week and Simba Day. The club's commitment to community service and engagement, combined with their efforts to strengthen the squad, promises an exciting and hopeful future for Simba.

Tanzania's AFCON 2025 qualifying dates confirmed

By Guardian Correspondent

THE dates of Tanzania's African qualifiers for CAF Africa Cup of Nations Morocco 2025 Qualifiers have been confirmed, with all six games taking place between September and November 2024.

Taifa Stars were drawn out alongside DR Congo, Guinea and Ethiopia in their group at a draw held early this month in South Africa.

The released fixture will see Taifa Stars start at home and also finish at home.

They will kick-off their campaign with a home game against Ethiopia on Monday, September 2, before making the trip to Guinea four days later.

October sees a home and away double against neighbours DR Congo. Tanzania and DR Congo were in the same group in the last AFCON early this year and they are also pooled together in the 2026 World Cup Qualifiers.

First, Hemed Morocco and his men face DR Congo away on October 11 followed by the reverse fixture in Dar four days later.

They will wrap up the qualifiers in November.

Tanzania will travel to face the Walia of Ethiopia on November 11 before sealing their group stage campaign with a home assignment against Guinea four days later.

Tanzania will be looking to make back-to-back AFCON finals appearances for the first time in their history having qualified for the last tournament held in Ivory Coast.

The CAF Africa Cup of Nations 2025 will kick off on December 21, 2025, and conclude with the final a month later on January 18, 2026 - less than five months before the start of the 2026 FIFA World Cup in USA, Canada and Mexico.

That means the tournament is scheduled to begin just a year after the qualification stage ends.

Morocco will host the CAF Africa Cup of Nations 2025, with the country staging the tournament for the second time in its history and the first since 1988.

Venues across six cities including Casablanca, Rabat and Marrakech, will play host to games.

Guinea was originally set as hosts for this edition of the tournament, but had its hosting rights stripped after affirming its inadequacy of hosting preparations.

Coach Gamondi proud of Yanga's 'decent' display against Augsburg



Young Africans and FC Augsburg players pictured in a group photo during their friendly match at Mbombela Stadium in Mpumalanga Province, South Africa on Saturday afternoon. Photo: Courtesy of FC Augsburg

By Correspondent Michael Mwebe

YOUNG Africans head coach Miguel Gamondi expressed satisfaction with his team's performance despite their 2-1 defeat to FC Augsburg in a pre-season friendly at Mbombela Stadium in Mpumalanga Province, South Africa, on Saturday afternoon.

The match saw debuts for new arrivals Aziz Andabwile, Duke Abuya, Clatous Chama, Prince Dube, and Chadrak Boka, and featured the first goal for Jean Baleke.

Left-back Mads Pedersen opened the scoring for the Bundesliga side just before halftime with a precise left-footed shot into the corner, following excellent setup play by Elvis Rexhbecaj.

Nine minutes before stoppage time, Phillip Tietz extended Augsburg's lead to 2-0 with an assist from Masaya Okugawa.

Young Africans responded three

minutes later with Baleke's powerful header. Fielding a strong starting lineup that included Bundesliga regulars, Augsburg dominated the early stages of the match, creating several opportunities as early as the fourth minute through Rexhbecaj.

Steve Mounié's header was cleared off the line in the 14th minute, and Rexhbecaj narrowly missed after a well-coordinated play with Arne Engels.

Despite having less possession, Young Africans managed to create two significant chances before halftime. They first struck the crossbar with a deflected shot from Maxi Nzegeli, and Augsburg goalkeeper Daniel Klein made a crucial save to deny Stephane Azizi Ki's long-range effort in the 33rd minute.

At halftime, Gamondi made three substitutions, while Augsburg coach Jess Thorup changed all eleven players to give his squad ample playing time.

Speaking to Yanga TV, Gamondi said: "I congratulate my players because we arrived in a not-so-good position to play a game at this level against a team who play in Bundes-

liga, but they put a lot of effort into the tactical and physical sides even if they were not ready to play.

"I am very happy and proud. We showed that the gap between European and African football is not as big as before. Let me say something; maybe it was easy for me to park the bus, put five defenders, three central midfielders, and try to waste time, but we went toe-to-toe with them.

"In the first half, we played against their ideal starting eleven. They created maybe three or four chances, especially from corners, and we created two or three chances as well. We should have scored in the first half.

"I think we dominated the second half. We created more chances and played very well. We started to introduce new signings, which is difficult for them to adapt to a new system, but I am really grateful for what they have shown."

Gamondi's positive outlook and focus on development signal a promising direction for Young Africans as they continue their pre-season preparations.

Coach Davids discusses preseason progress and goals

By Correspondent Michael Mwebe

SIMBA are in Egypt for their preseason training camp, preparing for the 2024/25 season under the guidance of head coach Fadlu Davids.

As the team enters the second week of their rigorous training regimen, Coach Davids has shared insights into the progress, expectations, and objectives for the preseason.

In an interview with the club's official media channel, Davids (pictured) elaborated on the developments he has witnessed during the training camp, emphasizing the importance of tailored fitness plans and strategic integration of new players.

"We are in week two of preseason, coming towards the end. We are about to prepare for our first match. We played an internal match at the end of week one which gave us a good impression of the squad. Very good squad, there is competition in every department," Davids stated. Davids highlighted the necessity of balancing fitness levels among players, considering their varied offseason breaks. He outlined the approach to individualizing training plans to meet the team's periodization objectives.

"We have to balance a few areas by getting the base level of zero point in the periodization plan of the fitness each player had. And then create an individual plan for the players in relation to the periodization plan. Some

of them had four-week breaks, some had six-week breaks, and then we have to tailor each individual plan. We have the team's plan and individual plans," he explained.

Discussing the tactical aspects, Davids emphasized the team's aspiration to play a high-intensity style of football. He noted the importance of players' ability to maintain their actions and the strategic integration of the playing style from the onset.

"In terms of football, we want to play a high-intensity style, so are they able to maintain their actions, how much space do they need between each action, and of course integrating the playing style from day one. They are improving day by day."

Flexibles by David Chikoko

THE MANAGEMENT WOULD LIKE TO KNOW WHETHER YOU ARE AN ASSET OR A LIABILITY!

I CHARGE FOR INFORMATION



TONIGHT @ 9:00

EATV MONDAY

11:00 DADAZ
12:00 KIPENGA XTRA
13:00 Zote Kuntu
13:30 Kali Za Wana
13:55 Dondoo Za Michzo
14:00 SKONGA (r)
14:30 Planet Bongo (r)
15:00 Funguka
15:30 AKILI & ME
15:55 Dondoo Za Michzo
16:00 Zote Kuntu
16:55 Dondoo Za Michzo
17:00 SSELEKT
17:55 Kurasa
18:00 Kali Za Wana
18:30 #HASHTAG
19:00 EATV SAA 1
20:00 DADAZ (r)
21:00 SSPORTS
22:00 Zote Kuntu
23:00 Kurasa
23:05 EATV SAA 1 (r)

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09:00 MAMAMIA
12:00 Kipenga Xtra
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