




National Pg 3
ATCL set to review fares



National Pg 4
Firm revamps damaged road



National Pg 6
TIC registers 274 projects



TANZANIA CENSUS 23 August 2022
Prepare to be Counted



Tourism arrivals for Jan-July at new peak

By Polycarp Machira, Dodoma

THE number of tourists visiting Tanzania has been one on a sharp increase, going by trends recorded in the first half of this year.

The number stood at 742,133 for January to July, representing a 62.7 per cent rise from the corresponding period last year, where 456,266 visitors were received.

Daniel Masolwa, the director of economic statistics at the National Bureau of Statistics (NBS), said at a press conference here yesterday that 30 per cent of the arrivals had Zanzibar as their destination.

The number of tourist arrivals last month stood at 166,736 as opposed to 81,307 arrivals a year earlier, he said.

Masolwa said that Tanzania is among countries with the best natural and other attractions in the world but wide sections of the global travel market are still unaware of those attractions, crediting the surge in visitations to 'The Royal Tour' documentary featuring President Samia Suluhu Hassan.

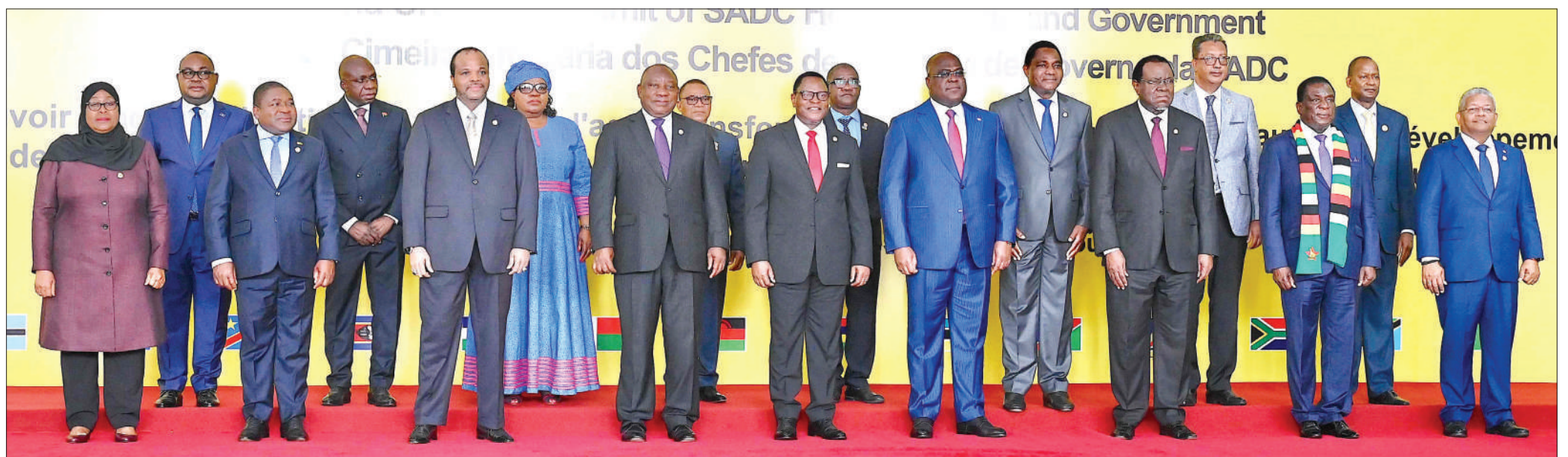
The increase makes it essential for service providers in the tourism industry to expand and improve their services and ensure they have a customer care edge, as the film has substantially raised awareness of the tourism sector in Tanzania, properly marketing the country's tourist attractions to the world.

The director said statistics on the number of tourist arrivals corroborates the impact of the film in the market, pointing at the massive rise from "key Western countries".

From January to May, the United States had the largest share of tourist arrivals with 51,301 travellers, with France bringing in 47,403 tourists. Germany (30,817), Poland (29,004) and Britain (28,275) were the other major tourism travel sources.

July arrivals were similarly led by the US

TURN TO PAGE 2



President Samia Suluhu Hassan in a group photo of Southern African Development Community (SADC) Heads of State and Government shortly before the regional economic bloc's 42nd Ordinary Summit opened in the Democratic Republic of Congo capital, Kinshasa, yesterday under the theme: 'Promoting industrialisation through agro-processing, mineral beneficiation and regional value chains for inclusive and resilient economic growth'. Photo: State House

SADC conference focusing on regional food security

By Guardian Reporter

PRESIDENT Samia Suluhu Hassan yesterday joined other Heads State and Governments at the 42nd Ordinary Southern African Development Community (SADC) summit, where they agreed to build synergies for food security in the sub-region.

The two-day summit was held in the Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC) capital, Kinshasa.

It deliberated on ways to promote industrialisation through agro-processing, mineral beneficiation and regional value chains for inclusive and resilient economic growth, which constituted its theme.

Zambian President Hakainde Hichilema said the conference sat to discuss various opportunities beneficial to the 16 SADC member states in the industrial, minerals and agro-processing sectors.

"Africa is facing challenges of food insecurity tied to the ongoing Russia-Ukraine war and other factors in our continent," he said, pointing at food security as key to keeping people safe from other threats to life.

Hichilema said SADC member states need to prioritise



We should also prioritize strengthening systems to attract more investments, this includes addressing challenges that face key sectors such as energy and other areas

processing and value addition for agricultural products, invest in less costly or renewable energy as well as adopt electric vehicles to keep up with challenges in technological transformation.

"It is important to invest in human resources, education, health and nutrition, he noted, underlining the crucial need for SADC member states to ensure the provision of free education from primary to university level.

Summit host President Félix Tshisekedi said measures agreed at the meeting would help stimulate economic growth in the region, while SADC executive secretary Elias Magosi said that regional economic bloc was a strong union uplifting prospects of development for the region.

"It is high time we used various tools and platforms to allow regional integration as well as industrial growth, to enhance cooperation and to define our strategies so as to move forward," he declared.

"Our major role is to continue ensuring that we achieve development goals, peace and security while enhancing the quality of life in Southern Africa, support the socially disadvantaged, built on democratic principles and equality," he

TURN TO PAGE 2

EABC: Market East Africa as single investment destination

By Guardian Reporter

STAKEHOLDERS in the East African Business Council (EABC) want state authorities in each of the EAC partner states to market East Africa as a single investment destination.

EABC chairperson Angelina Ngalula made this appeal at a press conference on Tuesday on a familiarisation tour of the council secretariat in Arusha yesterday, urging the various countries to showcase their potential while reinforcing the bloc's comparative endowments and competitive advantage.

The EAC bloc has abundant resources with unique features from the coastline to mountain gorillas, an opportunity for

East African firms to offer regional tourism packages, she stated.

She affirmed the EABC commitment to champion regional ideas and solutions to unlock opportunities to attract investments into the EAC bloc, focusing on improving the quality and competitiveness of the bloc's products and services.

"This is a top priority," she said, underlining the need to reposition East African business in the new environment, to seize opportunities availed by the 1.3bn consumer market in the African Continental Free Trade Area (AfCTA).

Other priorities are improving the performance of EAC transport corridors and eliminating persistent non-tariff barriers, she stated.

EABC in partnership with Equity Bank was bent on supporting small and medium enterprises (SMEs) in manufacturing and agriculture, she said, highlighting challenges of youth and women inclusion.

The issue is to enable them access affordable financing in order to grow their businesses and improve resilience amid the global dynamics of COVID-19 and the raging conflict in Eastern Europe. Equity Bank put up \$6m funding into this initiative, she

TURN TO PAGE 2



VP roots for southern circuit roads, airstrips

By Guardian Reporter

VICE President Dr Philip Mpango (pictured) yesterday laid emphasis on the need to improve infrastructure in the southern circuit tourism attractions, especially building roads and airstrips in the various national parks.

Addressing a public meeting at the Mikumi National Park to hand over 44 trucks priced at 14.77bn/- to the Tanzania National Parks (TANAPA), the VP said efforts are directed to promoting tourist attractions in the southern



The region was engaged in tourism promotion like liaising with tourism stakeholders to provide accommodation facilities in the parks

circuit.

The trucks were purchased as part of the Resilient Natural Resource Management for Tourism and Growth (REGROW) project, a World Bank financed project seeking to strengthen the management of protected areas and promote nature-based tourism in the southern circuit.

The project, if properly implemented, would enhance economic opportunities, creating more than 40,000 jobs in the southern circuit zone, encourage farmers to practice modern agriculture and stimulate crop processing, he stated.

Underlining that the project has vast potential to contribute to economic growth, he asked the Ministry of Natural Resources and Tourism and tourism stakeholders to enhance creativity in promoting tourist attractions.

They need strategies to increase tourist attractions and promote them accordingly, while the private sector and public service providers can take advantage of the enhanced tourism arrivals to build hotels in the various national parks.

He urged cooperation between ministries responsible for Lands, Tourism and Regional Administration to ensure that land meant for wild animal passages are not turned into surveyed plots meant for farms, projects and residential areas.

He raised concerns over an increase in complaints about people being given farms and plots on wildlife corridors thus causing

TURN TO PAGE 2



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Drought: Manyara ranch embarks on measures to reduce livestock

By Correspondent Friday Simbaya, Monduli

THE Manyara ranch within Kwakuchinja wildlife migration corridor has embarked on measures to reduce the number of livestock following the on-going drought in the northern part of the country.

The measures which include selling some of its livestock is meant to ensure enough wildlife pastures since the ranch is a conservancy where domesticated and wild animals mix together for pastures.

Speaking to journalists from the Journalists' Environmental Association of Tanzania (JET) Manyara ranch manager, Fidelis Ole Kashe said the cattle are being sold through an auction whereas beneficiaries include people from surrounding villages.

"We had 980 cattle but we have remained with 740 and we continue to reduce them. We aim to provide pastures for wild animals such as elephants and buffaloes so that they don't invade residential areas, thus reducing the human-wildlife conflicts," said Ole Kashe.

He said that in a recent auction they sold more than 80 cattle to the villagers surrounding the ranch including those from the Olkukai village.

However, incidences of elephant poaching have decreased following transformations of the Manyara ranch into a conservancy under African Wildlife Foundation (AWF).

Manyara Conservancy is the first project that combines habitat conservation with tourism for purposes of improving the welfare of local communities, mostly the Maasai people.

The cattle are managed under the 'Livestock for Livelihoods' project supported by United States Agency for International Development (USAID) in partnership with AWF and the government.

The initiative cattle are kept in the special bomas at night to protect them from predators like lions, wild dogs and other big cats.

Ole Kashe said the special project helps to maintain an important wildlife migration corridor between Tarangire National Park and Lake Manyara National Park.

He said Manyara ranch and the conservancy provides an essential lifeline for animals moving to and from the Lake Manyara National Park-Tarangire ecosystem.

Manyara ranch conservancy, previously owned by the government, was established by AWF in 2001 to address threats of degradation and habitat fragmentation.

Chairman of Olkukai village in Esilalei Ward, Makuyuni Division in Monduli District, Ruddo Tirishe commended the ranch for coming up with a cattle reduction plan which also benefits villagers as they have access to the best livestock.

"Presence of the ranch in our area is beneficial because villagers have access to the best cattle breeds which enables them to produce best products such as meat and milk," said Tirishe.

He said that due to the impact of climate change, most of the areas received few rains hence the shortage of animal pastures. He said villagers are forced to graze their livestock in some areas in Simanjiro District in Manyara Region.

He added: "Villagers are now getting modern cattle breeds as well as the best bulls from the ranch that helps us to get the best calves when mixed with local cattle breeds."

"We experience drought every year, but this year the situation is becoming more serious as some of our livestock have died over lack of water and pastures," he said.

The Maasai steppe is an important ecosystem in north-eastern Tanzania that covers approximately 40,000 square kilometres (15,444 square miles).

JET Executive Director, John Chikomo said a three-day journalist's field visit is part of the USAID Tuhifadhii Maliasili activity to ensure continuity, on-going networking, and sustained engagement with topical issues in wildlife corridors, marine, forest and biodiversity conservation.

The field visit serves as a learning and exchange of ideas and information and was organized around the Kwakuchinja corridor.

Chikomo said the objective of the visit was to equip journalists with sufficient knowledge about corridor conservation issues particularly those pertaining to wildlife connectivity, marine and forest conservation, trafficking and poaching, and the promotion of wildlife conservation and tourism.

He said the media have a significant role to play in fostering national development by reporting objectively stories of public interest and by holding those with power accountable.



Prime Minister Kassim Majaliwa presents an award to Stanbic Bank Tanzania Ltd chief executive Kevin Wingfield in Dar es Salaam on Monday in recognition of the role the bank has been playing in sensitising the public on the importance of the national Population and Housing Census scheduled for August 23. Photo: Guardian Correspondent

VP roots for southern circuit roads, airstrips SADC conference focusing on regional food security

FROM PAGE 1

land disputes and huge losses.

The VP directed RCs in the zone, TANAPA and Tanzania Wildlife Research Institute (TAWIRI) to act on anyone grazing livestock in protected areas or reserve forests.

Dr Pindi Chana, the Natural Resources and Tourism minister, said the REGROW project is being implemented in 61 villages in the vicinity of reserves in uplifting the conservation of natural resources.

Villagers are expected to improve their welfare and contribute to economic growth, she said, noting that village youths will be sponsored to undergo training at the local chapter of the Vocational Education and Training Authority (VETA), the National Tourism College (NCT), the Beekeeping Training Institute (BTI) in

Tabora, the Pasiansi Wildlife Training Institute (PWTI) in Mwanza and higher education learning institutions such as the Sokoine University of Agriculture (SUA) in Morogoro and the University of Dar es Salaam.

Earlier, Morogoro RC Fatma Mwasa asked that the relevant authorities restore a plan to build a road passing outside the Mikumi National Park to reduce the rate of vehicles-animals accidents.

The road facility stands to cut the waste generated by road users in the reserved areas, plus erecting a gate-cum-road block to control speeding drivers.

The region was engaged in tourism promotion like liaising with tourism stakeholders to provide accommodation facilities in the parks, she added.

FROM PAGE 1

added.

He called upon SADC member states to enhance efforts to address gender-based violence, which he said continues to affect the society by victimizing and dispiriting women, hampering the best they can add to care and social growth.

On food security, the heads of state and government were impressed with the shift from seven per cent level to 34 per cent but insisted on furthering efforts to improve food availability.

"We should also prioritise strengthening systems to attract more investments, this including addressing the challenges facing key sectors such as energy and other areas," Magosi asserted.

He noted that the SADC region was faced with challenges in the

infrastructure, production activities, the business and investment environment along with the quality of human resources.

The summit was preceded by meetings of SADC senior officials and the council of ministers, who prepared its agenda, as the council oversees the functions of the secretariat.

The council brings together ministers from the member states, either from Foreign Affairs or Treasury, while the summit is held every year, grouping all the 16 SADC member states.

These are Angola, Botswana, Comoros, Democratic Republic of Congo, Eswatini, Lesotho, Madagascar, Malawi, Mauritius, Mozambique, Namibia, Seychelles, South Africa, Tanzania, Zambia and Zimbabwe, with heads of continental and regional bodies invited as observers.



Prof Joyce Ndalichako (L), Minister of State in the Prime Minister's Office (Labour, Employment, Youth and People with Disabilities), has a feel of tea leaves ready for initial processing at Mponde Tea Plant at Bumbuli in Lushoto District on Tuesday. She was on an inspection visit during which she made a follow-up on the rehabilitation of machinery, confirming that the work was 95 per cent complete and the plant would resume production at the end of next month. The plant is owned jointly by the Workers Compensation Fund (WCF) and the Public Service Social Security Fund (PSSSF). Looking on (R) is WCF director general Dr John Mduma. Photo: Guardian Correspondent

By Guardian Correspondent, Mwanza

SOME residents of Mwanza city have thanked the government for building a new bus station at Nyamhongolo in Ilemela District and advised it to make sure the project should not be a burden within the community.

Michael Ndaki, a resident of Mwanza said the environment at the bus station was excellent and security thereon has been boosted, but they fear for the structure becoming a white elephant and great subject of complaints from the public.

"After being built, such kinds of

New bus station should not become white elephant - Mwanza residents

projects become neglected because of lack of people doing business due to monopoly by unfaithful public officials hence at the end of the day the buildings lack business activity due to high rent cost, and this has happened in many other regions," he said.

For his part, Ilemela Municipal director, Modest Apolinary said they

think of allocating an area for small traders (wamachinga) to energize business at the bus station for their own and government's income.

He added that they are making sure the bus station's infrastructures will be refurbished from time to time to last long as the government has invested a lot of money in the project.

"We are assuring anyone who likes

to conduct business at the bus station to come forward, we have boosted security. In addition, there is a hotel for those needing rooms," Apolinary added.

Construction work on the bus station started July 30 2019 and was expected to take 19 months to complete, but due Covid-19 pandemic and rains, the time was extended by 134 days.

Tourism arrivals for Jan-July at new peak

FROM PAGE 1

(17,135), France (12,634), Britain (8,586), Germany (8,015) and the Netherlands (5,102).

African countries brought in substantial tourist and business travel arrivals from January to July, led by Kenya (86,220), Burundi (54,877), Malawi (27,079), Uganda (21,080) and South Africa (20,868).

Tourist arrivals from African countries in July had a similar pattern with Kenya at 16,654, Burundi (7,966), Malawi (5,113), South Africa (4,335) and Rwanda (4,035).

Masolwa described the tourism industry as a major source of foreign currency for Tanzania anchoring a substantial portion of jobs created and thus a pivot to economic growth.

EABC: Market East Africa as single investment destination

FROM PAGE 1

stated.

Expressing solid appreciation for EAC Heads of State for intense commitment and goodwill to improving the business environment and boost intra-EAC trade, she pointed at changes at the Gatuna/Katuna customs office at Uganda/Rwanda border, admission of the Democratic Republic of Congo and ratification of the AfCFTA protocol, among others.

She was similarly upbeat on the move by President Samia Suluhu

Hassan and Uganda's President Yoweri Museveni for liberalising trade in sugar and rice.

EABC CEO John Kalisa said that EABC is a core partner of the EAC regional integration agenda as outlined in Article 127 of the Treaty, urging partner state governments to liberalize EAC airspace to reduce the cost of tickets and cargo freight.

EABC is devoted to driving the public-private dialogue and partnerships to build productive capacities, regional value chains and economic growth in EAC, he added.



A grader repairs 3.6 Kilometers road linking Nyamongo and Kwanja townships in Tarime District in Mara Region. The project is being funded by Barrick Mining company. Photo: Guardian Correspondent

Govt calls for review of ticket fares for routes

By Guardian Reporter

Atupele Mwakibete, Deputy Minister for Works and Transport has called upon the Air Tanzania Company Limited (ATCL) to review prices of tickets for local routes to allow more people to travel with the airline.

Speaking after touring Mpanda Airport the deputy minister said the high cost of tickets makes many people fail to travel with the airline.

"The figures which I have received here show an increment of passengers but am told passengers are discouraged by the prices of tickets, it will be good for ATCLA to take a look at the prices," he said.

He said the government has taken note of the complaints about the passenger building saying that the government will look for other means to make the building enough.

The deputy minister Mwakibete called upon the Tanzania National Roads Agency (TANROADS) and the Tanzania Airport Authority (TAA) to inspect the landing site to control

people who invade the airport. The District Commissioner for Mpanda Jamila Yusufu hailed the government for the improvement in reviving ATCL which has included allowing the company to travel to Mpanda four times a week.

The official said the move to allow ATCL to fly Mpanda four times has allowed businesses to flourish in the region and neighboring regions.

The TAA manager for Mpanda Jeff said the airport was standard in line with international requirements to ensure all the services are of high quality.

ATCL manager for Mpanda Saehe said despite the challenges including lack of a fueling place in the district, the company will continue to offer services as required by customers.

"The figures which I have received here show an increment of passengers but am told passengers are discouraged by the prices of tickets, it will be good for ATCLA to take a look at the prices"

TFRA implements programme to provide subsidised fertiliser

By Guardian Correspondent, Rungwe

TANZANIA Fertiliser Regulatory Authority (TFRA) has begun implementing the government programme to provide subsidised fertiliser to farmers aimed at boosting crop production and increasing their income.

This was revealed by TFRA Acting Manager for Southern Highlands Zone, Michael Sanga on Tuesday as he launched the programme at Sogeza Village, Isongole Ward in Rungwe

District.

He said fertiliser dealers have been lined up to distribute the subsidized fertilisers to farmers and that they will make sure the farming season starts when all fertiliser reaches all parts of the country.

She said they made an inspection and found out that dealers have already started importing the farm input and that they have already been provided with its indicative price for it.

"Our dealers are well mobilised, in warehouses there is enough fertiliser

for farmers to meet the government's target in alleviating their financial burdens to purchase the fertiliser," he said.

He added that farmers used to experience hardships when buying the fertiliser at high prices due to lack of government's subsidy.

Sanga noted that each type of the fertiliser to be sold from now on will be at subsidized price.

"The only thing now is for farmers to register themselves to be part of beneficiaries of the programme, as no

farmer will be able to buy subsidized fertiliser without being registered," he said.

Some farmers in Rungwe District thanked the government for initiating the plan as it will assist them in reducing their farming costs.

One of the farmers, Msafiri Sumbo, growing potatoes and maize in Iwili Village said many farmers had begun to despair due to high fertiliser prices.

He said in the last season profit from farming dropped because many farmers were unable to afford fertiliser

prices.



Another farmer, Haruna Obeza, growing potatoes praised President Samia Suluhu Hassan for coming up with the programme, adding that this shows how the government was now caring for farmers.

On August 8 this year, President Samia launched the subsidized fertiliser programme at the Nanenane Agricultural Exhibition held at national level in Mbeya and directed that the programme should start August 15.

DAR ES SALAAM SECONDARY EDUCATION SOCIETY

Notice is hereby given that the Annual General Meeting of the Society will be held on Saturday, 27th August, 2022 at 11:00 a.m at Shaaban Robert Secondary School.

HON. SECRETARY

BESIX BALLAST NEDAM (BBN) LIMITED JOB ADVERTISEMENT - COMMUNITY LIAISON OFFICER

BESIX Ballast Nedam (BBN) Limited, the CONTRACTOR for the Engineering, procurement and Construction of the Jetty and Load Out Facilities in the Tanga Bay for the East African Crude Oil Pipeline (EACOP) Project, invites application for **Community Liaison Officer (CLO) vacancy**.

Project	EACOP - Jetty & Loading Out Facility (Jetty & LOF) Construction
Employer	Besix Ballast Nedam Limited (BBN)
Work Location	Chongoleani Peninsula - Tanga
Position Title	Community Liaison Officer (CLO)
Reports To:	BBN Social Leader
Employment Duration	October 2022 to October 2023 (1 year)
Job Type	Full Time
Work Rotation	To be confirmed
Number of Candidates	To be confirmed
Working Days/ Hours	6 days per week (to be complied with relevant regulations)

Purpose and scope of assignment.
The Community Liaison Officer is responsible for implementation of key aspects of the BBN Stakeholder Engagement Plan and is the primary interface with communities most closely located to BBN activities. The CLO reports to the BBN Social Lead. The CLO maintains an ongoing interface with the BBN Site Construction Manager on all community related issues arising from the BBN work activities. The CLO represents and supports BBN engagements with communities and local government authorities; communicate BBN's upcoming construction activities and awareness of how and when these activities will occur and how they will be managed. The CLO is responsible for recording and reporting Project-related grievances raised by community members.

The CLO position is a full-time site-based position and will be accommodated in Tanga Town.

Job responsibilities


- Develop understanding of District, Ward, Village and Hamlet level stakeholders and how they may be affected by BBN activities.
- Keep BBN updated on community issues, feedback and highlight potential community related risks to BBN for action.
- Record and report community questions and Project-related concerns and participate in preparing and providing timely responses.
- Implement EACOP Project Grievance Mechanism and coordinate with the EACOP to resolve grievance related to BBN activities.
- Maintain detailed records of all stakeholder engagement supporting information, including minutes of meetings, attendance registers, photos, and written records; and maintain a database of all hard/soft copies for sharing with EACOP.
- Maintain a register of, and record all stakeholder concerns, issues and any other stakeholder feedback relating to BBN construction activities for action with BBN Social Lead.
- Produce daily, weekly, and monthly construction stakeholder engagement inputs and reports as required.
- Support BBN construction activities and engagement activities as needed by BBN Social Lead and BBN Construction Manager.

Job Qualification, Experience and Skills
Applicants should demonstrate the following:

- Tanzanian citizen with a Bachelor's degree in social science, sociology, environmental science, Public Relations, communications or other relevant discipline.
- Excellent knowledge of both written and spoken English & Swahili is required
- At least 5 years of professional experience conducting stakeholder engagement in rural communities.
- At least 3 years of construction related experience preferred.
- Clear record with no history of imprisonment or engagement in criminal / gang related activities
- Experience in conducting engagement activities with authorities including associated protocols.
- High level of interpersonal skills with a proven ability to develop and maintain good relations, in a wide range, with stakeholders including a high level of discretion. Diplomacy and ability to Manage conflict and gain consensus, required
- High degree of organization and ability to organize team task and objectives is essential
- Proven ability to work independently, advance required tasks and meeting deadline is essential
- Excellent report writing and analytical skills required, proven attention to essential detail
- Proven computer skills, including MS Access, MS Excel, MS Word, MS PowerPoint, MS teams and experience in using data management software preferred

Apply to:
All applications should be sent by email to procurement@bbnjv.com (Max. Email & attachment size: 20 MBs) on or before 1st September 2022, 6PM Tanzanian Time.

PLEASE NOTE, if you are not contacted within 2 weeks after this publication, consider your application unsuccessful.



EAST AFRICAN CRUDE OIL PIPELINE

READVERTISEMENT: REQUEST FOR EXPRESSION OF INTEREST: DESIGN AND IMPLEMENTATION OF SOCIAL INVESTMENT PROGRAMME FOR VULNERABLE ETHNIC GROUPS SELF IDENTIFYING AS INDIGENOUS PEOPLES FOR EACOP REFERENCE NO. 10007446

EACOP Ltd, invites experienced and reputable organizations (Companies or NGOs) to express their interest in designing and implementation social investment programme for Vulnerable Ethnic Groups Self-identifying as Indigenous Peoples that are impacted by the EACOP Project.

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

BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE SCOPE OF THE SERVICES

EACOP is seeking the services of a suitably experienced organization (Companies or NGOs may respond to this EOI) to design and implement social investment and capacity building programmes for around 30 communities of vulnerable ethnic groups self-identifying as indigenous peoples directly affected by the EACOP project. These communities are located in Tabora, Manyara, Dodoma and Tanga regions.

Programme design will focus on support to the traditional livelihoods (pastoralist or hunter gatherer) of these groups including but not limited to land management, livestock health and management, women's specific needs and should be designed using an integrated approach that takes consideration of conservation requirements and sustainability.

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

- Proof of experience of the design and delivery of community development programmes for vulnerable ethnic groups self-identifying as indigenous peoples.
- Proof of registration and current business license for companies or NGO registration for NGOs.
- Proof of registration with the Tanzania Revenue Authority and Tax (TRA) Clearance Certificate for the latest year available.
- Application for registration with the EWURA Local Supplier Service Provider (LSSP) database at the time of submission of the response to this expression of interest is strongly recommended.
- Compliance with Petroleum Local Content Regulations, 2017 and Local Company definition.
- Joint ventures between national and international companies or organizations are accepted.

Organizations which have the ability, capacity and resources to implement the activities listed above should express their interest by sending together with the documents stated in the above section through an email to procurement.tz@eacop.com (max. email size 20Mb) on or before 15:00 hours East African Time (EAT), on 24th August 2022. Email subject should be REFERENCE NO. 10007446.

Note: The EACOP project will review and assess the documents provided by the interested companies to derive a list of prequalified organizations (Companies or NGOs). Only prequalified companies will receive, subject to signature of a Non-Disclosure Agreement (NDA), invitation to submit bids in furtherance of the call for tender process.

All Expression of Interests should be submitted in English Language.

Majaliwa resolves three-year land dispute in Dar

By Guardian Reporter

PRIME Minister Kassim Majaliwa has resolved the three-year land dispute in the Boko-Dovya area, Kinondoni district in Dar es Salaam between Aloyce Mwasuka and Salutari Massawe.

In the dispute involving plot numbers 393, 395, and 370 in block G (Boko Dovya) located on the Mbweni road, whereby Massawe built a wall that was blocking the use of the road and thus making Mwasuka pass through her neighbor Oliver Semuguruka (plot no. 395) so that he can get to his house (plot no. 393).

Speaking to the officials of the Ministry of Lands, Housing and Human Settlements Development, the officials of the Kinondoni District in a meeting he called yesterday at his office in Dar es Salaam, the Prime Minister said he was satisfied with the action taken by the Kinondoni District Commissioner Godwin Gondwe to oversee the breaking of the wall to clear the road.

"I thank you DC Gondwe and your team for taking action since yesterday to manage the rights of the poor citizens. The right belongs to everyone. The road should be improved so that all citizens can benefit," he said.

The prime minister said that the move is in line with the instructions of President Samia Suluhu Hassan that she gave her assistants, asking them to

ensure that citizens do not experience problems in their areas.

He said: "Go and manage land issues so that government executives can also do other work to serve the people. We must make the systems manageable so that other works can continue."

DC Gondwe said that the area is classified on the urban planning map of 2002 (TP 2002) and that Massawe bought the area in 2004 and measured it in 2005 when Mwasuka bought his land in 2005 and surveyed it in 2006.

"In their survey, each of them used their own surveyor, but the coordinates show a road between them and their maps also recognize that road. Both of them should respect urban planning drawings which are mother drawings," he said.

Assistant Land Commissioner in Dar es Salaam Region, Idrissa Kayera asked PM Majaliwa that despite the fact that both maps have identified the road with a width of 12 meters, Massawe decided to build a wall on one side only to block the road and thus close the road that separates plots number 393, 395, 370, 391, 390 and 369.

Deputy Minister for Lands, Housing, and Human Settlements Development, Ridhiwan Kikwete said the ministry will continue to manage all existing conflicts and set a plan to deal with them.



Prime Minister Kassim Majaliwa talks with Lands, Housing and Human Settlements Development officials and Kinondoni District employees. His visit was aimed at a follow-up on his directive to resolve Boko-Dovya land disputes in Kinondoni District, Dar es Salaam Region yesterday. Photo: PMO

TMRC partners HFHI in effort to increase access to decent housing

By Getrude Mbago

THE Tanzania Mortgage Refinance Company (TMRC) has signed a memorandum of understanding (MoU) with Habitat for Humanity International (HFHI), in an effort aimed to expand and strengthen access to decent and affordable housing for the low income population.

The agreement's major focus is on supporting low-income Tanzanians and those working in the informal sector by facilitating them to easily purchase affordable and decent houses as well as build or upgrade their homes.

Speaking during the signing event in Dar es Salaam yesterday deputy minister for Lands, Housing and Human Settlement Development Ridhiwan Kikwete, hailed the two institutions for the huge milestone, saying that the move will see the most under-served communities in the country getting decent houses at an affordable price.

"The government commits to such initiatives which are seeking to address housing challenges especially to the low-income section of the population who have an even bigger challenge to access formal mortgage loans due to their economic capacities," he said.

He noted that Tanzania has one of the

fastest growing economies in the world, however many families still struggle to access adequate and affordable housing.

Kikwete said the MoU will enable TMRC and HFHI to cooperate in research and access to funds so as to facilitate construction of affordable decent houses for the poor.

"This partnership is targeted at supporting provision of housing microfinance loans to the low income people and communities who are unable to access the formal mortgage loans in the market.

TMRC chief executive officer, Oscar Mgaya said: "The Company believes there is tremendous potential in Tanzania's housing finance market to reach low-income families. As a wholesale lender, we are eager to build a case for housing microfinance in the country and explore how the financial institutions we invest in can tap into this market through tailored loan products."

According to him, based on the findings from the market study which will be conducted, TMRC will develop new mechanisms and structures to invest capital in banks and other financial institutions, for the purpose of lending to low-income families through new housing microfinance products.

He said under the new partnership, Habitat for Humanity's Terwilliger Center for Innovation in Shelter will provide Technical

Assistance to TMRC to build a case for Housing Microfinance in Tanzania and diversification of its offering to target the potential outside the traditional mortgage market.

Mgaya further said TMRC has implemented its role fairly well with the outstanding loan book growing to 145.2bn/- in June 2022, out of the total market mortgage portfolio of 510bn/-, implying that TMRC financed 28 percent of the market portfolio.

Maurice Makoloo, HFHI vice president, Africa said a total of \$100,000 (230m/-) has been set aside for the in-depth research which will be conducted to find out the actual needs, challenges and how and where the houses and loans should be directed.

"We share a commitment to expanding access to decent homes for all families. This new collaboration is a key step to realizing that goal in Tanzania and will be instrumental in unlocking new housing finance opportunities for low-income families."

Naeem Razwani, Interim vice president of Habitat's Terwilliger Center and senior director for housing finance systems said, "The housing microfinance sector in Tanzania is still in its nascence. It is therefore critical that our efforts to expand the market are data-driven and informed by a strong understanding of low-income families' housing needs across the country."

Mining firm embarks on refurbishing damaged road

By Guardian Correspondent, Tarime

NORTH Mara gold mining company, owned by Barrick Gold has embarked on refurbishing a damaged road stretch in Nyamongo and Kwanja areas, Tarime District, Mara Region that was a big inconvenience to residents of the area.

This refurbishment is the implementation of pledges made by Barrick Gold's President and Chief Executive Officer, Mark Bristow during his recent visit to the area during which he met with village officials who requested him to revamp the road stretch.

The damaged road stretch is 3.6km long from Kwanja Village to the Tarime road junction.

Speaking on Tuesday while witnessing workers from Stanley Contracting Company starting to level the road, the residents said the road stretch was a great inconvenience to them.

Perusi Masiaga, on behalf of fellow residents said the road stretch was also a great obstacle

to children going to school as well as a menace to vehicles as many of them used to break down while travelling on it.

He thanked Barrick Gold Company for their decision to solve the problem.

Its refurbishment will assist residents of the area in their economic activities. We thank Barrick Gold as it has proved to be a big stakeholder for the development of the area," he added.

Speaking on behalf of fellow motor vehicle drivers using the road, Samuel Wambura said for a long time the road stretch has been causing them great losses as their vehicle used to break down hence he thanked Barrick Gold for revamping it.

Community Relations Manager of the North Mara Mine, Gilbert Mworio, said the road stretch is being refurbished due to the request of officials from the area and the fact that the road was also being used by the gold mining company ferrying heavy machinery.

rikolto



CONSULTANCY

We're looking for a consultant to plan and implement our incubation program in the southern highland regions

Rikolto is an international network organisation with over 40 years of experience in partnering with food chain stakeholders in Africa, Asia, Europe and Latin America. We build bridges of trust and trade between the food industry, governments, research institutions, financial institutions and farmers' organisations around one central question: 'What will we eat tomorrow?'

Rikolto in East Africa together with its partners (INADES Formation, Agronomos Sin Fronteras, MIICO and TCCIA) secured funding for a 4-year horticultural programme in Tanzania called "Building Inclusive and Competitive Horticulture Businesses in Tanzania's Southern Highlands (BICHOB)", which aims to improve and increase market competitiveness in the fruit, vegetables and spices sector supplying both domestic and international markets. As part of this program, Rikolto plans the establishment of an incubator and adoption of a business development curriculum that will change the attitude among youth on the issues of investing in horticulture and generating the employment in the five regions of southern Tanzania.

We are currently looking for a consultant to plan and implement our incubation program in five regions of Southern Tanzania through Training, Coaching and Mentoring Approach. As such, this program will contribute to improving the performance of Tanzania's horticulture sector, the inclusion of smallholder farmers, job creation and nutrition security as the overall project objective.

The full job description is available on our website: <https://eastafrica.rikolto.org/en/node/4062>

Interested candidates can submit their CV and application letter to eastafrica@rikolto.org by August 31st, 23:59pm.

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United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women

CALL FOR PROPOSAL

The United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women (UN Women) Tanzania is pleased to announce a Call for Proposals from organizations with a track record in human rights, women's rights and gender equality to implement creative and innovative strategies, approaches, and interventions to transform gender norms, discriminatory behaviour and practices to promote women and girls' voices, meaningful participation, leadership, and economic rights at the local level (ward, village, streets, vitongoji, e.t.c) in the selected district councils of Dar es Salaam, Coast, Lindi, Mtwara, Arusha and Singida.

The organizations should have a base and previous experience in implementing projects in the respective regions. If it's a national organization that does not have experience in the respective regions, but plans to expand its projects to the WLER Project regions building on learnings from the implantation of similar projects, it should indicate previous collaboration with other human and women's rights organizations and networks including those promoting the rights of young women and women with disabilities; and duty bearers, including local government actors and community facilitators in the respective regions to deliver on the project objectives. The organizations should also demonstrate experience working with opinion makers such as community and traditional leaders, religious leaders, male gender equality and women's empowerment champions, decision-makers, and the media.

The full Call for Proposal (CFP) may be downloaded from:

<https://www.unwomen.org/en/about-us/programme-implementation/2022/08/call-for-proposals-unw-esa-tza-2022-001-transforming-gender-norms>

The Call for Proposals will be open until **31st August 2022 at 23.59 hrs (EAT) (Tanzanian Time)**.

All proposal MUST be submitted through email cfp.tanzania@unwomen.org with subject line REF: CFP No. UNW-ESA-TZA-2022- 001 on Transforming Gender norms and discriminatory behaviours and practices at local levels to promote women and girls' voices, meaningful participation, and leadership.

Only **those short listed** will be contacted for further screening and consideration.

Proposals received after the deadline will not be considered.

For more information, please email: agness.hanti@unwomen.org by **31st August 2022 at 23.59 hrs (EAT)**.

Rice sub-sector stakeholders tasked to assist farmers boost productivity

By Correspondent Valentine Oforo, Dodoma

RICE sub-sector stakeholders have been tasked to help farmers with new methods aimed at improving production and performance of the sector in the country.

Head of the Department of Agriculture, Irrigation, and Cooperatives at Mvomero District Council, Morogoro Region, Blandina Marijani made the call during her speech at the recently staged Tanzania Agricultural Research Institute (TARI)-Dakawa Agri-Expo 2022.

The official also called upon research institutions such as (TARI), the Tanzania Official Seed Certification Institute (TOSCI), and the Agricultural Seed Agency (ASA) to provide more resources and engage more farmers in the sector.

"Institutions must continue to attract more agro-input companies, crop value adders and financial institutions towards developing the sector," she said.

She said the government was working to see the rice sector in the country continue to grow in a positive trend and the involved farmers are benefiting accordingly.

"The government will continue to ensure there are enough seeds research, as well as enough agro-inputs necessary for the development of rice farming within the country," she said.

She emphasized on the importance of setting welcoming environments and policies to help attract more stakeholders from within and outside the country to help accelerate needed development in the vital economic sub-sector.

"Task you to continue maintaining the existing cooperation between you and the Ministry of Agriculture in achieving needed development in the country's rice production corridor," she said.

TARI Dakawa Manager Dr Jerome Mghase, expressed that the center- which designated for the research and promotion of rice in Tanzania- will continue standing at forefront in cooperating with different stakeholders to scale-up performance of the rice sector. "Through cooperation with partners, including the International Rice Research Institute (IRRI) we have so far managed to introduce to the market useful seed varieties, such as TARI RIC 1, TARI RIC 2, TARI RIC 3, TAXD306, KOMBOKA, SATO 1, SATO 9," he said, urged the farmers to adopt the seeds.

Tanzania leads in East Africa in rice production and the country stands at 4th position in Africa, after Nigeria, Madagascar and Ivory Coast.

During 2019/2020, the country produced 2.2 million tonnes and the focus, as per the ministry of agriculture, is to heighten the production to at least 4.4 million tonnes by 2030.

Tanzania's rice records show that at least 71 percent of rice is grown under rain fed conditions with about half of the county's rice grown by 239,000 smallholder farmers.

Rice is grown in three major ecosystems in Tanzania; rain fed lowland, upland, and irrigated systems. The area under rice increased from about 0.39 million hectares in 1995 to about 0.72 million hectares by 2010.

Production increased from about 0.62 million tonnes in 1995 to about 1.33 million tonnes of paddy rice in 2009 but dropped to 1.10 million tonnes in 2010.

VACANCY



ABOUT GEITA GOLD MINING LTD

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Position: Specialist – Underground Mine Planning
Contract type & Duration: Unspecified time contract
Department: Technical Services
Reporting to: Senior Manager – Technical Services
Number of Positions: One (01)

PURPOSE OF THE ROLE

The purpose of the role is to support, develop and train an effective local team capable of delivering industry leading practices within an underground mine environment, particularly underground mine planning activities. The primary objective of the UG Planning Specialist is to assist in the development a robust life-of-mine (LOM) plan for the Geita Gold Mine (GGM) that delivers on the strategic and business needs of the company and is consistent with Company's Vision and Values. When analyzing the mine plan, it is expected that the UG Planning Specialist will draw on a background of mining experience to not only consider the operational constraints but also the mine planning systems employed, as well as the importance of documented standards, clear processes and logical workflows across all planning horizons.

QUALIFICATIONS:

- BEng Mining / Engineering Degree or equivalent.
- GGML is an equal opportunity employer: Female candidates are highly encouraged to apply.

EXPERIENCE:

- 8 years operational experience in an Underground mine
- Experience working in an UG mine utilizing mechanized mining and long hole open stoping (Transverse and Longitudinal)
- Experience with backfill will be highly regarded
- High skill level with UG mine planning and design software

MAIN OR KEY ACCOUNTABILITIES

Training & Skills Transfer

- Provide technical and leadership mentorship to mine planning staff
- Identify and develop emerging talents within a multi-discipline team.
- Build and lead the mining planning teams and assist in the development of local mining engineers.
- Provide specialist support in key processes and systems to drive the best performance from all team members.
- Analyse and identify key skills & knowledge required by all team members in order to carry out their roles effectively and safely.

Safety & Environment

- Execute AGA Safety practices required for the task.
- Identify, understand and address safety hazards and risks related to the task.
- Support critical control champions in completing the quarterly evaluations and promoting the program
- Rectify hazards and potential risks in the immediate environment
- Participate in incident investigations and provide feedback regarding the agreed corrective actions
- Contribute to the close out of outstanding corrective actions
- Actively engage in Safety and PSI meetings
- Determine what could go wrong and what needs to be done to work safely before starting a task and help others to work safely.
- Continually look for new hazards in the workplace and report them to Supervisor.
- Demonstrate work behaviors consistent with the company Safety Vision & Values and work within prescribed boundaries.
- Promptly report all injuries, illnesses and incidents.
- Suggest ways of improving Safety performance within Mining Technical department.
- Speak up if he/she thinks that the task cannot be done safely and courage to talk to Supervisor he/she thinks of being unable to work at his/her best.
- Establish and maintain processes to ensure that all environmental risks and emerging issues are identified, and mitigation plans to put in place.

Technical / Production

- Contribute towards the development of mine planning systems at GGM, as well as the ongoing maintenance of existing systems.
- Create standards / procedures / guidelines for all tasks carried out by the planning department and ensure they are document controlled.
- Maintain and review all existing standards / procedures / guidelines for the planning department.
- Champion the adoption of improved approaches, technologies and tools
- Work closely with the Corporate Strategic Planning Group to ensure the life-of-mine plan follows the corporate strategic objectives for the business.
- Work cross-functionally with operations and planning, as well as with site and regional leadership teams to develop, implement and continually improve the long-term mine plan.
- Fully understand the operational and technical constraints for the operation, as well as how these relate to the fixed and variable mining costs and their drivers.
- Use highly developed mine design, planning and scheduling skills: in addition to demonstrating a sound knowledge of resource geology, geotechnical engineering, hydrology and ventilation; and financial analysis in order to support the above.
- Assemble the results of analyses into presentations and reports suitable for supporting decision making by senior managers that may be of substantial importance to the company. Where necessary back up this work in discussions, forums and reviews, displaying a robust understanding of the work
- Work with the Infrastructure department to ensure that utilities are considered in detail, and are scheduled and costed accordingly (ventilation, water, power, communications etc.).
- Provide input to the Corporate Strategic Planning Group, and help guide the corporate strategies for the operation, ensuring the value of the underground

orebody is maximised through operational efficiencies and consideration of innovative equipment, technology and work methods.

- Ensure the integrated plan aligns with the life-of-mine plan, with respect to achieving the corporate strategic objectives for the business
- Liaise with the Production team, to ensure that the integrated mine plan follows the objectives of the long-term plan in the 0-24-month (budget) planning horizon.
- Similarly, ensure that any significant changes that are required to be made to the integrated plan are evaluated against the long-term plan and validated prior to execution.

Cost Management & Continuous Improvement

- Support Operational Excellence initiatives, helping to drive value creation within the Mine Planning Department.
- Motivate and inspire planning engineers, creating a culture of continuous improvement.
- Actively look for improvement opportunities and participate in improvement projects.
- Implement and support OE800 initiatives.
- Identify areas for improvement in operational blueprints (systems, processes, procedures & tasks) to ensure adherence to plan, reduce variation and maximize cost effective utilization
- Interpret data to initiate and drive the operational improvements as required.
- Use cost-benefit thinking to set priorities and identify cost-effective approaches.
- Actively look for ways to manage costs without impacting on planned outcomes using the OE approach.
- Provide support in generating annual mine budget that link into ore reserve calculations.
- Generate innovative solutions, which continuously improve the performance of existing assets, products, services or processes.

ADDITIONAL REQUIREMENTS:

- Worked in highly mechanised Underground operations.
- High level of competence and experience in a range of mine software applications, including mine and financial cost models; Datamine and EPS essential.
- Broad range of leadership and technical skills relevant to large scale bulk and semi selective underground mining
- Sound understanding of the mining value and risk drivers in the business unit
- Experience in mine planning, underground drill and blast, backfill and underground mine ventilation
- Proactive work ethic with strong analytical skills
- Good oral and written communication skills, to effectively convey the implications of business evaluation and decisions
- Strong technical writing, group presentation and interpersonal skills
- Demonstrate behaviours consistent with AngloGold values.
- Proactive work ethic with strong analytical skills
- Good oral and written communication skills, to effectively convey the implications of business evaluation and decisions
- Strong technical writing, group presentation and interpersonal skills
- The ability and willingness to train and develop team members

MODE OF APPLICATION:

- Please apply through our recruitment portal by following the link below. Please click the link or type the URL address on a website browser to access the application portal.
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- You will also be required to upload a cover / application letter addressed to "Senior Manager Human Resources, Geita Gold Mining Ltd". Subject should be "Specialist – Underground Mine Planning"

Application Link:

<https://career5.successfactors.eu/sfcareer/jobreqcareer?jobid=19680&company=AGAprd>

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VACANCY



ABOUT GEITA GOLD MINING LTD

Geita Gold Mining Ltd (GGML) is Tanzania's leading gold producer with a single operation in Geita Region. The company is a subsidiary of AngloGold Ashanti, an international gold producer headquartered in South Africa, with operations in more than ten countries, in four continents. The mine is situated in the Lake Victoria Gold fields of Northwestern Tanzania, only about 85 km's from Mwanza City and 20 km's Southeast of the nearest point of Lake Victoria. The company has its head office in Geita, only 5 Km's west of the fast-growing town of Geita, and also a supporting office in Dar es Salaam. Applications are invited from ambitious, energetic and performance driven individuals to fill in vacant position(s) mentioned below:

Position: Specialist – Tele Remote Operator
Contract type & Duration: Unspecified time contract
Department: Underground Mining
Reporting to: Mine Foreman
Number of Positions: Two (2)

PURPOSE OF THE ROLE:

Specialist – Tele Remote Operator role focusses exclusively on the training and coaching of junior and new operators, ensuring they can carry out loading and dumping cycles from production stopes into allocated stockpiles using a PC remote control bogging system and the manual loading of trucks from free-bogging stopes and stockpiles. The aforementioned tasks are done in line with specific remote loading plan. The role incumbent ensures effective transfer of skills and knowledge to junior tele-remote operators following the set development plans.

QUALIFICATIONS:

- Licensed / Certified Tele Remote Operator
- Training Certificate / Experience - preferred
- RCT Level 1 training certificate of completion will be an added advantage
- A formal qualification (Diploma/certificate) in Mining Engineering will be an advantage

EXPERIENCE:

- Extensive experience (10+ years) working in a mechanized underground mining predominantly as a Tele Remote Operator / Specialist / Trainer.
- Knowledge of Underground Mining Practices, Mining Load and Haul Cycle and the efficient operations of an Underground Remote Loader equipment.
- Good Aptitude of RCT remote control systems for underground mine
- Ability to work autonomously/independently with limited supervision.
- Demonstrated abilities to work within a team environment.
- A strong focus toward safety and hazard identification.

MAIN OR KEY ACCOUNTABILITIES:

- Ensure effective transfer of skills and knowledge to junior and new tele remote operators following the set development plans.
- To train and coach new and existing tele remote operators to grow their ability to function optimally under all underground mining conditions.
- Review and modify training development plans for identified equipment trainees and provide regular feedback on their progress.
- Bog development headings and stockpiles to trucks as required and also remote bog from stopes and loading into trucks.
- Ensure remote loading from stopes to be done in line with approved and signed off remote loading level plan and not otherwise.
- Inspect stope brow before bogging and during shift in line with mine standard operating procedure.
- Ensure that laser barricades and physical barricades are tested and serviceable and level is clear of equipment, personnel or obstructions before remote loading commences.
- Ensure efficiency of the work practice to maximize productivity while working safely.
- Bog out and clean faces ensuring it is left acceptable for next cycle. This may also include hosing down with water for dust suppression, scaling and working level roadway maintenance.
- Keep all roads in working area tidy and free from potential hazards before, during and after bogging has been completed on the level.
- Continuously educate and train the operator trainees in all aspects of remote and free-bogging operations and mining practices and procedures.
- Work to minimize equipment down time and maximize productivity.
- Ensure inspections and maintenance is carried out on all equipment before use.
- Ensure that all tools are serviceable and safe.
- Maintain a high standard of housekeeping.
- Advise underground shift supervisor and dispatch when items of equipment are out of service and when they can be returned to service.
- Liaise with underground shift supervisor to ensure all work is done in a safe and efficient manner.
- Perform pre-start checks and SWICs before carrying out any task.
- Carry out standard workplace inspection practices and procedures.
- Complete shift plod and carrying out cross-shift handovers at the end of each shift.
- Ensure tele-remote PC is kept clean and locked when not in use and parked in designated parking area.

ADDITIONAL REQUIREMENTS:

- Demonstrated ability to facilitate skills transfer / on the job training / coaching.
- Knowledge of various training / coaching evaluation methods and performance monitoring
- He must also demonstrate strong work ethics, an ability to communicate courteously with co-workers.
- First Aid knowledge.
- Be physically and mentally fit and hard working
- Must have good written and oral communication skills in English Language.
- Excellent hand/eye co-ordination.
- Ability to maintain high standards of housekeeping within the mine.
- Ability to recognize potential mining hazards and risks.
- Ability to listen and take instructions and work in a team.

MODE OF APPLICATION:

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- You will also be required to upload a cover / application letter addressed to "Senior Manager Human Resources, Geita Gold Mining Ltd". Subject should be "Specialist – Tele Remote Operator"

Application Link:

<https://career5.successfactors.eu/sfcareer/jobreqcareer?jobid=19681&company=AGAprd>

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Position: Superintendent Environment – Closure Planning and Rehabilitation.
Contract type & Duration: Unspecified time contract.
Department: HSE & Training
Reporting to: Environmental Manager
Number of Positions: One (01)

PURPOSE OF THE ROLE:

To ensure that mine closure plan is updated, approved, and successfully implemented as per GGML's objectives, policies, and standards as well legal and other requirements.

QUALIFICATIONS:

- Bachelor's degree in environmental sciences/engineering, or any other related field.
- GGML is an equal opportunity employer: Female candidates are highly encouraged to apply

EXPERIENCE:

At least 7 years' experience in a similar role.

MAIN OR KEY ACCOUNTABILITIES:

AGA Standards and Legal and other Requirements:

- Implementation of AGA's Biodiversity, Land Use and Closure Planning Management Standards
- Drive compliance with mine closure legal and other requirements
- Establish the necessary Closure processes and practices and oversee their implementation

Mine Closure Plan:

- Administer and coordinate the Mine Closure Plan and update process to successful completion.

Liability estimates:

- Collect input data and update the closure liability estimates on a quarterly basis.
- Work with a demolition contractor to update demolition estimates as needed.
- Liaise with relevant department to update the infrastructure register

Closure plan implementation and rehabilitation

- Develop annual rehabilitation plan in line with the approved mine closure plan
- Execute the annual rehabilitation plan within approved budget targets and specified timeframes, costs and related KPIs

Closure monitoring:

- Direct the collection and analysis of closure monitoring data.
- Manage the preparation of a closure status report with recommendations for improvement.
- Oversee the implementation of recommendations for improvement needed to achieve completion criteria, i.e., aftercare and maintenance.

Safety:

- Demonstrate Safety Leadership and improve the Culture across the Environment section regarding Safety, Health, Environmental and Sustainable Development

Resources and expertise:

- Provide resources and expertise to develop the closure planning and rehabilitation team to capably and consistently deliver the annual budget, according to their role and level of authority

Closure and rehabilitation projects:

- Rigorously drive implementation of projects and nurture and sustain a culture of Accountability and Continuous Improvement within Closure team.

Stakeholder engagement:

- Develop and maintain constructive relationships with Internal and external Stakeholders to establish existing and changing internal, societal, and regulatory expectations and requirements.
- Any other duties as assigned by a supervisor related to business need.

ADDITIONAL REQUIREMENTS:

- Ability to drive as well as possessing a valid driving license.
- Advanced excel skills for closure liability estimate updates
- Ability to effectively make a presentation to different types of audiences
- Ability to prepare and execute rehab trials
- Ability to assess and evaluate compliance with legal and other requirements.
- Ability to use a range of tools including applications and software to analyze environmental data to validate accomplishment or identify opportunities for improvement.
- Ability to prepare comprehensive environmental reports
- Ability to coordinate environmental tasks/projects involving different internal and external stakeholders.
- Ability to prepare and deliver environmental presentations to different types of audiences
- Solving problems and making decisions
- Managing changes
- Managing tasks/projects to completion
- Demonstrating ethics and integrity
- Communicating effectively
- Developing, coaching, and mentoring others
- Valuing diversity and differences
- Managing effective teams and work groups

MODE OF APPLICATION:

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Application Link:

<https://career5.successfactors.eu/sfcareer/jobreqcareer?jobId=19683&company=AGApr>

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TIC registered 274 projects in past one year

By Getrude Mbago

PROJECTS registered by the Tanzania Investment Centre (TIC) in the past one year, have increased to 274 from the 234 that were registered from July 2020 to July 2021, something which shows positive response from people to invest in various sectors, it has been said.

TIC acting executive director John Mnali said this in Dar es Salaam yesterday when addressing reporters on the achievements recorded by the centre in the 2021/22 fiscal year and the priorities for the 2022/23 financial year.

He said the registered projects aim to produce a total of 43,925 jobs from the 36,470 jobs which were produced in 2021.

"Many of the investments were in the sectors of industries, transportation, agriculture, construction, infrastructures, finance, human resources and tourism," he said.

He cited one of the projects as the one which the government signed with the TAQA Arabia- a subsidiary of Qalaa

Holdings which is aimed to implement investments through building and managing 12 stations for supplying cars with compressed natural gas and centres to convert various types of cars to operate with natural gas in the country. "This will greatly help reduce the use of petrol and diesel as many private cars will be encouraged to convert their vehicles to using natural gas," he said.

He named another mega project of sugar production at Kasulu area in Mufindi District, Iringa Region the Mufindi Paper Mill which the centre has signed with the Mufindi Paper Mill Ltd worth \$202 million which once completed will offer job opportunities to 9,000 people.

The acting director father called on Tanzanians to utilize the available investment opportunities and stop worrying about capital because they can also initiate partnership with those who have funds.

"Many Tanzanians have been worrying to initiate investment projects due to lack of capital, but they forget that if they have land, title deed

or license, they can sign partnership agreements with other investors so as to develop the project," he said.

He also encouraged Tanzanians to invest heavily in farming, especially in production of avocados and other farm products which currently have huge demand inside and in foreign markets.

Mnali further named some countries which have many investment projects in the country as China, United States, Kenya, United Kingdom, Mauritius, South Africa, Italy, India and Canada.

He said TIC, in this fiscal year, aims to continue improving registration systems for investors to access information and services easily.

"TIC has also been getting a number of potential investors from tourists who after arriving in the country become interested in investing in some areas. So we will strengthen systems in this area so as to ensure that we get as many investors, we thank President Samia Suluhu Hassan for leading the Royal Tour Film as it is producing positive outcomes in the country including the investment area," he explained.



Zanzibar Health minister Nassor Ahmed Mazrui (R) presents a gift to German Social Democratic Party MP Tina Rudolph (2nd L) who paid a courtesy visit at the minister's office yesterday. Photo: Correspondent Rahma Suleiman

Government reviewing Education and Training Policy of 2014 to improve quality of education

By Getrude Mbago

THE government is currently reviewing the Education and Training Policy of 2014 as well as curriculums, a move which focuses on incorporating all important things that will help improve the quality of education and produce competent graduates to serve in various sectors.

Zanzibar's Minister of Education and Vocational Training in Zanzibar, Lela Mohammed Mussa said this in Dar es Salaam yesterday when opening the 2nd International Quality Education Conference (IQEC). Organised by the Tanzania Education Network (TenMet), the forum has brought together education stakeholders from across the globe to discuss issues that affect the achievement of quality education and collectively chart a way forward on how to address them.

She said the transformation of the country's education system and curriculum is a matter of paramount importance as it will help strengthen production of competent human resources to meet the country's current needs but also enable Tanzanian children and youth to realize their full potential after graduating from school.

"All the ongoing efforts aim to overhaul the education system in the country where a number of curriculums for primary, secondary and higher learning institutions are improved. We want a child who completes school to be employed or self-employed because the biggest grievance in education has been that graduates cannot be employed or self-employed because they lack required skills," she said.

She noted that for the country to attain various development goals there is need for concerted efforts to prepare human resources that possess competencies required by the market.

"The government is however implementing various programmes to facilitate access to quality education, this includes equipping schools with required equipment and human resources such as desks, books and teachers, we have constructed a lot of classrooms to cater the demand brought by the massive enrollment," she explained.

TenMet national coordinator Ochola Wayoga said the conference will discuss deeply on the fate of the education sector and then come up with deliberate solutions to help it

grow and benefit Tanzanians and global citizens. "We are however happy that the government has commenced a process to review the education policy as well as curriculums in schools. So the conference will come up with deliberate recommendations which will help the government in the ongoing reforms to transform the education sector," he said.

He said the conference which is conducted for three days will discuss various challenges facing the education sector and later develop and deliberate on innovative approaches to improving quality.

Themed; "Rethinking the Role of Education- At the Key Moment of Global Transformation", the conference will provide an opportunity and avenue for policymakers, delegates across Africa and beyond, researchers, academia, stakeholders, and students to interact and share their experience and knowledge on the role of education in transforming global dynamics.

Kobia David, regional education advisor, Oxfam IBIS said reviewing policies and school curriculums was one of the most important steps which will help children receive quality education.

By Guardian Reporter, Tabora

CCM Ideology and Publicity Secretary Shaka Hamdu Shaka has instructed all councils to effectively supervise contractors executing projects to ensure that the rights of people are observed when completed projects.

Shaka made the directives soon after receiving complaints from a woman in Kaliua District, Tabora Region who claimed that there is one contractor whom she has worked for three years but when he left, the woman wasn't paid her dues.

"This woman's situation is sad and she has provided services for more than three years, the contractor has failed to pay her. To me I see this as unfair and councils must do something on this matter," he said.

Shaka orders councils to supervise contractors, protect peoples' rights

He said that there has been a tendency where the council give a contract to a certain contractor, but there are no follow ups to ensure that the project is executed thoroughly and the rights of people are well taken care of.

Whether it is contracts to provide services in the council make sure that the project is implemented in line with people's interests. "Make sure contractors serve people and make them responsible and not paying him the entire remaining amount," he said.

He stated that there is tendency to assign contracts to contractors in different areas but there are some who do not want to pay people's rights

when they finish work in order to protect the rights of the citizens, many of whom have been complaining of being oppressed.

In Ulyankulu, Kaliua District, the CCM leader underscored need for improvement of government payment systems to speed up implementation of development projects.

Shaka made the remarks after being informed of the delayed water project at Ichemba village, with leaders blaming the government payment system over failure to complete the project within the specified period, warning responsible authorities not to take advantage of the misbehaving systems to delay such crucial projects.

Ministry of Water in Z'bar partners GWP to execute clean, safe water programme

By Guardian Reporter, Zanzibar

ZANZIBAR'S Ministry of Water, Energy and Minerals has signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with Global Water Partnership (GWP) for implementation of a major clean and safe water programme.

The MoU was signed between Permanent Secretary, Joseph Kilangi and GWP Managing Director, Dr Victor Kongo. The event was also attended by government officials and executives from GWP.

Kilangi said the MoU will fast track implementation of the Zanzibar Water Investment Programme (2022 - 2027) which will see Isle residents enjoying clean and safe water services.

He said water challenges in Zanzibar require in-depth research to identify infrastructures as well as proper places for construction of water wells. He said such specialized services will be conducted by GWP, thus enabling the ministry to successfully provide clean and safe water to citizens.

GWP Managing Director, Dr Victor Kongo said they are ready to support the government endeavours towards implementation of the Zanzibar Water Investment Programme by conducting a number of researches as well as looking for other water projects.

He said they will work tirelessly to ensure every Zanzibar resident has access to clean and safe water.

Minister for Water, Energy and Minerals, Shaibu Kaduara said that most of the Isle residents have been complaining of poor water services, assuring them that with signed MoU water woes are going to end.

GWP Chairman, Eng Ngwisa Mpenbe promised that the institution will bring into Zanzibar water experts who will work with the locals. He also requested the government to include water research issues in its plans.

The Zanzibar Water Investment

Programme was launched by Zanzibar President Dr Hussein Ali Mwinyi during the high-level water investment conference held on March 11th 2022, with the goal of transforming the investment outlook for water and sanitation in Africa.

Dr Mwinyi said the programme supports implementation of the Zanzibar Development vision 2050 towards achieving the Blue Economy Policy.

He said the programme is geared towards promoting investment in the sector, strengthening governance, enhancing capacity of various stakeholders, mobilizing resources, and ultimately, ensuring the optimal water supply to all the areas and people of Zanzibar.



...water challenges in Zanzibar require in-depth research to identify infrastructures as well as proper places for construction of water wells. He said such specialized services will be conducted by GWP, thus enabling the ministry to successfully provide clean and safe water to citizens



Tanzania Rural and Urban Road Agency Ruvuma regional manager Wahabu Nyamzungu inspects bridge construction connecting Madaba township and a health centre in Ruvuma Region over the weekend. Photo: Correspondent Gideon Mwakanosya

Missenyi villagers allot 194 hectares for sunflower, oil palm to boost production

By Correspondent Mutayoba Arbogast,

Bukoba

RESIDENTS of Bweyunge village, Missenyi district in Kagera region have set aside 194 hectares of land for sunflower and palm tree plantations in implementing a call by President Samia Suluhu Hassan to promote local production of edible oil.

President Samia issued the directives during a working tour in

the Kagera region in June this year where she called upon farmers and local authorities to facilitate extensive production of the crops which will go hand in hand with construction of industries.

Bweyunge village chairperson Maxmillian Bwikizo, said the village meeting has complied with village council decision to allocate a portion of village land for block farming whereby 194 hectares have been allocated.

He said they are now trying to persuade private land owners whose land of 104 hectares, has been lying idle for a long time, to join the block farming scheme when it starts.

He said they are very curious about the project adding that the whole land has been surveyed to spare a good portion of land for future generations.

Elieza Babu, ward agricultural extension officer, said he participated in land allocation processes, and that the proposal has been presented to district

council for further consultations.

One of the villagers Julius Kassano told this paper that they are prepared to see changes to their life if the project goes as arranged saying this will go in line with special training to farmers on best methods of farming. Large scale of edible oil in Tanzania is exported from Malaysia, but the production was affected by Covid-19, thus the shortage of edible oil has pushed prices from 3,000/- a litre to 4,500/- from 6500/- to 7,000/- a litre in some places.

DAWASA commended for installing new water pipes

By Geoffrey Mgawe, TUDARCO

THE Dar es Salaam Water and Sanitation Authority (DAWASA) has been lauded for installing new water pipes, something which assures the population of improved supply of the essential liquid.

In separate interviews some residents at Mbezi Mwisho-Mpiji Magohe area in Ubungo District, Dar es Salaam expressed their happiness with the ongoing initiatives which if well maintained, will help provide huge relief to the residents who for many years have been struggling to access the service.

Damas Alphonse, one of the residents, said many people were happy with the ongoing DAWASA's initiatives to address water woes in the area.

"I commend DAWASA for this initiative because water shortage has been here for many years, but for these efforts we are sure that we will no longer face the water scarcity challenge," he said.

Sunday Lombola said due to water scarcity, residents were forced to

purchase it at high price from vendors, something which was affecting their economic progress.

He said the project has come to help the community as it will simplify access to clean and safe water thus enabling the residents to concentrate in other income generating activities rather than spending more time in searching for water.

Another resident, Aikael Alipipi said; "We are now accessing water more easily, the situation was too bad in previous years where we were spending a lot of time searching for the essential liquid."

The government is currently implementing water projects in various areas across the country to strengthen access to the essential liquid to people for sustainable development.

Reports show that, only 57 percent of Tanzania's population has access to an improved source of safe water, and only 34 percent of Tanzania's population has access to improved sanitation. Under these circumstances, the poor, particularly women and girls spend a significant amount of time travelling some distance to collect water.



Anastasia Godfrey a physiologist during a training for parents and guardians living with children with disabilities in Mufindi District, Iringa Region yesterday. Photo: Correspondent Francis Godwin

Temeke residents in new drive to maintain security

By Naima Ahmad, TUDARCO

RESIDENTS at Nzasa A Street in Charambe ward, Temeke District in Dar es Salaam have deployed a team of security guards to do community policing to address theft in the area.

Nzasa A Street chairperson Hakika Mkonge said this on Monday when

speaking with the reporter on what his leadership is doing to improve security in the area.

Mkonge said: "We're facing security challenges in this area and one day we convened a street meeting and deliberated that we should have a team of people to patrol the area during nights."

"It wasn't easy but we agreed for every household to pay 2,000/- and for a rented house, a tenant, is to pay 500/-. And the money is for the patrol team, which is paid at every end of the month," he said, noting that a similar meeting is held after every three months.

Mkonge said that it's their

responsibility to ensure that security concerns and issues are addressed accordingly.

"Until now we have 26 security guards and each guard gets paid between 60,000/- and 70,000/- per month," he said.

One of the residents Nassor Athuman commended the leaders in the area for involving them in reinforcing security, which was a serious challenge before the new initiative.

Another resident Hadija Yusuph said: "We've accepted the call of our leaders and we will participate fully in contributing the money for the security team as we know that security is our responsibility."



The Guardian Limited Key Contacts

Managing Editor: WALLACE MAUGGO
Circulation Manager: EMMANUEL LYIMO

Newsdesk

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

Advertising

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

With 4bn/- accountability funds for NGOs, priority issue lurking

JUST as nearly a hundred groups tied to the Foundation for Civil Societies (FCS) gear to start work as community inspectorates especially at local government level, in the wake of the foundation disbursing 4bn/- to 89 NGOs, the perennial tug of war with government departments on priorities is likely to continue. NGOs, and FCS at their head, seek to implement an accountability intensification drive, while ministerial departments want productive objectives. They want partnerships with NGOs to move development work in specific districts, not accountability first.

Handing over the cheques to the CSOs was conducted at the opening of a five-day training for representatives of the respective organisations. They were asked to sign performance agreements for project implementation, where it is easy to see top officials in each of the various departments wishing the cash was directed elsewhere. They would scarcely make accountability the key issue that NGOs ought to pursue, presumably as this role is already constitutionally provided for.

The role is given to annual scrutiny of accounts of government departments and agencies or those benefiting from public funding, like political parties. Thus many in the government wish the development partners to fund real productive projects, and this point is unlikely to fade at this point. Yet the CSOs have not erred here.

The FCS explained that part of its five-year strategic plan now being rolled out is to foster gender equality, curb gender-based violence as well as violence against children. It also focuses on resources management skills and monitoring, while addressing sources of threats to peace and security, engaging special groups in the development agenda. Wisdom in the government would see this virtually as

meant to duplicate government efforts, for instance the presence of gender desks in scores of organisations, including the police. Yet they don't always perform as expected.

It is hard to say if this undercurrent of opinion is sufficiently grounded, that NGOs ought to contribute to actual projects in those fields rather than forming groups in communities to painstakingly show them how to demand this or that right from local government authorities, in particular. The focus of work for the 89 NGOs will be to oversee accountability in the fight against corruption, in projects relating to education, health, water and agriculture NGOs will check how funds are used here.

FCS leaders point out that up to 70 percent of the country's population depends on agriculture, so public finances in that area need to be monitored, pointing at the health sector as equally an accountability priority. Some will remember that agro-sector minister Hussein Bashe has lately cautioned on NGO projects in the sector, demanding that they need to be checked with the ministry. The FCS initiative is definitely not geared to increase production, but accountability isn't irrelevant.

While the government arguably feels well positioned to expect that NGOs will be assisting in existing priorities to be realized, it is vital that they look at the other side of issues. Just as the government needs plenty of foreign backing, by grants and loans, to reach budgetary objectives, so do NGOs need plenty of foreign backing to push society from traditional authoritarianism to modernity. We have too many examples why this work is useful, like raising the president as a young woman to appreciate her abilities. The rest - as they say - is history.



From Nairobi to Nigeria: Kenya as a mirror election

By Dakuku Peterside

IT is not always that an election in one part of the world can function as a mirror in another part of the globe. Societies differ in demographics, political and historical evolution, and the general economic issues that shape elections. The general election in Kenya that took place on Tuesday 9th August is in many ways a mirror of the forthcoming 2023 elections in Nigeria. This mirroring is primarily evident in the shared democratic characteristics, current economic climate, and socio-political milieu of both countries.

Kenya, resembling of Nigeria, is a former British colony practising multiparty democracy and is multi-ethnic with three dominant ethnic groups - the Kikuyu, Luhya, and Kalenjin. Kenya, like Nigeria, has a young population, with 75% being under 35 years. Nigeria and Kenya, in their different constitutional provisions, require a candidate to obtain 50% plus one vote to win the presidential race, with a 25% spread in at least three-quarters of their federating units, which is 24 of 47 counties in Kenya. Like our president, Buhari, the incumbent president, Kenyatta, is not a candidate in this election.

The four significant candidates in the recent Kenyan election were Raila Odinga, William Ruto, David Mwaure and George Wajackoya. Two, however, are candidates of the major coalition parties - Odinga and Ruto. Like most third world countries, Kenya faces coordination and network challenges in its election management.

The two countries have similar core issues that will define their elections. The presidential campaign in Kenya was centred on the three issues of the economy, corruption, and unemployment. The only difference with Nigeria will be the addition of how to tackle the menace of insecurity bedevilling our country.

In most economic indices, Kenya is better than Nigeria. Kenya's inflation, at 7.9% in the election month, is better than Nigeria's at 18% in June. Kenya's public debt is as high as Nigeria's, and the unemployment rate there is equally spiralling. On the positive side, Kenya is a regional economic giant in East Africa, while Nigeria is a continental giant. Corruption is endemic and deep-rooted in the private and public sectors of both countries. These similarities give us the impetus to pay close attention to the Kenyan election and learn from its outcome.

The Kenyan election brought up three fundamental issues for consideration: First, the new increased level of electoral transparency occasioned through the use of technology, and the deepening of democratic tenets among Africans. Democracy, although young in most African countries, is

gradually becoming accepted. The new school of thought in Africa favours democracy and assumes that only a few bent on circumventing democracy are the culprits of democratic disorder, which often leads to electoral violence and crisis. Elections are not only getting freer and fairer than in the past, but most are beginning to accept the results of the polls, leading to less violence and more acceptance of electoral outcomes.

Second, it is evident that incumbency is no longer an iron ceiling that is almost impossible to break. Incumbent to non-incumbent transition is a sign of maturity of democracy and is anticipated to happen if the incumbent loses many people's backings. Anybody or party can lose an election if they lose the political patronage of the people. In the past, votes did not count, and election results were manipulated, written, and imposed on the people by the incumbent party or government.

The third is that Africans are beginning to jettison personality politics and focus more on issues that affect their lives. Insecurity, bad economy, and corruption are quickly becoming the thematic thrust of election campaigns, and the people are getting more likely to vote on their conviction of how candidates will tackle issues plaguing the country than relying on the cult of personality that is more ethnic and religious oriented.

At the end of the Kenyan elections, three patterns have emerged that are instructive to Nigerian politicians, the election management body (INEC) and the electorate. The first pattern is technology's positive influence on electoral outcomes. Technology deepens electoral transparency, enhances free and fair elections, and reduces rigging. The root of electoral violence in Africa is the lack of trust by stakeholders in the electoral process. Somaliland was the first to use iris recognition for voter accreditation and followed it up with electronic voting. Somaliland went from a war zone to a respected nation in a credible electoral process.

On the other hand, Kenya, which witnessed violence in its 2017 elections, deployed technology to add credibility to the electoral processes. It deepened the application of technology in 2022 using a specially designed Kenya Integrated Electronic Management System (KIEMS), and this reduced the 3-prong evil of violence, rigging and result disputation to its minimum. South Africa and Ghana are other African countries that have taken maximum advantage of technology to deliver free, fair, and credible elections with minimal or no disputation of results.

BVAS, introduced by the electoral commission in Nigeria, like Kenya KIEMS, is an advanced voter identification technology that will be hostile to election riggers, effectively

ending the old order. We saw this in recent elections at Anambra, Ekiti and Osun, and nobody challenged the results based on the number in each of those elections. BVAS, according to INEC, promises to deliver elections that reflect the people's wishes.

The second pattern is that influence of the incumbent on the electoral outcome is beginning to wane. The use of state resources to influence voters will soon be history. Social media and citizens' vigilance combine to rub government officials of secrecy to deploy state resources at will. Voters who are sure they can cast their votes in secret will vote according to their conscience. Voters are more informed, enlightened, and ready to defend their votes and voices at all costs.

They are more active and less fearful of state apparatus wielding power when deployed to influence elections. It is common knowledge that when incumbents deploy considerable resources to influence voters, many collect the financial inducements and yet vote for candidates most qualified to lead. The third pattern is that the quality of electoral laws and rules are beginning to impact on quality and outcome of elections. We saw this with the electoral reforms in Kenya. The electoral laws and regulations are beginning to provide a level playing field for all parties and voters. Power resides with the people and not local oligarchs somewhere.

Even stakeholders are beginning to buy in on the issue of transparency in elections. It is worthy of note that in the last Kenya elections, the media are becoming unbiased and partisan. For instance, the two leading candidates held simultaneous final rallies in Nairobi, and the police did not interfere. Newspapers, TV, and radios gave balanced and equal coverage to the campaigns. The campaign coverages are a pleasure to watch. To gain support among a disaffected electorate, politicians have had to hinge their campaigns or movement on the country's pressing economic issues, prompting a shift away from the country's ethnic and personality-driven politics toward issue-based campaigns.

Tuesday's polls were peaceful, with isolated violence cases in the northern region. The corrosive ethnic politics that framed previous electoral contests is ebbing. The critical question in the coming days is not only who won the race but whether the loser will accept defeat. This is a sign of maturity of the political players. It is evident from developments in Kenya that the train of history has left Kikuyu hegemony and dynastic politics.

Similarly, Nigeria may witness the end of ethnic politics in 2023. The critical issue in Nigeria, as we saw in Kenya, will be who among the candidates can secure the welfare of the majority. Poverty and hunger have

no ethnic colouration. So, hunger and poverty are weaponised to push the electorate to vote for candidates that seem in tune with the economic and corruption realities and usher hope and belief in their future.

Kenya is leading the way in Africa in gender equity in politics and must be emulated by Nigeria and other African countries. According to IPES FAQ on the 2022 Kenyan elections, "Kenya's legal framework includes firm principles of gender equity. According to the 2010 Constitution, no more than two-thirds of the membership of any elective body in Kenya may be of the same sex. In this respect, the National Assembly reserves forty-seven seats for women and the Senate reserves sixteen for women, with two more Senate seats reserved for women representing youth and persons with disabilities." Interestingly, three out of the four presidential candidates chose female running mates. Similarly, the country believes in the twinning principle.

Another exemplary provision in Kenyan electoral law is the out-of-country voting provision. According to IEBC, out-of-country voting is allowed for the presidential election only.

Kenyan voters outside the country may only vote from twelve countries, chosen based on the number of Kenyans who live there. These voting took place in Tanzania, Uganda, Rwanda, Burundi, South Africa, South Sudan, Germany, United Kingdom, Qatar, United Arab Emirates, Canada, and the US.

It is quite unfortunate that despite the enormous contributions of Nigerians in Diaspora to the country's economy and image laundry, they have no say in determining the political leadership of their homeland except they take the cumbersome option of travelling down to Nigeria to register and later to vote.

Finally, it can only be hoped that free and fair elections are not seen as ends in themselves. Instead, free and fair elections should produce governments that can end illiteracy, poverty, unemployment and limited enlightenment.

Only by so doing can democracy improve and entrench itself to become an integral part of the value and cultural reality of tomorrow's Africa.

All eyes are now on Angola (August 2022), Chad (September 2022), Lesotho (Oct 2022), Somaliland (Nov 2022), Sudan (December 2022) and Nigeria (Feb 2023) to deliver free, fair, and credible elections, deepen democracy, promote political transformation, increase prosperity and give Africa hope of a bright future. Nigeria must show leadership and use the 2023 election to highlight democratic resilience and deep-rooted principles in the Nigerian democratic culture.

Dakuku Peterside is a policy and leadership expert.

World Humanitarian Day a call to value humanitarian agencies' work

ACTIVISTS around the world mark World Humanitarian Day on August 19, seeking to cultivate greater appreciation for the work of humanitarian agencies around the world. One United Nations chronicler compares this effort with the oft-quoted affirmation in African literature, that "it takes a village to raise a child," in which case it takes a global village to support a country in a humanitarian crisis. What is a bit astonishing this year is the intensity with which humanitarian needs are exploding in the numbers of those in need and fewer resources to meet demand.

The world is more than familiar with the sharp outbreaks of disaster tied to the outbreak of Covid-19 and the tally of business closures and losses of employment around the world. Data being collected since early last year and what has taken place in the first half of this year hasn't changed the truism that this change, that crisis has a gender face, and a skew against youths and children. It is hard reality that the world faces, as by and large lost opportunities aren't being recovered fast.

There is hence every reason to focus on World Humanitarian Day as it builds on this metaphor of collective effort working on both sides, first to elicit sufficient attention to troubled spots around the world, amid the gnawing resignation that too many countries need assistance. And often it arises out of wilful mismanagement of our countries' affairs to push sectarian advantage to the outbreak of conflict, then we have hundreds of thousands of displaced people. They may just die, in whatever proportion, if there are no humanitarian agencies acting fast to

help out.

That is why it is vital for countries around the world, public organisations in particular, to help grow local and thus contribute to global appreciation of humanitarian work. Ignoring what these organisations are doing is to foreclose humanitarian assistance when it is needed, despite that humanitarian groups are often surprisingly tenacious. They make efforts to assist hundreds of thousands of people in countries which hold their values of humanitarian approach to issues - based on democracy principally, then gender equality and good governance largely in contempt. They make a keen distinction between authorities and their people.

What the UN chronicler asserts is firstly observing that there are record-high humanitarian needs around the world, apparently increasing from one year to another, from the catastrophic 2020 scenario and onwards. Truly global events and localized ones lead to a massive surge of those in acute need, like the Covid-19 pandemic, outbreak of the Tigray war or intensification of rebellion in eastern DRC. The good news is that Africa is making progress in solving conflicts, thus roll back crises.

The chronicler notes that whenever and wherever people are in need, there are others who help them, firstly those affected, helping each other as neighbours or as kith and kin. They are always the first to respond when disaster strikes, and only later is there a global community that supports them as they seek to recover. While it is true that far from the spotlight and out of the headlines, those nearby come together to ease suffering and bring hope, often no help comes.

By Francis Semwaza

US in Taiwan: Arousal politics amid China's reunification efforts

THE China-US relations are back in turmoil with the US clearly meddling in China's internal affairs, following Speaker of the US House of Representatives Nancy Pelosi's and other American lawmaker's official visits to Taiwan.

The Pelosi trip, which China sternly warned against, was held with military planes escorting her plane. The fighter jets were authorized to open fire in case of any Chinese interference.

The visit, which was followed by another one by five American lawmakers just 12 days apart, is among US efforts at disrupting China's efforts to unify its peoples and lands geographically, culturally, and demographically as it recently outlined in its White Paper on the Taiwan question.

The provocation is taking place amid rampant inflation and the tumbling of US economy: it can be seen as a deliberate effort to divert the attention of Americans by arousing their feelings to focus on China while forsaking the problems at home.

These developments may help us address the long-lived challenge of distinguishing between offense and defense both in theory and action.

It should be noted that China did not do anything to warrant such treatment from the United States.

For those following the politics behind China-US relations, the rogue approach the US takes is a rude awakening following the high hopes that Joseph Biden would defuse the commotion that Donald Trump had caused in the duo's relations during his four years in office.

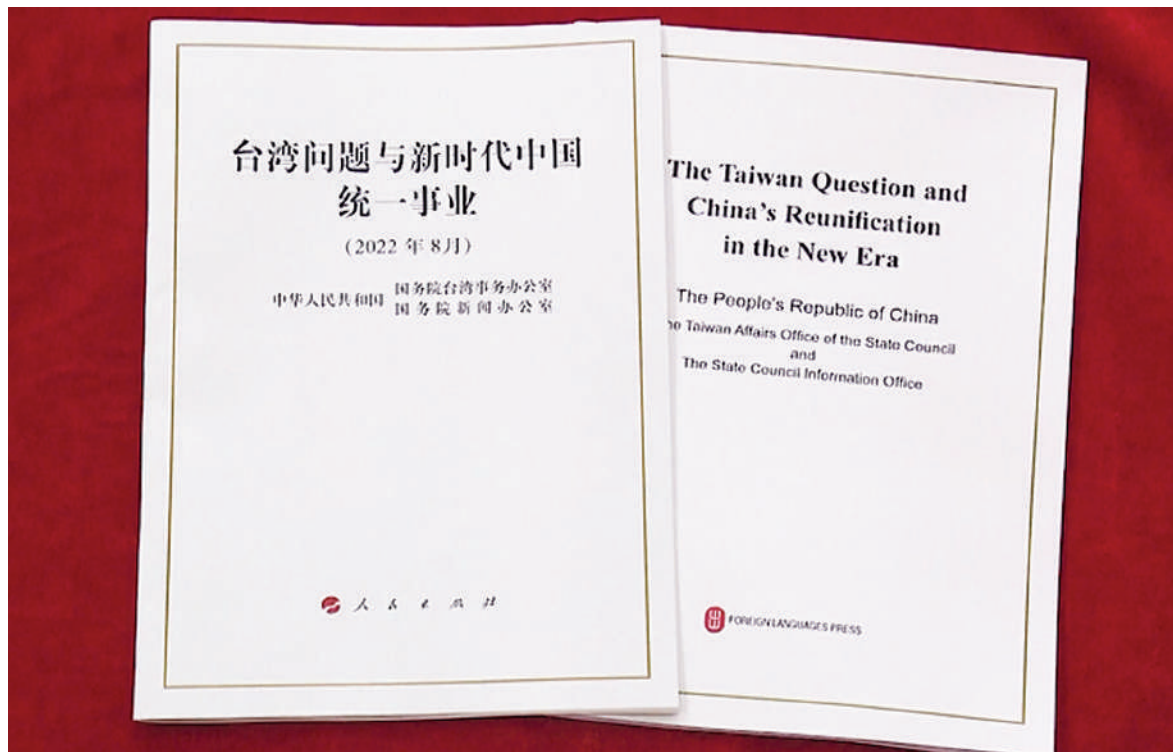
However, following Biden's election into office in 2020, I warned that the change of person would not signify the change of the system in US politics, especially in its perception of China as an economic foe rather than a partner.

Comparatively, the current move by the US is worse than Trump's approach during his 4 years as US President: it has progressed from mere discourse to damaging actions, thanks to China for not reciprocating as it would have otherwise done.

In essence, the attacks on China



Photo taken on July 21, 2019 shows the Taipei 101 skyscraper in Taipei, China's Taiwan. (Photo/Xinhua)



The white paper titled "The Taiwan Question and China's Reunification in the New Era" is published in Beijing, August 10, 2022. (Photo/CFP)

now aim at destabilizing the emerging power from the economic empire it has been building within China and around the world, as well as shielding the US waning economic significance, accordingly.

It is obvious that China has been leading in the manufacturing sector and thereby winning a larger share of the global market, thereby reducing the influence of the West and the US in particular.

This would have been enough economic threat to awaken the US and its allies to revive their fading manufacturing sectors instead of resorting to obsolete tactics of military threats.

Although there can be some economic benefits in waging a war, such

benefits would be hard to realize when dealing with a country larger in size, population, influence, and economy as that of China.

This is not to mention the hard-to-break economic relations between China and the US owing to their trading relations. According to the Office of the US Trade Representative, China supplied the US with good and services totaling US\$ 450 billion in the year 2020.

The trade imbalance between the two countries remains obvious as the US exported only about US\$ 164 worth of goods and services to China. Of course, the hegemon's market share is shrinking globally.

This economic dependency would force us to discredit the highly touted narrative of a Third World War which resurfaces almost every time China-US tensions would take the undesirable direction.

Apparently, China would not want to disturb its US exports, nor would the US want to disturb the already COVID-hit frail supply chain wreaking havoc on its domestic dealings.

Therefore, it is obvious that economic rivalry may not escalate to military, and China seems to avoid that despite the ongoing US provocations.

These development in global interconnectedness calls for the Kantian theory to apply more economically than otherwise: liberalism is not about Western democracy alone; it is about global economic enrichment - the recognition that trade goes beyond political beliefs and one's pursuit of power.

With that in mind, the US can do better than using Taiwan, Hong Kong, and other China-controlled territories as pawns in its coercion of countries that subscribe to different political ideologies.

One could imagine how the US would respond if China or Russia did the same by attempting to incite secession in Guam or other US-controlled islands.

On a different level, the US provocations can be viewed as a way of diverting its desperate population from focusing on internal economic troubles, including rising inflation currently above 8 percent as well as the skyrocketing rent in most American cities.

If it were a caring nation, it would be more pressing for the US government to adequately address the rising prices of food, fuel, and housing than focusing its energy on interfering in the internal affairs of a sovereign state.

By doing so, the US is playing with the minds of its own people instead of helping resolve the problems at home. It prompts its people to jump into an artificial conflict it creates to shy away from solving social and economic troubles at home.

While this 'arousal politics' may not be a new tactic, the US has been applying what it from time to time in the face of imminent socioeconomic challenges at home.

(The writer is a development communications consultant. E-mail: frsemwaza@aol.com)

Blinken's charm offensive may be first step in placing US on stronger footing with African nations

By Ronak Gopaldas

UNITED States (US) Secretary of State Antony Blinken's whistlestop tour of Africa last week was interesting for various reasons - not least its timing. It followed hot on the heels of Russian Foreign Minister Sergei Lavrov's visit - ostensibly to cement strategic relations and support for the ongoing Ukraine war.

The US charm offensive - involving visits to South Africa, the Democratic Republic of Congo and Rwanda - comes as great powers ramp up their engagement in Africa amid increasing geopolitical and geo-economic competition globally. So the trip's subtext was around a new Cold War and Africa's role and relevance in that equation.

Blinken faced numerous immediate challenges: counter the lingering resentment towards the US and restore its lost credibility; convey a shift in attitude and intent; and build relationships with some strategically important but frosty, African allies.

The visit stands out for three reasons - its candour, messaging and strategy. First, the engagements contrasted with the banalities that typically characterise such visits. In Rwanda, Blinken didn't shy away from the controversial issues of human rights abuses and the trial of Hotel Rwanda dissident Paul Rusesabagina.

Meanwhile, in South Africa, international relations Minister Naledi Pandor and Blinken broached numerous controversial matters, including Pretoria's views on US hypocrisy around democratic values, paternalism and the Russia-Ukraine conflict. The engagements displayed a refreshing honesty rarely seen in diplomatic settings. This was important to win over historical allies who have recently turned critical of the US.

Pandor's strong rhetoric reflects the mood across large parts of Africa: that of belligerence. An increasing number of African sovereigns are no longer willing to be bullied or dictated to, particularly by a country whose moral legitimacy has receded in recent years.

American foreign policy is still suffering the hangover effects of Trumpian insularity, compounded by the general chaos of that administration and the weakening of multilateral institutions. Vaccine hoarding and the West's approach to the Ukraine conflict have further dented Washington's standing with many African countries.

With African nations' growing sense of agency in global affairs and increasing partnership options, Washington knows a very different type of approach is required. This raises the second theme of Blinken's



A handout photo made available by Government Communications and Information System show South African President Cyril Ramaphosa (R) receiving US Secretary of State Antony Blinken, in Pretoria, South Africa, 09 August 2022. File photo

visit - messaging. Rather than the fear-mongering that characterised the Trump administration's 'cowboy diplomacy', Blinken used constructive and affirming language to try to win over Africans.

The shift to a more positive and less patronising message suggests that the Americans are finally reading the mood of the proverbial room. On the tour, Blinken referred to Africa's power as a "geopolitical force", stressed "a partnership of equals," and highlighted the importance of "choice" for Africans.

There's also been a deliberate effort to avoid framing Africa as a playground in a

proxy battle between the US and China, given that the Cold War narrative has angered African policymakers and diplomats.

Instead, the focus was on providing a vision that aligns with African interests and positioning the US as the 'partner of choice'. The new administration seems to have understood the importance of respect and African agency - two criticisms that plagued previous US engagements with Africa.

The softer tone is an effective strategy; this greater self-awareness has been well received in various quarters. Indeed, former US assistant secretary of state for Africa Tibor Nagy tweeted that Blinken had hit all the

right notes: "It's not about China, Russia or even the US - it's about Africa, and Africa's goals, especially the young. US-Africa policy must look at the Continent through the windshield, not the rear-view mirror."

The third element was the unveiling of the new US strategy for Africa, which aims to position the US as the preferred partner by presenting a clear vision and values for the future. The White House says the new strategy will be based on four pillars: the sovereignty and independence of African countries; the promotion and defence of democracy; Africa's adaptation to the climate crisis; and post-Covid-19 economic recovery.

Blinken said at the University of Pretoria: "It's a strategy that reflects the region's complexity, its diversity, its agency; and one that focuses on what we will do with African nations and peoples, not for African nations and peoples."

As expected, the economic strategy doubled down on the US's traditional focus areas - private sector-led trade and investment. The Prosper Africa initiative, started by the Trump administration, has been reactivated alongside the US's answer to China's Belt and Road Initiative - the Build Back Better World.

Zainab Usman of the Carnegie Endowment for International Peace notes that the new approach to climate change is both nuanced and well articulated, and can catalyse a wave of development and investment in Africa. But there are still some obvious limitations. The strategy continues to place the containment of Russia and China highly in Washington's thinking (despite efforts to limit its focus). There are also visible gaps in the approach to migration and security.

However, viewed holistically, the strategy marks a distinct shift from what Guillaume Doane of 35° Nord terms the "malign neglect" of the previous administration, to actual engagement. Along with the recently concluded US Africa Business Forum and the upcoming US Africa Leaders Summit (the first in almost a decade), the trend is broadly positive.

Does this signal a new era in US-Africa relations? Although the signs are promising, it's too early to say.

Institute for Security Studies Consultant Peter Fabricius agrees. He told ISS Today: "While Blinken struck the right notes, it might be premature to judge that he reset relations with the continent. No doubt he erased the sour taste of the Trump years - though Africans already understood Trump was an aberration. But winning over African countries from China and Russia will be a mission, as the relations of many African countries with those powers are deeply rooted, historically, ideologically and economically."

Blinken's visit was an essential public relations exercise but won't in itself shift the dial. The undeniable progress in the engagement - both in appearance and substance - should be seen as an important step in the overdue recalibration of US-Africa relations. **DM**

LONDON

Echoes of dire 1970s in today's Britain

PLANS for a high-wage, high-growth economy lie in ruins as Britain's Conservative prime minister struggles to answer a cost-of-living crisis, compounded by rising worker unrest.

It is December 1973 and the finance minister has privately warned the cabinet of Edward Heath that the country faces its gravest economic crisis since World War Two, according to classified records that are now publicly available.

The papers shed light on the debate at the heart of government during a crisis that bears similarities to that facing current Prime Minister Boris Johnson's cabinet.

Like almost 50 years ago, Britain today faces double-digit inflation driven by soaring energy costs that will financially cripple the most vulnerable households.

Unlike then, Johnson is in caretaker mode after being forced from power over a string of scandals, leaving the parliamentary party to divide into warring factions over how best to respond.

On both occasions there were few good options, with media reports on the current government's private "worst case" planning documents outlining a return to the energy rationing that marked Heath's tenure.

Reuters footage from December 1973 shows how workers in darkened stores on London's main shopping street clutched camping gas lamps to light the way for customers.

"It was pretty dark, but you found a way of coping with it," political analyst Peter Kellner said of the power cuts, who in the early 1970s was a Sunday Times journalist.

While Britain is unlikely to face such prolonged blackouts, anything that threatens a world of contactless payment systems and computerized tills will add to anxiety over Britain's ability to withstand repeated social and economic shocks.

"There is potentially a double parallel between Britain today, and Britain in 1973," Kellner said, citing a combination of domestic and global factors that drove inflation higher in both periods.

Historian Alwyn Turner agreed there were similarities - but also big differences, such as the background of top politicians.

Heath and his Labor opponent Harold Wilson were molded by war and mass unemployment - which gave them a historical perspective on crises even if they struggled with new threats to Britain's economy.

"I think our problem now is a lack of knowledge. We don't have anybody around in politics who can remember what it was like with inflation - certainly not in office," Turner said. Britain's next prime minister will be in their 40s.

Johnson has overseen billions of pounds of support to help with soaring energy bills, but, even as prices keep rising, he says any future measures are for his successor, due to be named on Sep 5, to decide.

Consumer price inflation peaked in



In this file photo taken on June 19, 1970, UK's Conservative Party leader Edward Heath gives a cheery wave from the doorway of No 10 Downing Street, London. AP

1975 at 24.5 percent and it was not until the 1990s that it fell sustainably into low single-digits.

The Bank of England expects sees inflation exceeding 13 percent this October, which would be the highest rate in 42 years. It said earlier in August that inflation would take around two years to return close to its 2 percent target.

Turner said the resulting decline in living standards now under way harked back to the 1970s.

"It's a kind of grinding down. And at some point people do lose their patience," he said.

The issue of Europe represents another difference with the mid-1970s. Whereas Heath pinned hopes for an economic renaissance on membership of the European Economic Community, Johnson's flagship policy was to leave its successor, the European Union.

Official data shows Brexit has yet to yield the promised boost in trade and investment and divergence

from EU rules is still only just under way in many areas.

Extreme proposals

The papers from December 1973 show how an escalating energy crisis, caused by the Organization of Arab Petroleum Exporting Countries declaring an oil embargo, forced Heath's government to consider some extreme proposals.

One was limiting the use of electrical heating in every household to one room - although the leader of the House of Commons at the time, Jim Prior, said this would be "harsh, and in practice unenforceable".

By early 1974, coal miner stoppages forced a three-day working week across the economy.

The cabinet papers show Heath flirted with removing state benefits from the families of striking men - a "powerful weapon" but one that was dismissed as "extremely dubious".

In the event, Heath announced swingeing cuts to public sector investment, but his government did not last long enough to see through its plans.

Heath - like Johnson today - had aspirations to shift Britain's economy into a higher gear.

In 1972 his government announced a budget to double the rate of economic growth, which stoked inflation. Today's leadership frontrunner, Foreign Secretary Liz Truss, 47, has been accused by rival candidate Rishi Sunak, 42, of making a similar mistake with her vow to slash taxes.

"Potentially the Liz Truss approach to growth can also ... unleash inflationary forces," Kellner said. Truss says the plans will not fuel inflation, and that cutting taxes is better than raising them and handing the money back as benefits.

While Truss has promised a bright future and dismissed economic warnings as "declinist talk", the Bank

of England this month warned of a long recession.

Sunak has called for tax cuts only once inflation has been brought under control and promised to spend more to fulfill a "moral responsibility" to help struggling citizens.

In the end, Heath paid the price for his handling of the economy and worker relations.

After announcing a snap election for February 1974, Heath narrowly lost to the opposition Labor Party. Truss or Sunak are expected to face voters in 2024, with polls showing the Conservatives trailing Labor.

Energy bills to leap

British consumer price inflation jumped to 10.1 percent in July, its highest since February 1982, up from an annual rate of 9.4 percent in June, intensifying the squeeze on households, official figures showed on Wednesday.

The increase was above all economists' forecasts in a Reuters poll for inflation to rise to 9.8 percent in July, and will do nothing to ease the Bank of England's concerns that price pressures may become entrenched.

Wednesday's figures from the Office for National Statistics showed that prices rose 0.6 percent in July from June on a non-seasonally adjusted basis. The annual rate of retail price inflation hit 12.3 percent, its highest since March 1981.

Britain is not alone in facing soaring price growth but there are signs it will continue to struggle with rising inflation for longer than other countries.

British finance minister Nadhim Zahawi said getting inflation under control was his top priority.

However, there were hints in the data that future inflation pressure might be starting to abate.

Although the prices charged by factories rose by the most since August 1977, jumping by 17.1 percent, the increases in prices paid by factories cooled slightly, dropping to an annual 22.6 percent from June's record 24.1 percent.

In month-on-month terms, input prices rose by only 0.1 percent, the slowest increase so far in 2022, partly caused by weaker global demand for steel as economic growth slows around the world and a fall in crude oil prices.

The forecasts that Britain's inflation problem will be longer-lasting than in other countries stem in part from price regulations which mean energy companies must wait before passing higher wholesale costs on to consumers.

The current typical annual household energy bill is just under 2,000 pounds (US\$2,421) - almost double its level a year ago - and is likely to rise above 4,000 pounds in January, according to industry analysts Cornwall Insight.

Millions of British households will struggle with the higher bills, and supermarkets already report customers switching to cheaper brands.

Data on Tuesday showed workers' earnings adjusted for the consumer prices index fell by 4.1 percent in the three months to June, the biggest drop since records began in 2001.

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

EGPAF gets milestone feat in the war against HIV/Aids

By Correspondent Daniel Semberey

THE Elizabeth Glaser Pediatric AIDS Foundation (EGPAF) has identified an adequate number of children who are living with HIV/Aids and enrolled them into care and treatment services.

EGPAF mainly fights for an Aids-Free generation and is currently embarking on the USAID Afya Yangu Northern Project.

Dr Theopista Masenge, senior technical advisor with the foundation under the USAID Afya Yangu Northern Project said recently: "We've been able to maintain 98 percent of almost 10, 000 children aged 0-19 years we are saving every year into services. And this is a big achievement."

Dr Masenge said that in their portfolio the main content is to look at the paediatric adolescent and youth HIV starting from testing with those living with HIV, and link them to ARV services where they receive or achieve viral load suppression below 50 copies per millilitre.

"Thereafter we make follow up to ensure they remain in care. Services are differentiated according to age as demands change from age group to age group. For example, they have services provided for the under- five children where they integrate with HIV services, routine growth, monitoring and early childhood development services focusing on the nurturing care framework," she said.

She said children living with HIV are provided comprehensive services to allow growth and development to achieve their potentials like any other normal child.

She said for the children aged five to nine years, EGPAF has an intervention called 'Jitambue', which works to ensure that children living with HIV know their HIV status.

"Through this modality caregivers are empowered to disclose HIV status using simple language, initially using pictures with simple descriptions until they understand why they are using ARVs.



Senior technical advisor with Elizabeth Foundation under USAID Afya Yangu northern project, Dr Theopista Masenge at an interview recently. Photo: Courtesy of EGPAF

This intervention targets adherence to treatment and therefore parents/guardians to support their children understand that ARVs are life long," she said.

The language makes them understand in terms of pictures so that once they grow up they understand that in their blood in their bodies, they have immunity that protects them from different kinds of diseases and thereafter they understand what type of that disease they are living with," she added.

Dr Masenge detailed that once they reach 10 years and above they speak

to them openly but in steps that they are living with HIV for them to start understanding the impact of HIV on their lives and others, so that during adolescence they can cope with such a situation wherever they are.

She said the organization also deal with adolescents where it provides services that are specific to adolescents' sexual reproductive health, mental health and gender based violence.

Moreover, they have established adolescent friendly services in more than 200 facilities out of the 446 facilities that they are supporting. These are facilities where they have a minimum of ten adolescents.

"So, when they come to the club they get an opportunity to sit with service providers, other peer educators and other adolescents to discuss their issues of sexuality, issues of living with HIV, income generating activities and where to link at community level in case further services are required accessing orphan and vulnerable children program (OVC Program) supported by different stakeholders," she said.

According to her, each year a minimum of around 1000 new children aged 0-14years living with HIV are identified from Arusha, Dodoma, Kilimanjaro, Singida and Manyara. And as a country they have an estimate of 90,000 to 110,000 children who are living with HIV. But as a country they have reached around 62,000 children living with HIV.

"So, we have a gap of around 40,000 children who are living with HIV in the community but are not identified by any mechanism," she noted. Adding,

The aim is to ensure we identify all the unidentified 40,000 children who are living with HIV in the country and initiate them on ARVs; but as well, preventing new HIV infections from moth-

ers living with HIV."

She said that they also implement a programme to prevent HIV transmission from mothers to children known as PMTCT.

This programme focuses on when mothers understand that they are pregnant when they first go for their first visit to hospital they are tested to know their status to see if they are infected or not. And if they are identified as HIV positive they will be advised to start taking ARVs immediately.

"We then continue with adherence counseling as part of monitoring while addressing myths around the use of ARV during pregnancy by giving them proper information."

Viral load level in the blood circulation is a risk factor for transmission. Therefore all pregnant women living with HIV do a viral load test and if the results are above 50 copies they undergo a series of adherence counseling sessions and repeat the viral load test in the next three months to decrease the risk of HIV transmission to a baby during pregnancy, labor, delivery and during breast feeding.

So, the aim is to make sure every woman who is pregnant and is living with HIV, the viral load level should be below 50 copies. So, the intervention is looking at that area.

On the other hand children with the highest risk of transmission especially if their mothers are diagnosed during labor and delivery, or have high viral load >50c/ml, then the baby will be tested at delivery and results will decide if they are infected or not.

At the age of 6 weeks, HIV exposed infants are required to take a HIV test (DNA) to ascertain if they are HIV positive or not. All these interventions are part of the PMTCT program and overall prevalence for HIV transmission from mother to children is ranging from 3-8 percent.

TEA: SDF to benefit 38,000 young people by December

By Guardian Reporter

THE Tanzania Education Authority (TEA) has said that 38,000 young people across the country will benefit from the Skills Development Fund (SDF) by the end of December, this year, something which will make them more economically independent.

The authority's director general Bahati Geuzye said this recently in Dar es Salaam when speaking to journalists on the authority's success and strategies in the current fiscal year. The meeting was also meant to explain TEA's implementation of its responsibilities.

Geuzye said the SDF is part of the Education and Skills for Productive Jobs Programme (ESPJ) and the National Skills Development Strategy (NSDS) under the Ministry of Education, Science and Technology

"The SDF Fund is managed and coordinated by TEA and receives funds from the government and the World Bank with

the aim of funding training to develop skills for Tanzanians in the areas of agriculture and agribusiness, tourism and hospitality services, energy, transportation, construction, information and communication technology (IT)," he said.

He said that in the first phase of the implementation of SDF projects, training was focused on the agriculture and agribusiness sectors and a total of 3.1bn/- was used to finance 15 institutions that provide various skills training in this country.

She said that the second phase of the implementation of the SDF began 2019/20 and 2020/21 fiscal years and is expected to be completed in December 2022.

According to her, in the second phase, a total of 9.7bn/- was used to finance 81 projects and until July 2022, whereby 33,510 benefited where 17,257 are men and 16,253 women.

"We have so far provided an amount of 385.8m/-through the SDF that benefited 1,018 young people in the Internship Pro-



SDF beneficiary Ester Sheba (R) explains about mushroom products in one of the exhibitions held in Dodoma recently.

gramme in IT, tourism and hospitality services, energy, construction and transportation

She further stated that SDF is also sponsoring skills training

for people from poor households and special groups (Bursary Scheme) with the aim of enabling 4,000 young people to benefit by acquiring skills and empowering them economically.

"On this segment, there are 1,627 beneficiaries who have received the training while the phase of the second is expected to start this month in August 2022, by sponsoring 2,373 beneficiaries of whom 600 beneficiaries will be from Tanzania mainland and Zanzibar," she said.

Geuzye named the institutions used to provide the skills training as Vocational Colleges (VETA/Folk Development Colleges (FDC), Small Industries Development Organization (SIDO) centers and Vocational Training Colleges in Zanzibar.

Ester Sheba, one of the SDF training beneficiaries who received training on mushroom cultivation through SIDO in Dar es Salaam said apart from growing mushrooms, she also

learned how to process fruits where she makes wine from bananas, a job that has changed the history of his life.

Before getting into entrepreneurship, Ester served as a nurse in a government hospital, but the income she was getting was small compared to the actual cost of living and so she was eager to do something else so that she could meet her needs.

"I am very grateful to the government, TEA and SIDO because I could not have reached where I am on my own. This programme has helped us a lot as many of us now are running projects which have helped improve our incomes," Ester said.

Ester further said that through her work in producing mushrooms and making wine, she participated in a competition organized by Clouds Media Group in March, 2022 where she emerged the winner of the award attracting other entrepreneurs to go to her to learn how to grow mushrooms as well as fruit processing.

US policy to tackle climate change, boost investments

By Berna Namata

THE US government has stated that its future cooperation with Africa will focus on trade, and investment to reinvigorate its waning influence on the continent, and has also pledged to boost digital initiatives to fight climate change and deliver Covid-19 vaccines.

US Secretary of State Antony Blinken unveiled the strategy last week in South Africa during his five-day tour of sub-Saharan Africa that included earlier visits to DR Congo and Rwanda.

Blinken says Africans must choose their partners well as the US competes for influence on the continent with Russia and China.

The strategy underscores: human rights and democracy; fighting terrorism and ending armed conflict; pandemic recovery; hunger and climate change at the heart of the Biden administration's engagement with the continent.

"It's a strategy that reflects the region's complexity - its diversity, its power and influence - and one that focuses on what we will do with African nations and peoples, not for African nations and peoples," Blinken said.

He added that the US "will not dictate Africa's choices, and neither should anyone else. The right to make these choices belongs to Africans, and Africans alone."

But during his trip, Blinken downplayed criticism of the US, that it had

ignored Africa over the past decade, lacked a coherent policy on how to engage the region, and was instead now keen on the relationship to counter increasing Russian and Chinese influence. Of particular concern to African countries is a bill, the Countering Malign Russian Activities in Africa Act, passed by the House of Representatives on April 27, if passes at the Senate it will become a law to punish African governments for lending a hand to Russian "malign" activities on the continent.

The bill defines such malign activities as those that "undermine United States objectives and interests," and requires the US Secretary of State "...to develop and submit to Congress a strategy and implementation plan outlining United States efforts to counter the malign influence and activities of the Russian Federation and its proxies in Africa."

While Blinken declined to comment on the bill he defended the US position, saying his government is not asking Africans to choose but rather "providing a choice."

On March 2 this year, 28 AU member states voted in favour of a UN resolution condemning the Russian invasion of Ukraine, 17 abstained, eight didn't vote, and Eritrea voted against in a vote of 141. Four voted against.

While African nations are free to import Russian grain and fertilisers, they risk sanctions if they trade with Russian oil, which remains sanctioned by the US.



US Secretary of State Antony Blinken and Rwanda's Minister of Foreign Affairs Vincent Biruta at a press briefing

In a separate virtual briefing on Thursday, Molly Phee, Assistant Secretary, Bureau of African Affairs told journalists that the US exempted all Russian food products from sanction because

they knew "they were important to many consumers around the world, including those here in Africa."

"We are seeking to deprive Russia of the revenue that it receives from oil

sales, which it is using to conduct this terrible, illegal campaign in Ukraine," Phee said.

During his tour, the South African Foreign Minister Naledi Pandor at a

joint press briefing expressed concern at the attempt by the US to "punish" countries that did not support the West in the Russia-Ukraine conflict.

"I hate being told, 'either you choose

LUCKNOW

ON the eve of India's 76th Independence Day, the president of the country, Droupadi Murmu, received a letter signed by 102 international writers, including authors from India and the Indian diaspora expressing "grave concerns about the rapidly worsening situation for human rights" and calling for the release of imprisoned writers and "dissent and critical voices".

Salman Rushdie signed the letter before the attack on him on August 12, 2022. Rushdie joined PEN America and PEN International, two worldwide associations of writers, to convey his anguish to the highest office in India.

Dated August 14, 2022, the letter urged the President of India to support the democratic ideals promoting and protecting free expression in the spirit of India's independence and to restore India's reputation as an inclusive, secular, multi-ethnic and -religious democracy where writers can express dissenting or critical views without threat of detention, investigation, physical attacks, or retaliation.

"Free expression is the cornerstone of a robust democracy. By weakening this core right, all other rights are at risk and the promises made at India's birth as an independent republic are severely compromised," the writers emphasised.

In its Freedom to Write Index 2021, PEN America considered India the only "nominally democratic country" among the "top 10 jailers" of writers and public intellectuals worldwide. The letter highlighted the arrest of writers, including poet Varavara Rao who was recently granted bail.

The "grave concern" regarding threats to free expression and other core rights has grown steadily in recent years.

The signatories underlined that writers and public intellectuals were "subject to arrest, prosecution, and travel bans intended to restrain their free speech".

Well-known authors Amitav Ghosh, Perumal Murugan, Orhan Pamuk, Jerry Pinto, Salil Tripathi, Aatish Taseer and Shobhaa De, have signed the letter that said, "Online trolling and harassment is rife, hate speech is expressed loudly", and criticised frequent internet shutdowns "centred on Kashmir" limit the access to news and information.

The letter registered a strong protest over the "persecution" of writers, columnists, editors, journalists, and artists, including Mohammed Zubair, Siddique Kappan, Teesta Setalvad, Avinash Das, and Fahad Shah.

In yet another PEN America initiative, 113 authors from India and the Indian diaspora have contributed to a collection reflecting on the state of free expression and democratic ideals. Titled India at 75, the collection includes original writings by Salman Rushdie, Jhumpa Lahiri, Geetanjali Shree, Rajmohan Gandhi and Romila Thapar, among others.

Rushdie writes that India's "dream of fellowship and liberty is dead, or close to death".

"Then, in the First Age of Hindustan Hamara, our India, we celebrated one another's festivals, and believed, or almost believed, that all of the land's multifariousness belonged to all of us. Now that dream of fellowship and liberty is dead, or close to death. A shadow lies upon the country we loved so deeply.

Rushdie joins 102 international writers to demand freedom of expression in India



Journalists, writers, both local and international, have called on the authorities in India to respect human rights and release imprisoned writers and dissent and critical voices. Protests about media freedom have become more urgent in recent years since this protest by the Mumbai Press Club.

Hindustan isn't hamara anymore. The Ruling Ring—one might say—has been forged in the fire of an Indian Mount Doom. Can any new fellowship be created to stand against it?"

On August 15, India celebrated 75 years of independence from colonial rule. The country has yet to conquer poverty, but the largest democracy in the world did enjoy an excellent track record of encouraging free and fair media.

However, press freedom, as well as the unity of the country, is threatened by communal politics. A large section of mainstream media has turned pro-government, especially after the general elections in the spring of 2019. Ever since pressure has increased on the media to toe the line of the Hindu nationalist government. For the same reason, it is often difficult to distinguish between a ruling party spokesperson and a journalist in India today.

"At centre stage of media are views of political parties, their respective spokespersons making more noise than

saying anything substantive on the electronic media," Anand Vardhan Singh, Lucknow-based senior journalist and founder of YouTube channel The Public, told the IPS.

Singh regrets that the people in power have fragmented the national media between English versus regional languages, print versus electronic versus social media.

Investigative journalism is a thing of the past. The reporting aspect of media has taken a backseat.

This year's independence day celebration will be remembered for what 9-year-old Mehnaz Kappan said.

"I am Mehnaz Kappan, daughter of journalist Siddique Kappan, a citizen who has been forced into a dark room by breaking all freedom of a citizen."

Siddique Kappan is a Delhi-based journalist from Kerala. He was arrested in October 2020 on his way to Athras, a poverty-stricken village in north India in Uttar Pradesh, to report on the rape and murder of a 19-year-old Dalit woman.

"Attempts to demean, belittle, and outlaw dissent and protest and the problem of growing communalisation are the principal challenges the country faces today. A journalist needs nerves of steel and tremendous courage to continue to ask questions," senior journalist and founding editor of The Wire, Siddharth Varadarajan, said.

Like many others, Varadarajan, too, was punished for speaking out, and court cases are filed against him. Many journalists are booked for sedition to intimidate those scribes who refuse to toe the line of people in power.

The problem is that mainstream media has stopped questioning the government. Public interest is no longer on the mind of the media. The purpose of mainstream journalists, nicknamed 'godji' media or 'cozy' journalism, is only to praise those in power.

The media has abrogated its responsibility of asking questions, and those journalists who question, like Mohammad Zubair (33), are put into jail. The arrest of journalist Zubair marks a new low

for press freedom in India, where the government has created a hostile and unsafe environment for members of the press. Zubair was arrested because AltNews, a fact-checking website he co-founded, frequently exposed claims made by the government, making him an obstacle to false propaganda. Zubair was arrested last June. He spent 23 days in prisons and police custody in Delhi and Uttar Pradesh and was released on July 23, 2022, after the Supreme Court granted interim bail to him.

Soon after he had walked out of prison, Zubair told the national daily The Hindu that he thinks his arrest was made an example for others.

Zubair said that multiple First Information Reports (FIR) filed against him were a message from the government that it could book 10-15 random FIRs in different states to keep one in jail for years. Zubair was released after a Supreme Court ruling to grant him bail. The FIRs filed against Zubair are random and bizarre, like two FIRs in Uttar Pradesh are for fact-checking a media channel—which is his job. There is another FIR for calling an accused in a hate speech case a hate monger in a tweet!

Zubair happens to be a Muslim. Another Muslim journalist Sana Mattoo was prevented from flying abroad for a book release. To intimidate Zubair, money-laundering charges were filed against him. Maria Ressa, the Nobel Prize-winning journalist from the Philippines, said that she was shocked at the arrest of Zubair and human rights activist Teesta Setalvad. Ressa told a digital media reporter in India that all journalists should unite to oppose what has happened.

"Everyone should be talking about it; everyone should be writing about this," said Ressa.

In a population of 1.4 billion people, 14 percent are Muslim, but the practice of majoritarian politics in recent times has made the ruling party increasingly intolerant of Muslim voices in the country. Kappan, a Muslim, was denied bail.

Millions of tweets are directed at journalist Rana Ayyub, another Muslim, making her one of the most brutally targeted journalists in the world.

Ayyub, an independent journalist and a Washington Post columnist, has used her social media heft and the global attention she receives to highlight the plight of Indian Muslims and the arrest of journalists in India. She was accused of money laundering and tax fraud related to her crowdfunding campaign to help those affected by the COVID-19 pandemic in 2020.

Ayyub has denied any wrongdoing, calling the allegations baseless. Early this year, the United Nations appointed independent rights experts issued a statement calling Indian authorities to stop the systematic harassment against Ayyub.

"Relentless misogynistic and sectarian attacks online against journalist Rana Ayyub must be promptly and thoroughly investigated by the Indian authorities, and the judicial harassment

against her brought to an end at once," the statement said.

For the same reason, India ranks as one of the most dangerous and restrictive countries for journalists today. Despite its secular and democratic status, India is ranked 142nd in the Reporters Without Borders 2021 World Press Freedom Index.

There are other ways to make journalists feel uncomfortable. Notices were sent to the Indian Women Press Corps (IWPC) to vacate the accommodation allotted to them as their lease will soon end. A similar notice was also sent to South Asia's Foreign Correspondents' Club. Both organisations are Delhi based.

Shobhna Jain, President of IWPC, said, "It's a routine procedural thing. The government is giving us renewals, and we are quite hopeful that this year too, we will get the lease renewed for a longer period".

The IWPC is the country's first association of women journalists, founded in 1994 as a support group to help women meet challenges unique to women. It was to ensure that women's by-lines were respected and heard. Today more than 800 women are members of the IWPC who use the premises to network, access news sources, exchange information and share experiences to advance the profession. Located in the heart of New Delhi and equipped with a library and computer centre, the premises are a boon for journalists wanting to save time from commuting in the city.

Often children accompany the women journalist as she works while they play on the premises. Here press conferences are organised and exclusive interactions with newsmakers.

July this year was a terrible month for journalists around Asia.

On July 3, journalist Hasibur Rehman Rubel left his office in the Kushtia district in western Bangladesh, never to return. On July 7, his decomposed body was found in a river.

On July 7, Peer Muhammad Khan Karar, a Pakistani journalist, was arrested in the Loralai district of southwest Balochistan on complaints related to his Facebook posts.

On the same day in July, Ressa's prison sentence was increased by several months. A court in the Philippines affirmed the libel conviction of Ressa, Rappler's head and co-founder.

Two days later, on July 9, members of a television team were attacked in Sri Lanka. The paramilitary police Special Task Force assaulted journalists reporting a protest in the capital city of Colombo.

The BBC reported that a video journalist in Colombo was allegedly punched by a member of the Sri Lankan army, his phone snatched, and footage deleted.

What is the solution to the vicious attack on journalists today? According to Varadarajan, it is unity amongst all media persons that can together fight the assault on the media and freedom of speech in the country.

Despite differences in political beliefs, scribes need to stand by each other today like never before. Varadarajan suggests building a team of lawyers to defend media persons in court.

IPS



Salman Rushdie

RADIO One

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 AM HALI YA HEWA / KUMEPAMBAZUKA I 06.00 AM AMKA NA BBC 06.30 AM NIPASHE 06.50 AM MATANGAZO 07.00 AM NEWS BULLETIN 07.10 AM MATANGAZO 07.25 AM UDONDOZI WA BARABARANI 07.40 AM KUMEPAMBAZUKA II 08.00 AM HABARI NYEPESI 08.10 AM KUMEPAMBAZUKA III 09.00 AM HABARI ZA BIASHARA 09.20 AM BRAND TALK 10.00 AM NEWS BRIEF 10.03 AM DEATH ANNOUNCEMENTS 10.10 AM YALIVOMO YAMO 13.00 HRS DJ SHOW 13.10 HRS DEATH ANNOUNCEMENTS 13.30 HRS DJ SHOW 16.00 HRS NEWS BRIEF 16.03 HRS DEATH ANNOUNCEMENTS 16.30 HRS HOJA YA LEO 18.30 HRS DIRA YA DUNIA BBC 19.30 HRS SPOTI LEO 20.00 HRS NEWS BULLETIN 20.10 HRS RADIO ONE DOCTOR 21.00 HRS NEWS BRIEF 21.05 HRS DAKIKA 45 22.00 HRS NEWS BULLETIN (24 HRS) 22.15 HRS AFRO TIZI 23.00 HRS NEWS BRIEF 23.03 HRS AFRO TIZI 01.00 - 05.00 HRS MUZIKI MCHANGANYIKO	05.00 AM HALI YA HEWA / KUMEPAMBAZUKA I 06.00 AM AMKA NA BBC 06.30 AM NIPASHE 06.50 AM MATANGAZO 07.00 AM NEWS BULLETIN 07.10 AM MATANGAZO 07.25 AM UDONDOZI WA MAGAZETI 07.40 AM KUMEPAMBAZUKA II 08.00 AM HABARI NYEPESI 08.10 AM KUMEPAMBAZUKA III 09.00 AM HABARI ZA BIASHARA 09.20 AM BRAND TALK 09.30 AM KUMEPAMBAZUKA SHERIA 10.00 AM NEWS BRIEF 10.03 AM DEATH ANNOUNCEMENTS 10.10 AM YALIVOMO YAMO 13.00 HRS NEWS BULLETIN 13.10 HRS DEATH ANNOUNCEMENTS 13.30 HRS DJ SHOW 16.00 HRS NEWS BRIEF 16.03 HRS DEATH ANNOUNCEMENTS 16.30 HRS HOJA YA LEO 18.30 HRS DIRA YA DUNIA BBC 19.30 HRS SPOTI LEO 20.00 HRS NEWS BULLETIN 20.10 HRS MATANGAZO / MUZIKI 21.00 HRS NEWS BRIEF 21.05 HRS CHAGUO LA DJ 22.00 HRS NEWS BULLETIN (24 HRS) 22.15 HRS AFRO TIZI 23.00 HRS NEWS BRIEF 23.03 HRS AFRO TIZI 01.00 - 05.00 HRS MUZIKI MCHANGANYIKO	05.00 AM HALI YA HEWA / KUMEPAMBAZUKA I 06.00 AM AMKA NA BBC 06.30 AM NIPASHE 06.50 AM MATANGAZO 07.00 AM NEWS BULLETIN 07.10 AM MATANGAZO 07.25 AM UDONDOZI WA MAGAZETI 07.40 AM KUMEPAMBAZUKA II 08.00 AM HABARI NYEPESI 08.10 AM KUMEPAMBAZUKA III 09.00 AM HABARI ZA BIASHARA 09.20 AM BRAND TALK 09.30 AM KUMEPAMBAZUKA UKIMWI 10.00 AM NEWS BRIEF 10.03 AM DEATH ANNOUNCEMENTS 10.10 AM YALIVOMO YAMO 13.00 HRS NEWS BULLETIN 13.10 HRS DEATH ANNOUNCEMENTS 13.30 HRS DJ SHOW 16.00 HRS NEWS BRIEF 16.03 HRS DEATH ANNOUNCEMENTS 16.30 HRS HOJA YA LEO 18.30 HRS DIRA YA DUNIA BBC 19.30 HRS SPOTI LEO 20.00 HRS NEWS BULLETIN 20.10 HRS MATANGAZO / MUZIKI 21.00 HRS NEWS BRIEF 21.05 HRS CHAGUO LA DJ 22.00 HRS NEWS BULLETIN (24 HRS) 22.15 HRS AFRO TIZI 23.00 HRS NEWS BRIEF 23.03 HRS AFRO TIZI 01.00 - 05.00 HRS MUZIKI MCHANGANYIKO	05.00 AM HALI YA HEWA / KUMEPAMBAZUKA I 06.00 AM AMKA NA BBC 06.30 AM NIPASHE 06.50 AM MATANGAZO 07.00 AM NEWS BULLETIN 07.10 AM MATANGAZO 07.25 AM UDONDOZI WA MAGAZETI 07.40 AM KUMEPAMBAZUKA II 08.00 AM HABARI NYEPESI 08.10 AM KUMEPAMBAZUKA III 09.00 AM HABARI ZA BIASHARA 09.10 AM MATANGAZO 09.20 AM BRAND TALK 09.30 AM KUMEPAMBAZUKA UKIMWI 10.00 AM NEWS BRIEF 10.03 AM DEATH ANNOUNCEMENTS 10.10 AM HIZI NAZO 13.00 HRS NEWS BULLETIN 13.10 HRS DEATH ANNOUNCEMENTS 13.30 HRS DJ SHOW 16.00 HRS NEWS BRIEF 16.03 HRS DEATH ANNOUNCEMENTS 16.30 HRS HOJA YA LEO 18.30 HRS DIRA YA DUNIA BBC 19.30 HRS SPOTI LEO 20.00 HRS NEWS BULLETIN 20.10 HRS MATANGAZO / MUZIKI 21.00 HRS NEWS BRIEF 21.05 HRS KIPIMA JOTO 23.00 HRS WEEKEND SHOW 01.00 - 05.00 HRS MUZIKI MCHANGANYIKO	05.00 AM HALI YA HEWA / KUMEPAMBAZUKA I 06.00 AM AMKA NA BBC 06.30 AM NIPASHE 06.50 AM COMMERCIALS 07.00 AM NEWS BULLETIN 07.15 AM NEWS PAPERS REVIEW 07.30 AM KUMEPAMBAZUKA KISWAHI 09.00 AM WATOTO SHOW 10.00 AM NEWS BRIEF 10.03 AM DEATH ANNOUNCEMENTS 10.15 AM SUNDAY SPECIAL 11.00 AM MITAA WA MAGOMA 11.00 AM MATAA WA MAGOMA 13.00 HRS NEWS BULLETIN 13.10 HRS DEATH ANNOUNCEMENTS 13.30 HRS CHAGUO LAKO 15.00 HRS MUZIKI NA MICHEZO 16.00 HRS NEWS BRIEF 16.03 HRS DEATH ANNOUNCEMENTS 16.15 HRS MIDUNDO MOTOMOTO 18.00 HRS BONGO TEN 19.30 HRS SPOTI LEO 20.00 HRS NEWS BULLETIN 20.15 HRS CHEMSHA BONGO 21.00 HRS NEWS BRIEF 21.03 HRS WEEK END SHOW I 22.00 HRS NEWS BULLETIN (24 HRS) 22.15 HRS WEEK END SHOW II 23.00 HRS NEWS BRIEF 23.03 HRS WEEK END SHOW III 01.00 - 05.00 HRS MUZIKI MCHANGANYIKO	05.00 AM HALI YA HEWA / KUMEPAMBAZUKA I 06.00 AM AMKA NA BBC 06.30 AM NIPASHE 06.50 AM COMMERCIALS 07.00 AM NEWS BULLETIN 07.15 AM NEWS PAPERS REVIEW 07.30 AM KUMEPAMBAZUKA - FAMILIA 10.00 AM NEWS BRIEF 10.03 AM DEATH ANNOUNCEMENTS 10.15 AM SUNDAY SPECIAL 11.00 AM MITAA WA MAGOMA 13.00 HRS NEWS BULLETIN 13.10 HRS DEATH ANNOUNCEMENTS 13.30 HRS NANI ZAIDI 16.00 HRS NEWS BRIEF 16.03 HRS DEATH ANNOUNCEMENTS 16.15 HRS MIDUNDO MOTOMOTO 18.00 HRS AFRICAN PANORAMA 19.30 HRS SPOTI LEO 20.00 HRS NEWS BULLETIN 20.10 HRS MBAVU ZANGU 21.00 HRS NEWS BRIEF 21.03 HRS MAMBO MASETO 22.00 HRS NEWS BULLETIN (24 HRS) 22.15 HRS RAFIKI I 23.00 HRS NEWS BRIEF 23.03 HRS RAFIKI II 01.00 - 05.00 MUZIKI MCHANGANYIKO	

Tembelea mitandao ya kijamii ya Radio One



Radio One



Thursday 18 August 2022

Interest rate on interbank lending increases three months high

By Guardian Reporter

DEMAND for cash pushed up the interest rates used by commercial banks in lending each other overnight by 1.06 percent in June, compared with preceding month.

The Bank of Tanzania (BoT) reported that overnight interbank cash market reached 2.78 percent in June this year from 1.72 percent in preceding month, the highest in three months.

The BoT monthly economic review for July shows overnight cash transactions amounted 500bn/- in June this year, nearly double of the amount transacted in the preceding month.

Total transactions in the interbank cash market (IBCM) also increased in June 2022, amounting to 2,781.9bn/- compared with 2,360bn/- transacted in the preceding month.

This development, according to the central bank, was associated with increased demand for shilling liquidity towards the end of fiscal year, to cater for corporate tax payments and ongoing seasonal crop purchase.

BoT report shows overall and 2-7 days' IBCM rate averaged 4.25 percent and 4.56 percent, compared with 4.35 percent and 4.64 percent in May 2022, respectively.

Overnight placements accounted for 18.3 percent of the total market turnover, while transactions of 2-7 days remained dominant at 66.8 percent.

The demand for cash by commercial banks to finance seasonal crop purchase also pushed up the growth of agriculture lending during the period to 42.1 percent from a contraction of 10.7 percent in June last year.

It is being claimed that 70 percent of all banks' lending to agriculture, which amounted 2 trillion in June 2022 have been directed to crop purchases, mainly commercial crops.

The BoT report says shilling liquidity in domestic money markets remained adequate in June 2022, despite the reduction of liquidity injecting open market operations.

This development was mainly supported through access of Bank of Tanzania credit lines by some banks, coupled with granting of standing facilities and supportive fiscal measures.

This was reflected in low and stable short-term interest rates, which created favourable conditions for further reduction of lending rates, BoT report says.

"The implementation of accommodative monetary policy succeeded in sustaining shilling liquidity at adequate levels throughout 2021/22, supported by fiscal policy measures, which helped the recovery of lending to various sectors of the economy," BoT said.

BoT noted that this trend was reflected in the general stability of money market interest rates at low levels, high clearing balances of banks, with average reserve money and money supply responding positively to accommodative policy stance.

"Signalling adequacy of liquidity in the banking system, the overnight interbank cash market interest rate averaged 3.42 percent during July 2021 to April 2022, compared with 3.60 percent recorded in the corresponding period in 2020/21," it says.

Meanwhile, foreign exchange markets remained liquid and active, supported by sustained presence of the BoT in the interbank foreign exchange market.

The shilling remained relatively stable against major global trading currencies, says BoT.

However, BoT explained that the monetary policy implementation in June 2022 faced challenges of rising inflationary pressures, emanating mainly from global shocks and supply side factors.



Overnight placements accounted for 18.3 percent of the total market turnover PHOTO/FILE

Notwithstanding, money supply continued to grow, albeit at a slow pace, partly attributable to scaling down of accommodative monetary policy measures in the last quarter of 2021/22.

This was done in order to reduce second round effects of general increase in prices, while safeguarding ongoing recovery of economic activities.

Specifically, extended broad money supply (M3) grew at an annual rate of 6.5 percent compared with 11.7 percent recorded in June 2021.

The development translated to an annual average growth of M3 of 12.2 percent,

broadly in line with the target of 10 percent in 2021/22.

Similarly, broad money supply (M2) grew by 7.7 percent, compared with 10.5 percent.

Fintech sector gets new 'baby' as Pesapal secures license

By Guardian Correspondent

TANZANIA'S financial sector has got a new entrant in the market, after the Bank of Tanzania (BoT) granted a license to Pesapal Tanzania to operate in the local digital financial services space, as a payment systems provider (PSP).

In its statement issued yesterday, Pesapal Tanzania, the financial technology (fintech) firm said BoT has licensed them under the National Payment System Act of 2015.

Already Pesapal operates in Kenya and Uganda where it provides services to over 50,000 general enterprises.

Through Pesapal Mobile, clients can also be able to pay all bills in bulk at a go in one transaction, buy airtime, pays electricity bills and pay TV & internet bills.

"The vision of the company is to empower Africa to access affordable, convenient, secure and innovative digital financial services that spur sustainable growth," the company said in a statement.

"BoT licence allows us to do exactly that in Tanzania, which principally is providing online and point-of-sale payments seamlessly."

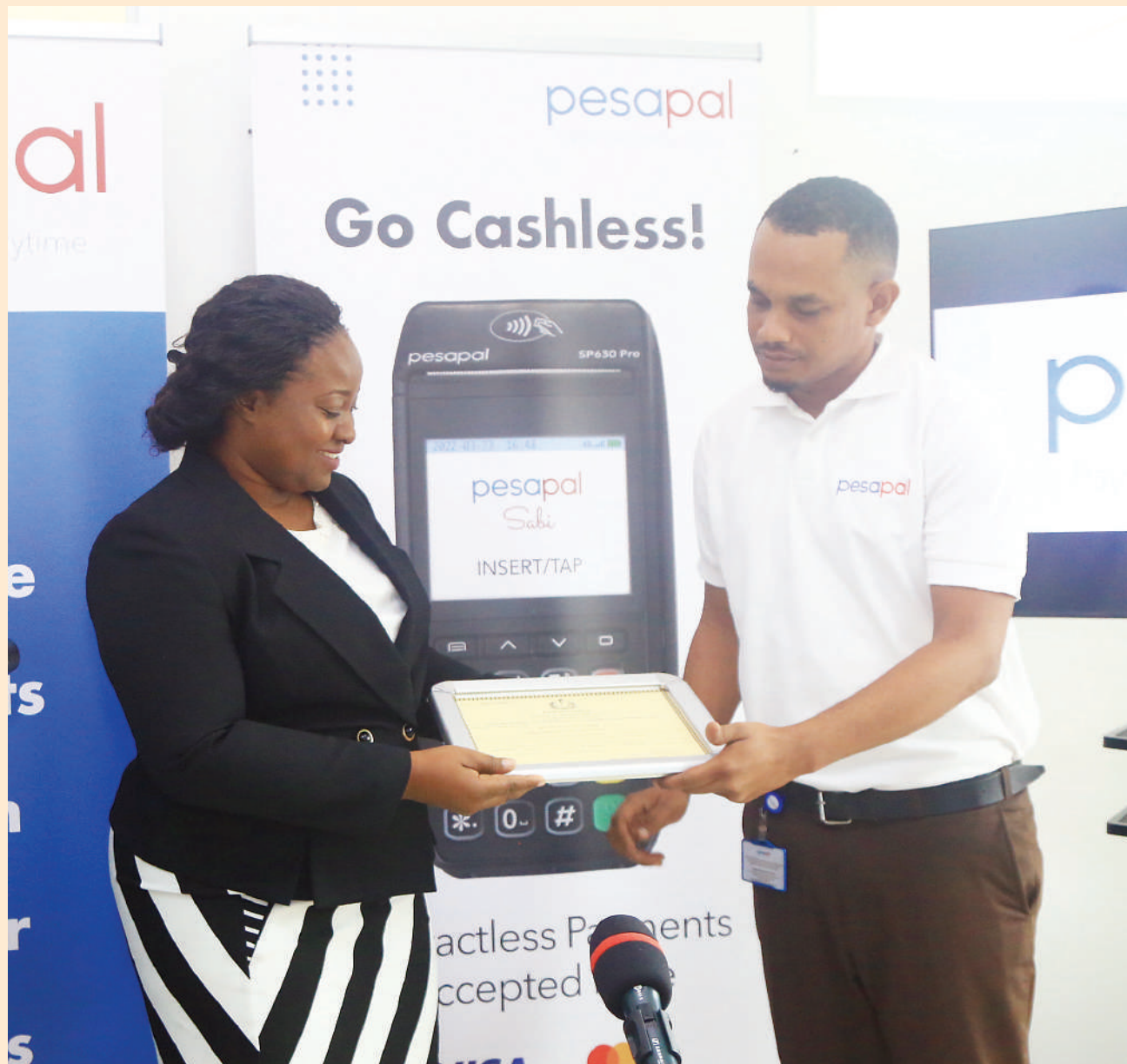
"Penetrating and expanding its operations in Tanzania is a beneficial strategic move for Pesapal, which hopes to gain a foothold in the market, and enable Tanzanians to derive value from access to innovative, secure, and economical digital financial solutions," Pesapal Tanzania further noted.

The statement said mid last year, Tanzania Communications Regulatory Authority (TCRA) blessed its quest to do business in the country, which was a key aspect for the acquisition of the BoT licence.

"Whether you're running an e-commerce, a small shop, Boutique, Restaurant, Pesapal Sabi is made for your business," the statement said.

Commenting on the development, Bupe Mwakalundwa, Pesapal Tanzania Country Manager, said obtaining the PSP licence enables the company to broaden its product portfolio and market outreach in Africa.

Mwakalundwa explained in a statement that Pesapal Tanzania believes in technology as a key driver for economic



Pesapal Tanzania Country Manager, Bupe Mwakalundwa (L) receives a Bank of Tanzania (BoT) licence from Pesapal Tanzania Account manager Ally Abdul, to signify commencement of commercial operations as a payment systems provider in Tanzania PHOTO/COURTESY

growth and supporting the government in extending financial inclusion for all people. "At Pesapal, our goal is to leverage technology to build payment solutions that simplify how consumers and businesses get paid," she pointed out.

Through the venture, she added, Pesapal wants to provide Tanzanians with access to innovative digital financial products that are suited for all enterprises across the board, including SMEs.

Other beneficiaries of the investment will be online merchants, individuals,

and all those currently underserved by traditional payment mechanisms.

According to Agosta Liko, Pesapal Group CEO and Founder, the company has become a champion of digital finance in the region by playing a major role in disrupting payments services for the better.

"As a service-oriented, product-driven, and technology-intensive organization, we have the tools to drive change in digital financial services. We will do this by providing solutions that ensure superior

customer experience, help people streamline their financial lives, and continue to support businesses by solving the complexity of handling payments," he noted in the statement.

Pesapal was founded in 2009 to make it easy for people and businesses to pay and get paid. In the last 11 years, the company has invested heavily in the business to build an innovative financial services ecosystem for businesses and consumers that is anchored by integrity and unmatched value.

Sharia compliant investment network at DSE attracts more

By Francis Kajubi

THE new sharia compliant investment platform at the Dar es Salaam Stock Exchange (DSE)- Shirkah Investors Network, says has continued to attract more Tanzanian investors to invest in capital markets.

The platform involving both low and middle income earners, targeting both Muslim and non-Muslim, want to create ethical wealth creation among Tanzanians through investing in equity and bonds market.

According to SSC Capital, local corporate and investment management firm which created the platform, more investors are joining the network through investing in five established companies.

In an interview with The Guardian at the weekend, Shirkah Investment Network- Founder and SSC Capital Chief Executive Officer (CEO) Salum Awadh said out of 26 firms currently listed at the DSE, the platform has picked five from which investors will have to buy shares worth a minimum 100,000/- (\$50) and above.

"Shirkah guarantees investors an access to screened products. Shirkah investors can now buy shares worth 100,000/- and above at Vodacom Tanzania Plc, Jatu Plc, Swissport Tanzania Plc, Twiga Cement and Tanzania Oxygen Limited," said Awadh.

He asserted that Muslim for instance, and investors from other ethical groups can hardly access investment opportunities which are pre-screened, sharia compliant and promote ethical wealth creation.

Even when they access, he said, they can't easily meet the minimum invest-

ment requirements, and don't have a mechanism to grow their savings into investments, and their investments, but with Shirkah, sky's the limit.

"Investment opportunities range from publicly traded stocks, Islamic bonds (well known as Sukuk), Real Estate Investment Trust (REIT), commodities, saving accounts, mutual funds and Start-ups. For stocks it allows investment in sharia compliant stocks through in-house Halal Index," he asserted. According to him, the platform also allows investment in fixed income securities such as Sovereign Sukuk, Corporate Sukuk, and term accounts.

"Clients can also invest in start-ups, as an asset class, targeting start-ups that have built solutions that promote the halal economy," he noted.

"We provide a platform that can be easily accessed from a smartphone or web with pre-screened investment opportunities across multiple asset classes while provide an opportunity for our investors to build a savings plan, insure their valuable assets and plan for retirement, all in one platform," he clarified.

He said investor can select one, few or all products available on the platform.

The platform allows an investment withdrawal after the first 30 days, but client are also allowed re-invest anytime on his/her wishes. Shirkah is regulated by the Capital Market and Securities Authority (CMSA) and is placed under the supervisor of the Center for Islamic Finance, Compliance and Advice (CIFCA).

Shirkah operates in-house halal index that tracks sharia-compliant stocks on Dar es Salaam stock exchange and exchanges across east Africa.



Credit uptake remains weak in Uganda amid rising risk

KAMPALA

At least more than half of commercial banks say they will increase interest rates by September which is expected to further impact private sector lending

Loan uptake by the private sector slightly contracted in the period ended June, according to Bank of Uganda.

In the quarter between March to June, the Central Bank indicates, total private sector net of revaluation and capitalised interest, declined to 9.2 percent in June down from 9.6 percent in the quarter to March.

The reduction, although slight, highlights a difficult economic environment that has continued to impact growth in private sector credit weak and the economy at large.

This also comes amid an increase in interest rates as Bank of Uganda continues to increase the Central Bank Rate in an attempt to contain rising inflationary pressures.

Last week Bank of Uganda increased the Central Bank Rate for the third consecutive month to 9 percent.

This has resulted into an increase in commercial banks interest rates with most banks indicating they will follow movements of the Central Bank Rate.

In its monetary policy statement released last week, Bank of Uganda indicated that a June survey among commercial banks had shown that at least 60.9 percent of banks had indicated they expect their lending rates to increase in the quarter to September 2022, citing the increase in the Central Bank Rate and high cost of funding.

However, the Central Bank also indicated that private sector credit has continued to be constrained by risk aversion exhibited through reduced loan approvals.

Bank of Uganda data indicates that despite a steady increase in loan applications, lenders have been reluctant to approve more than 56 percent of the value of loans applied for.

Data indicates that personal and household loans, agriculture, trade, building mortgage, construction and real estate, among others received the high amount of disbursed loans during the period.

For instance, during the period, loans to building, mortgage, construction and real estate stood at Shs4.1 trillion compared to Shs3.8 trillion recorded in January while



Bank of Uganda

agriculture received Shs2.2 trillion from Shs2.07 trillion in January. Manufacturing received Shs2.1 trillion while transport and communications received Shs1 trillion.

Credit to trade increased from Shs2.9 trillion in January to Shs3.1 in June while electricity and water received Shs299.3b from Shs289.1b in January.

Loans to community social and other services grew from Shs1.1 trillion in January to Shs1.16 trillion in June while mining and quarrying received Shs54.8b June 2022.

During the period, personal and household loans, grew to Shs3.6 trillion in June from Shs3.5 trillion in January credit advanced to trade stood

Shs3.132 trillion in June from Shs2.9 trillion in January.

Business service received Shs821.8b from Shs722.8b in January while other services attracted Shs52.1b from Shs87.1b in January.

However, only 19 percent of Ugandans borrow from formal financial institutions, according to Ministry of Finance permanent secretary Ramathan Ggoobi.

Speaking during the Financial Inclusion and Financial Literacy Forum in Kampala last week, Mr Ggoobi said that whereas

the number of Ugandans who borrow from formal financial institutions was still low, it almost doubles that of sub-Saharan Africa, which stands at

10 percent, and far above some countries such as Tanzania - 4 percent.

Therefore, he said, there is need to improve financial inclusion, which will result in an increase in uptake of formal financial services, noting that while the poor have made progress, they still lag behind the rich while, according to the Uganda National Household Survey, the level of education remains a key determinant in financial literacy and inclusion.

For instance, the survey indicates 65 percent of Ugandans without a primary level education have no access to financial accounts, compared to just 23 percent of those with a secondary level education.

Barclays warns of credit pain in return to 1970s

WASHINGTON

RISING prices amid a US economic slowdown will menace embattled credit markets, if history repeats.

The current inflation and growth environment is most akin to the 1973 to 1975 and 1978 to 1980 time periods, when credit markets did badly, according to Barclays Plc. strategists led by Dominique Toublan.

"Credit performance was poor then, and we do not expect this time to be different," the strategists wrote in a note dated Aug. 12. The asset class "could experience even more pain if the current stagflationary backdrop develops into a deflationary one."

Through the 1970s periods of rising inflation and weak growth, monthly high-grade credit excess returns were negative 14 basis points on average. Monthly performance was negative 58% of the time, about 15% higher than the long-term average, the strategists wrote.

Credit markets have been battered this year, particularly high-grade, as Treasury yields surged and the Federal Reserve boosted rates to tackle inflation. Despite a July rally -- which marked the best monthly return in two years -- investment-grade bonds are down almost 12% for 2022 so far, according to Bloomberg index data.

Bonds issued by technology companies, banks and basic industry sectors outperformed through inflationary years in both investment-grade and high-yield, according to Barclays. High-grade energy and junk-rated insurance debt also fared better.

During periods of stagflation, insurance, communications and consumer cyclical sectors underperformed, the strategists wrote.

"Stagflationary environments have not been kind to credit, with returns being negative on average when the growth backdrop deteriorates," the strategists wrote.

Credit investors should be wary of stagflation or significantly slower growth, according to Terence Wheat, co-head of investment-grade corporate bonds at PGIM Fixed Income. He expects high-grade spreads to tighten from current levels before

widening out by year-end as the US economy slows.

The spread on the benchmark high-grade index tightened to 131 basis points on Monday, off the 2022 peak of 160 basis points struck on July 5.

"There is still a probability of a deeper recession coming, so we have to be wary of that," Wheat said.

There is, however, evidence that the worst of inflation may be over, according to David Norris, head of US credit at TwentyFour Asset Management. "The discussions on inflation is what's going to drive performance," he said. "There are very good arguments to suggest it has reached its peak."

Norris expects investment-grade debt to perform better in the fourth quarter. He views spreads at 150 basis points to 160 basis points as good entry points.

Ford Motor Co is taking advantage of a credit-market rally to sell green bonds. The vehicle maker is issuing a 10-year unsecured green bond with early pricing discussions suggesting a yield of about 6.4%, according to a person familiar with the matter.

Emerging-market companies are refinancing foreign-currency bonds at the slowest pace in seven years as central banks in the US and Europe raise interest rates, pulling back from easy-money policies businesses worldwide once relied on to cut costs.

Olympus Water US Holding, a chemicals supplier and manufacturer, is marketing a \$325 million junk-bond sale to help finance the acquisition of Clearon.

Financial issuers dived into the primary market on Tuesday, sparking the most sales in more than a month.

China's developer stocks and dollar bonds surged Tuesday on reports of a plan that could help some raise fresh financing which is ultimately guaranteed by the state.

Mobile phone operator DITO Telecommunity Corporation is looking to extend the maturity on \$800 million worth of debt from Bank of China Ltd. and eventually convert it into a long-term loan.



China's central bank adds liquidity via reverse repos

BEIJING

CHINA'S central bank on Wednesday conducted 2 billion yuan (about 295 million U.S. dollars) of reverse repos to maintain liquidity in the banking system.

The interest rate for the seven-day reverse repos was set at 2 percent, according to the People's Bank of China.

The move aims to keep stable liquidity in the banking system, the central bank said.

A reverse repo is a process in which the central bank purchases securities from commercial banks through bidding, with an agreement to sell them back in the future.

On Tuesday, the central bank leveraged its policy toolkit, cutting the interest rates of its medium-term lending facility (MLF) loans and reverse repos by 10 basis points for the second time this year, to further consolidate economic growth.

Specifically, it lowered the rate of 400 billion yuan (about 59 billion U.S. dollars) worth of one-year MLF to financial institutions to 2.75 percent from the 2.85-percent rate it opted for on the previous occasion.

It also injected 2 billion yuan of funds into the market via seven-day reverse repos at an interest rate of 2 percent, down from 2.1 percent.

The MLF tool was introduced in 2014 to help commercial and policy banks

maintain liquidity by allowing them to borrow from the central bank using securities as collateral.

A reverse repo is a process in which the central bank purchases securities from commercial banks through bidding, with an agreement to sell them back in the future.

Analysts saw the move as the central bank's quick response to changes in economic and financial situations, which will further lower financing costs for the real economy, expand domestic demand, and consolidate the momentum of economic recovery.

The central bank's data showed that the M2, a broad measure of money supply that covers cash in circulation and all deposits, increased 12 percent year on year to 257.81 trillion yuan at the end of last month.

Newly added social financing, a measurement of funds that individuals and non-financial firms receive from the financial system, came in at 756.1 billion yuan last month, down 319.1 billion yuan from the same period last year.

The July data suggested that while money supply was sufficient, the financing demand from the real economy was still weak, said Zhou Maohua, an analyst with the China Everbright Bank. Zhong Zhengsheng, chief economist with Pingan Securities, said lowering policy interest rates is the most direct way to drive down financing costs.

Egypt's central bank governor resigns after a meeting

CAIRO

EGYPTIAN President Abdel-Fattah El-Sisi accepted the resignation of central bank Governor Tarek Amer, the state-run Al-Ahram newspaper reported, a shock decision one day before an interest-rate meeting and with pressure mounting on the currency.

Amer was appointed as a presidential adviser, Ahram said. No further details were given on his resignation, and it didn't say who would be the next governor.

Derivatives traders added to bets for a weaker pound. In the non-deliverable forwards market, the three-month contract was around 20.9 per dollar Wednesday, compared with 20.4 on Tuesday. The spot rate was little changed at 19.15 against the dollar in the offshore market.

The departure throws more uncertainty into the mix for an economy that's under pressure from the spillover effects of Russia's invasion of Ukraine. Amer's drama-filled time in office included a steep currency devaluation during his first four-year stint and another in March.

Under Amer, who started his new term in January 2020, Egypt became a prime destination for hot money by keeping its currency stable and boasting the world's highest interest rates when adjusted for inflation.

With external capital markets all but closed, the government has been seeking a new loan from the International Monetary Fund, which favors a more flexible exchange rate.

"Given the long delays in the IMF program agreement, which we partially attributed to monetary and exchange rate policy, the departure implies that the prospect for prior actions to an IMF program may finally be taken," said Matthew Vogel, London-based portfolio manager and head of sovereign research at FIM Partners.

Sisi thanked Amer for his efforts, according to the Al-Masry Al-Youm daily. It also cited the outgoing governor as saying that he resigned to "give a chance to others to continue the successful developmental path under the leadership of the president."

Amer's tenure saw the central bank ratchet interest rates to a record high to stem annual inflation that at one point topped 30%. As that price growth



slowed dramatically, Egypt was left with one of the world's highest real interest rates, making its debt market a favorite for international investors.

A former president of the National Bank of Egypt, the country's largest state-owned lender, Amer started at the central bank in late October 2015 as Egypt, feeling the after-effects of years of unrest, reeled from a critical dollar shortage.

Late the following year, the

pound was devalued by about half and the government began cutting subsidies to help secure a \$12 billion IMF loan.

Previously, Mr. Amer was the former Chairman and CEO of The National Bank Of Egypt (NBE), where he successfully implemented a full restructuring plan over a short period from 2008 turning around the Bank of Egypt to become the largest and foremost financial services provider in Egypt and one of

the largest in the Middle East and North Africa Region; as well as one of the most profitable financial institutions in Egypt.

Amer's professional career spans over more than 40 years of banking experience and managing the Corporate Finance and Investment Banking activities for both Bank of America and Citi Group covering a wide array of regions, including the Middle East and North Africa (MENA), Turkey, and the Gulf.

Kenya loan rates increase to 16pc after repeal of interest controls

NAIROBI

MORE than half of commercial banks raised their lending rates to individuals and businesses in the second quarter of the year, indicating the early impact of the accelerated approvals of risk-based lending plans by the Central Bank of Kenya (CBK).

The latest bank loan and overdraft rates data published by the regulator show that some lenders charged as high as 16.4 percent for business loans in June, and 16.8 percent for overdrafts, representing a jump of up to 4.8 percentage points from the March rates.

Ecobank Kenya's overdraft facility for businesses rose to 16.8 percent in June from 12 percent three months earlier, while its rate for business loans in June, and 16.8 percent for overdrafts, representing a jump of up to 4.8 percentage points from the March rates.

For personal loans of a tenor above five years, Middle East Bank is charging 16.1 percent, up from 8.1 percent in March, while on loans below five years, Kingdom Bank's rate has risen from nine percent to 15.3 percent.

For the majority of the 28 lenders that adjusted their rates

upwards, the rates on personal and business loans have gone up by up to 2.4 percentage points to 14 percent.

Last month, the CBK disclosed that more than half of commercial banks have had their risk-based lending plans approved or signed off, allowing them to factor in the creditworthiness of a borrower when determining the rate to charge on their loan.

The prolonged wait of approvals for most banks—which according to the CBK was partly due to some submitting unsatisfactory plans—had seen most of them lending at a maximum of 13 percent even after the law capping rates on loans was lifted in November 2019.

At this rate, it made more sense for the banks to lend risk-free to the government at between 10 and 13.5 percent, which meant that growth in lending to the private sector has remained below the 12 to 15 percent range that is deemed ideal to fuel healthy growth of the economy.

By being allowed to load a premium to cover lending to customers deemed riskier, the expectation is that banks will then open their wallets to small



Ecobank Kenya's overdraft facility for businesses rose to 16.8 percent in June from 12 percent three months earlier

businesses and individuals, who have been struggling to access formal credit.

However, while there is an increase in approvals of risk pricing

models, lenders have raised concerns that they still lack some of the supporting data necessary to accurately estimate a client's risk profile due to the moratorium on the

negative listing of borrowers with loans below Sh5 million by credit reference bureaus (CRBs).

US, European banks could lose over \$5 billion from risky buyout loans



Bank of America is among those most exposed to such write-downs

NEW YORK

TOP US and European banks are facing tougher times in the riskiest parts of the loan market.

The biggest US lenders, including Bank of America and Citigroup, wrote down \$1 billion in the second quarter on leveraged and bridge loans as rising interest rates made it tougher for banks to offload debt to investors and other lenders.

The pain has also spread across the Atlantic, after European lenders such as Deutsche Bank and Credit Suisse reported losses for such exposure.

Large US and European banks are on track to lose \$5 billion to \$10 billion more in coming quarters on leveraged loans they have committed to underwrite, according to bankers and analysts.

Bank of America is among those most exposed to such write-downs because it is financing at least three large buyout deals at a time when the LBO market has come to a standstill, bankers and analysts said. Bank of America declined to comment.

In the leveraged loan market, banks typically make higher-risk loans to investors who want to purchase companies using the borrowed funds. As the market slowed, banks have responded with more stringent terms for new loans while struggling to distribute existing loans to other lenders and institutional investors. Buyers are seeking more favorable terms.

"If a bank wants to push a deal on to the market to investors, they're going to have to bring it at a discount," said Dan DeYoung, high yield and leveraged loan portfolio manager

at fund manager Columbia Threadneedle.

Goldman Sachs, Bank of America and Barclays are among the top three bookrunners for leverage buyout financing for both leveraged loans and bonds since the fourth quarter of 2021 in the United States and Europe, according to data from Dealogic.

Goldman Sachs and Barclays declined to comment.

Banks typically sell the loans rather than holding them. They want to distribute about \$80 billion to \$100 billion of U.S. and European leveraged loans to other lenders and investors in September and October, a delay in the process due to market disruption, according to three bankers involved in the market. If they are sold at a discount, the underwriters would have to swallow some losses, the bankers said.

The market was disrupted by the Federal Reserve's plan to tighten monetary policy to fight inflation, which sparked a sharp sell-off across fixed-income assets this year.

The yield spread on the ICE BofA U.S. High Yield Index, a commonly used benchmark for the junk bond market, rose to a two-year high of around 600 basis points in July. It has narrowed to 425 basis points, but is still up 120 bps since the beginning of the year.

"We all underestimated how big an issue inflation was, and

how aggressively the Fed was going to have to move," said a senior loan banker in New York.

"A number of the commitments that we wrote in the fourth quarter, and in January and early February, were quickly underwater because the rates were so aggressive," he said.

The bigger deals include Bank of America-led financing for a \$16.5 billion buyout of software company Citrix Systems Inc by affiliates of Elliott Management and Vista Equity Partners. The lender is also financing Apollo's deal to buy Tenneco Inc which had an enterprise valuation of about \$71 billion, including debt.

Bank of America is also among the banks backing billionaire Elon Musk's \$44 billion acquisition of Twitter Inc, a deal put on hold after Musk backed out. Twitter has sued to force him to complete the transaction.

For some, the market uncertainty merits a wait-and-see approach.

"The debt committed in the system needs to get placed and the equity investors... are being cautious, which is limiting LBO activity," said Anu Aiyengar, global co-head of M&A at J.P. Morgan, referring to leveraged buyouts.

The price of existing loans on the S&P Leveraged Loan Index fell to a two-year low in July, according to Refinitiv data. While it has pared losses,

the index's decline this year reflects broader pressure on the debt markets and rising concerns that the Fed's monetary tightening may pressure riskier borrowers. Two exchange-traded funds that track leveraged loans, the SPDR Blackstone Senior Loan ETF and the Invesco Senior Loan ETF, have dropped 4.9% and 3%, respectively, since the beginning of the year.

"Both the availability and cost of debt financing for sponsors has become a challenge in some situations, particularly in the syndicated loan markets," said Steve Arcano, a global head of transactions practices for law firm Skadden, Arps, Slate, Meagher & Flom LLP, about the challenge faced by buyout firms.

The credit market is undergoing a wave of repricing after the Fed's rate hikes, according to Minesh Patel, a senior director at S&P Global Ratings.

"The real crux of the issue is that the markets have shifted," Patel said. Borrowing rates are becoming more expensive for companies with lower credit ratings, he said, citing an S&P study he co-authored.

Leveraged finance has been lucrative for large banks in recent years, so the expected losses will not be too alarming, said Marc Cooper, chief executive of Solomon Partners, a boutique investment bank in New York.

Maryland bank to pay \$22.9mn for concealing loans to ex-CEO

WASHINGTON

A Maryland bank agreed to pay about \$22.9 million to settle charges by two US regulators that it failed to disclose tens of millions of dollars of loans to family trusts belonging to its former longtime chief executive officer.

Eagle Bancorp Inc, of Bethesda, Maryland, will pay \$19.5 million in civil fines and more than \$3.35 million in disgorgement and interest to settle with the Federal Reserve Board and the Securities and Exchange Commission (SEC), the regulators said on Tuesday.

Ronald Paul, 66, of Potomac, Maryland, an Eagle founder who was CEO from 1997 until he retired in 2019, agreed to pay about \$521,000, of which \$390,000 represented civil fines. The Fed permanently banned him from working in the banking industry.

Neither Eagle nor Paul admitted or denied wrongdoing.

Both were pleased to put the matter behind them, according to separate statements from Eagle CEO Susan Riel and Lance Wade, a lawyer for Paul.

Wade also said the SEC consent order against Eagle included allegations concerning Paul that were "false, misleading, and unsupported by credible evidence," and Paul would have disputed them had the SEC included them in its action against him.

Regulators accused Eagle of having from 2015 to 2018 extended approximately \$90 million of credit to entities that Paul owned or controlled, without disclosing it to investors in periodic reports and proxy statements.

The SEC also said that after short seller Aurelius Value in December 2017 questioned the loans to Paul's trusts, Eagle and Paul falsely assured investors that the loans were proper.

"Adequate disclosures of related party transactions are essential to enable investors to evaluate an issuer's corporate governance," Sanjay Wadhwa, deputy director of the SEC enforcement division, said in a statement.

Eagle has 20 banking offices in Washington, D.C. and suburban Maryland and Virginia.



Eagle Bancorp Inc.

Uganda interbank lending rate increases by 1.2 percent

KAMPALA

The rise in the interbank interest rate has a larger implication on commercial lending, which has already registered a slowdown due to cost related issues

Interest rates charged between banks have sharply increased as the Central Bank seeks to maintain price stability.

The rise in the interbank interest rate has a larger implication on commercial lending, which has already registered a slowdown due to cost related issues.

In the quarter to July, the money market rates maintained an upward trajectory attributed to tighter liquidity conditions.

Bank of Uganda indicates that interest rates for the seven-day interbank lending increased to 8.2 percent in the quarter to July from 6.8 percent in April while the overnight rates increased to 7.9 percent from 6.5 percent. For three consecutive months the Central Bank has increased the policy rate by 2.5 percent as it presses ahead to curb a highly volatile economic environment.

The Central Bank Rate, a key determinant in the movement of commercial bank interest rates, has risen from 6.5 percent in May to 9 percent in August.

Already, according to Bank of Uganda more than half of commercial banks have indicated they will increase interest rates in the quarter to September due to movements in the Central Bank Rate.

WORLD

Monkeypox renaming ideas land, WHO vows nothing 'ridiculous'

GENEVA/LONDON

POXY McPoxface, TRUMP-22 or MpoX: these are some of the ideas sent in by the public to the World Health Organization as it seeks a new name for monkeypox.

Often disease names are chosen behind closed doors by a technical committee, but the WHO has this time decided to open up the process to the public. After a slow start, dozens of submissions have now been made from a range of contributors including academics, doctors, and a gay community activist.

They range from the technical (OPOX-ID-22, submitted by Harvard Medical School emergency physician Jeremy Faust) to the farcical (Poxy McPoxface, submitted by Andrew Yi in an allusion to Boaty McBoatface - almost the name of a British polar research vessel after a public vote on the choice).

Pressure is growing for a new name for

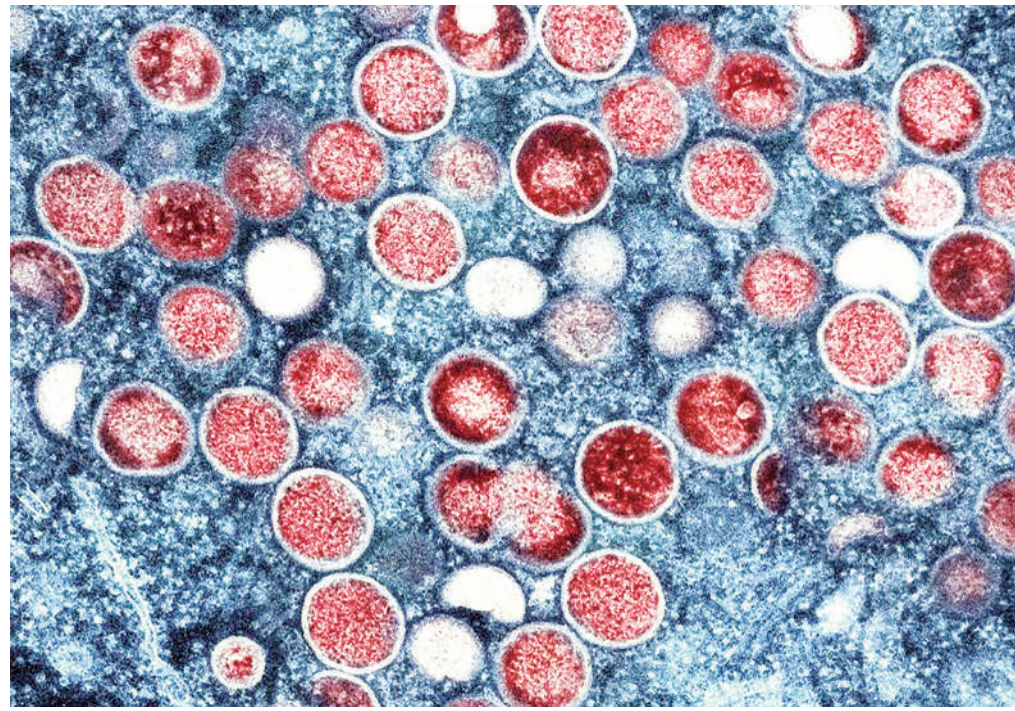
the disease, in part because critics say it is misleading, since monkeys are not the original animal host. A group of leading scientists wrote a position paper in June calling for a name that was "neutral, non-discriminatory and non-stigmatizing" amid fears the name can be used in a racist way.

Until this year, monkeypox has mainly spread only in a group of countries in west and central Africa.

"It's very important we find a new name for monkeypox because this is best practice not to create any offence to an ethical group, a region, a country, an animal etc," WHO spokesperson Fadelia Chaib said on Tuesday.

"The WHO is very concerned by this issue and we want to find a name that is not stigmatising," she added without giving a timeline.

One of the more popular submissions so far is MpoX, submitted by Samuel Miri-



This undated file image provided by the National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases (NIAID) shows a colored transmission electron micrograph of monkeypox particles (red) found within an infected cell (blue), cultured in the laboratory that was captured and color-enhanced at the NIAID Integrated Research Facility in Fort Detrick, Maryland, US. AP

ello, director of a men's health organization RÉZO which is already using the name in its outreach campaigns in Montreal, Canada.

"When you remove the monkey imagery, people seem to understand more quickly that there's an emergency that needs to be taken seriously," he told Reuters.

Another proposal, TRUMP-22, appeared to refer to former US President Donald Trump, although its author said it stood for "Toxic Rash of Unrecognized Mysterious Provenance of 2022".

Submissions mocking the gay community had earlier been posted but were later removed from the WHO site.

The WHO has a mandate to assign new names to existing diseases under the Interna-

tional Classification of Diseases. It has already renamed monkeypox virus variants, or clades, changing them from African regions to Roman numerals.

The WHO said it would decide among the proposals "according to their scientific validity, their acceptability, their pronounceability (and) whether they can be used in different languages".

"I am sure we will not come up with a ridiculous name," said Chaib.

Monkeypox was first discovered in 1958 and named after the first animal to show symptoms. The WHO declared the current outbreak a public health emergency last month having reported more than 32,000 cases from over 80 countries. **Agencies**

Foreign Ministry slams media allegations of Russia stealing power from Zaporozhzhie NPP

MOSCOW

THE Wall Street Journal's allegations of Russia stealing electricity from the Zaporozhzhie Nuclear Power Plant expose its failure to see the cause-effect relationships, the Russian Foreign Ministry said in a statement.

The ministry pointed to a Wall Street Journal article, which alleged, citing analysts, that Moscow was trying "to reroute power to occupied territories, Russia and even export markets, where the price of electricity is surging."

"The wild conclusion is that such 'expropriation' on the part of Russia will additionally destabilize energy markets. Just a quick look at the article is enough to understand the authors' complete failure to see the cause-effect relationships," the statement reads.

The Russian Foreign Ministry noted that it was Kiev that kept shelling the power plant area, putting the entire European continent at risk of a nuclear disaster.

"The conclusion is clear: by destroying energy infrastructure, the Kiev regime is putting millions of European residents at risk of a nuclear disaster with the connivance of Washington."

But the Wall Street Journal, based thousands of kilometers from the region at risk, clearly has no interest in that," the statement added.

The Zaporozhzhie NPP, located in the city of Enerhodar, is controlled by Russian troops. The Ukrainian military carried out a series of attacks on the facility in the past several days, which particularly involved drones, heavy artillery and multiple rocket launchers.

Most attacks were repelled by air defenses but some infrastructure sites and the nuclear waste storage area were hit. **Agencies**

'China has no timetable for Taiwan's reunification'

BEIJING

CHINA does not have a clear timetable for Taiwan's reunification, but under the influence of external factors, this process can be accelerated, China's Ambassador to Norway, Yi Xianliang, said in an interview with NRK TV broadcaster, published by the Chinese embassy on Tuesday.

"We have never had a timetable for this. But we cannot afford to let the current situation last forever. If the Americans, outside forces and separatists on the island take more provocative actions, the reunification time will shorten, [and it will happen] not in 2049 (the 100th anniversary of the People's Republic of China - TASS), but maybe even tomorrow," Yi said.

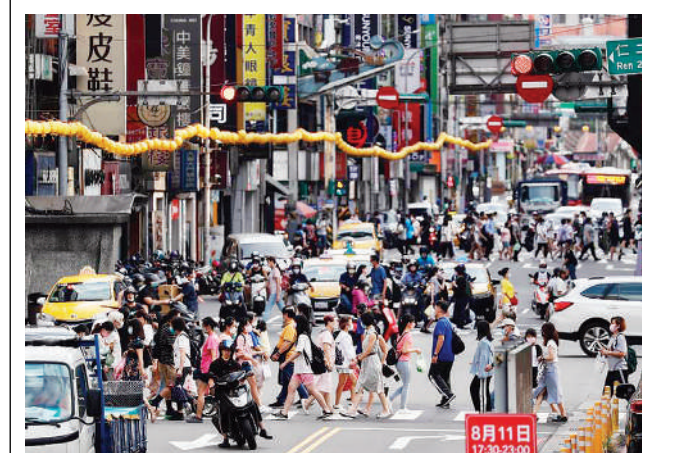
He recalled that Beijing had legal grounds for this. In 2005, China passed a law on the work for ending the split of the state. Yi stressed that China reserved the right to move away from the idea of peaceful reunification in favor of a military solution.

"The non-peaceful way does not necessarily mean the use of the entire complex of military measures. There are other countries that have demonstrated similar examples of reunification," Yi added.

Tensions in the Taiwan Strait region soared after US House of Representatives Speaker Nancy Pelosi on August 2-3 visited the island. The Chinese armed forces responded by conducting large-scale drills, including live rocket launches in six zones around the island, as well as a series of exercises around Taiwan.

The island has been governed by its own administration since 1949, when the remnants of the Kuomintang forces under Chiang Kai-shek (1887-1975) fled to the island after being defeated in the Chinese civil war.

Taipei has since retained the flag and some other attributes of the former Republic of China, which had existed on the mainland before the Communists came to power. According to Beijing's official position, supported by most countries, including Russia, it is one of China's provinces. **Xinhua**



View of Taipei

Trump's passports returned after Mar-a-Lago search, DOJ official says

WASHINGTON

PASSPORTS belonging to Donald Trump have been returned to the former president after last week's FBI search of his Mar-a-Lago home, a Justice Department official told NBC News on Monday.

The FBI acknowledged it had had the passports the same day Trump (pictured) said on his social media platform that FBI agents who conducted the search on Aug. 8 took them.

In a statement on Truth Social, Trump said agents "stole my three Passports (one expired), along with everything else." He did not provide further details or specify whether the travel documents were personal or government passports. (Presidents receive

diplomatic passports when they take office.)

A Justice Department official said Trump's passports have been returned.

A representative for Trump did not immediately respond to a request for comment.

Trump attorney Christina Bobb blasted federal law enforcement on Monday night, telling Fox News host Laura Ingraham that she refused to give them a "pass" for removing the passports.

"I think this goes to show the level of audacity that they have," Bobb said. "I think it goes to show how aggressive they were, how overreaching they were, that they were willing to go past the four corners of the warrant and take whatever they felt was appropri-



ate or they felt that they could take."

An FBI spokesperson defended how the search warrant was carried out.

"In executing search warrants, the FBI follows search and seizure procedures ordered by courts,

then returns items that do not need to be retained for law enforcement purposes," the spokesperson said in a statement Monday evening that did not mention the passports.

A property receipt from the FBI search of Trump's estate in Palm Beach, Florida, showed that federal investigators recovered a trove of top secret and other heavily classified documents but did not mention any passports.

In court documents made public with the property receipt, investigators said they were searching for evidence of crimes that included withholding "any government and/or Presidential Records" from Trump's time in office.

Agencies

Morrison says took secret roles because responsibility was his

SYDNEY

AUSTRALIA'S former prime minister Scott Morrison said yesterday he decided to be secretly sworn in to five key ministries during the coronavirus pandemic because he felt responsibility for the nation was his alone.

Morrison, who stepped down as leader of the Liberal Party after losing a general election in May, addressed a news conference to answer a barrage of criticism from the Labor government and his own party over the unprecedented assumption of powers.

Prime Minister Anthony Albanese said Morrison had attacked the Westminster system of government by secretly appointing himself to five portfolios including home affairs, treasury, health, finance and resources between 2020 and 2021.

Three of the ministers were unaware Morrison shared power over their ministries until the revelations this week, they said.

"I was steering the ship in the middle of the tempest," Morrison told reporters, re-



calling how the pandemic hit Australia in 2020.

"As prime minister only I could really understand the weight of responsibility that was on my shoulders and on no one else," he added.

Morrison said he did not "take over" the ministries, after being sworn in by the governor general, and no ministers were interfered with except on one occasion, where

he rejected a resources project.

He said he did not inform the ministers because he would only use the powers in an emergency.

"The fact that ministers were unaware of these things is actually proof of my lack of interference or intervention in any of their activities," he said.

George Williams, a constitutional law expert at the University of New South Wales, said Australia has a cabinet-based system that relies on a group of people governing, and not a presidential system.

"The secrecy itself is what really gets to the heart of why this is a problem," he said.

Governor General David Hurley acted on the advice of the government of the day, and questions around secrecy were a matter for the previous Morrison government, Hurley's spokesman said in a statement.

"The Governor General had no reason to believe that appointments would not be communicated," he said.

Treasurer Jim Chalmers said earlier on Wednesday Morrison's behavior was "dicta-

torial" and whether he remained in parliament was a test of Liberal Opposition leader Peter Dutton's leadership.

Morrison rejected that, saying the emergency powers were put in place by a democratically elected prime minister and according to law.

Morrison's secret accumulation of ministerial roles began with the health and finance ministries in 2020, because of concern these ministers could be struck down with COVID-19 while wielding emergency powers.

In May 2021, Morrison also became home affairs minister and treasurer.

Morrison said this was partly due to the budget being delivered in May and negotiations with Britain and the United States over the AUKUS deal for nuclear submarines.

Home Affairs minister Clare O'Neil told ABC TV the head of the intelligence agency "did not know that there was a second home affairs minister for an entire year".

"This creates real vulnerabilities for us as a country," she said. **Agencies**

China's Wuhan to host 14th COP meeting on wetland conservation in November

THE 14th Meeting of the Conference of the Contracting Parties to the Ramsar Convention on Wetlands (COP14) is expected to be held in Wuhan, central China's Hubei province from Nov. 5 to 13 this year.

As Wuhan was awarded Wetland City Accreditation of the Ramsar Convention in June this year, it will mark the first time for a Chinese city to host the meeting, and also the first time for the event to be held in an international wetland city.

Wuhan, known as the "city of river and lakes" and "city of wetlands" in China, is home to 166 lakes, 165 rivers and 1,624 square kilometers of wetlands. Wetlands

cover 18.9 percent of the city's total area. Besides, the city also has 63,500 hectares of small and micro wetlands, accounting for 7.41 percent of the city's total area.

In recent years, Wuhan has taken great efforts to promote the ecological restoration of wetlands with a series of major projects.

So far, the city has built 10 wetland parks and five nature reserves. It has seen a stable coverage of wetlands, the improvement of water quality, the restoration of wetland ecology and a prominent rise in the types and number of bird species. The rich wetland resources are contributing to the sustain-

able development of the city with over 10 million people.

To highlight Wuhan's wetland resources, the city will set the main venue of the COP14 near the Wuhan East Lake National Wetland Park.

Situated in the East Lake, the largest urban lake in China, the wetland park spans a total area of 10.2 square kilometers, with 63.7 percent covered by wetlands.

Recently, a breeding place of Baer's pochard ducks, a critically endangered bird species under first-class national protection in China, was discovered in Wuhan East Lake High-tech Development Zone. It indicated the improving

wetland environment in the city.

The COP14 will be held at a time of bird migration, which will present participants with the charm of the wetlands and a beautiful view of harmonious human-nature coexistence, said Zhu Gongwei, an official with the Wuhan municipal government.

Under the theme of "Wetlands Action for People and Nature," the COP14 is an important international event hosted by China.

According to Yang Fengwei, an official with the National Forestry and Grassland Administration, the COP14 will be held in Wuhan in physical and virtual formats, and a parallel session is

also expected to take place in Geneva, Switzerland. The event aims to share Chinese stories of human-nature harmony with the world.

The event will deliberate on a post-2025 strategic framework for global wetland protection and development, which is expected to lead to the future development of the Ramsar Convention on Wetlands. A declaration will be released at the event, and an awarding ceremony will be held for the second batch of cities approved by the Wetland City Accreditation.

The COP14 will promote the establishment of an international mangrove center endorsed by the Ramsar Con-

vention. The center will be an important base and platform for international cooperation on mangrove protection.

Besides, the meeting will also announce three important outcomes achieved by China in wetland protection, including the promotion of the Yellow River Estuary National Park aiming at wetland conservation, and the designation of a new batch of important international wetlands.

Wuhan is employing a series of modern technologies such as the Internet of Things (IoT), big data and cloud computing for digital, standardized and regular management of wetlands. **People's Daily**

Australia's top court finds Google not liable for defamation

SYDNEY

AUSTRALIA'S highest court overturned yesterday a ruling that had found Google engaged in defamation by supplying a link to a contested newspaper article, throwing the spotlight again on how online libel cases are handled in the country.

The seven-judge panel of the High Court of Australia voted 5-2 to throw out an earlier finding that the Alphabet Inc unit played a part in publishing the disputed article by acting as a "library" housing it, saying the website had no active role.

The decision brings fresh confusion to a question that has been simmering in Australia for years about where liability rests for online defamation. A years-long review of the country's libel law is yet to give a final recommendation on whether large platforms like Google and Meta Platforms' Facebook should be accountable.

The case stems from a 2004 article which suggested that a criminal defence lawyer had crossed professional lines and become a "confidant" of criminals, according to the published judgment. The lawyer, George Deferos, found a link to the story in a 2016 Google search of his name and had Google remove it after it was viewed by 150 people, the judgment said.

Deferos sued in a state court which found Google was a publisher and ordered it to pay him A\$40,000 (\$28,056). Google appealed the judgment, culminating in yesterday's decision.

"The Underworld article was not written by any employee or agent of the appellant," two of the panel judges wrote in Wednesday's ruling, the appellant being Google.

"It was written by a reporter with no connection to the appellant, and published by an independent newspaper over which the appellant had no control or influence."

Google "does not own or control the internet", they wrote.

A Google spokesperson was not immediately available for comment.

Deferos said in a statement that the process had been "long, drawn out, expensive and extremely stressful" but he felt vindicated because the court agreed the article was defamatory even though Google was not liable.

The ruling comes after the High Court last year found a newspaper publisher liable for defamatory comments left beneath an article that it had posted on Facebook.

The difference between the 2021 Facebook case and Wednesday's case was that the media companies last year "invited and encouraged comment", while Google "did not provide a forum or place where it could be communicated, nor did it encourage the writing of comment in response", the judges wrote. **Agencies**

Donors launch initiative to transform Africa's smallholder agriculture

NAIROBI

MULTILATERAL lenders on Tuesday announced the launch of an initiative to transform smallholder farming in Africa and enhance its contribution to food security and rural incomes.

Dubbed the "African Agricultural Transformation Initiative (AATI)," the 19.6 million U.S. dollar project that runs until 2025 seeks to revamp farming at the grassroots level through smart policies and financing.

"Given the scale of the rural economy in Sub-Saharan Africa and its enormous potential, we believe that inclusive agricultural transformation is the most effective way to drive sustainable development," said Safia Boly, the executive director of AATI.

A brainchild of the UN's International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD) and private donors, the initiative will also strengthen the capacity of African smallholder farmers to cope with climate change.

It is hoped that once the initiative is implemented fully, local farmers' incomes will improve, enabling them to meet the food and nutritional needs of their households.

The initiative, which will be launched in Ghana, Kenya, Malawi and Senegal during the initial phase, will harness farmers' expertise, local innovations and targeted financing to transform food systems.

Governments, the private sector and civil society will also be part of the initiative that seeks innovative ways to transform African smallholder agriculture amid threats like climate change, declining arable land, pests' infestation and market volatility.

Donal Brown, the associate vice president of the Programme Management Department at the IFAD, noted that small-scale producers and agro-processors will benefit from the new initiative to transform farming systems in Africa.

"Transforming agriculture is therefore very much about empowering these actors through smart policies, investments, technology and knowledge," said Brown, adding that by enhancing productivity and climate resilience of African small-scale farmers, the continent stands to attain sustainable development goals on poverty eradication, health, environment and gender parity.

Agnes Kalibata, the president of the Nairobi-based Alliance for Green Revolution in Africa (AGRA), said the initiative will create enabling policy and regulatory environment to spur investments in the continent's food production systems, reeling from climatic stresses, pests, diseases and under-funding.

Xinhua

Putin lashes out at West's 'vanishing' hegemony, outlines Russia's goals

PATRIOT PARK

WESTERN countries are desperately clinging to their "vanishing hegemony" but the unipolar world order is becoming a thing of the past, Russian President Vladimir Putin said in his address to the audience of the 10th Moscow Conference on International Security on Tuesday.

The head of state noted that the West needs conflicts in order to stay in power, so the US and its allies are actively meddling in the affairs of other countries, whipping up all sorts of provocations and civil wars.

The West's hegemony spells stagnation for the entire world. However, it is possible to reduce tension and overcome common threats by bolstering the system of a modern multipolar world. Russia will continue to take steps towards building a more democratic world and refining the existing mechanisms of international security.

On multipolar world order

The contours of a multipolar world order are being actively shaped. "Increasingly more countries and peoples are choosing the path of free sovereign development based on their uniqueness, traditions and values."

The objective processes of shaping a multipolar world are being "opposed by Western globalist elites who stoke chaos by igniting old and new conflicts and implementing the so-called containment policy, which essentially undermines any alternative sovereign paths of development."

The globalist elites are "at all cost, trying to cling to hegemony that is slipping through their fingers, and seek to keep countries and peoples in the grip of the neocolonial order." "Their hegemony spells stagnation for the entire world and for all of civilization, and it includes



Russian President Vladimir Putin

bigotry, cancel culture, and neoliberal totalitarianism."

The era of a unipolar world order is vanishing into the past. "Only by substantially bolstering the system of a modern multipolar world it is possible to diminish tensions worldwide, overcome threats and risks in the military and political sphere, increase the level of trust between countries and ensure their stable development."

On Ukraine

The West needs conflicts "to hold on to their hegemony." "This is precisely why they planned to use the people of Ukraine as cannon fodder, implemented the 'anti-Russia' project, turned a blind eye to the spread of neo-Nazi ideology, to the mass slaughter of the Donbass residents, and have been flooding and continue to flood the Kiev regime with armaments, including the heavy weapons."

Under these conditions, Russia decided to conduct a special military op-

eration in Ukraine in full compliance with the UN Charter. "The goals of this operation have been clearly defined - it is to ensure the security of Russia and our citizens, and the defense of the Donbass residents from genocide."

"The situation in Ukraine testifies to US attempts to prolong this conflict. And it acts exactly the same way by igniting a conflict potential in Asia, Africa and Latin America."

On West's actions

"The US and its vassals are grossly interfering in the domestic affairs of sovereign states. They organize provocations, state coups and civil wars. Using threats, blackmail and pressure, they attempt to force independent states to bend to their will and live according to rules that are alien to them."

The West's goal is to "hold on to its domination, using this model that enables it to feed off the entire world as it has done for centuries and such a model

can only be sustained by force."

The West brushed aside Russia's proposals for mutual security measures. Meanwhile, NATO is expanding eastward, beefing up its military infrastructure. "Verbally, it is hypocritically explained by the necessity to bolster security in Europe, while just the opposite is occurring in reality."

Aggressive military political unions, such as AUKUS (Australia, the UK and the US) are being formed by the West in order to "spread to the Asia-Pacific region its bloc system analogous to NATO in Europe."

US House Speaker Nancy Pelosi's visit to Taiwan was a carefully planned provocation. "Once again, the US deliberately attempted to add fuel to the fire to destabilize the situation in the Asia-Pacific region."

The American scheme with regards to Taiwan is not just a trip by one irresponsible politician but part of a deliberate conscious US strategy to

destabilize and sow chaos with the situation in the region and worldwide, [this is] an obnoxious display of disrespect to the sovereignty of other countries and to its own international obligations."

By acting this way, Western states attempt to distract their citizens from critical socio-economic problems by shifting the blame on to Russia and China for their own failures. "The so-called collective West is deliberately destroying the system of European security."

On Russia's plans

Moscow and its allies will continue to "refine the existing mechanisms of international security together with its allies, partners and associates and create new ones, consistently bolstering national armed forces and other security structures, and boosting their level of being outfitted with modern armaments and military equipment."

Russia will also continue to ensure its national interests as well as the protection of its allies, and "take other steps to build a more democratic world."

It is necessary to "restore respect to international law, and to its fundamental norms and principles." It is important to bolster the positions of the UN and other international dialogue venues.

"The UN Security Council and the General Assembly, should serve as effective instruments to decrease international tension and prevent conflicts, while working to guarantee reliable security and the well-being of countries and peoples."

Agencies

E-commerce to play bigger role in driving consumption

"THE air fryer is so nice. Little did I think that I could be so with-it," said Hu Yuxia, a woman from Tanjia village, Zhenjiang, east China's Jiangsu province, while cooking with the electric pot she just bought from the Shushuang appliance store in the township.

"Indeed, I bought it from the online shop of the Shushuang appliance store," she told People's Daily.

Hu is a frequent customer of the Shushuang appliance store, which has been doing business in the township for more than 10 years, and she's quite familiar with the owner of the store, Rong Xiaoqiang.

"As an appliance store facing the rural market, we have a large number of frequent customers and enjoy a high degree of customer loyalty, but we were limited by small inventory and a lack of sales channels," said Rong.

A few years ago, Rong's store joined an e-commerce platform run by Huitongda, a company backed by Chinese e-commerce giant Alibaba, and its annual sales surged by about 30 percent year on year after that. The store's sales in the first half of 2022 reached 2.15 million yuan (\$318,198), increasing 10 percent from a year ago.

According to an employee of Huitongda, the platform connects 169,000 rural stores in 21 provinces with more than 10,000 appliance manufacturers and distributors.

Owners of the stores can put on the shelves anything in the platform's product base, and then the platform will purchase these products from the manufacturers, the employee introduced.

The platform enables stores to combine online shopping with in-person services, and the prices online change according to the market. Besides, coupons are issued to consumers via both online and offline channels to further contribute to the upgrading of rural consumption.

The statistics released by the platform indicated that the per capita consumption of home appliances in rural areas stood at 4,100 yuan in 2021, and the number has kept rising at an average of 7.7 percent in the past three years.

E-commerce transactions are expanding in China. Online retail sales of physical goods increased 5.6 percent year on year in the first half of this year, reaching nearly 5.45 trillion yuan. The stable



A cadre (first from the left) from Malu village, Supu township, Qianxi, south-west China's Guizhou province helps a villager sell oranges on a livestream platform. (Photo by Zhou Xunchao/People's Daily Online)

growth in the online retail market sent a positive signal of economic recovery.

E-commerce has played an increasingly important role in driving consumption, making positive contributions to China's stable economic growth. China has a super large market, and the constant development of rural e-commerce is leading to a boost in rural consumption. As of December 2021, there were 284 million internet users in rural China, which would release huge potential for consumption.

The accelerated development of e-commerce infrastructure has also assisted the progress of the industry. By the end of June this year, China has set up 1.85 million 5G base stations and the number

of 5G mobile subscribers has hit 455 million. Besides, the development of overseas warehouses and other new types of infrastructure also contributed to the growth of e-commerce.

It is believed that the future application of big data, cloud computing, artificial intelligence, blockchain and other technologies will further drive the development of the e-commerce sector.

Big data will help e-commerce platforms learn the demands of consumers in a more targeted manner so that they can offer consumers individualized products. Besides, virtual reality and augmented reality technologies are expected to provide consumers with immersive shopping experiences.

People's Daily

Lula, Bolsonaro enter campaign season as they court voters

BRASILIA/SAO PAULO

FAR-RIGHT President Jair Bolsonaro and his leftist front-running challenger Luiz Inacio Lula da Silva formally launched their campaigns on Tuesday for Brazil's most polarized elections in decades in October.

The race pits a nationalist populist with an agenda backed by Christian conservatives against a former union leader and two-term president of the country (2003-2010) who was jailed for corruption until his convictions were annulled.

"Our country doesn't want corruption anymore, it wants order and prosperity," Bolsonaro, a former army captain, told a crowd early Tuesday afternoon in Juiz de Fora, where he was stabbed during the 2018 campaign that carried him to power on a wave of anti-Lula sentiment.

His supporters interrupted his speech chanting "Lula thief."

Lula, at 76, nine years older than his rival, kicked off his campaign with a stop at the gates of the Volkswagen car factory in industrial Sao Bernardo dos Campos outside Sao Paulo, where he became a labor leader in the 1970s advocating for better pay despite suppression under the military dictatorship.

In a video posted on social media early on Tuesday, Lula said hunger had returned to Brazil under Bolsonaro and inflation was hitting families who cannot survive on minimum wages.

"We are going to have a lot of work to rebuild this country," he said launching his bid to return to office. "I want to be president to change people's lives again, because the way it is, no one can take it anymore," he posted.

Lula has a double-digit lead in most opinion polls for the Oct 2 vote, and his advantage over Bolsonaro increases in simulations of an expected second-round



runoff on Oct 30.

A Monday survey by researcher IPEC, formerly known as IBOPE, showed Lula with 44 percent of voter support against 32 percent for Bolsonaro in the first round where they are far ahead of 10 other candidates. In a run-off, Lula would get elected by 51 percent of the votes versus 35 percent for Bolsonaro, a 16-point gap.

The poll said 57 percent of Brazilians disapprove of the way Bolsonaro governs the country, and 37 percent approve.

Still, Bolsonaro has narrowed Lula's lead in recent weeks by increasing spending on welfare for poor Brazilians and pressing state-controlled oil company Petrobras to lower the price of fuel, a big factor in pushing up inflation.

On Tuesday night, Lula and Bolsonaro were in the same room at the inauguration of Supreme Court Justice Alexandre de Moraes to head Brazil's electoral authority, the Superior Electoral Court, whose speech was marked by an emphatic defense of democracy and the electoral system.

Moraes declared it a point of pride that Brazil's democracy can tally and publish electoral results on the day of the vote, the result of an electronic voting system that Bolsonaro has repeatedly attacked.

Moraes, a critic of the president, has led investigations into fake news being spread as a political tool by Bolsonaro's inner circle.

SPORT



Confederation of African Football president Patrice Motsepe.

What have Dar soccer enthusiasts learned from African Super League launch?

By Correspondent Nassir Nchimbi

CONFEDERATION of African Football president, Patrice Motsepe, confirmed during the 2022 Women's Africa Cup of Nations that the African Super League will be launched in August 2023, but CAF Ordinary General Assembly which took place in Arusha last Wednesday answered a few questions around the new competition.

Some of those issues were answered in the meeting as Motsepe and FIFA president Gianni Infantino moved to unveil various key elements of the African Super League proposal.

There are several key issues to have been learned from the presentation. There will for instance be a relegation/promotion format.

One of the reasons why the breakaway European Super League received such criticism is that it was closed shop, with no risks for the teams included to be relegated, and either little or no prospect for teams outside the Super League to be included.

Motsepe and Infantino confirmed on Wednesday that there will be a promotion/relegation format for the competition, giving the whole of Africa the chance to dream of reaching the Super League.

At least 16 countries will be represented, CAF also revealed somewhat vaguely that at least 16 countries would be represented in the Super League to ensure that at least 29 percent of the continent's 54 states will be featured.

However, soccer followers are yet to either learn which countries get representation or indeed, which 16 countries will have at least one guaranteed spot in the Super League.

Infantino said that the tournament 'will benefit every country,' although it remains to be seen how will it work out.

Countries cannot have more than three participants, CAF documentation around the Super League confirms that there can be a maximum of three teams from each nation in the tournament.

This will come as interesting news, particularly for South Africa, where one would imagine that the heavyweight trio of Mamelodi Sundowns, Kaizer Chiefs, and

Orlando Pirates will surely garner South Africa's three berths for the competition.

How could South Africa's PSL's other clubs, the likes of either AmaZulu or SuperSport United, or even the trio of Royal AM, Stellenbosch, and Cape Town City FC (all of whom finished ahead of Pirates and Kaizer Chiefs last season) hope to ever compete in the Super League?

Financial incentives include money, both the one to be made and the money to be dished out is a key focus of the Super League, and a key motivation behind the launch of the competition as Motsepe and Infantino look to raise the level of the continental game.

Motsepe announced that the first 24 participants in the competition will each receive an initial cash injection of \$2.5 million, as the CAF president looks to help competing teams offset the costs of travel, accommodation, and logistics within the African game.

Motsepe also reaffirmed information we already knew, that each member association will receive \$1 million, and the winners are in line to receive \$11.6 million.

There will be three groups of eight teams, following presumably qualifying rounds, the 24 participants will feature in three groups of eight teams, with the top five teams and the best placed sixth-placed team progressing to the knockouts.

The progressing teams would then contest a Round of 16 and then onwards to a final that in Motsepe and Infantino's vision is intended to be African football's Super Bowl.

The three groups will be regionalized, although the exact nature of those regions has not yet been disclosed.

The tournament schedule, it was on Wednesday confirmed that the African Super League would run from August to May.

This would fit in with the traditional European football calendar, rather than the January to December schedule favoured by some African countries.

The maiden tournament is set to begin in August 2023 and will conclude with the Super Bowl-like final in May 2024.

a senior, he/she will advise me," the singer said.

Khadija pointed out many youthful artists pretend to be knowledgeable, a situation that contributes to their downfall early on in their career, whilst veteran artists keep on flourishing.

The veteran artist revealed the secret of her longevity in the music industry, stating that it has come about due to communicating well with stakeholders the singer has met in the music industry, listening to their advice, and working on it.

The singer revealed: "Today a person just begins a career in Taarab and starts overrating himself/herself, pretending to know better than those he/she has met."

"In such a situation, it is not easy for a young artist to break through, respect is important," Khadija insisted.

Khadija pointed out many people are afraid of her, thinking that she is aggressive but she disclosed she is normal and a cool person.

The singer asked artists who need advice from her to follow her without fear.

Taarab musician to release five new tracks

By Correspondent Sabato Kasika

POPULAR Tanzanian Taarab artist, Khadija Kopa, has said she is closing in on releasing five songs at a time, as a continuation of preparation for her new album.

Khadija stated in an interview with a radio station in Dar es Salaam recently her long silence means a lot, stressing that her fans should get ready for the new tracks.

"I would like to tell my fans that I am here, and I will soon release five new songs, so they should get ready to hear new compositions from the Queen of Taarab," Khadija revealed.

Apart from releasing five songs, the veteran singer advised new artists in Taarab to have respect for their seniors, claiming that without doing so, the youthful musicians cannot make it in the genre.

"Whenever I meet female artists, I advise them and give them encouragement about the music life, because many of our young people today are not wise enough to say, 'let me look for

SPORTS

When 'song of grace' on twins now becomes 'song of tragedy'

By Correspondent Michael Eneza

GOSPEL beat aficionados had a moment of celebration last month, as conjoined twins named rhythmically with symbolic names of 'Neema' and 'Rehema' were separated in a much-acclaimed operation at the Muhimbili National Hospital (MNH).

One twin died 10 days after the surgery and the other stayed on for a month or so, and then succumbed to incurable weaknesses of the post-surgery situation.

The medical situation was bad enough as it is unavoidably a statistical instance, of how many conjoined twins' operations are successful, or durably so.

What was difficult to swallow was the symbolic dimension as their names neatly crossed into a hugely popular song, translated as 'it is by grace alone.'

It frankly was no poetic idea of the songstress involved but a maxim repeated countless times by reformed church followers, different from more traditional positions asking one to do penance, which comes to admitting errors, etc to the priest.

This idea of grace is usually invoked in difficult situations, hence also a state of anxiety, and expectation.

Those listening to the song (as it is available in past performances and routine play in Gospel beat programs) in the current circumstances would hardly fail to notice the near irony coming up in the situation.

The grace they all sang up to high skies on the successful separation of the twins - or rather this feeling on the twins when one listens to the song - is hard to reconcile with what happened later.

So it is a mental problem just what went wrong - as the twins had a perfect title to benefit from the grace underlined in the song since their names rhyme precisely that way.

That opens issues much less about the twins than about the song, why it did not apply to them despite that they were intentionally named in that manner, and the wisdom is that there is a confluence between names and fate.

This matter is cited here and there in the literature, as a parameter that will almost always work in life, but one cannot predict real events that way.

So it again boils down to the statistical scenario, as in what manner expectations are met in that way, singularly by design.

The idea of design here suggests that the rhythmic presence of the names



Tanzanian gospel singer, Christina Shusho.

was a unit of projection in that regard, where 'ni kwa neema tu, rehema...' thus appears to be at home with what was expected of the conjoined twins.

It was a success in the earlier stages, that first the twins were born in that state, and maintained for nine months before moving on to surgery.

That was also successful but 10 days later things were fast unraveling, as one twin died, then the second a month later.

By the nature of the term, and in the victory sentiment underlined in the song, the link of 'neema and rehema' with the fate of the twins ought to have continued to the end, that is to the surgery, survival, returning to health and given in testimony or thanksgiving.

That was not to be the case, and thus the joy was cut short and expectations arising from the song more or less evaporated, a cruel twist of fate that put paid celebratory singing as akin to the ascertainment of fate. Virtual dry humour.

This kind of song intuition failure was even more perplexing with the late Osinachi Nwachukwu, a popular Nigerian singer, and songwriter born on November 12, 1979, in Owerri, Nigeria.

If that is of any help at all, an online biographic expose said her zodiac sign was Scorpio, which implies that there is a spirit of that inclination that drew her to unbreakable proximity to her husband,

who is being charged with causing her death as a habitual wife beater.

A pidgin write-up on the matter says 'Osinachi husband, Peter Nwachukwu dey face 23 count charges around culpable homicide wey lead to di singer death.'

How does this tally with the earlier entry on the world traveling song 'Ekwueme'?

'A brand new day and we are happy to bring you a brand new gospel song titled 'Ekwueme (You're the Living God)' in which she starred. Why did the Scorpio star in her aura rule her fate, not the song?

Compared to the tragedy in Nigeria, the death of the formerly conjoined twins is a small matter but tantalizing all the same, as grace is seen in big things as well as small.

Nor can it be said that expectations raised by the separation, or the hope that was built up naming the fateful twins 'neema' and 'rehema' had no significance in a spiritual context, merely that this was not enough.

The twins were separated on July 1, a date ruled by Cancer, a crab-like spirit that is not far from the scorpion, and on that account separating the twins when it ruled drifted them to its 'pincers.'

Minister to support Mkwakwani Stadium renovation

By Correspondent Cheji Bakari, Tanga

MINISTER for Health, Ummu Mwalimu, who doubles as Tanga constituency's Member of Parliament on Tuesday vowed to support the ongoing renovation at Mkwakwani Stadium.

Ummu who is also Coastal Union's member pointed out that she, in collaboration with Chama Cha Mapinduzi (CCM) which owns the venue, will make sure the renovation is completed to see to it that the venue hosts Coastal Union's home encounters.

"These early matches would be played in Arusha due to an ongoing renovation done but other matches would be played here," she said.

She further explained that some renovations to be carried out within the venue include changing rooms, pitch, toilets, and some areas of platforms which are belonging to Mkwakwani stadium management.

Other major renovation includes installing masts for floodlights that will enable the venue to host night matches for the top flight.

Mkwakwani Stadium's manager Nassoro Makau stated inspectors from Tanzania Football Federation had yesterday visited the venue aims to inspect the ongoing activities.

The leader pointed out: "Today we got inspectors who came to inspect the activities going on, but everything would be alright within a short time."

The ongoing activities of installing floodlights masts are the mutual agreements between Azam Media Limited which owns 75 percent shareholding and Mkwakwani Stadium which takes a stake of 25 percent shares.

Due to renovation some Coastal Union's fixtures for this season's Premier League scheduled to take place at Mkwakwani Stadium, including the duel against Yanga, have been shifted to Arusha's Sheikh Amri Abeid Stadium.



Minister for Health, Ummu Mwalimu.

Viewer's guide for this year's World Cup in Qatar

LONDON

A LAST chance for Lionel Messi and Cristiano Ronaldo. Kylian Mbappé back on the biggest stage of all. Brazil bidding for a record-extending sixth title.

One of the most eagerly anticipated World Cups in memory – as much for off-the-field reasons as those on it – is just around the corner in Qatar and excitement is building after the qualification period was wrapped.

Thirty-two teams, 64 matches, 28 days. The first World Cup in the Middle East.

The tournament starts on Nov. 20 and the final is set for Dec. 18.

Here's a few things to watch when the tournament gets going in the smallest country ever to host a World Cup:

TOP TEAMS

Brazil (No. 1 in FIFA ranking). Neymar, Vinicius Júnior and the rest of the flair-filled Selecao are peaking at the right time. Is a first World Cup title since 2002 on the horizon?

Belgium (No. 2). The "Golden Generation" is gradually breaking up but there's still Kevin De Bruyne leading the Belgian charge.

Argentina (No. 3). No World Cup title since the days of the great Diego Maradona. This will be the first World Cup since his death in November 2020 and Argentina is improving, with Messi still at its core.

France (No. 4). The defending champions. Still the country with the most depth to its squad. Now with Mbappé AND Karim Benzema leading the attack. No team has retained its World Cup title since Brazil in 1962.

England (No. 5). Semifinalist at the World Cup in 2018, finalist at the European Championship in 2021. Soccer's most underperforming national team is trending in the right direction.

BIG STARS

Lionel Messi, Argentina. The seven-time world player of the year might have been saving his 35-year-old legs for one last push at a World Cup winner's medal that, to many, would solidify him as soccer's greatest player.

Cristiano Ronaldo, Portugal. He has won the European Championship but the leading scorer in men's international soccer hasn't played in a World Cup final, let alone won one. He's 37 years old now – make the most of him while you can.

Kylian Mbappé, France. The star of the last World Cup at the age of 19 and he is only getting better. The speedy striker could match Brazil great Pelé in being a champion at his first two World Cups.

Kevin De Bruyne, Belgium. Widely regarded as the world's best midfielder, his

driving runs are among the best sights in soccer. Belgium just has to hope he arrives healthy.

Neymar, Brazil. Increasingly overshadowed by Mbappé and Messi at Paris Saint-Germain, still the main man for Brazil. Watch out for tricks and flicks, and some histrionics, too.

HOW IT WORKS

Get ready for a feast of soccer. There are eight groups of four teams, with the top two advancing to the 16-team knockout stage.

There will be four games back-to-back per day – yes, four! – for most of the first two sets of group games, then simultaneous kickoffs for the last two games in each group.

There'll be no break for the knockout stage, which begins the day after the group stage ends. The first day without soccer comes on Dec. 7 – the 17th day of competition.

MUST-SEE GAMES

Qatar vs. Ecuador, Nov. 20. The first match of the tournament and always a date to save on the calendar.

Argentina vs. Mexico, Nov. 26. The first of the big continental rivalries in the group stage, with Messi potentially sealing his and Argentina's spot in the last 16.

Spain vs. Germany, Nov. 27. Surely there can't have been many bigger group-stage matches than this at a World Cup? Two recent champions, two giants of European and world soccer.

Iran vs. United States, Nov. 29. It has been labeled as "The Mother of All Games Part II." Just like at the World Cup in 1998, the two countries will meet in the group stage in a politically charged matchup. Diplomatic relations have yet to be restored between the nations since being severed in 1980.

Ghana vs. Uruguay, Dec. 2. Anyone remember the night of July 2, 2010? In the last minute of extra time in a World Cup quarterfinal match between Uruguay and Ghana, Luis Suarez deliberately stopped the ball with his hand on the goal line, got sent off, only for Ghana to miss the penalty and lose in a shootout as Suarez celebrated on the sideline. Revenge would be sweet for Ghana.

UPCOMING FRIENDLIES

With this World Cup taking place in the middle of many countries' domestic seasons, there will not be the usual pre-tournament build-up of friendlies.

Indeed, for the European countries, the Nations League qualifiers taking place from Sept. 22-27 will represent the teams' final matches before the World Cup.

World Cup Watch: Jesus out to reclaim Brazil's No. 9 jersey

LONDON

IT'S one of the biggest honors in soccer. Playing as the center forward for Brazil at a World Cup.

Gabriel Jesus knows all about that, having been handed the No. 9 jersey at the 2018 tournament in Russia and – as every Brazilian is acutely aware – failing to score a goal.

Will he get a second chance?

As it stands, Jesus is way down the pecking order of forwards for Brazil. Indeed, if it wasn't for the fact that national teams will be able to call up 26 players – rather than 23 – for the World Cup in Qatar, Jesus might be struggling to make the squad.

An off-season move to Arsenal from Manchester City, however, appears to have revitalized his career, especially after moving back to playing as an out-and-out striker rather than a winger, the role City manager Pep Guardiola preferred Jesus to have because of his energy and work rate.

Jesus was a revelation for Arsenal in the preseason and he has taken that strong form into the Premier League, scoring twice and having a hand in the team's other two goals in a 4-2 win over Leicester on Saturday.

"He's feeling disappointed in that dressing room because he said he could have scored four," Arsenal manager Mikel Arteta said. "That's the standard, that's the mentality you want. To go to a different level, you need that mentality. He lifts the standards."

So, can Jesus regain his spot as Brazil's first-choice center forward? He is currently behind Richarlison, who also moved clubs in the off-season to join Tottenham from Everton, and Atletico Madrid striker Matheus Cunha. Other options are Roberto Firmino of Liverpool and a home-based player, Flamengo's Pedro, who Brazil coach Tite believes has the skillset to be a lone striker.

Tite has plenty of options out wide in Vinicius Júnior, Antony, Raphinha, Coutinho and Neymar, so it looks like the No. 9 position where Jesus will most likely be used.

Helping Jesus' case is the fact that Richarlison is unlikely to be a regular starter at Tottenham this season, particularly as striker where Harry Kane is virtually undroppable. So, the target is there for the 25-year-old Je-

sus, who is reinvigorated after 5 1/2 years at City which he mostly spent as a back-up.

"I was not unhappy at Manchester City," he said. "I just wanted to play and the club understood."

Arsenal's gain is also Brazil's.

FRENCH PROSPECT

William Saliba is another Arsenal player whose World Cup prospects are improving. The central defender is back at the club after loan spells in France with Saint-Etienne, Nice and Marseille.

Last season, Saliba helped to steady an erratic Marseille team that finished second in the French league, and with the second-best defensive record, to qualify for the Champions League. He returned to Arsenal in the off-season and now appears to have forced his way into the team, starting its opening two Premier League games.

Such is the 21-year-old Saliba's potential – he is an excellent marker, strong in the air and has good distribution and composure – that he already has played five times for France under coach Didier Deschamps.

He is looking to challenge Raphael Varane and Presnel Kimpembe for a starting place in Qatar.

WERNER'S RETURN

Timo Werner is pretty much Germany's only out-and-out forward so his lack of goals in two years at Chelsea – he only scored 10 in the Premier League in that time – must have been a concern for national team coach Hansi Flick ahead of the World Cup.

Maybe Flick can rest easy.

Werner recently secured a return to Leipzig, where he scored a club-record 95 goals in 159 games over four years before joining Chelsea, and netted in his first game back – a draw against Cologne on Saturday.

"The last two years were somewhat unfortunate; now the luck is back," he said after the Cologne game, no doubt referring to a mistake by goalkeeper Marvin Schwäbe, who let Werner's seemingly harmless shot go in.

Werner scored twice in Germany's 5-2 win over Italy on June 14, the team's last game, to take his international tally to 24 goals in 53 games.

Man United's mess: The key areas Erik Ten Hag must address before it's too late

By Ryan O'Hanlon, ESPN.com writer

IT WAS early December 2013. Manchester United had just lost 1-0 to Newcastle United. It meant the reigning champs had lost back-to-back home matches for the first time since 2002, and it was Newcastle's first win at Old Trafford since before the end of the Vietnam War. In his first season replacing Sir Alex Ferguson, David Moyes had managed the team to just 22 points from 15 matches. Nearly midway through the season, they were in ninth – four points closer to the relegation zone than to first place.

Just about everything was going wrong, as confirmed by the manager and the club in one of the all-time-great team-account tweets of the early Twitter era. No memes, no weird half-ironies only understood by those of us who spend all day refreshing our accounts, no context necessary. Just this plain-spoken bit of perfection: "David Moyes says #mufc must improve in a number of areas, including passing, creating chances and defending."

Now, I wrote about how Manchester United hadn't advanced beyond the Moyes era ... three years ago. And yet, that tweet from 2013 might be even more relevant today than when it was first published. Two games into the current campaign, United sit last in the league table, with two losses from two games and a minus-5 goal differential.

If new manager Erik ten Hag is going to turn this thing around, his team must improve in a number of key areas, including passing, creating chances and defending. But how?

Passing

At Ajax, Ten Hag's teams aggressively built out from the back, drawing opponents to them and then breaking the pressure with slick passing combinations or, say, Frenkie De Jong dribbling past the entire team all by himself.

Much to the chagrin of Ten Hag (and Barcelona), United do not have Frenkie De Jong. And the closest archetype to De Jong that United have had, Paul Pogba, is now playing for Juventus. So over the first two matches, United have tried to pass the ball out from the back – and they've failed, miserably. Against Brentford, they turned the ball over within 40 meters of their own goal six times: three of them led to turnovers, and two of them led to goals.

Through two matches, they've turned the ball over 15 times within 40 yards of their own goal, with eight of those turnovers directly leading to shots. Last season, they allowed 1.6 of those shot-generating high turnovers per match.

"Passing," of course, is a vague term, and a number of factors go into whether a pass is completed. No two passes are created equal or occur in a vacuum. The player on the ball needs to be able to recognize the pass and then execute it with the right degree of technical precision. But the receiver also has to find space and be able to receive the ball, with those same responsibilities flipping around for his next action, and so on and so on. Passing is a collective act, a chain of decisions and reactions that create more decisions and more reactions.

One big issue for United, if they continue to try to play this way, is that there's no one at the base of the possession chain.

In goal, David De Gea has never been comfortable with the ball at his feet and over his past five-plus seasons with United, he has completed less than 70% of his passes. Compare that to the teams that United wants to be competing with: Liverpool's Alisson has connected on 84.9% of his passes in the Premier League, while Manchester City's Ederson has completed 86.6% of his. When a possession reaches De Gea's feet, it's simply way more likely to end in a turnover than when the same thing happens at Liverpool and City.

This weakness, however, is compounded by the fact that United still haven't signed the defensive midfielder everyone has been telling them to sign for the better part of a decade now. While it's natural to view this theoretical player's main import as his ability to protect the backline without the ball, United also need a player who can keep these longer



Ten Hag's Man United tenure is off to a horrendous start, with two losses from two league games and a staggering six goals conceded. How can they turn it around? (Agencies)

possessions alive in the early stages. For most top teams, the deepest midfielder isn't necessarily the one who makes dangerous, Andrea Pirlo-esque, line-breaking passes; no, he's the one who makes the simple sideways pass out of pressure to keep the possession going.

Fred and Scott McTominay have never been reliable passers, so Ten Hag tried out his Matchday One center forward, Christian Eriksen, at defensive midfield against Brentford. It didn't go well.

Eriksen is a fantastic creative passer; he pushes the ball into the penalty area as well as anyone other than Lionel Messi. But he has never completed his passes at a particularly high clip: just 77.1% over the past five-plus seasons. To make the same comparison as above: Fabinho has completed 88.3% of his passes since joining Liverpool, while Rodri is up at 92.2% since signing with Manchester City.

For now, at least, Eriksen just doesn't really seem to understand the spaces he needs to occupy in this role, or how a turnover in your own third is way more costly than it is at the other end.

Chance Creation

When they're not turning the ball over in their own third, United really haven't been that bad at moving the ball into the attacking third.

United are close to exactly equal with Arsenal, and they're really only behind Aston Villa, Chelsea and Manchester City when compared across both metrics. Since they've been able to move the ball into the attacking third at a relatively high clip over their first two matches, United have also been able to attempt a ton of shots: 32, just one fewer than City's league-most 33. The problem, instead, is that they've mainly been terrible shots. Their average shot distance is 17.3 yards, the fourth-highest number in the league, and their expected-goals-per-shot average is also among the worst so far.

Despite attempting the second-most shots in the competition, they've scored just one goal. They've been unlucky not to score more, but the 2.3 xG they've created is still just the 11th-best mark through two matches. Because they've gone down early in both of their matches, United have spent most of their opening games against teams that were no longer trying to optimize the number of goals scored, and were instead focused on organizing bodies behind the ball.

Given their issues executing the patterns in buildup play, it's perhaps unsurprising Ten Hag's team also hasn't been able to execute the precision movements required to

break down a packed-in defensive in the attacking third. Most of their passes that created shots were just from sideways ball circulation rather than probing, high-value balls into the box.

Interestingly, United have been most effective under Ten Hag in the same way they were, at times, effective under Ole Gunnar Solskjær: when they move the ball quickly.

Stats Perform defines a direct attack as an "open play sequence that starts just inside the team's own half and has at least 50% of movement towards the opposition's goal and ends in a shot or a touch in the opposition box." Through two matches, United have generated five direct attacks – tied with Fulham for most in the league.

Defending

Yeah, it has been pretty bad. Through two games, here's where United rank across a number of key metrics:

- Goals allowed: 6, T-18th
- xG allowed: 3.11, 15th
- Shots allowed: 28, 15th
- Set-piece shots allowed: 11, T-18th

• Touches in penalty area allowed: 51, T-15th

And that's all despite United averaging 65% of the possession in their matches – the third-highest clip in the league. Basically, United's most effective form of defense so far has been making sure they're not playing defense. Once they lose the ball, they do try to win it back high up the field, but they've created only 15 turnovers within 40 yards of the opposition goal, which ranks 11th in the league. And their average defensive action takes place 38.92 meters from their own goal, the fifth-deepest mark in England.

Translation: they've been a below-average defense, if not worse, in just about every possible way so far.

"So, uh ... what happens next?" You can see how this is sort of a toxic cycle. With their current personnel, United still seem best suited for a faster, transition-based approach with the ball. But in order to be effective in that style, you need players who are comfortable in stretches without the ball in order to create the space to eventually push the transition attacks into.

Ten Hag doesn't have many of those players – and doesn't seem to want any of them – so instead he has prioritized keeping the ball. Except, United don't really have the players to effectively play that way yet, either, so it leads both to slower possessions that allow the opposition to get bodies behind the ball and to costly turnovers in the defensive third.

In an effort to both try to create

some more of those transitional moments and to keep the ball away from their defensive third altogether, the team tries to press high. But so long as Cristiano Ronaldo is still playing matches for Manchester United, they won't have an effective press, which means the press gets broken and those defensive weak links are suddenly going to be defending against the most difficult situations in modern soccer: high-speed counterattacks in tons of space.

Ten Hag doesn't deserve much blame for this – at least not yet. He's trying to get Manchester United to play the style of soccer – fluid possession, paired with a high-powered press that pins the ball in the attacking third – that title-winning teams tend to play in the year 2022. The problem is that United haven't built a roster meant to play that way because they haven't built a roster meant to play any particular way. Instead, they've assembled an expensive collection of big-name players without any thought as to how they might fit together, how they might amplify one another's strengths and protect against one another's weaknesses.

If anything, they've created a roster filled with players who seem to make each other worse.

Rather than truly aiming to rebuild the club with any kind of long-term plan that will enable them to eventually compete with the elite managers and recruitment teams in place at both Manchester City and Liverpool, for example, they've spent the entire summer chasing after players who have some kind of connection with their current coach. For a club that can afford just about anyone in the world, it would have to be a once-in-a-century coincidence that all of the best players they could find just so happened to be players who cut their teeth in the Eredivisie.

I don't blame Ten Hag for that; most coaches are terrible talent scouts, and any healthy club would have a process in place to prevent that from happening. The way you build a great team is by identifying the right players for the right coach, who can then make those players better – not just by buying some of the players the coach tells you he wants.

Rather than maximizing results with a short-term tactical approach, Ten Hag is trying to totally revamp United's approach in a way he thinks will lead to long-term success. We won't know whether his way is actually the right way for a while, and if he continues on with a variant of the same approach, there's bound to be plenty more frustration throughout the rest of this season. If this is going to have any chance of working out eventually, United will need to be patient and they'll also need to identify the kind of players who stand a chance of being a part of whatever the next great United team, led by their current coach, might look like.

Gwiji by David Chikoko



SPORT

Man United's mess: The key areas Erik Ten Hag must address before it's too late

COMPREHENSIVE REPORT, PAGE 19

Mkwasa praises Ruvu Shooting squad for downing Ihefu SC

By Correspondent Michael Mwebi

RUVU Shooting's head coach Charles Boniface Mkwasa was full of praise after his side's 1-0 victory over newly promoted Ihefu SC on the opening day of the 2022/23 NBC Premier League on Monday afternoon.

The Coast Region outfit's new signing Ally Bilali scored the only goal of the game which took place at Highland Estate Stadium in Mbeya in just the 19th minute after beating the offside trap set by Ihefu SC.

Ihefu SC defenders Juma Nyoso and Lenny Kissu failed to see the quick thinking of Ruvu Shooting right fullback Michael Aidan who sent in a lovely chipped ball to Bilali who rounded the on-rushing goalkeeper James Ssetuba before putting the ball in the empty net.

It was a battling performance showcased by Ruvu Shooting, who found themselves pegged back for much of the game but they managed to hold out for all three points.

In his post-match press conference, a beaming Mkwasa took time to laud the overall effort of his squad though he admitted it was a tough away victory earned after their pre-season preparation in Zanzibar.

The tactician said: "We were in Zanzibar for pre-season, the weather is different but I am happy my players put up a spirited fight." The gaffer pointed out: "I can't ask for more from this group. It is a good start, if the league were to end today we would be declared champions."

"I am delighted with this squad for being the first team to collect maximum points. The first to get an away win and the first to score in the new campaign." Mkwasa's counterpart at Ihefu SC, Zubeir Katwila rued his side's offside trap failure, pointing out Ruvu Shooting capitalized on that defensive mix-up to punish them.

The tactician revealed: "One defensive error cost us the game, they took advantage of one big chance to punish us. We played well after that mistake but you are always under pressure when chasing the game." The coach said: "We made changes, substituted a fullback for an attacking player to add to our firepower up front but it was futile because they defended well with tactical discipline."

Ruvu Shooting should have another tough job to shine in the second round when they travel to Mtibwa Sugar on Sunday afternoon at Manungu Stadium in Morogoro.

Mtibwa Sugar will be aiming to collect their first three points after drawing their first game away to Namungu FC.

Meanwhile, Ihefu SC will be looking to forget their dismal start to the 2022/23 NBC Premier League campaign when they play host to Lindi's Namungu FC tomorrow afternoon.



Shukuru Halfani (C), winner of this year's CRDB Marathon's people with special needs category sponsored by Vodacom, poses for a photo with the show-down's other winners along with the Vodacom Tanzania Foundation's Director Rosalynn Mworia (R), CRDB Board Member Martin Warioba (L), and the Vodacom Tanzania Pic Director of Digital Services, Nguvu Kamando (3rd L) during the presentation ceremony in Dar es Salaam last weekend. Vodacom Tanzania handed over one-year insurance package known as 'Faraja Yangu' from VodaBima to the winners, the package will benefit them and their dependants, as they will get life insurance, hospital funds and accident insurance. PHOTO: GUARDIAN CORRESPONDENT



Prime Minister, Kassim Majaliwa (L), hands over a gift to Confederation of African Football (CAF) president Patrice Motsepe shortly after opening the 44th Ordinary General Assembly of the confederation held in Arusha recently. PHOTO: COURTESY OF PRIME MINISTER'S OFFICE

SBL to cooperate with government in developing football

By Guardian Correspondent

LAST week Tanzania was privileged to host the 44th Ordinary General Assembly of the Confederation of African Football (CAF) which brought together 52 countries, members of the continent's supreme football governing body.

The event, held in the beautiful city of Arusha, was attended by high-profile football leaders worldwide, including FIFA president Gianni Infantino and CAF president Patrice Motsepe.

Prime Minister Kassim Majaliwa officiated the assembly on behalf of President Samia Suluhu Hassan.

In her speech read by the Prime Minister, President Samia said Africa needs to increase its efforts in developing football, adding that Tanzania pays special attention to football development.

To show her solid commitment to supporting football, the President said she has personally agreed to sponsor the East and Central African Club Championship, 'Samia Cup'.

Other significant support the government has offered to soccer at the local level includes the construction of modern football stadiums.

In this financial year alone, the government has committed to building more modern football stadiums in 10 regions.

Based on the spirit of public-private partnership, the government has not been alone in developing this most popular sport globally, with an estimated following of four billion fans.

Other organizations and companies have been backing such efforts. Serengeti Breweries Limited (SBL) is one of the supporters worth mentioning in this course.

SBL, through its flagship beer brand Serengeti Premium Lager, is the main sponsor of Tanzania's senior men's national football team, Taifa Stars.

The brewer has a long history of supporting Taifa Stars, having made its debut sponsorship to the team between 2010 and 2012 and springing back again to keep it in 2017 and 2020.

To bolster its unwavering support for Taifa Stars, in October 2020, the company renewed its contract with the Tanzania Football Federation (TFF) and dished out 3bn/- to support the team for another period of three years.

SBL's objective is to ensure that Taifa Stars displays national colours with pride without worrying about the money it can use to honour its local and international assignments, according to John Wanyancha, the company's Corporate Relations Director.

The official revealed: "We are happy and grateful that our sponsorship has continued to bear fruits because throughout the three-year sponsorship, we have witnessed Taifa Stars registering a string of commendable successes in its various local, regional, and international fixtures."

"The success culminated in the team qualifying for the African Cup of Nations (AFCON) finals held in Egypt in 2019- after being in the continental soccer limbo for a whopping 38 years!," Wanyancha added.

SBL's support for football does not end with Taifa Stars. Through the Serengeti Lite beer brand, the company is also the first and, so far, the only sponsor of the Mainland Tanzania Women's Premier League.

The support for Mainland Tanzania Women's Premier League dates back to 2018. The sponsorship has played a significant role in empowering women to increase their participation and performance in the sports sector in general and in soccer.

Like in the Taifa Stars case, the support for the women's league has borne success.

Local soccer enthusiasts are all aware that Tanzania's senior women's national soccer team, Twiga Stars, was recently crowned Council of Southern African Football Associations (COSAFA) Women's Championship winner after beating their Malawian counterparts 1-0 in the 2021 championship finals held in South Africa.

A tough win for Yanga, admits head coach Nabi



Yanga midfielder Khalid Aucho (L) attempts to get the better of Polisi Tanzania's attacker Hamisi Kanduru during the 2022/23 NBC Premier League tie which took place in Arusha on Tuesday. Yanga won 2-1. PHOTO: COURTESY OF YANGA

By Correspondent Michael Mwebi

YANGA head coach Nasreddine Nabi was proud of his side's performance in a 2022/23 Premier League tie between the outfit and Polisi Tanzania on Tuesday afternoon.

The top flight defending champions managed to come back from behind to win 2-1 at Sheikh Amri Abeid Stadium in Arusha.

Midfielder Ally Salim Kipemba opened the scoring for the hosts, Polisi Tanzania in the 34th minute but Yanga's talisman Fiston Mayele managed to claw one back for the visitors just seven minutes later to go into the halftime break level.

However, captain Bakari Mwangeto provided Yanga with the winner in the 85th minute to earn the defending champions an impressive opening round of the campaign victory.

Coach Nabi said they knew it was going to be tough heading into the game a few days after the Community Shield derby clash against age-old rival, Simba SC, in which they also managed to come from behind and win 2-1. Nabi claimed his squad did well to dig in and get a good result.

He also heaped praise on the second-half substitutes duo of Heritier Makambo and Bernard Morrison for boosting their attacking power to enable them to pin down Polisi Tanzania in their half in search of the winner that came five minutes into normal stoppage time.

The Tunisian gaffer stated: "On Saturday we had a tough derby game. We knew it would be a tough game coming here against a good team and we knew there would be tough moments like the missed penalty... the weather here is very different, it's energy sapping."

The gaffer noted: "It is true, a big side like Yanga should play like that in the second half because every game is a must-

win. We upped the intensity, dug into our reserve to get the victory."

"We brought in Heritier Makambo and Bernard Morrison to strengthen our attack force. They added an attacking edge that ultimately paid off in the end."

Nabi's side will take on Coastal Union in their next NBC Premier League fixture on Saturday afternoon at the same venue.

Polisi Tanzania and Coastal Union are both using Sheikh Amri Abeid Stadium following the ban of their home grounds, Ushirika Stadium and Mkwakwani Stadium respectively.

Mkwakwani, Ushirika, and the other three venues have not met the standard approved to host NBC Premier League games.

Three other stadiums namely Kaitaba (Kagera), Majaliwa (Ruangwa), and Sokoine are under renovations which include laying of artificial pitches and fixing floodlights.

Flexibles by David Chikoko



5 EATV WEDNESDAY

TO NIGHT @ 9:00

UJENZI

11:00 DADAZ
12:00 Mpera Mpera
13:00 MJADALA (r)
13:30 Kili Za Wanja
13:55 Dondoo Za Michezo
14:00 Bongo Hits
15:00 Funguka
15:30 Mpera Mpera
15:55 Dondoo Za Michezo
16:00 Zote kuntu
16:30 #HASHTAG
17:00 SSELECT
17:55 Kurasa
18:00 eNewz
18:30 Bongo Hits
19:00 EATV SAA 1
20:00 DADAZ (r)
21:30 Mid Week Movie
22:30 Zote kuntu
23:00 KURASA
23:05 EATV SAA 1

eastafrica RADIO

06:00 Supa Breakfast
10:00 MAMAMIA
12:00 Kipenga Xtra
13:00 Planet Bongo
16:00 EA Drive
20:00 Kipenga
21:00 The Cruise

88.1FM DAR ES SALAAM

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