



MPs nod to Finance Act with 38 laws amended

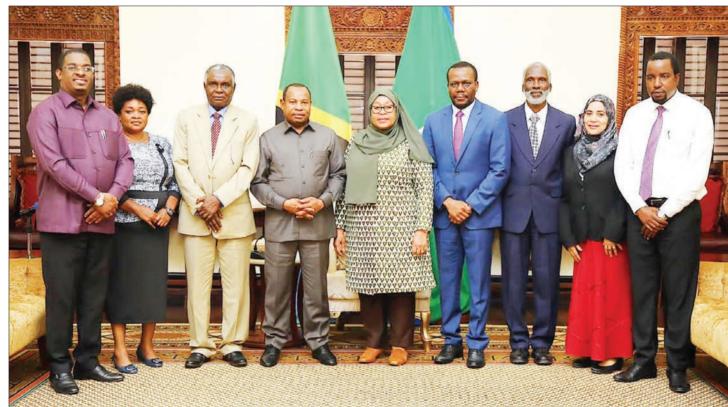
By Getrude Mbago

THE National Assembly has passed the Finance Act 2022, which amends 38 laws and introduces a number of tax reforms to further stimulate investments, bring relief to consumers and increase revenue collections.

Finance and Planning minister Dr Mwigulu Nchemba (pictured), winding up debate on this year's paramount fiscal legislation yesterday, commended MPs for their helpful contributions, affirming that the government shall work on their views.

He urged the public authorities and stakeholders to sensitize the public to drum up support and enthusiasm for the Population and Housing Census set for August 23, as the government is working to ensure that no one is left behind in this important exercise.

Oman visit yielding dividends - officials



By Felister Peter

INVESTMENTS in tourism and livestock are in the pipeline from the Sultanate of Oman in the wake of the visit by President Samia Suluhu Hassan in the Middle East nation recently.

Prof Godius Kahyarara, the permanent secretary for Industry, Trade and Investments said at a press conference at the State House in Dar es Salaam yesterday that exports to foreign countries are increasing while investments are being registered in greater numbers.

With President Samia's efforts to enhance economic diplomacy, investment projects billed at \$9bn were registered from March 2021 to the present, he said, flanked by Energy minister January Makamba, and Liberata Mulamula, the Foreign Affairs and East African Cooperation minister, as well as Mashimba Ndaki, her Livestock and Fisheries counterpart, and various other senior government officials.

Earlier investment projects worth \$1bn were being registered annually, while exports were also rising, as

Tanzania exported \$10.2bn worth of goods during the past year and quarter, from \$7bn to \$8bn worth of exports attained in previous years, he stated.

The government has set aside sufficient funds to cover all necessary expenses for this important exercise, he declared, urging MPs to support the exercise by educating their constituents on its importance.

Census participation will enable the government, non-governmental organizations and the private sector to obtain accurate data as a foundation for developing, implementing and evaluating various development policies and other government plans," he said.

Hamad Chande, the deputy minister said the government will invest heavily in public awareness programmes on the new policy measures for their smooth implementation, since educating public institutions on the

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President Samia Suluhu Hassan with opposition ACT-Wazalendo top brass after talks at State House in Dar es Salaam yesterday. They include national Chairman Juma Duni Haji (3rd-L); Vice Chairman (Zanzibar) Othman Masoud Othman (4th-L), who doubles as Zanzibar's First Vice President; Party Leader Zitto Kabwe (4th-R) and Secretary General Ado Shaibu (R). Photo: State House

'Tax relief alone can't attract, keep investors'

By Getrude Mbago, Dodoma

GRANTING tax relief and exemptions for specific areas of industry isn't enough to attract investors and keep those already operating in the country as tax improvements need to go in line with major improvements in port services, stable power supply and upgrading the transport infrastructure. Kisesa MP Luhaga Mpina made this observation yesterday when contributing to debate on the Finance Bill, 2022, underlining that improving ports, railway transport and power is vital as industrialists will not stay here if their factories are not supplied with essential services.

Keeping investors requires quality and quick services in ports, power supply and supportive transport such as railway and roads, he said, elaborating that

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Tanzania's participation in global trade and investment flows stands at 0.03 per cent and 0.04 per cent of global exports and imports respectively, he said, linking the higher investments and tourism flows with 'The Royal Tour' documentary, where tourist arrivals in Dar es Salaam went up by 280 percent and in Arusha by 340 percent compared to the preceding year.

International flights landing at the Julius Nyerere International Airport (JNIA) has increased with major airlines adding more weekly flights, he said, citing Turkish Airways and Emirates Airline as having increased their flights from four to seven per week, while Kenya Airways increased flights to 22 from 19 per week.

With a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU)

TURN TO PAGE 2

'Russia uplifting trade, cultural relations with African nations'

By Henry Mwangonde

IN the face of changing global realities, Russia is now looking at Africa generally and thus Tanzania, as a sphere with which to develop closer trade and investment partnerships, Russian ambassador Andrey Avetisyan has declared.

The resident envoy told journalists in Dar es Salaam yesterday that following economic sanctions imposed on Russia by western countries, the eastern European power was now banking on Africa for trade and investment in various sectors such as energy and agriculture, among others.

It thus looks at countries like Tanzania as a new market for energy and grain, along with cultural and traditional exchanges, he



stated, underlining that Russia wants more trade and creating partnerships with African countries, "because we see countries like Tanzania as safe places to conduct businesses for the Russian business community." he said. He said there are many business opportunities in Tanzania which the Russian business community can take up, along with initiating joint ventures with local counterparts.

"Russia imports tea and coffee from Tanzania but not to a large extent. If you visit Russian supermarkets you rarely see Tanzanian coffee; the aim is to improve this," he affirmed.

The Tanzania-Russia trade volume stands at less than \$200m annually, he said, intimating that Russia wants to raise total trade volumes to new heights.

Russia chiefly imports coffee, cotton, tea, cashew nuts and cloves, he stated, pointing out that in 2009 coffee exports value reached \$111.7m, from \$97.5m a year earlier, a 14.6 per cent increase.

Cotton exports value stood at \$111.2m, a slight decline from \$115.5m in 2008, a 3.3 per cent dip.

The two governments are set to create an TURN TO PAGE 2



Zanzibar President Dr Hussein Ali Mwinyi swears in Khamis Ramadhan Abdalla (R) as Zanzibar Chief Justice at Zanzibar State House yesterday. Justice Abdalla had served in that position in acting capacity since President Samia Suluhu Hassan named his predecessor, Omar Othman Makungu, a Court of Appeal of Tanzania Judge in October 2021. Photo: Zanzibar State House

NEWS



Prime Minister Kassim Majaliwa pictured in Dodoma city yesterday opening training for city and municipal mayors as well as council chairpersons from across Tanzania.

man visit yielding dividends - officials

FROM PAGE 1

signed between Omani aviation authorities and the Kilimanjaro Airports Development Co. (KADCO) for face lifting the northern airport will ease the transportation of locally produced products, especially with export processing zones being set up, he said.

Minister Ndaki said the government of Saudi Arabia had lifted a ban lasting 21 years on importing Tanzania meat and related products, in the wake of President Samia's efforts in economic diplomacy

Omani firms have shown interest to invest in meat processing and

modern fish farming, to change the National Ranching Co. (NARCO) the situation where Tanzania has signed an agreement for trading of four meat processing factories live animals and meat, while Oman all operating below capacity, not Food Investment Holding Co. and the crossing 30 percent of installed capacity owing to failure to obtain international markets.

Meat processing factories will now operate at full capacity as the firms can sell their meat to Oman, Saudi Arabia and Kuwait. "We are implementing a number of initiatives including construction of cattle dips to improve the quality of our meat and related products as cattle dipping helps to reduce diseases by over 90 percent," he explained.

The Al Bashayer Meat Co. and Tanzanian energy agencies.

Tanzania Horticultural Association (TAHA) also signed an accord.

Ambassador Mulamula said Tanzanian missions all over the world are pitched on economic diplomacy, prioritizing the search for markets for agro-processed and industrial produce.

Makamba on the other hand noted the signing of accords between Tanzania and Oman for improving electricity services, as Omani firms will deliver experience and expertise for

Zuhura Yunus, the director of presidential communications, said that a range of accord were signed in energy, tourism, natural resources, higher education, training and national museums.

A memorandum was signed between the Oman Chamber of Commerce and Industry (OCCI) with the Tanzania Chamber of Commerce, Industry and Agriculture (TCCIA) and the Zanzibar National Chamber of Commerce (ZNCC).

Accords were also signed between the Oman Investment Authority (OIA) and the Zanzibar Investment Promotion Authority (ZIPA), she added.

attract, keep investors' FROM PAGE

stable power supply, quality ports and transport services stimulate economic activities, increasing employment opportunities.

Nominated MP Shamsi Vuai Nahodha expressed dissatisfaction with the number of tourists landing in Mainland airports despite the wealth of attractions, urging robust strategies to increase the number of visitors.

The number of tourists landing on Mainland airports was still low compared to Zanzibar, considering the breath of attractions on either side, he said, putting visitors to Zanzibar at 500,000 tourists annually and upwards of 800,000 tourists for the

Mainland. This is still too low considering that the Mainland has numerous tourist

attractions, he said, insisting on the need to invest in new strategies where attractions in the Mainland are improved and well marketed outside. Godwin Kunambi (Mlimba) commended amending the Local Government Act, to establish one-stop centres to serve traders and investors. The centres must be equipped with the right tools and sufficient staff, while educating small traders on how to grow and formalise their businesses, he added.



MPs pass Finance Act with 38 laws amended

new measures will ensure that all government vehicles have insurance cover.

Under the new legislation, certain goods or services will benefit from tax exemptions while imposing taxes and levies on a range of others, to stimulate investments and expand the tax base for the country's development, he explained.

Amended laws under Finance Act 2022 include the Animal Diseases Act, (cap. 156), The Bank of Tanzania Act (cap. 197), the Business Names (Registration) Act (cap. 213), the Cashewnut Industry Act (cap. 203), the Companies Act, (cap232.), the Copyright and Neighbouring Rights Act (cap. 218), the Dairy Industry Act (cap. 262) and the Excise (Management and Tariff) Act (cap. 147).

Others are the Electronic and Postal Communications Act (cap. 306), the Energy and Water Utilities Regulatory Authority Act (cap. 414), the Export Tax Act (cap.196), the Fertilisers Act (cap.378), the Foreign Vehicles Transit Charges Act (cap. 84), the Gaming and Training Act (cap. 82).

Act (cap. 41), the Government Loans, Guarantees and Grants Act (cap. 134), the Hides, Skins and Leather Trade Act (cap. 120), the Income Tax Act (cap.332), the Insurance Act (cap.394), the Land Act (cap. 113), the Land Transport Regulatory Authority Act (cap. 413), and the Local Governments Finance Act (cap. 290).

Similarly, the Local Government (District Authorities) Act (cap. 287) is amended, along with the Local Government (Urban Authorities) Act (cap. 288), the Mining Act (cap. 123), the National Payment Systems Act (cap. 437), the Occupational Safety and Health Act (cap. 297), the Ports Act (cap. 166), the Tanzania Investment Act (cap. 38), the Tanzania Communications Regulatory Authority Act (cap. 172), the Tanzania Revenue Authority Act (cap. 399), the Tanzania Shipping Agencies Act (cap. 415), the Tax Administration Act (cap. 438), the Tax Revenue Appeals Act (cap. 408), the Tourism Act (cap. 65), the Trustees Incorporation Act (cap. 318), the Value Added Tax Act (cap. 148) and the Vocational Education

'Tax relief alone can't

Russia uplifting trade, cultural relations with Africa, Tanzania

Energy minister January Makamba pictured in Dar es Salaam yesterday addressing a meeting organised by the European Union for renewable energy stakeholders, Pl

Give rotation a chance, AU chief pleads with Pan-African Parliament ahead of elections

GAUTENG, South Africa

AU Commission chair Moussa Faki Mahamat has pleaded with Pan-African Parliament (PAP) delegates to give the southern and North African regions a chance to lead the institution.

Mahamat, who is expected to facilitate the PAP elections, confirmed the principle of rotation has not yet been ratified and cannot be enforceable at this week's gathering.

"I want to be clear and sincere with you all. It is regrettable the protocol establishing rotation has not entered into force because of a lack of the required number of ratifications. From the legal point of view, it is obviously not effective," Mahamat said in his opening address at the PAP session which started in Midrand, Gauteng on Tuesday.

for the PAP presidency to rotate among occupied the presidency post. the five regions of the AU, namely north, west, east, central and southern Africa. It is followed by the AU in all its organs as a means to unite the continent.

Of the five regions, the southern and north regions are the only two that have not held the presidency since its inception in 2004.

The Southern African Development Community (SADC) caucus relied on the implementation of the principle while it campaigned for Zimbabwean MP Chief Fortune Charumbira for the PAP presidency.

In his address, Mahamat said a decision adopted by the AU's executive council and approved by the assembly of the union prescribed that elections for the PAP bureau be held according to the principle of rotation to enable saying a peaceful atmosphere should

The principle of rotation provides the two regions which have not yet

"The rotation doesn't mean you want to put aside the legal instruments that are enforced, but we have to be objective to solve the problem which has become unbearable," he said.

It would be "a great honour" to implement the principle this week, he said.

He urged the other regions to allow a sense of reason and fair play to prevail, saving the AU could not afford a crisis in one of its key institutions, the PAP. Mahamat also reflected on the aborted PAP session of May 2021 when MPs from the SADC disrupted proceedings, demanding the implementation of the rotation principle when electing new leaders. He called for a "brotherly dialogue"

prevail this time. This would be essential to unite the continent, so it could in solidarity tackle challenges which range from health to Covid-19 its economic and social and consequences, security challenges, including the spread of terrorism, and climate change disasters affecting the continent.

While parliaments across the world are a forum for discussions and heated discussions were expected, he called on PAP MPs to be moderate in their approach and to exercise self-control.

The unfortunate events that took place in the same cycle in May and June 2021 on the occasion of the aborted election of the bureau for the institution have tarnished the image of this institution and that of the entire continent. The unbearable scenes projected on TV and social media, which were seen by Africans, belittled the parliament. It was a disgrace for the continent."

Elections for new leadership are scheduled for Wednesday.

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intergovernmental trade commission to address trade barriers as well as facilitating bilateral trade, he said, referring to misinformation being spread around the world as to what Russia wants to do in Africa.

He said Russia intends to open information centres and increase frequently," he added.

the presence of the Russian media in Africa and elsewhere to help spread positive news from Russia in various African countries.

"We want to expand the coverage of Russian media outlets already working in Africa. The embassy will be issuing bulletins of what is happening in Russia

Germany returns artefacts taken from Africa during colonial rule

By Special Correspondent

PRICELESS artefacts removed and looted from African nations during Germany's colonial period will be permanently returned, officials said.

The Berlin-based Prussian Cultural Heritage Foundation, which manages the German capital's many museums, said on Monday it had entered into negotiations on the returns of artefacts to Namibia, Tanzania and Cameroon. The artefacts to be returned is a shell-studded statue of the mother goddess Ngonnso', which holds great spiritual significance for the Nso' people of northwest Cameroon, the

foundation said. The statue has been part of the collection of Berlin's Ethnological Museum since 1903, after it was "donated" by a German colonial officer who had taken it by force from the Nso'. The board also approved the permanent return of 23 artefacts, including jewellery, tools and fashion items, to Namibia. The objects, also stolen during the colonial period from 1884 to 1919, were sent to Namibia last month for research purposes and will now remain there.

The foundation said its president had also been authorised to sign an agreement on the return of objects Germany looted from Tanzania during

the Maji Maji uprising and other conflicts during its early 20th-century colonial rule.

foundation's president, The Hermann Parzinger, welcomed the move to return the artefacts.

"The decision makes clear that the issue of the return of items collected in a colonial context does not always come down to injustice," he said.

"The special significance - in particular spiritual - of artefacts for the community it originated from may also justify return," he added.

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NATIONAL.NEWS

Güardian



Brigitta Shirima (C), Vodacom Tanzania Plc's head of sales for the Dar es Salaam and Coastal zones, and head of sales and distribution George Lugata (L) cut the ribbon to launch a Vodacom shop at the Dar es Salaam International Trade Fair grounds yesterday. They promised customers a range of offers, including a 10 per cent discount for those using the mobile payment service dubbed 'Lipa kwa Simu'. Looking on is customer service officer Sarah Stephen. Photo: Guardian

Makamba: Decentralised energies in Tanzania are priorities for accessing rural electrification

By Correspondent James Kandoya

MINISTER for Energy January Makamba has stated that decentralised energies in Tanzania as some of the most priorities for accessing rural electrification.

Makamba said this in Dar es Salaam yesterday when opening the Energy Access Investment Forum (EAIF), which brought together researchers, investors, and renewable energy companies from 60 countries in the world.

were very important at this juncture, noting that the forum was important for the country's development since it enabled the stakeholders to network and form partnerships.

He said despite achievements and power energy, mostly renewable, recorded by the country in rural electrification; still, renewable energies like off-grid, mini-grid, and clean cooking energy are the best, unveiling that the country's energy portfolio shows that 80 percent of the energy used is biomass while 70 percent of the households use energy in cooking.

"Infrastructures in rural areas are not friendlier, especially in small islands where it becomes difficult to connect them with national grids, "he said.

According to him, globally, energy are the fastest growing energy in the global and the continent as well.

David Lecoque, ARE CEO highlighted: "This year's EAIF will be a landmark step forward to scale up sustainable clean energy access globally. EAIF will harness creativity and investment, bringing the power of the private sector together with the dedication of the public sector in order to achieve the major public goal of SDG7."

happy to host a continental renewable energy forum in Tanzania, where EUsupported platforms with the aim of catalyzing investment opportunities for energy projects in Africa.

"This event is in line with the recently adopted EU green deal which focuses on the clean energy transition and in line with our ongoing support to Tanzania to improve energy efficiency and better service delivery to citizens." Carol Koech, Country President of

Schneider Electric East Africa said: "Our objective is to ensure green,

PM calls for strict expenditure of local government revenues

By Guardian Reporter

PRIME Minister Kassim Majaliwa has called Mayors and Chairmen of local councils to appropriately supervise the expenditure of the revenue collected as well as funds from the central government and ensure the money is spent on the aims intended.

Majaliwa made the remarks yesterday when opening a training seminar for empowering mayors and councils chairmen from Tanzania Mainland in Dodoma's Mabeyo Complex Hall.

He said the annual reports by the Controller and Auditor General (CAG) bring up the same faults including transferring funds from one Vote to another without following laid down procedures and payments made without supporting documents.

"Collected revenue is spent even before being remitted to banks, you must ask yourselves why the hurry? Follow this up, including the purchase

of non-existent items, especially at this time with large construction projects going on. "All officials involved in this training seminar must abide by principles of good governance and rule of law as well as strengthening systems in solving disputes including involving the people in economic planning decisions," Majaliwa added.

He said all officials are called upon to make sure the public get reports on the implementation of budget plans and the budgets thereof.

He also called on these leaders to strengthen the supervision on development projects in local government authorities to ensure the work done commensurate with the funds provided

For his part, the Minister of State in the President's Office - Regional Administration and Local Government (PO-RALG), Innocent Bashungwa said the two-day training has been held to empower local government officials to manage their operations.

Dr Hussein Ali Mwinyi calls on judges of the African Court on Human, Peoples' Rights to ensure they work to people's expectations

By Guardian Reporter, Zanzibar

ZANZIBAR President Dr. Hussein Ali Mwinyi has called on judges of the African Court on Human and Peoples' Rights to ensure they meet people's expectation when dispensing justice to gain regional relevance.

Dr Mwinyi made the call here yesterday when opening the threeday judicial dialogue between regional and sub-regional courts in Africa.

The three-day forum brought on board judges and legal officers of the ECOWAS, East African and African Courts to conduct a judicial dialogue on various issues pertaining to regional human rights justice in Africa. The dialogue is meant to enhance the promotion and protection of human and peoples' rights on the continent through effective collaboration between continental and regional judicial institutions.

Dr Mwinyi said that meeting is also geared towards consolidating cooperation between regional courts and between legal officers in a

manner that reinforces regional

parameters around which the public and lay persons would place trust in your office as judges and courts. This judicial dialogue should be guided by independence as Justice must be done, but it must also be seen to be done".

He also stated that most often the unsuccessful party will complain, but administering justice under the command on independence will always provide you with a sense of moral satisfaction.

Dr Mwinyi also stated that the power of cooperation cannot be underestimated as a recipe to a successful administration of justice when it comes to continental courts.

THE UNITED REPUBLIC OF TANZANIA THE COMPANIES ACT NO.12 OF 2022 THE MATTER OF MEMBERS VOLUNTARY WINDING UP O ANK (TANZANIA) LIMITED (IN LIQUIDATIO Company Number 89923 (the "Company") NOTICE OF FINAL GENERAL MEETING to Section 345 of The Company Act of 2002 R.E 2019 tions will be considered at the Final Shareholde

The forum was organized by the sector's top business association; the Alliance for Rural Electrification (ARE) and supported by the European Union brought together Decentralized Renewable Energy (DRE) actors and investors working across the whole value chain throughout emerging markets in Dar es Salaam.

mini-grid, and clean cooking energies green emissions," he said

Compared to developed countries where a small percentage of energy is used for cooking and the rest is used for manufacturing and others.

in clean cooking energy is very important especially in rural areas due to its great demand and because it is aligned with Sustainable Development The minister said that off-grid, Goals (SDGs), goal no (7) of mitigating to Tanzania and the East African

EAIF offers delegates the chance "If that is the case, it means investing to connect with key industry players including over 80 investors and more than 1,000 industry participants and other stakeholders.

Manfredo Fanti, EU Ambassador Community (EAC) said: "We are reliable, and affordable energy for all and become part of the solution to improve the lives of the 1.8 billion people without access to reliable energy."

ENGIE Energy Access CEO said: "It is an opportunity to connect with key stakeholders and partners and share our vision on how to provide decentralised energy to people not connected to the grid.

human rights justice as designed and projected by the African Union, the East African Community and the Economic Community of West African States.

"So, it's important to note that your decision should be peoplecentered, taking into account that vou are the only relied on regional wise," he said, suggesting: "You are guided in your discussions by three

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	Any member entitled to attend this meeting may appoint a proxy to attend on its behalf and so

Together in Progress

MAENDELEO BANK

Former PM Pinda calls on African countries to censure corruption

By Correspondent Cynthia especially by the youth in

Mwilolezi, Arusha

FORMER Prime Minister Mizengo Pinda has called on African countries to abide by rule of law and censure corruption in order to speed up their development.

Pinda made the remarks here yesterday as he represented former president Jakaya Kikwete at the opening of Pan African Lawyers Union (PALU).

He said lawyers must abide by the laws in every country, including admonishing corruption to avert the continent becoming crisis ridden as well as managing

the countries' economies. "It is now necessary for lawyers to think deeply and decide which Africa we want, we cannot have continual complaints regarding theft of public resources, and patriotism is essential to avert corruption," said Pinda.

He stressed that the main task must be done now,

order to contain corruption and ask why people accept corruption instead of being

patriotic to admonish it. EAC Secretary General Peter Mathuki stressed that legal practitioners should assist African countries to solve various issues involving law, as well as assisting them to end corruption.

For his part, the President of Tanzania Law Society (TLS) Prof Edward Hosseah, speaking at the gathering stressed for lawyers in African countries to assist their people on legal aid at low cost.

He stressed on young lawyers to enhance themselves economically through various legal strategies to benefit the society and the countries' resources.

It is now necessary for lawyers to think deeply and decide which Africa we want...

DIVIDEND DECLARATION FOR THE FINANCIAL YEAR 2021

The Annual General Meeting (AGM) of the Bank which was held on 25th June, 2022 approved the payment of TZS 11 per share as dividend for Financial Year 2021 as submitted by the Board of Directors. Pursuant to the dividend payment declaration, the Share Register details shall remain as follows

Announcement Date	29 th June 2022
Trading of Share cum Dividend	29 th June 2022 – 19 th July, 2022
Trading of Share Ex Dividend	20 th July, 2022 onwards
Closure of the Members Register	22 th July, 2022
Dividend Payment on or by	4 th Agust, 2022

Dividend will be paid directly to the Shareholder's bank account or mobile wallet. Shareholders are advised to update their details by visiting or sending their details to the Company Registrar on the address below:

The Registrar CSD & Registry Company Limited 2nd Floor, NHC Corporate Office Kambarage House, 6 Ufukoni Street P.0 Box 70081 Dar es Salaam Mobile 0746 160 516 Email: registrar@csdr.co.tz

BY ORDER OF THE BOARD



Leonard Manyama (R), councillor for Wazo ward in Dar Salaam, exchanges views with Flamingo Investment director Ernest Magesa (L) in the city yesterday. This was shortly after the launch of the Madale Dispensary improvement project, which involves the construction of three rooms, fences, laboratories and car parks, with the firm sponsoring the implementation. Second left is Superintendent of Police Colle Sekondo of Mabwepande police post. Photo: Correspondent Miraji Msa

Dr Mwinyi swears in new Zanzibar Chief Justice, 3 High Court Judges

By Guardian Reporter

ZANZIBAR President Dr Hussein Ali Mwinyi has sworn in Zanzibar Chief Justice, Khamis Ramadhan Abdallah and three Zanzibar High Court Judges following their appointment made June 24, 2022

At the swearing in event yesterday at Zanzibar state House, Dr Mwinyi sworn in Said Hassan Said, Salma Ali Hassan and Mohamed Ali Mohamed as Zanzibar High Court judges.

Before their appointment, Khamis the country's laws. Ramadhan Abdallah was Acting Zanzibar Chief Justice while Salma Ali Hassan was the Zanzibar Director of Public Prosecutions (DPP).

Mohamed Ali Mohamed was Registrar of Zanzibar High Court and Hassan Said was Zanzibar Attorney General.

Speaking after the event, the judges receives justice entitles according to abuse and illicit drugs.

"I will accord priority in making sure cases regarding narcotics. gender based violence and child abuse are speedily dealt with," said chief justice Khamis Ramadhan Abdallah.

The sworn in judges also called upon the people to abandon indifference and instead come up to give evidence pledged to fully implement their in court on various cases, including new roles to make sure every citizen those on gender based violence, child

The function was attended by various government officials including Zanzibar Second Vice President, Hemed Suleiman Abdulla, cabinet ministers, Attorney General Dr Mwinyi Talib Haji, secretary of the Revolutionary Council and Chief secretary, Eng Zena Ahmeid Said.

Others were the Zanzibar Mufti sheikh Saleh Omar Kaab, religious leaders, heads of defence and security organs and family members.

Simplified birth registration system bolsters documentation of children

By Guardian Reporter

THE implementation of the gender-responsive simplified birth registration system in Manyara Region has increased documentation and provision of certificates to children from 10.6 percent in July 2021 to the current 80.2 percent, it has been revealed.

Chief executive officer of the Registration, Insolvency and Trusteeship Agency (RITA) Angela Anatory said this yesterday in Manyara during the assessment meeting which brought together leaders and key stakeholders in the region.

She said that with the system children can be registered and given birth certificates at a short time in ward offices and health centres compared to the previous time when parents had to travel to reach district officers to get the service.

She said since the programme commenced in Manyara, a total of 259,317 children under the age of five have been registered and given their birth certificates free of charge.

She commended regional authorities for their hard work and determination in supervising the programme as there are other regions that started implementing the plan before and haven't reached that level.

Implemented by the government in collaboration with partners such as UNICEF, Tigo and the Canadian government, the programme aims to reach all under-five children across the country.

Permanent secretary in the Ministry of Constitutional and Legal Affairs, Mary Makondo said since the exercise commenced, a total of 7.5 million children under the age of five have been registered and given birth certificates across 23 regions in Tanzania Mainland.

She said every child has the right to be identified and registered. That's why the government is determined to ensure that all births are registered.

"The system makes birth registration more accessible to the community. Before this system was introduced, registration could only take place at the district headquarter town, now registration points are established at

health facilities and ward offices," she said.

Makondo asserted that the government had waived fees for registration under this programme and the first copy of the certificate is given free of charge.

She noted that around the world there has been a strong drive to speed up the registration of the key events including births due to its importance in development planning.

Arusha Regional Commissioner John Mongela urged leaders to continue monitoring the implementation of this programme to ensure that the services are well delivered.

The programme is so far being rolled out in the regions of Tabora, Katavi, Rukwa, Arusha, Manyara, Kilimanjaro, Tanga, Ruvuma, Singida, Dodoma, Mara, Simiyu, Lindi, Mtwara, Geita, Shinyanga, Mbeya, Songwe, Mwanza, Iringa, Njombe, Morogoro and Coast.



Government will construct

700 telecom towers in next financial year, says Nnauye

By Guardian Correspondent, Morogoro

THE government will construct 700 telecom towers in the next financial year to strengthen communication for realisation of a digital Tanzania, Information, Communication and Information Technology minister, Nape Nnauye has said.

Nnauye made the remarks when he opened the Universal Communications Service Access Fund (UCSAF) workers council saying the government intends to convert 488 towers from 2G and 3G to 4G and 5G.

He called upon Tanzanians to prepare for the growth of technology together with protecting the infrastructure which was costly amounting to 500m/-.

"Most areas need new towers, that is the reason we are planning in the new budget next year to purchase 700 towers to reach the majority of Tanzanians," he said.

The minister directed employers to stop unnecessary bureaucracy especially on delaying the needs of employees

"Most of the service providers are to increase value at work.

not accountable for their mistakes and mistreat their customers, so I am calling upon the new workers council to administer this," he said.

USCSAF Chief Executive Officer Justina Mashiba promised to ensure that they involve workers in key issues involving them such as better salary increment, working environment and other remunerations.

The CEO said UCSAF will ensure that they take quality communication to rural areas which are hard to reach to improve communication.

The chairman of the board of UCSAF Prof John Nkoma said the council was an important tool which was legally mandated to work on labour issues saying the board will ensure it operates under its mandate.

The fund is working on various reforms including ensuring that areas that have not been reached by strong communication are reached.

He called upon workers of the fund to be innovative, work professionally



Special Seats legislator Riziki Lulida (with microphone) addresses a Workers with Disabilities meeting held in Dodoma city yesterday on the importance of implementing policies and laws relating to the rights of persons with disabilities. Photo: Guardian Correspond

TANROADS offers assistance to Mbeya Zone referral hospital

By Guardian Correspondent, Mbeya

Roads TANZANIA Agency (TANROADS) workers in Mbeya Region have began Public Service Week by handing over various items at Meta Maternity Wing of Mbeya Zone Referral Hospital.

The workers also cleaned the hospital's surroundings to ensure

environment.

at the event, Mbeya Region's burden of buying them themselves. Acting TANROADS Manager, Eng Nicodemus Kalenzo said they decided to commemorate the Mbwelei said they handed over 40 event by remembering the people in need.

He said Agency workers conducted patients' clothing.

patients are treated in a clean fundraising for the purchase of various items handed over to patients Speaking here on Monday at the hospital to relieve them the Meanwhile, TANROADS Chief Human Resources Officer, Safina bedsheets, clothing for infants born at the hospital and soap for washing

also purchased infant formula for babies born at the hospital who were in need.

"However, we will leave here all the cleaning tools we used, hence I thank hospital staff by letting us to do cleanliness here," Safina said.

She added that Agency workers hospital staff, Judica Minja thanked with the good heart shown, and TANROADS workers for assisting added that the hospital has patients patients and promised that all the items provided as well as cleaning tools left behind will be used for the purposes intended.

Speaking on behalf of the and appealed to them to continue regions.

who sometimes lack assistance due to various reasons thereby increasing the hospital's burden.

He said the hospital serves Minja said the assistance provided many visitors from all regions in will be used to serve patients who the Southern Highlands Zone as lack assistance from close relatives well as from other neighbouring **NEWS**

Güardian



Emmanuel Akonaay, NMB Bank Plc's chief of human resources, pictured in Dodoma city yesterday addressing a meeting called to discuss workplace challenges facing by people with disabilities. The event was organised by Ikupa Trust and brought together over 150 representatives of PwDs from across the country. Photo:

36 health workers in Mbeya Region get 'special' training

By Guardian Correspondent, Mbeya

THIRTY-SIX doctors and nurses from various health centres in Mbeya Region have undergone training on Infection Prevention and Control (IPC) and how to treat patients in emergency situations.

The training was provided on Monday this week by specialist doctors from various hospitals of Dar es Region under the sponsorship of Tanzania Diabetic Association (TDA) and the Health Ministry.

Participants of the training seminar included doctors and nurses from all local councils of Mbeya Region including Mbeya Zone Referral Hospital.

The training coordinator from TDA, Dr Mashombo Mkamba said they initiated the training during the eruption of Covid-19 pandemic when doctors failed to differentiate patients suffering from the disease with those suffering from other diseases.

He said earlier they conducted the training in Dar es Salaam Region as an area for demonstration and later they decided to conduct the training in other regions with large centres of populations.

"When it first erupted, Covid-19 was threatening due to its being new

and many patients died, and health workers were afraid to interact with patients suffering from diseases resembling Covid-19, and that is why we came up with the idea of training," Dr Mkamba said.

TDA consultant for emergency services on people with diabetes, Dr Christopher Mzava said the training began in five regions of Dar es Salaam, Dodoma, Arusha and Mwanza before coming to Mbeya Region.

He added that the training aims to assist health workers and doctors at emergency units to avoid being infected with diseases when treating patients.

Dr Mzava said the second aim is to empower health workers to save patients coming to their centres in critical condition.

He added that the 36 doctors and nurses given training are supposed to act as teachers by teaching other health workers in their areas on what they had learned.

He said experts who were involved in the training came from Muhimbili national Hospital (MNH), Mloganzila Hospital and the Muhimbili Orthopaedic Institute (MOI).

Some of the seminar participants said the training reminded them about the basics of their profession especially in saving peoples' lives.

Child pregnancies rampant in Kasulu District - DMO

By Guardian Correspondent, Kasulu

KASULU District Medical Officer, Dr Robert Rwebangira says out of 10 pregnant women attending clinic at hospitals in the District, two are below 18 years of age.

Dr Rwebangira made the remarks here on Monday during the exercise to distribute items for safe menstruation to students of Makere Secondary School in the district.

"It is very depressing to see young people involving in early age sex as there are adverse effects in doing so, not only during birth, but also along pregnancy development," he said.

Citing some of the effects from early age sex, he said these include liver diseases and cervix cancer and called on the government and the ministry of education to increase clubs on

child pregnancy in schools to educate student on maternal health.

Meanwhile, Yahya Kwatte, the coordinator of child maternal health named the District's Shunguliba Ward as leading in child pregnancies with 56 per cent of under age children conceiving and appealed to parents and guardian to manage well their children.

In regard to reasons for child

pregnancies, Makere Ward Councillor Laurent Kilali said that sex movies shown at video halls and from mobile phones are the main reasons for the challenge.

He said more than 300 children interviewed from internal researches in regard to sex movies, said they watched the movies from the two sources and called on authorities and parents to deal with the issue.

"Once children watch these movies all temptations to get pregnant. they get the urge to try what they had seen, we should not let our children engage in such habits as it threatens their own lives as well as future

generation," said the councillor. In the same vein, Monica Francis, Kasulu district Community Development Officer called on students to study more about maternal health and guard themselves against



...we should not let our children engage in such habits as it threatens their own lives as well as future generation

Kenyan divers are restoring coral reefs in Indian Ocean

EMBASSY OF UNITED STATES OF AMERICA & **ROYAL DANISH EMBASSY DAR ES SALAAM**



NAIROBI

DIVERS in Kenva are helping to restore coral reefs by planting special structures that encourage displaced corals to re grow.

It comes as the UN Ocean Conference in Lisbon discusses how to protect these valuable ecosystems.

Reefolution The Foundation is at the frontline of saving coral reefs in the sea off Kenya's coast.

According to Yatin Patel, a diving instructor, "there is a whole area almost maybe two kilometres and maybe almost a hundred meters wide where structures have been put in and for sure you can see the difference there, there is definitely more fish that are gathering around there. The coral attracts the fish and slowly the fish are making their homes over there. So for sure the number of fish has increased in the area here."

The foundation`s activity today is to clean up the coral nurseries, transplanted them and nurtured back to life. The structures are made of plastic pipes and pyramid structured steel nets.

The foundation and the nearby community of Mkwiro village have established a locally managed marine area to restore degraded corals and enhance coastal resilience.

PUBLIC AUCTION:

UNIVERSAL AUCTION CENTRE under instructions received from US Embassy & Royal Danish Embassy Dar es salaam. We shall sell Household furniture's and Vehicles by public auction on Saturday 2nd July, 2022 commencing at 10:00 am. The auction will take place at Golden Resort Sinza, Lion Street.

Furniture BiddingStart at 10:00am;Sofa set, Recliner, China base, Hutch, Office desk, Chair, Book Shelve, Carpet, Beds, Mattress, Garden table/Chairs, Fridge double door, Freezer, Washer, Dryer, Dish washer, A/c split units, Photocopy m/c, Computer set, Laptop, Medical Delivery Bed, Simtank and etc.

Vehicles Bidding Start at 12:00 hrs.

Unit	Make	Model	Year	Duty
1	Toyota Land cruiser Prado TX S.Wagon		2014	Not Paid
1	Land Rover Free Lander S. Wagon	SALFA Petrol Engine	2010	Not Paid
1	Ford KUGA Station Wagon	GD Petrol Engine	2016	Not Paid
1	Honda Motorcycle ACE 125	125 CC Petrol Engine	2011	Not Paid
1	Mitsubishi Shogun Station Wagon	4M41 Diesel Engine	2008	Not Paid
1	Mitsubishi Canter Truck / Crane 3 Tons	4D32 Diesel Engine	2008	Paid
1	Ford Ranger Pick up Singal Cabin	PF2 Diesel Engine	2014	Paid

All items may be inspected at Golden Resort Sinza, Lion Street from June 30th to 1st July, 2022 from 10:00 am to 5:00 pm.

AUCTION CONDITIONS:

- 1. The winning bidder for Furniture has to make full payment to cashier immediately. For Vehiclewinning bidder must pay 25% to cashier immediately and the final payment in full within 4 working days by July 8th, 2022 at 4:00pm. For payments not made within 4 working days, the Vehicle will be offered to the next highest bidder and the advance payment will be forfeited.
- 2. Payments via CRDB and NBC Bank VISA & Master Cards will be accepted.
- 3. All items are sold on "as is" basis with no guarantee.
- 4. Duty and all taxes are the responsibility of the buyer.
- 5. Bidder will remove the items after all payments and duties
- 6. All persons entering the premises must obtain a Bid Number at the entrance.
- 7. All person entering auction yard must wear Mask, Wash hand with running water or sanitizer.

For further information contact:

UNIVERSAL AUCTION CENTRE, E-mail: universalauction@hotmail.com Insta: universalauctioncentre

(PLOTNO. 5 "E" LION STREET SINZA) CELL NO: +255 0754 284 926 Dar es salaam

216922802

WAJIBU - INSTITUTE OF PUBLIC ACCOUNTABILITY

INVITATION FOR TENDER CONSULTANCY SERVICE Date: 29th June, 2022

KEY INFORMATION:

Assignment Title	:	Impact Study on WAJIBU's Accountability Reports Issued for the period of six years from 2017 to 2022
Contract Duration	:	90 days
Location	:	Dar Es Salaam
Delivery/Product	:	Report on the Impact of six years of WAJI BU's Accountability Reports to Society.

WAJIBU – Institute of Public Accountability is a registered NGO with the purpose of advocating for effective implementation of the oversight institutions' recommendations and to promote the watchdog role of CSOs/NGOs on public financial accountability matters. WAJIBU - Institute of Public Accountability is looking for a competent institution to conduct a Study on the Impact of WAJIBU's Accountability Reports Issued for the period of six years from 2017 to 2022 as per the detailed Terms of Reference attached in WAJIBU's website www.wajibu.or.tz

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NEWS

Tanzania received USD570 million in remittances from Diaspora last year

By Correspondent Theresia Victor

TANZANIA has received \$570 million in remittance from its Diaspora in 2021, registering an increase compared to what it received in 2020.

This was revealed yesterday in Dar es Salaam when Selcom-the Tanzania's leading payment service provider, announced a strategic partnership with NALA, a Tanzania-based FinTech that will facilitate the last-mile termination of incoming remittances into Tanzanian mobile wallets and bank accounts.

The partnership is meant to power inbound remittance from UK and US to Tanzania mobile money wallets and bank accounts in real time.

Selcom executive director, Sameer Hirji said that in 2020, \$400 million was sent in Tanzania and "our hope is that this year more remittances will be poured into the country."

Commenting on the partnership, Hirji said that NALA users in the UK and USA can now conveniently transfer money to several banks and mobile wallets in Tanzania from the comfort of their homes while enhancing the inflow of Diaspora capital into Tanzania.

He also noted that Selcom state of the art interoperability engine will be an added invaluable and strategic addition to NALA's community powered financial solutions while continuing to advance its mission of growing economic opportunities for Africa by building financial solutions with Africans at the core.

"We're pleased to partner with NALA, an established brand on a mission to increase opportunity on the African continent and for its Diaspora around the world," he said.

This is owed in part to Selcom's central role in the financial services ecosystem as an essential conduit in the industry and in part to NALA's superior product innovation and user experience, he said.

NALA founder and chief executive officer Benjamin Fernandes said that the partnership with Selcom is a signal of our intentions to deepen NALA's presence in the priority market.

As a citizen of the country it brings me a particular pleasure to invest in the country and its Diaspora as Africa is the most expensive continent in the world to send money to and NALA's ambition is to shift that paradigm by creating financial solutions that Africans deserve.

"As we expands our products and reach it becomes even more important to secure second to none partners to deliver on this ambition and Selcom becomes the right choice for FinTechs such as NALA as its committed to building a global payment highway that interconnects financial institutions such as banks and mobile wallets seamlessly and with trust," said Fernandes.

We're pleased to partner with NALA, an established brand on a mission to increase opportunity on the African continent and for its Diaspora around the world

By Correspondent Theresia Victor

accountants.

challenges.

THE National Board of Accountants

and Auditors (NBAA) has advised

candidates who have failed the just

released professional examination

results to put in more effort so they

meet their targets to become certified

Speaking when releasing results of

the 95th NBAA examinations which

was held in May this year, Chairperson

Prof Sylvia Temu said the candidates

put more effort to overcome the

The examinations involved various

should not lose hope and instead

Telco to offer 10 pc reduction to customers using 'Lipa kwa

(ATEC). CPA T level holder can analyze financial records to prepare tax returns, create budget reports, and with four subjects. conduct audits for their clients and contribute to the country's economic

Limited director general Misana Manyama exchange documents on an agreement they had just signed in Dar es Salaam yesterday on the transportation of biological samples. Photo: Correspondent Jumanne Juma

development. "Since they are tasked with this huge responsibility they should not give up rather fight hard to ensure they succeed in their future examinations and help individuals, businesses, and other organisations plan to reach their financial goals, she said.

Put in more effort to pass failed

exams, NBAA urges candidates

Accounting Technician Certificate

She further noted that the May levels of accounting including Certified examination involved examination 264 (4.5percent) candidates have percent)

Public Accountant (CPA T) and candidates at different levels, from accounting Technician level I and II with four subjects each, Foundation level with six subjects, Intermediate level with six subjects and final level

> She noted that 6729 candidate were registered for the NBAA, May examinations, among them 3179 (42.2 percent) were female candidates and 3550 (58.8 percent) were male, and 848 (12.6 percent) were absent from the who sat for examination were 5881(87 percent)

> Examinations results show that out of those who sat for the examinations

passed their respective examination levels on first sitting, 35 (0.6percent) have passed by clearing the previously failed papers and 911 (15.5 percent) have passed by clearing the remaining papers.

"In total 1210 (20.6 percent) candidates have passed the examinations while 2790 (47.4 percent) candidates passed some of the subjects in their respective examinations level and 18881(32.0 percent) have failed their examinations," she noted.

She further noted that majority of the candidates who qualified for CPA T come from five higher learning institutions namely University of Dar es Salaam 97 (25.2 percent), Institute examinations and therefore candidate of Finance and Management 68 (17.5 percent), Mzumbe University 48 (12.5 percent) Tanzania Institute of Accountancy 31(8.1percent) and Institute of Accountancy Arusha 23(6.0



Simu' service at fair grounds

By Guardian Reporter

VODACOM Tanzania has extended its service at the 46th Dar es Salaam International Trade Fair (DITF) where it can provide 10 percent reduction to customers who make payments to business outlets through the 'Lipa kwa Simu' services.

Firm's head of sales, Dar es Salaam Zone and Coast Region, Brigitta Shirima said this during the launching of the services that will be offered at the 46th DITF grounds for both its customers and public as well.

"This year we have come up with new ways to extend our network and other services at the trade fair to give our customers and Tanzanians in general opportunity to enjoy our services," she said.

So far Vocadam has 4G to help its customers use a high speed internet service that is convenient in accordance with their needs and demand and has been issued 10 percent reduction if people will purchase Smartphone through "Lipa kwa Simu'.

The firm also provides community services through Vodacom Foundation while at Sabasaba ground people will be able to see what we offer through Vodacom Foundation.

She said through community services: "We provide M-Mama services that provides emergency transport for pregnant women once they need to give birth or deliver their babies."

"We have E- Fahamu services that will provide education to students through digital platform across the country," she said.

Brigitta also said the company will provide M-Pesa services to enable their customers to use Vodacom M-Pesa and make payment through their mobile phone.

Apart from that the company has launched 'VodaBima' a digital insurance service to give customers immediate access to insurance services

that includes health and vehicle insurance.

The company aims to bridge the gap of access to insurance services by offering a digital solution that will cut down costs and increase access to insurance products.

She also stated that their customers gained Paisha App services that enable them to access different services through digital network.

Vodacom has also come up with new campaign dubbed: 'Tusua mapene' whereas customers will be required to send V word to 15544 and later on will be able to win new vehicle Suzuki S Presso.

They also have Tikisa Competition that will enable people to win Smart TVs worth 1m/- she noted saying 'We encourage people to participate in this event to win and enjoy Vodacom services.



with new ways to extend our network and other services at the trade fair to give our customers and Tanzanians in general opportunity to enjoy our services



Francis Alfred (2nd-R), Cashewnut Board of Tanzania's acting director general, presents cashewnut pesticide spraying pipes to Tanga regional commissioner Adam Malima yesterday for use by 14 agricultural marketing cooperatives. Photo: Correspondent Hamida Kamchalla

African Union sends poll observers to Kenya

ADDIS ABABA

THE African Union (AU) has deployed observers to monitor the August 9 General Election in Kenya.

"Following an invitation from the Government of the Republic of Kenya to the African Union to observe the forthcoming General Election scheduled for August 9,

expert mission to Kenya comprising eight teams' experts," said a statement dated June 27.

The teams are supposed to assess Kenya's election preparations, political dynamics and fairness of the electoral campaigns.

2022, the African Union Commission the electoral preparations, assess and later another lot of short-term is deploying an international election the political dynamics and genuine observers a week before election day. competitiveness and fairness of the electoral campaign, and maintain regular contact with national and international stakeholders before, during and after the elections," the AU said.

The AU will also send another team "The core team will follow up on of observers a few weeks to the polls,

The Common Market for Eastern and Southern Africa and the East African Community earlier in May sent a joint high-level pre-election assessment mission to ensure violencefree, fair and credible elections that will strengthen Kenya's democratic process.

NEWS

Güardian

Over 3,200 local companies to participate in this year's DITF

By Correspondent Joseph Mwendapole

OVER 3,200 local companies have confirmed to participate in this year's Dar es Salaam International Trade Fair (DITF) that kicked off yesterday in the commercial capital.

Development Tanzania Trade Authority (TANTRADE) director general Latifa Mohamed Hamis said this when launching Dar es Salaam Rapid Transport buses route which started yesterday from Gerezani Kariakoo to the trade fair grounds.

Gerezani-Sabasaba route was launched yesterday by the Dar es Salaam Regional Administrative Secretary, Hassan Rungwa.

According to Latifa, 22 countries and 181 foreign companies have also confirmed their participation in the 46th trade fair which will be officially launched on July 3rd.

Latifa called for people to take the opportunity and attend the trade fair which has a lot of business opportunities with local and international companies.

She said DART has organized many rapid buses which will make the transport easy to take them and bring them back to their places within a very short period compared to the past days.

"People were consuming a lot of time to come to the trade fair and when they go back home the situation was the same and the situation discouraged many people to attend but this year things have changed and we assure them that transport will be very easy and fast," she said.

"In Mbagala, there will be stations at Mbagala Rangi Tatu Mivinjeni, DART buses will bring people to Sabasaba and Gerezani Kariakoo rapid buses will take them for only 650/- so we expect this year's people's participation to put a record of its kind," said Latifa.

She said DART and TanTrade collaboration will be sustainable to improve business and she assured that rapid transport infrastructures will be ready by March 2023 where people will fully enjoy the transport from Gerezani to Mbagala Rangi Tatu.

The Dar es Salaam Administrative Secretary, Hassan Rungwa, urged Tanzanians to participate in this year's trade fair to take advantage of availability of many products and services that will be under one roof.

"I want to assure you that you will not regret to participate in this year's trade fair because am told that about 3,200 local companies and 181 foreign companies will be here to show you what they have so this is rare opportunity you cannot afford to miss," said Rungwa

Speaking about the rapid transport, Rungwa said they decided to put main station at Gerezani Kariakoo because it is the place which receives many commuter buses that comes from all corners of the City.

He said they made demonstration yesterday to travel by rapid buses from Gerezani to Sabasaba where they took only 12 minutes to reach there.

"By using rapid transport you can attend Sabasaba and go back home within a very short period and continue with other responsibilities. People in the past feared to attend due to transport inconvenience but things have changed now," said Rungwa.

People were consuming a lot of time to come to the trade fair and when they go back home the situation was the same and the situation discouraged many people to attend but this year things have changed and we assure them that transport will be very easy and fast



Ikungi district commissioner Jerry Muro (C) presents a motorcycle yesterday to Laibera Tarimo (R), an agricultural extension officer stationed at Ikungi village, in a move meant to help her reach out to farmers faster for enhanced crop production. Photo: Corresp

Swiss Samaritans fundraise 700m/- as assistance to maternal service centres

By Guardian Reporter, Moshi

TWENTY-SIX good Samaritans from Switzerland have raised US\$ 305,000, equivalent to more than 700m/- as assistance to maternal services and children with special needs in the country.

Receiving the Samaritans yesterday, Director of Compassion the International Tanzania (CIT), Mary Lema who made the fundraising campaign by climbing Mt Kilimanjaro, International," Lema said.

said this year, the campaign, popularly known as Muskathlon aimed to fundraise US\$ 260,000. "We had planned to fundraise 600m/- towards mother and child care at various paternal service centres sponsored by Compassion International Tanzania.

"These Samaritans have come to our country to fundraise money, as well as to meet the children they sponsor and to visit various maternal centres that work together with Compassion

According to him, the Samaritans will be in the country for several days, and will use the time to visit various tourist attractions.

She said the money will benefit more than 300 children with special needs and poor families.

The visitors who took seven days to scale up Mt Kilimanjaro were led by Moshi based tourist company - Lava Rock Adventure.

Speaking about the trip, the director of Lava Rock Adventure, Geness

Shirima, said his company assured them of good hospitality in order to encourage others to come to the country.

The Samaritans team leader, Jens von Grunigen said the group was not rich, but they have contributed money to Tanzania children and other nations through love.

Meanwhile, Regula Wyssen said he will continue mobilising his family and friends in Switzerland to make sure challenges facing children drop or even eradicated altogether.

Since the start of the fundraising six years ago, a total of 9.7m/- was realised and spent in the implementation of various projects in the country under Compassion.

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South African Reserve Bank trying rapid payments plan

central bank JOHANNESBURG

BankservAfrica chief executive Jan Pilbauer said the new system means customers will soon not need a bank account number or a branch code to transfer money.

Instead, they'll be able to use a retail payment use cases," the cellphone number - or any other WWF for a living planet

Dar es Salaan Tanzania **REQUEST FOR TENDER – RF**

Rd, Mikocheni

P O Box 63117

WWF Tanzania Country Office

Plot 252, Kiko Street, Off Mwai Kibak

THE South African Reserve Bank is working on a new Rapid Payments Programme (RPP) which is set to significantly shake up payments in the country.

The programme, which is mentioned in the central bank's 2022 annual report, forms part of the SARB's 'vision 2025' plan an industry-led payments as modernisation initiative.

"This RPP, when fully implemented, will offer a cost-effective instant payment service across banks, a proxy service to embed user banking details, a request to pay service, as well as support for several known

Reserve Bank said.

"The payment industry under the leadership of the Payments to someone else. He added that the Association of South Africa (PASA) and BankServ Africa has developed the legal construct, namely the formation of the payment clearing house and the establishment of the RPP scheme."

The SARB noted BankServAfrica is working with several bank participants to build the technology solution that forms the backbone of the RPP solution. It is currently in the testing phase with he explained. Pilbauer expects its implementation planned for the second half of 2022. Speaking to

piece of personally identifiable information - to make a payment system should allow users to transfer money through instant messaging apps, including meta-owned services like WhatsApp.

"When we go live later this year, if I want to send you money, you'll just that have to know my cellphone number, or another alias," he said.

"Within 10 seconds, the money will be in your store of value and you will be able to use it right away," companies, including FinTech players, to use the new platform to TechCentral, create innovative new use cases."



Zanzibar's Deputy Health Minister Hassan Khamis Hafidh (in blue tie) listens to people waiting for medical attention at Sebleni health as they spoke on the challenges they commonly face. He was on a routine inspection tour of development projects. Photo

INSURANCE SERVICE – FOR WWF TANZANIA OFFICE VEHICLES

1. WWF Tanzania County Office is a Non- Government Organization dealing with environmental protection in Tanzania since 1990 and it has supported the Government of Tanzania in implementing various projects on Marine, Forest, Fresh Water, Energy and Wildlife. WWF global mission is to stop the degradation of the planet's natural environment and to build a future in which humans live in harmony with nature, by:

- Conserving the world's biological diversity; i.
- Ensuring that the use of renewable natural resources is sustainable and ii.
- iii. Promoting the reduction of pollution and wasteful consumption.
- 2. WWF Tanzania is looking for eligible, reputable and well-established insurance firm that will provide insurance services to WWF Tanzania Motor Vehicles for FY 2023
- 3. Interested eligible bidders should submit their documents giving details of premium charged for comprehensive insurance per vehicle plus other benefits. The successful applicant will be provided with the number of vehicles for final aggregated bid
- 4. The email heading should clearly read "INSURANCE FOR WWF OFFICE MOTOR VEHICLES FOR FY 2023".
- 5. Please note that, only electronic applications/bids properly filled, should be send through procurement email at **procurement@wwftz.org** to reach us by or before 1000hrs local time, **Thursday 14 July 2022.**
- 6. Please, address your application to:

Secretary **Procurement Committee,** WWF Tanzania, Plot # 252 Mikocheni, Kiko St. Off Mwai Kibaki Rd Box 63117, Dar es Salaam, Tanzania Web: wwf.or.tz

Late applications, portion of applications shall not be accepted for evaluation irrespective of the circumstance (please, remember that, only electronic applications will be accepted)

- 7. The applicant who passes the preliminary evaluation, will be availed with the WWF Tanzania Vehicle list for final quotation
- 8. Evaluation of the tenders will be done based on WWF procurement guidelines. WWF Tanzania is not bound to accept any lowest or highest proposal submitted and that; only successful applicant shall be contacted.
- 9. WWF has a principle of zero tolerance for fraud and corruption, if you encounter such an incident, then report by sending an email to fcci@wwftz.org



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EDITORIALS.OPINION

Samia narrative on her start in politics solidifies the Union, and Mkapa legacy

flowed in accounts of those who found a new hope in life at the hands of the Equal Opportunities Trust Fund (EOTF), now clocking 25 years since it was started during the early days of the third phase government. Like all such initiatives it has had its detractors but there is no issue that it has played a tremendous role in uplifting women and children around the country, with a welter of social welfare and economic initiatives, empowering people to stand up and walk, caring for so-called 'street children.' President Samia Suluhu Hassan used the platform to plead with society to care for children.

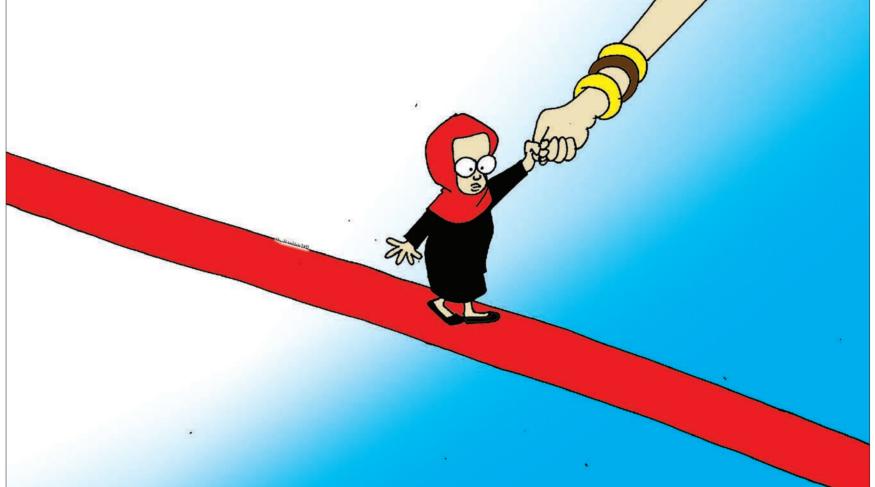
The high moment of the day's events was a narration by President Samia on the manner in which she embarked on her journey in politics, that it all boiled down to an awkward moment of failing to climb collective transport to an EOTF event, and being picked up by the first lady, heading that organization. In the car, the first lady expressed clear appreciation of the force of presence of the youthful NGO activist, underlining convincingly that she was good material for politics. The hidden meaning is 'for leadership.'

As being inspired in a direct manner by an unquestioned personality who knows something of what leaders are made of is a moment that can't be brushed aside as mere sympathy, the young activist followed it up, but saw the road to the ballot box was a

EARTS warmed and tears bit complicated. She didn't dwell at length on what happened but found another door, Special Seats, and then was picked for the cabinet, evidently because what inspired the first lady about the youthful activist could be noticed by others. First in the Zanzibar government, then the Union government, and in 2015 it shifted to 'running mate' nomination.

They say a country is built by a lengthy communality of tears and joys, like a family, and it is in sharing stories of this sort that we discover how profoundly we are Tanzanians, not Mainlanders and Zanzibaris. First Lady Anna Mkapa was at that moment picking up a fellow enthusiast at EOTF, and frankly admitted it when she noticed there was something inspiring about the youthful activist, a tone that was gradually acknowledged at higher levels of leadership. That is how leaders are formed, by widely shared admiration sand acknowledgement, lacking a shred of disruptive sentiments; truthfulness that helps to build a country.

So nobody should be surprised to see that the sixth phase is avidly pro-Union and the president has an alter ego in her Zanzibar counterpart, President Hussein Ali Mwinyi, who knows the Mainland as a second home, having once been MP for Mkuranga. All this is well known and anyone seeking to sow suspicions have long to wait; we have far too many leaders like Anna Mkapa for them to succeed



The World Is Burning - and We Need a Renewables Revolution

By António Guterres

HE only true path to energy security, stable power prices, prosperity and a livable planet lies in abandoning polluting fossil fuels and accelerating the renewables-based energy transition

Nero was famously accused of fiddling while Rome burned. Today, some leaders are doing worse. They are throwing fuel on the fire. Literally.





half a science nearly millennium ago, nothing has excited the world of science like discoveries on outer space. Discoveries in medicine have been celebrated, or physics, but nothing equaled the landing on the moon by three astronauts from the US space agency, NASA, in 1969. This international day is however not devoted to these exciting discoveries and achievements but on the dangers humanity faces from possible collision with wayward stars or flaming bits of stars known as asteroids. There is plenty in science - and in folklore - of what such collisions brought in the dark past.

Chroniclers say Asteroid Day is a United Nations sanctioned global awareness event marked annually on 30th June, with the purpose as to inspire, engage and educate the public about asteroids, where there are also opportunities, apart from risks.

At a quick glance it would appear that the talk of opportunities is a spin, namely on what can be known or learned from various spots in the world, where museums and world heritage sites document or exhibit remnants from past collisions. Talking about opportunities in relation to asteroids would almost sound like 'opportunities' to be gathered in case of a car accident.

Traditionally star gazing is an individual occupation, in which case the day is really one of networking on a common preoccupation, with the chronicler saying that every year, live broadcasts with asteroid content

INCE the start of modern and commentary from astronauts. experts and celebrities are aired. It is clear celebrities aren't coming there as experts but as a community jamboree on star gazing and excitement about a potential asteroid, or reminiscing about what happened in the past, by certain myths or beliefs. That is where common heritage arises, as efforts will be laid out far and wide to find relics of ancient catastrophes, and current star radars.

> Educational activities have dominate the celebration of Asteroid Day since it was first held on June 30th 2015 as an event bringing together a large number of countries. Then the day was proposed by well-known astronauts supported by the United Nations Committee on the peaceful uses of outer space, thus it was approved by a resolution of the UN General Assembly on December 6, 2016 to become a world day. The day was chosen as a reminder of an asteroid impact at a place known as Tunguska in the vast Russian landscape on June 30, 1908 to raise public awareness about the asteroid impact hazard, that is, worldwide.

> Africa is still far from the global astronaut league, but there is likely to be wealth of oral traditions on such situations happening in the past. Take for instance the 1908 event, if it led to intense tremors in this part of the world and how it was interpreted. Again there are issues of climate change and why such an impact would be worse at the moment, as the sort of tsunami it would raise at sea, where it to occur there, could have devastating impact now.

As the fallout of Russia's invasion of Ukraine ripples across the globe, the response of some nations to the growing energy crisis has been to double down on fossil fuels - pouring billions more dollars into the coal, oil and gas that are driving our deepening climate emergency.

Meanwhile all climate indicators continue to break records, forecasting a future of ferocious storms, floods, droughts, wildfires and unlivable temperatures in vast swathes of the planet.

Our world faces climate chaos. New funding for fossil fuel exploration and production infrastructure is delusional. Fossil fuels are not the answer, nor will they ever be.

We can see the damage we are doing to the planet and our societies. It is in the news every day, and no one is immune.

Fossil fuels are the cause of the climate crisis. Renewable energy is the answer - to limit climate disruption and boost energy security. Had we invested earlier and massively in renewable energy, we would not find ourselves once again at the mercy of unstable fossil fuel markets.

Renewables are the peace plan of the 21st century. But the battle for a rapid and just energy transition is not being fought on a level field. Investors are still backing fossil fuels, and governments still hand out billions in subsidies for coal, oil and gas - some US \$11 million every minute.

Fossil fuels are the cause of the climate crisis. Renewable energy is the answer - to limit climate disruption and boost energy security. Had we invested earlier and massively in renewable energy, we would not find ourselves once again at the mercy of unstable fossil fuel markets. Renewables are the peace plan of the 21st century.

There is a word for favouring shortterm relief over long-term well-being. Addiction. We are still addicted to fossil fuels. For the health of our societies and planet, we need to quit. Now. The only true path to energy security,

A wind farm on the outskirts of Nouakchott, the capital of Mauritania, is aimed at giving more people access to renewable energy sources.

stable power prices, prosperity and a livable planet lies in abandoning polluting fossil fuels and accelerating renewables-based the energy transition.

To that end, I have called on G20 governments to dismantle coal infrastructure, with a full phase-out by 2030 for OECD countries and 2040 for all others.

I have urged financial actors to abandon fossil fuel finance and invest in renewable energy. And I have proposed a five-point plan to boost renewable energy round the world. Five-point plan

First, we must make renewable energy technology a global public good, including removing intellectual property barriers to technology transfer.

Second, we must improve global access to supply chains for renewable energy technologies components and raw materials.

In 2020, the world installed 5 gigawatts of battery storage. We need 600 gigawatts of storage capacity by 2030. Clearly, we need a global coalition to get there.

Shipping bottlenecks and supplychain constraints, as well as higher costs for lithium and other battery metals, are hurting deployment of such technologies and materials just as we need them most.

Third, we must cut the red tape that holds up solar and wind projects. We need fast-track approvals and more the European Union, it takes eight years a triple win. to approve a wind farm, and 10 years in the United States. In the Republic of Korea, onshore wind projects need 22 permits from eight different ministries.

Fourth, the world must shift energy subsidies from fossil fuels to protect vulnerable people from energy shocks and invest in a just transition to sustainable future.

And fifth, we need to triple investments in renewables. This includes multilateral development banks and development finance institutions, as well as commercial banks. All must step up and dramatically boost investments in renewables.

Fourth, the world must shift energy subsidies from fossil fuels to protect vulnerable people from energy shocks and invest in a just transition to sustainable future. We need more urgency from all global leaders. We are already perilously close to hitting the 1.5°C limit that science tells us is the maximum level of warming to avoid the worst climate impacts. To keep 1.5 alive, we must reduce emissions by 45 per cent by 2030 and reach net zero emissions by mid-century. But current national commitments will lead to an increase of almost 14 per cent this decade. That spells catastrophe.

The answer lies in renewables - for climate action, for energy security, and for providing clean electricity to the hundreds of millions of people effort to modernize electricity grids. In who currently lack it. Renewables are

There is no excuse for anyone to reject a renewables revolution. While oil and gas prices have reached record price levels, renewables are getting cheaper all the time.

The cost of solar energy and batteries has plummeted 85 per cent over the past decade. The cost of wind power fell by 55 per cent. And investment in renewables creates three times more jobs than fossil fuels.

The answer lies in renewables - for climate action, for energy security, and for providing clean electricity to the hundreds of millions of people who currently lack it. Renewables are a triple win. Of course, renewables are not the only answer to the climate crisis. Nature-based solutions, such as reversing deforestation and land degradation, are essential. So too are efforts to promote energy efficiency. But a rapid renewable energy transition must be our ambition.

As we wean ourselves off fossil fuels, the benefits will be vast, and not just to the climate. Energy prices will be lower and more predictable, with positive knock-on effects for food and economic security.

When energy prices rise, so do the costs of food and all the goods we rely on. So, let us all agree that a rapid renewables revolution is necessary and stop fiddling while our future burns.

The author is the Secretary General of the United Nations

FEATURES

Guardian

9

HERE are things we humans take for granted, especially those that are freely available like the air we breathe. I was trying to imagine the quality of air in our sprawling city of Dar es Salaam without Pugu and Kazimzumbi forest reserves in the neighbouring Coast Region.

Because leaves transpire large amounts of moisture, trees have a cooling effect on the surrounding environment like air conditioning. By cooling and cleansing the atmosphere, trees help to make air safer for breathing by plants, animals, and humans. This also has positive benefits on habitat.

These forests are like lungs of Dar es Salaam, Kisarawe and other settlements around them. Also, the reserve forests are very important to people adjacent them as they act as support system for adapting to climate change which is a global pressing issue.

But unfortunately, not every human treasures trees. Some harvest trees to the point of depletion. Deforestation is a threat not only to forests but for our own health.

Pugu and Kazimzumbwi are considered to be some of the oldest forests in the world and the areas are characterized by a large variety of endemic species of animals and plants.

I am fortunate enough to experience the close proximity of Pugu Hills when I recently visited this forest. I couldn't stop myself from sharing my experience.

I started my journey with my guide. After finishing the registration, I started my hiking with the awesome view of the Minaki Dam. I am hydrophobic so I already deprived myself of the nice experience of Kayaking and fishing.

After visiting the dam, I overcame my hydrophobia and I understood quickly my fear of water was really meaningless in nature .Nature cannot hurt you, you can only get benefits from it without investing anything. It was my mistake to deprive myself of the opportunity to experience the breathtaking beauty of the dam and nature surrounding it.

But I became courageous enough to compensate my loss of Kayaking. Then I was guiding my guide to discover the areas, specially the campsites over there.

Pugu and Kazimzumbwi forests: Lungs of Dar meriting protection



Campsites are no less beautiful than other things, though it is manmade but campsites can be an excuse to spend one night in that reserve forest.

I had already planned my camping with my family. Then I got some quick ideas about some secret chambers for meditation or if anyone wants to spend



some time alone, those are best ideas.

One campsite is near the lake, another one was under bamboo trees. I became aware about the healing and cooling power of bamboos after sitting there under the plants.

A grove of bamboo release 35 per cent more oxygen than an equivalent stand of trees. Because of this, planting bamboo is a great way to reduce our carbon footprint and help fight global warming.

How healing it was to be part of nature away from busy materialistic world so full of greed and selfishness and for a little while, I could feel myself. It is said that if you don't have any dream, go to the forest and you will have many and that's true always for everyone.

I filled my heart and my mind with lots of dreams and started hiking the hills with my guide. The hiking trails were optional but for me the guide chose the hardest one and I took the challenge. It was for the first time in my life that I experienced such a hiking pleasure.

The hiking trail was not that broad so my guide made me understand how to follow him. I was following him as per his instructions and communicating and feeing the warm welcome of nature. The feeling was

overwhelming.

I would not say the hiking was very easy, no but it was not impossible. Whole nature of Pugu hills was welcoming me: all manner of small creatures were very welcoming without disturbing us as if giving me a 'save us, save the whole world' message.

Every bird welcoming us by their sweet singing made me ask what are we humans doing for all those creatures in return? For our selfish interests, we destroy nature.

Big and small trees were also welcoming us as if they were spreading their hands of friendship to us for climbing up the trail during hiking. Subconsciously, I was feeling embarrassed by our behaviour towards these trees: We cut them mercilessly without giving a second thought.

The most interesting part of my hiking was the Pugu plants which are mainly parasite and they are endangered too. The design attracted me very much and it helped me climb up the narrow risky trail of hiking. The forest is named after this endemic plant; it's not available anywhere in the world. I was feeling at home because nature is not a place to visit; it is home as Gary Snyder rightly said.

The trail was really narrow, one person can manage somehow. Sometimes we had to crawl to climb up the trail. The ups and downs, stiff and sloppy trails of my hiking routes always reminded me throughout my journey that hiking the hills through these ups and downs are like our lives. In life, we also face ups and downs like the trails of hiking.

When I reached almost halfway, I felt like maybe I will not be able to reach the top of the hill but after taking a rest and watching the half view of the city from top, I felt more energetic to finish my hiking. I was trying to absorb the positive energy of the small insects, reptiles, birds, plants, and continued my hiking after reaching the half way of my destination. The nearer I reached the trail the harder it felt.

It is the same way in life: when we reach near our goals we face difficulties. But we should not give up easily without reaching our goals, that was my realization .After a lot of struggle and with the help of my guide and nature, I finally made it. I reached the top of the hill, and the view was really breathtaking.

During my coming down, I felt so sad to say goodbye to all the small creatures, all trees and birds, though I did not see any big animal but I felt their presence. I felt so heavy hearted for leaving Pugu forest. I made a promise to go back someday.

Just-ended online shopping festival releases signal of consumption recovery in China

By Song Yiran

HIS year's "618" online shopping festival, the largest of its kind in China in the first half of the year, which falls on every June 18, came to a successful end.

On June 19, major Chinese ecommerce platforms unveiled their sales performance during the shopping festival. JD.com, the initiator of the shopping event, saw a total transaction volume of 379.3 billion yuan (\$56.7 billion), up 10.3 percent year on year. The mobile-only marketplace Pinduoduo said that its home appliance sales more than doubled compared to the previous year, setting a new record.

Up-and-coming livestreaming platforms also reported great performance. Between June 1 and 18, the short video platform Douyin recorded a total of 4,045 hours of livestream shows. The number of merchants joining the "618" shopping festival on the platform surged 159 percent from a year ago.

The shopping festival was not only a chance for China to enhance consumption, but also a litmus test for the nation's consumption recovery when COVID-19 has severely impacted its domestic demand.

During the "618" shopping festival, some local governments launched voucher schemes to drive consumption.

According to statistics, JD.com, in collaboration with 15 local governments, distributed vouchers totaling over 700 million yuan. In particular, the government of Shenzhen, south China's Guangdong province, issued 400 million of vouchers on the e-commerce platform, which could be used to buy electronic products and garments.

The booming consumption mirrored a change in how Chinese consumers spend their money nowadays, as well as an upgrade in the quality of their consumption. Apart from daily necessities, highend appliances, healthcare products, jewelry, and other premium consumer goods were also sought after on online marketplaces during this year's "618" festival.

According to statistics released by Suning.com, one of the largest retailers in China, the sales of high-end appliances priced above 10,000 yuan surged 37 percent year on year, and that of French door refrigerators and integrated washer-dryers also witnessed rapid growth.

The transaction volume of smart pet supplies tripled from a year ago on JD.com, and self-indulgence consumption, such as cosmetics, saw a rapid rise on Pinduoduo. Apart from that, there was also a big rise in the sales of healthcare products, as well as medical apparatus and instruments.

The prospering online consumption is attributed to China's efficient logistics system.

The courier industry maintained steady progress in June. The State Post Bureau (SPB) said during the Dragon Boat Festival holiday, or between June 3 and 5, around 940 million parcels were collected across the country, up 17 percent year on year, and the number of parcels sent also increased by 13.1 percent to 970 million.

To strengthen the rural logistics system and promote consumption upgrading in lower-tier markets and the countryside, the MinConsumers select commodities at the Global Premium Duty Free (GDF) Plaza in Haikou, south China's Hainan province, File photo

d istry of Commerce and the SPB is planning to introduce courier services to every county, township, and village with mature conditions by 2025. Besides, the "618" shopping fes-

tival is bringing benefits to more and more international consumers and enterprises.

The largest online retailer in South Korean, Coupang, announced on June 17 that it would host a 4-day promotion event on its website starting from June 18 to mark the Chinese online shopping festival. The promotion event would allow South Korean consumers to buy Chinese products at substantial discounts, up to 90 percent off. Russian merchants are also

seeking to expand their presence in the Chinese market via the "618" shopping festival. Alexey Yefimov, a Russian trade representative in China, told People's Daily that a freight train carrying 62 containers of Russian food, beverage, and household chemicals departed from Moscow for northwest China's Shaanxi province at the end of May. According to him, the train would become regular in the future, making four monthly trips. The annual "618" shopping festival, which has been held for

a decade, is a reflection of China's consumption. At present, the Chinese consumption market is showing signs of picking up. According to statistics released by the National Bureau of Statistics, the total retail sales of consumer goods stood at 3.35 trillion yuan this May, growing 0.05 percent from a month ago. From January to May, the national online retail sales reached 4.96 trillion yuan, an increase of 2.9 percent year on year.

Insiders believe that the pandemic has not changed the habits of online consumption of the Chinese. As the pandemic gets more and more controlled in China, there is a pent-up demand for consumption, which has been fully demonstrated during the "618" shopping festival. **People's Daily**

FEATURES

Guardian

By Liesl Louw-Vaudran

HE African Union (AU) seems to be in the habit of assigning deadlines for overly ambitious goals and then struggling to meet them. This has been the case with initiatives such as the adoption of an African passport by 2018 and the self-financing of the AU through an import levy by 2017.

Another one of these is 'Silencing the Guns by 2020' - a flagship project of the AU's Agenda 2063. Clearly, 2020 has come and gone without Africa having reached the goal of being conflict-free. Therefore the deadline was extended to 2030.

Cynics are already predicting that this won't be met, given the trend of insecurity the continent faces. This includes the spread of terrorism and violent extremism, a resurgence in coup d'états, resource-linked instability and conflicts in areas like the Great Lakes Region, and intra-state conflicts such as in South Sudan, Libya, Ethiopia and Cameroon.

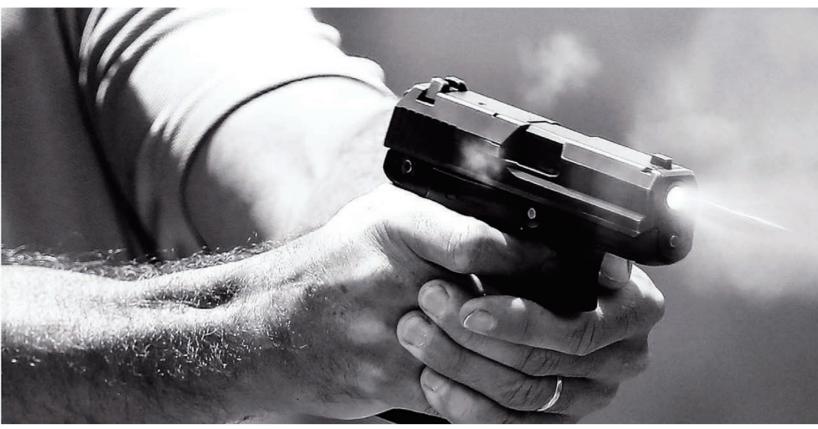
Tackling the multiple root causes of Africa's many conflicts by 2030 amid Covid-19 and its consequent global economic slow-down will be difficult, if not impossible. The AU also remains limited by the sovereignty of its member states. It can do only so much to nudge its members in the right direction - but ultimately its hands are tied. This won't change by 2030.

To avoid disappointment, the AU Commission is working towards a better definition of what 'silencing the guns' means in the context of the Agenda 2063 goals and specific milestones that should be achieved between now and 2030.

The Master Roadmap to Silencing the Guns, adopted in Lusaka in 2016, lacked clarity and a workable implementation matrix with clear indicators of what success would mean. As part of efforts towards enhanced achievements, a monitoring and evaluation (M&E) framework was adopted by the AU Assembly in February, and the development of an implementation plan to guide the contribution of key actors is under way.

Predictably, the current process of fine-

Africa has munitions mountain to climb to meet 'silence the guns' target by 2030



The Master Roadmap to Silencing the Guns, adopted in Lusaka in 2016, lacked clarity and a workable implementation matrix with clear indicators of what success would mean. File photo

towards its implementation is challenging. Two years have passed since the goalposts were shifted to 2030.

The aims of Silencing the Guns are also extremely broad. They encompass almost everything the AU does or is supposed to. The new M&E framework divides the issues to be addressed by the Silencing the Guns roadmap under the broad frameworks of political, economic, legal and social issues.

Certain objectives such as strengthening financing for African peace support operations, setting up military interventions under the African Standby Force (ASF) or preventing the circulation of illicit arms flows in Africa can be relatively easily attached to a list of intuning the M&E framework and working dicators of success. Success can be measured by, for the AU plans to keep member states to their commit-

example, looking at the available funds in the Peace Fund, the number of ASF deployments, cooperation between security agencies and ratifying and enforcing treaties dedicated to rooting out illicit arms trafficking.

Some goals, such as the success of African mediation strategies and peacekeeping, however, are harder to measure. How do you prove that conflicts would have escalated had peacemakers not stepped in? Success in making peace is always more difficult to measure than failure.

Other issues also demand much greater political will and are linked to issues of sovereignty that a framework from the AU will do little to change. For example, ments under the African Charter on Democracy, Elections and Governance. This aims to ensure free and fair elections and prevent heads of state from unilaterally rewriting their own constitutions to stay in power. This is difficult to do for an inter-governmental organisation with no legal hold over its member states.

Yet, without putting the bar too low, for member states to merely ratify their own decisions over the years will be an important first step – and the M&E framework can measure this. Enforcing sanctions against those who don't comply with AU instruments would be another necessary step - and is also noted in the M&E framework.

The economic and social progress to be made on

the continent to Silence the Guns by 2030 are broader and more difficult to measure. However, tracking and recovering illicit financial flows from Africa, harmonising legislation and building the capacity of states' financial intelligence services, enhancing compliance with labour laws, and enforcing compliance with regulations regarding the extractive industry should be possible.

Promoting industrialisation on the continent and creating decent jobs are, meanwhile, harder to measure and achieve. The same goes for social aspects of the roadmap.

Still, amid the enormity of the task, instead of passing the buck, the AU Commission is trying to forge ahead. It should be congratulated for this.

The danger of relying too much on frameworks, documents and committees is that ordinary citizens will expect to see concrete results. Africans want to see a more peaceful and prosperous continent by the end of the decade, short of any explanations. This is clearly beyond the scope of what the AU and its organs and institutions can deliver if a new way of managing peace and security isn't adopted.

Thanks to the roadmap and the M&E framework, the organisation could tease out some of the more workable goals it has set for itself and show progress.

For this to happen and for citizens to keep track, it's crucial to popularise the Silencing the Guns agenda afresh and ensure buy-in from member states. This can be achieved by involving the African Peer Review Mechanism that has focal points in most countries, the AU's Economic, Social and Cultural Council, the private sector, civil society organisations and the media. The overall aim of Agenda 2063 is a "conflict-free, integrated and prosperous Africa." Strides are being made with all three of these, albeit not fast enough. The African Continental Free Trade Area agreement was adopted with much fanfare in 2018 and a secretariat has been set up in Accra. Still, final negotiations around key issues are ongoing and trading hasn't begun.

Its fast adoption by states benefited from heavyweight states' strong leadership, and financial support from partners, to take it forward. Silencing the Guns should benefit from this same momentum, institutional framework and urgency. DM

NATO Summit set to further militarise Europe, expand in Africa?

MADRID

THE three-day North Atlantic Treaty Organisation-NATO Summit in Madrid (28,29, 30 June 2022) is expected to agree to considerably increase Europe's military power, heavily weaponise Russia's border, and further expand its presence in Africa, according to a diplomatic source.

Taking advantage of the ongo-

of its forces at high readiness to over 300,000 troops," NATO Secretary-General Jens Stoltenberg said as quoted by the BBC.

"The bloc's rapid reaction force currently has 40,000 troops at its disposal, with many of those based along the alliance's eastern flank."

Middle East and Africa



the-art technologies in operating weapons, including nuclear arms, involves further dangers to the possibility of "human miscalculation."

"Cyber attacks could manipulate the information decisionmakers get to launch nuclear weapons, and interfere with the operation of nuclear weapons themselves," warns the Interna-

Multiplying military spending amidst crisis

According to NATO critics, who marched in thousands in Madrid streets, the 'feared' results of the NATO Summit will bring only heavy negative consequences for

European citizens. In fact, both the gas and oil prices, as well as those of commodities and basic food, have marked a sharp rise in European countries, leading to record-high inflation averaging nearly 9% in most of the 'old continent.' The expected militarisation of European national budgets will further undermine the already decreasing spending on public health, public education, social services, and unemployment, which were already impacted by the COVID-19 pandemia, accord-

ing to the critics.

litico, Stoltenberg said: "We will take decisions to strengthen our Alliance, and keep it agile in this more dangerous world."

The Secretary-General explained that NATO would strengthen its defences, agree a new Strategic Concept, and strengthen its support to Ukraine and other partners at risk.

Stoltenberg said that in Madrid,

ing Russian "Special [military] Operation" in Ukraine, the NATO leaders are also expected to agree on multiplying by up to five-fold its troops and military potential in Europa, including nuclear weapons, long-range missiles, cyber-attacks and the robotisation of arms, the source told IPS on condition of anonymity.

According to this information, the NATO Summit would plan to especially strengthen the presence of troops and weapons in East Europe and also in South Europe, i.e the Alliance's Mediterranean countries.

Plans to massively increase the number of forces "at high readiness'

"Nato has announced plans to massively increase the number

Furthermore, it is also expected that NATO Summit agrees on further expanding the Alliance military deployment to the Middle East and Africa, with a special focus on its Northern region, allegdging that this aims at preventing and combating terrorism.

According to the source, NATO clearly intends to "neutralise" Russia as a rival, so that it can focus its strategy towards what the leaders for now agree to call the "Chinese challenge."

Three of NATO's member states: the United States, the United Kingdom, and France, not only possess "nukes" -which are considered weapons of mass destruction" and the "most destructive arms ever created," but they also continue to modernise their

NATO Secretary General Jens Stoltenberg

nuclear arsenals with the most advanced technologies.

Nuclear stockpiles

The Stockholm International Peace Research Institute (SIPRI) on 13 June 2022 launched the findings of its Yearbook 2022: of the total inventory of an estimated 12.705 warheads at the start of 2022, about 9.440 were in military stockpiles "for potential use." Of those, an estimated 3.732

warheads were deployed with missiles and aircrafts, and around 2000-nearly all of which belonged to Russia or the USA-were kept in a state of "high operational alert," according to SIPRI's 2022 Yearbook Global nuclear arsenals are expected to grow as states continue to modernise.

The robotisation of weapons Of special concern is the fact that the growing use of state-of-

tional Campaign to Abolish Nuclear Weapons (ICAN).

According to this 2017 Nobel Peace Laureate's report Squandered: 2021 Global Nuclear Weapons Spending, the increased application of advanced machine learning in defence systems can speed up warfare - giving decision-makers even less time to consider whether or not to launch nuclear weapons.

Countries may be eager to apply new artificial intelligence technologies before they understand the full implications of these technologies, adds ICAN.

"It is impossible to eliminate the risk of core nuclear weapons systems being hacked or compromised without eliminating nuclear weapons."

NATO expected plans... in diplomatic words

NATO Secretary-General Jens Stoltenberg set out his priorities for the Madrid Summit during a speech on 22 June 2022. Speaking at an event organised by PoAllies would recommit to the pledge made in 2014 to spend at least 2% of GDP on defence.

He highlighted the progress that had been made with greater burden-sharing across the whole Alliance: "We must continue to invest more. And invest more together in NATO." Read NATO Secretary General's full remarks

Peace, security and safety

In spite of the expected military plans, both NATO sources and those of the European Commission as well as of the national governments of the Alliance member countries, have been emphasising that the sole aim is to strengthen their "defence, peace, security and safety" of their citizens. **IPS**

RATIBA YA VIPINDI **CAPITAL RADIO** JUMATATU - JUMAPILI

MONDAY TIME PROGRAMME	TUESDAY TIME PROGRAMME	WEDNESDAY TIME PROGRAMME	THURSDAY TIME PROGRAMME	FRIDAY TIME PROGRAMME	SATURDAY TIME PROGRAMME	SUNDAY TIME PROGRAMME
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NEWS FEATURES

UNDP pleads for urgent action to reduce greenhouse gas emissions

By Beatrice Philemon

THE United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) has called on for urgently solutions and actions from everyone to reduce greenhouse gas emissions.

UNDP climate change and energy programme specialist Abbas Kitongo said that as climate change continues to affect all economic sectors in Tanzania and the world is warming faster than scientists previously thought.

"It's time for everyone including schools, government, civil societies, NGOs, investors, academic institutions, research institutions, district councils, public and private sector as a whole to immediately take actions and avert the situation," Kitongo said.

Kitongo was speaking at the just ended one day workshop on Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs) implementation Index and Tracking that was organized by ForumCC with the funding from the Pan African Climate Justice Alliance (PACJA).

According to him, CSOs and other stakeholders have to get together because finance mobilization to reduce greenhouse gas emissions cannot be solved by the government only.

"We need unified action on it so that we can implement Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs)'s activities in Tanzania because right now we know what the problems are and we know how to solve them," he said.

Tanzania will require an investment of \$19.2bn for NDC implementation in -terms of mitigation and adaptation activities that in turn will help Tanzania to reduce greenhouse gas emissions and adapt to the impacts of climate change, he said.

Kitongo said that Tanzania commits to reduce greenhouse gas emissions economy-wide between 30-35 percent relative to the Business -As-Usual (BAU) scenario by 2030

Commenting on what UNDP has been done to implement NDC's activities, he said that the programme will conduct vulnerability assessment for eight vulnerable sectors to analyze the impact of climate change for eight sectors in order to develop and implement adaptation measures as for NDCs states.

"After the assessment, new project will be developed to implement solutions to build capacity of community and demonstrate adaptation and action to the country to be able adaptable climate change," he said.

The project will be supported by the Green Climate Fund (GCF) being implemented by UNDP under the leadership of the Vice President's Office.

UNDP has also supported the government to prepare NDC with focus on mitigation of greenhouse gas emissions and adaptation to climate change impact.

and UNDP is also supporting the preparation of National Adaptation Plan (NAP) to build capacity for relevant government institutions to mainstream climate change adaptation into their policies, plans and strategies," he said.

According to him, several projects will be developed to support these projects.

Although Tanzania has been embarked on this programme, so far there is no framework for financial resource management to support climate change programme and activities in Tanzania.

Currently UNDP is supporting to develop Financial Resource Management (FRM) framework to mobilize these resources.

According to him, UNDP will be working with the Ministry of Finance and Vice President's Office (VPO) to ensure that framework is in place. He said Implementation of NDC will

"Under the mitigation, 14 sectors have been prioritized require effective and sustainable Moni- been recommended and approved by flooding, sea level rises that in- turn

toring, Reporting and Verification (MVR) system.

So far a framework has been developed in collaboration with Carbon Monitoring Centre based at Sokoine University of Agriculture (SUA) in Morogoro Region to initiate the process of monitoring implementation of the NDC activities.

Also the portal will be developed to address data gap in the implementation of NDC and so far, National Greenhouse Gases Inventory system has been launched at SUA

FORUM on Climate Change (FORUM-CC) 's Programme Officer, Msololo Onditi, Programme Officer said Tanzania should come up with Climate Change Curriculum to be taught in our primary school, secondary school and even tertiary institutions as climate change studies or education.

So far climate change curriculum has

civil societies across the country to be one of the courses that can help students to be career ready and focused.

"As Tanzania we need to have communities who are knowledgeable on the causes and effects of global climate change in- terms of social, economic and development as well," he said.

Also have a special curriculum that will prepare and equip students with required skills to help Tanzania to reduce greenhouse gas emissions and participate fully in NDC's implementation.

Also have eligible experts to deal with climate change issues in Tanzania.

According to him, this will help to proffer solution to the challenges Tanzania and other countries across the world are already facing.

So far Tanzania has been affected with climate change in- terms of crop failures, natural disasters such as droughts,

cause catastrophic loss of life and habitat for people and wildlife.

Also students will be able to transfer knowledge they have to their parents to manage drivers of risk, identify threats associated with climate change and how to cope it within their localities.

Tanzania will also obtain highly qualified environmentalists who will create awareness on climate change to the public, the effects it has for human being, wildlife, biodiversity, ecosystems changes and other issues.

ForumCC's technical advisor, Rebecca Muna added that the Civil Societies from Tanzania mainland and Zanzibar have recommended that there is need to have collaboration between the Ministry of Finance and CSOs in monitoring of the funds that will be allocated for climate change and NDC implementation.

Also they should be special adaptation budget for climate change adaptation measures and people should be trained on how to report and access proper data relating to the implementation of the NDC activities.

Apart from that, have agreed to conduct finance mobilization to access funds that will be used to implement NDC's activities, ensure NDCs plan is well implemented and have collective reporting on NDC implementation.

ActionAid Tanzania, Climate Justice and Youth Engagement Coordinator, Dinno Kamonalo noted that "Right now Tanzania has committed to implement the NDCs plan to achieve the goals of the Paris Agreement, but majority of stakeholders across the country are not aware about NDCs.

"As result, there is a need for the government to roll-out the NDCs implementation plan to assist different stakeholders participate and make follow-up on it to see if is implemented properly or not to reduce greenhouse gas emissions and for adapting climate impacts," he said

He also underscored the need for a strong institutional framework to ensure that effective implementation of NDCs implementation through all economic activities from agriculture, fishing, pastoralism and the Industrial sector.

He also called on CSOs and government to ensure people at all levels are well educated on the NDCs and climate change to enable them participate and make followup on NDC implementation that in- turn will help Tanzania to have proper data on climate change mitigation and adaptation.

Asia-Pacific nations in accelerated push for rural digitalisation to achieve SDGs

BANGKOK

RAPID acceleration of digitali-

The event was convened in support of FAO's 1,000 Digital Vilzation in rural communities in lage Initiative, launched at FAO ment Ministers from various Asia and the Pacific is critical for headquarters in January 2021.

across the Asia-Pacific region. Asia-Pacific region. The FAO Director-General addressed the event and governcountries across the region gave

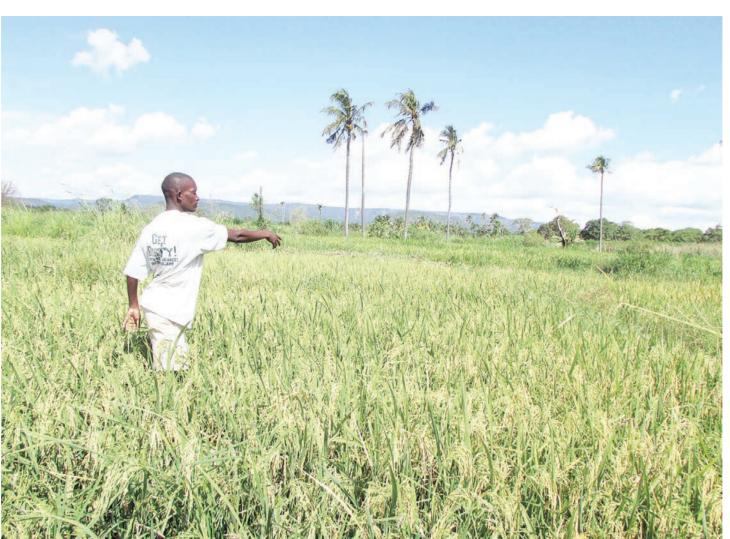
culture, Food and Rural Affairs through vivid stories from the livestock sector embracing digifrom the Republic of Korea and La'aulialemalietoa Leuatea Po-

ground. In Bangladesh, digital services and solutions to suplataivao Fosi Schmidt, Minister port farming and empower ru- village stories from outside the Knowledge Sharing and Exof Agriculture and Fisheries of ral women are being deployed, region including some from change Platform' designed to leveraging increased access and use of smartphones and internet. In Indonesia, digital innovations that improve aquaculture are spreading among fisher folks and villages in West Java and elsewhere. In Thailand, a number of 'smart farming' innovations are being piloted and are benefitting farmers and rural communities, including those living with disability. More examples of innovative and transformative digital technologies were drawn from the Republic of Korea's advanced smart agri-

tal innovations. The event also showcased examples of digital constructed 'Digital Village

Participants were presented with a first glimpse of an FAO

11



regaining momentum towards achieving the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), government policy makers agreed at the conclusion of a one-day event on the subject, convened today by the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO).

More than 200 participants joined the virtual 'FAO Digital Village Knowledge Sharing and Dialogue,' a regional follow-up to advance collective knowledge on implementing digital technologies across rural landscapes, in towns and villages

Director-General QU FAO Dongyu said that the aim of the Asia-Pacific pilot programme was to learn from many countries' successful experiences and good practices and share these experiences with others.

The event highlighted how the rapid spread of internet access and applications of digital technologies in the region's agricultural rural areas have resulted in better production, better nutrition, mitigation of damage to the environment and overall improvements to livelihoods of millions of people in the vast accounts of good practices and methodologies in place in their rural communities and villages to leverage latest digital technologies to improve production and livelihoods of all, particularly farmers, fishers and herders.

Among the high level participants in the event were Bangladesh's Minister of Agriculture, Muhammad Abdur Razzaque; Syahrul Yasin Limpo, Minister of Agriculture of Indonesia; Zagdjav Mendsaikhan; Mongolia's Minister for Food, Agriculture and Light Industry; Chung Hwang-keun, Minister of AgriSamoa

"In Asia and the Pacific, there are several models to develop and foster the digitalization of rural areas". He cited countries including China and India, where he said digitalization of rural areas is extensive. "FAO has a critical role to play in offering this knowledge to our Members in a useful and usable way, including through new tools and methodologies to carry out field studies

when needed," Qu added. Examples of successful digital villages from several countries in Asia were showcased, many

culture, to Mongolia's important Rufiji Mangrove Management Plan "The most important is that these which stipulates to restore, conserve Mangroves are there but we real don't know where they are, how large they and sustainably utilise mangroves reare and degradation that they are exsources," he said. He said through Wetlands Interperiencing so another component of

national and TFS Tanzanians have witnessed many acres restored with mangroves species in the delta. Communities through different capacities are now taking care of these planted mangroves. We are witnessing community alternative livelihoods initiatives supports given by projects to reduce pressure on mangroves forests. I wish to underscore this good work and commend wetlands international East Africa, Tanzania office and Donors for this achievement, he added.

Director of Wetlands International East Africa Julie Mulonga promised to work with the government and other stakeholders saying the government has many good plans and support several initiatives, this is one of the ways project can achieve impact.

She said with the project of source to see, it will work on landscape approach across Eastern countries, and not on individual countries. Through this she believes there will be more impact. "There are many people who depend on these Mangroves. Therefore we are not only conserving them but also to ensure the livelihood of the people who depend on them are also improved," she said.

Latin America, Africa, Europe and the Near East.

Among the themes emphasized was the multi-actor and multi-disciplinary nature of the digitalization process, needing to go beyond physical technologies and explore whole digital ecosystems by focusing on creating enabling conditions, policies and regulations that facilitate rural transformation. A crucial part of this is breaking down digital gaps, removing obstacles to wider participation and providing better access to data and information.

this project is to give knowledge on

that. So, as we undertake actions we

know exactly where we need to work,

so we are not just working every-

where but we are working on specific

areas where the science shows the

areas we shall make more impact in

terms of restoration and conservation

A long time forest conservationist

John Yonaz Salehe said there should

be collective efforts to conserve Man-

should not point fingers to the govern-

ment, individuals or any stakeholder

who are conserving the Mangroves

but rather everybody should be re-

sponsible. We all live in one world.

We should bring together traditional

and modern technologies and work

together to address these challenge,

A resident of Nyamisati, Kibiti

along the Rufiji Delta Sada Shabani

Kumburagi said when she was born

in 1977 Rufiji delta was intact. The

Mangroves were looking better but

human activities such as rice farming,

wild fire, livestocks have destroyed

the Mangroves. She named some of

"My message is very clear today, we

of Mangroves" she said.

goves in Rufiji delta.

he said.

be a one-stop 'village square' where best practices of hundreds of digital villages and their technologies could be displayed. The platform would also serve as a place for exchange and dialogue.

FAO is working to develop the platform for all digital innovations, digital village initiatives, best practices, and knowledge sources to be easily accessible and publicly shared as part of efforts to achieve the SDGs, particularly to benefit those in the most inaccessible rural areas of the Asia-Pacific region.

the challenges facing the Mangroves are poverty which makes some people to encroach the mangroves, lack of alternative income, lack of capital and education on the importance of Mangroves.

"If a wide range of communities will be empowered on small income generating projects, they will stop the encroachment," she said

Source to Sea is a project addressing the drivers of los of wetlands and their biodiversity in Eastern Africa by putting in place enabling conditions for integrated wetland management solutions at landscape and Eco-regional levels including Rufiji Delta. This initiative is a partnership between Wetlands International and the Swedish International Development Cooperation Agency (SIDA).

Rufiji Delta mangrove forest reserve covers an area of about 532 km2 and its water ways, hosts the largest concentration of mangroves in Tanzania, the second largest on the Eastern Africa seaboard, after the Zambezi Delta, and more than 45% of Tanzania's mangroves. Rufiji Delta has diverse mangrove species, containing all 8 out of 10 species of mangrove found on the continental coast of Eastern Africa. Many residents and migratory birds populations rely on the delta and its wetlands including Mangrove Kingfisher

Govt to work with stakeholders to conserve mangroves in Tanzania **By Correspondent Gerald Kitabu**

THE government has reaffirmed its commitment to work with stakeholders to sustainably protect and conserve the mangrove forests in Rufiji Delta, Coastal region.

Kibiti district Commissioner Ahmed Abass Ahmed said unsustainable human activities such as deforestation for agriculture, timber, construction materials, illegal livestock grazing and fishing have caused numeral destructions on mangroves forests and reduced mangroves forest ecosystems services.

He was speaking at the opening of 'source to sea' Eastern Africa Wetland initiative validation meeting held in Dar es Salaam recently.

He said Rufiji Delta has diverse mangrove species, containing all 8 out of 10 species of mangrove found on the continental coast of Eastern Africa. Many residents and migratory bird populations rely on the delta and its wetlands including Mangrove Kingfisher.

He further explained that Mangroves are among the most productive and valuable ecosystems on earth. Mangroves forests offer nesting and breeding habitat for different aquatic species including fish, migratory birds, and sea turtles. It is the source of livelihoods of many rural and urban communities, purifying and preserving water quality and hence protects coral reefs and seagrass. Mangrove forests stabilise shorelines and acts as natural protection against heavy storms, floods and destructive hurricanes. "Mangrove forests contribute from two to four times more than matured tropical forests in carbon sequestration. Due to its versatility of mangroves benefits, it provides materials for

URCE TC NABLING AC Kibiti district commissioner Col Ahmed Abass Ahmed.

construction, and great room for eco-tourism and hence great income generation at all levels," he stressed.

He said despite the benefits, he has witnessed good and bad human activities carried out in the Rufiji Delta. Bad human activities include deforestation for agriculture, timber, construction materials, illegal livestock grazing and fishing etc which have caused numeral destructions on mangroves forests and reduced mangroves forest ecosystems services. Good activities including legal fishing, mangrove harvesting and restoration.

"I am happy to inform you that, Wetlands International is implementing the following projects in Rufiji Delta, the Mangrove Capital Africa (MCA), Strengthening marine protected area management in Rufiji, Mafia and Kilwa districts, and to plant not to plant. Through these projects, Wetlands International partnering with Tanzania Forestry Service (TFS), and World Wide Funds for Nature facilitated key stakeholders to come with revised nationally approved

FEATURE

By Elri Voigt in Cape Town

AST Thursday morning, Health Minister Dr Joe Phaahla announced that a 30-year-old man from Gauteng with no recent travel history had become the first person in South Africa to be diagnosed with monkeypox.

According to a statement by the National Institute for Communicable Diseases (NICD), more than 3,000 people have been diagnosed with monkeypox since May 2022 in several European countries, the US, Canada, Morocco and the United Arab Emirates. It is the first multicountry outbreak of the disease, according to the NICD, and also the largest recorded outbreak of monkevpox.

Below are answers to 10 common questions about monkeypox.

What is monkeypox?

Dr Aida Sivro, senior scientist at the Centre for the Aids Programme of Research in South Africa (Caprisa), says the disease is caused by infection with the monkeypox virus, which belongs to the same family of viruses as the smallpox virus.

According to Sivro, there are two known types of monkeypox virus: the West African Clade and the Central African Clade. The current outbreak is caused by the less-severe West African Clade.

The World Health Organization (WHO) has an extensive fact sheet on monkeypox that provides more information.

What are the symptoms and disease progression?

According to the WHO fact sheet, the incubation period for the disease is six to 13 days and the infection is divided into two periods - the first being characterised by general symptoms such as fever and the second by a skin rash or lesions.

Sivro explains that the symptoms typically include fever, headache, muscle and back pain, fatigue, swollen lymph nodes and skin rash or lesions.

The WHO stated that the rash occurs about one to three days after the fever starts and is normally found on the face and extremities. The rash then becomes lesions, which progress to pustules that eventually become crusts that dry up and fall off. Symptoms can last from two to four weeks.

How deadly is it?

Monkeypox is not considered very deadly. According to the WHO, the recent case fatality ratio has been about 3% to 6%. A case fatality ratio refers to the proportion of deaths among people diagnosed with a specific disease over a certain period. Severe cases are more common among children and those with immune deficiencies. However, a range of complications can occur, including secondary infections, bronchopneumonia, sepsis, encephalitis and infection of the cornea.



Monkeypox - experts answer 10 common questions

Health minister Dr Joe Phaahla announced that a 30-year-old man from Gauteng with no recent travel history had ecome the first person in South Africa to be diagnosed with monkeypox. File photo

How is it treated?

During a press briefing on monkeypox by the NICD, principal medical scientist Dr Jacqueline Wever explained that typically the disease resolves itself without any specific interventions. Doctors normally only treat the patient's symptoms and discomfort like fever and rash. Typically, due to the mild nature of the disease, no specific treatment or hospital admission is required in most cases.

According to Sivro, there is no specific treatment for monkeypox, but



due to its genetic similarity to the smallpox virus, antiviral drugs for smallpox can be used to treat it. Currently, there are two FDA-approved drugs for treatment of smallpox - TPOXX (tecovirimat) and Tembexa (brincidofovir). According to the WHO, tecovirimat was licensed for the treatment of monkeypox in 2022 but it is not yet widely available. Neither of these antivirals are listed as registered on the South African Health Products Regulatory Authority (Sahpra) website.

Is there a vaccine against it?

Sivro says that there is no specific vaccine against monkeypox, but because it is similar to smallpox, vaccines against the latter are effective.

"Based on data from previous outbreaks in Africa, smallpox vaccines are thought to be about 85% effective against monkeypox," she says. "There is currently only one FDA-approved smallpox vaccine used for the prevention of monkeypox disease - JYNNEOS, also known by the brand names Imvamune and Imvanex."

She added that it is believed that vaccination within four days after monkeypox exposure could help prevent early onset, or if given between four and 14 days after exposure, it could make the disease less severe.

There is a candidate vaccine specifically against monkeypox, according to Professor Derseree Archary, a senior scientist in mucosal immunology at Caprisa, but it is still in the early stages of development.

When and why did smallpox vaccination stop in South Africa?

After smallpox was eradicated in 1980 following a global vaccination campaign, routine vaccination against the disease among the general public was halted.

Archary says the exact date that South Africa stopped vaccinating against smallpox is hard to find and confirm but she thinks it was in 1982.

During the NICD press briefing, Professor Adrian Puren, the acting director of the institute, said that while he isn't sure of the exact date that South Africa stopped vaccinating against smallpox, people younger than 40 to 50 are thought not to be immune to the disease.

Sivro added: "It is generally believed that individuals vaccinated for smallpox before [the] 1980s still have some level of immunity. However, it is difficult to predict how much protection this would provide against monkeypox infection and disease."

Is the smallpox vaccine available in South Africa?

How is monkeypox transmitted?

According to the WHO fact sheet, monkeypox can be transmitted from an infected animal to humans or from one infected person to another.

Puren explains that monkeypox is much less transmissible than some other viruses and requires prolonged close contact between individuals. He added that a person with monkeypox is thought to be contagious for about three days from when the symptoms start until the skin where the rash or lesions appear is fully healed.

Archary says that because the DNA of the monkeypox virus is very stable on surfaces, clothes and bed linen contaminated by an infected person can spread the disease. Close personal contact or skin-to-skin contact with the rash of the infected person as well as respiratory secretions like the infected person sneezing on someone, could also transmit the virus.

Do condoms reduce the risk of contracting monkeypox?

The method of transmission makes it unlikely that condoms will prevent the spread of monkeypox during sexual intercourse. Sivro says it is currently unclear if monkeypox can spread through semen or vaginal fluids

However, because of the skin-toskin contact and fluid exchange during sexual intercourse, condoms will not protect against monkeypox, says Archary.

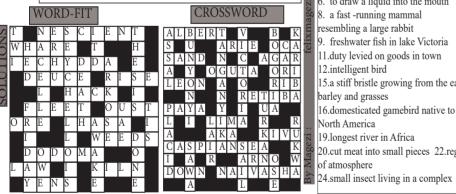
Why does it appear that it is more prevalent among men who have sex with men?

During Thursday's press briefing, Phaahla stated that monkeypox is currently dominant among men who have sex with men (MSM). While the data do indicate that the majority of cases in the current outbreak are among MSM, it is vital not to misunderstand this statement.

Wever explains that there is no evidence that there is a different biological susceptibility to the monkeypox virus and there is no "selection" by the virus in terms of the group of people who are being infected from that perspective. Instead, it is likely that the outbreak occurring in MSM is coincidental.

Archary cautioned against the dia-

8 letters MUSEVENI, ETHIOPIA, 9 letters SALVA KIIR, OWNERSHIP,



green seed eaten as vegetable 4. a titmouse (songbird) small rodents 6. to draw a liquid into the mouth 8. a fast -running mammal resembling a large rabbit 9. freshwater fish in lake Victoria 11.duty levied on goods in town 12.intelligent bird barley and grasses 16.domesticated gamebird native to North America 19.longest river in Africa 20.cut meat into small pieces 22.region of atmosphere

10.a male bird 12.strike of a bird with its beak 13.Koala's is the National symbol 14.rodent resembling long-tailed mouse 16.largest lake in Ethiopia 17.a small brown and grey finch-like bird related to the weaver bird 15.a stiff bristle growing from the ear of 18.pub providing food and lodging 20.a tract of open uncultivated upland 21.flightless tailless New Zealand bird 22.a fish- eating aquatic

mammal 23.marine fish 25.give a sharp, shrill bark 26.Endless plain in East Africa

Spotlight asked Sahpra whether a smallpox vaccine is currently registered and available in South Africa.

"There are several vaccines that were previously approved for smallpox, although smallpox was no longer a threat and has not been brought into the country by those manufacturers. It is, however, included in the combination vaccines for the general immunisation programme for paediatrics," says Sahpra spokesperson Yuven Gounden. There is, however, no smallpox vaccine listed in the childhood immunisation schedules published on the Department of Health's website.

Sahpra had received no submissions to date with regards to plans to approve a smallpox vaccine to prevent monkeypox in South Africa.

Archary says the older-generation smallpox vaccine is registered in South Africa but is not widely available to the public and would only be administered under very strict circumstances.

Sivro adds that smallpox vaccination is being offered in some countries to adults who have been in contact with a confirmed monkeypox case.

logue that monkeypox is found in MSM and bisexual men because it is likely to be misinterpreted by the public and could cause stigma against these groups. "This virus will transmit irrespective of sexual preference through close skin-to-skin contact, kissing, coming into contact with contaminated clothes, bed linen, through respiratory secretions from an infectious person sneezing on you, etc. There are some studies being pursued to understand what the transmission dynamics are during sexual intercourse and we await those data," she says . **DM/MC**



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 16.03 HRS DIRAYA DUNIA BBC

 19.30 HRS SPOTILEO

 20.00 HRS NEWS BULLETIN

 20.10 HRS MEWS BULLETIN

 21.05 HRS CHAYG BRIEF

 21.05 HRS CHAYG BULLETIN

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Tembelea mitandao ya kijamii ya Radio One 🤘 **Radio One**

BUSINESS

150 trucks cross Katuna-**Gatuna one-stop border** post daily, reports EABC

By Guardian Reporter

OVER 150 transit trucks cross over the Katuna-Gatuna One Stop Border Post (OSBP) daily following the reopening of the border. This was revealed during the EABC-TMEA Public Private Dialogue with Trade Facilitation Agencies at the Katuna-Gatuna OSBP.

Peter Gikwiyakave, Regional Manager, Uganda Revenue Authority said: "800 people cross the Katuna border."

East African Business Council (EABC) chief executive officer John

President Paul Kagame, and Ugandan counterpart Yoweri Kaguta Museveni for re-opening the Katuna-Gatuna OSBP on January 31st 2022.

The Katuna side of the border is under construction and is set to be fully operational in August 2022.

The Gatuna -Katuna OSBP currently only facilitates movement of transit cargo. Traders pleaded for Ugandan exports to be allowed to enter Rwanda and vice versa for bilateral trade ties to flourish better.

Transporters called for harmonization of road tolls citing Rwanda charges a flat Bosco Kalisa, applauded Rwandan fee of USD.76 while Uganda charges



Heavy trucks were allowed to provisionally cross the Gatuna border post from June 10 to 22 in order to facilitate trial activities

USD 10 per 100 mileages.

Affairs Uganda said: "The EAC Secretariat fee and charges If equivalent effect to in-Joseph Etomet, from the Ministry of EAC has already undertaken a study on charges form the harmonization process of road

tolls and other charges at regional level."

Miria, Akaukwasa Chairperson of Katuna Women Cross Border Traders appreciated that a trade information desk is instituted at the border.

She stated that women need to be sensitized on the EAC Simplified Trade Regime and small cross border traders should be allowed to do business at the Gatuna-Katuna OSBP.

EABC-TMEA The public-private dialogue convened over 40 officials from trade facilitation agencies, importers, exporters, transporters, EABC Members - East African Grain Council, Private Sector Foundation Uganda, The New Forests Company and women cross-border traders to chart out solutions to ease the free movement of persons and cargo at Gatuna-Katuna OSBP.

Sesame growers in Mtwara happy as price skyrockets

By Guardian Correspondent, Masasi

SESAME farmers in Mtwara Region are expecting to get 7.7bn / - from the sale of the crop through the first auction which is going to boost the economy of the Mtwara region. Masasi Mtwara Cooperative Union (MAM-

CU) manager Biadia Matipa said this in an interview with this reporter about the sale of the first auction of sesame crops held in Masasi District recently

He said in the first auction of sesame crops held in Mangose Village, Temeke ward in Masasi District where a total of 2.5 million kilograms were sold at the auction equivalent to more than 2500 tonnes while the amount expected to be obtained after the sale was over 7.7bn/- farmers get it in their pockets.

Matipa said the money will go to sesame farmers, something which will increase their incomes, urging buyers to continue raising

prices despite the current high prices. He said that in the sesame auction buyers have been seen to buy the crop competitively with prices rising higher compared to the prices of previous seasons while at the top of the auction was 3,147 / - and the lowest price was sold for 3,083/-

Matipa said that as a result of the sale of sesame seeds all at the auction and at those prices it has become a big joke for farmers as their ambition is to be able to earn enough money and be able to boost their economy from selling sesame seeds.

He said if farmers sell their produce at a good price they will be able to earn more

money that will benefit them in their households and continue to encourage them to be able to grow crops more productively because they know they will sell at higher prices so it will encourage them to continue growing these commercial crops. One of the sesame farmers in the district, Ashura Milanzi expressed her happiness following the price hike compared to the previous sea-

Rajabu Issa said that this season's prices have obviously been good and farmers have high hopes of boosting their economy as sesame auctions started at higher prices and that they are asking buyers to continue buying at a better price so that farmers can benefit from sesame.



By Correspondent Geoffrey Nangai

THE Dar es Salaam Stock Exchange (DSE) last week continued to rally after posting an equity turnover of 1.87bn/- being 84 per cent increase as compared to 1bn/- posted by the bourse the previous week's trading session.

According to data from the DSE, CRDB dominated the trading session accounting for 67 per cent of the



"The subscription rate came in at 117 per cent as investors continued to shy away from treasury bonds with the current low revised coupons. The total amount tendered was 151.7bn/- with the minimum successful price printed at 100 as the central bank rejected aggressive bids priced at discounts. Average yield to maturity for the auction stood at 12 per cent according to central bank figures.

In a related development, the secondary market continued to edge higher, largely caused by the price adjustment of the 20-year Treasury bond auctioned on June 22, 2022.

According to market analysts, the rising yield environment is due to a sell-off pressure by bond traders as they price in a possible monetary policy tightening subject to inflation persisting higher. Zan Securities Chief Executive Officer Raphael Masumbuko said: "With the introduction of new issues, we expect the yield curve to adjust upwards in the mid to long end, as old bond yields converge with new ones." Masumbuko is however optimistic that the equity market will slightly rise during the third quarter if listed companies post solid results. "As we have previously highlighted, the market sell-off cumulating in the past weeks was largely attributed to investors pricing in ex- dividend, causing the market to slightly slump, although this fall in price is not due to company fundamentals or the general outlook of the equity market. However, we are going to see a slight upside in quarter 3, subject to each company's results for quarter 2, 2022," he added.

total turnover and 92 per cent of the total volume during the trading session last week as TPCC/Twiga and NMB accounted for 17.9 and 9.8 per cent respectively.

Price movement was recorded on six domestic traded equities last week with the self-listed DSE share appreciating by 1.03 per cent to end the week at 1,960/- per share.

NMB gained 0.68 per cent to close at 2,980/- per share while TPCC/Twiga share also appreciated by 0.54 per cent to close the week at 3,720/- per share.

The CRDB counter on the other hand depreciated by 5.2 per cent to close at 360/- per share while the TCCL/Simba share price also went down by 4.0 per cent to close at 1.440/- per share.

The NICO share price also dropped 1.45 per cent to close at 340/- per share.

Total market capitalization went down by 1.84 percent to 15.0bn/- while the Domestic market capitalization also went down by 0.42 per cent closing at

10.2bn/-

The Tanzania share index (TSI) closed at 3,861.28 points after decreasing by 0.42 percent while the All Share Index (DSEI) also decreased by 1.84 per cent to close at 1,800.30 points.

According to the weekly Orbit Securities report, foreign investors accounted for only 1.94 per cent of buy-side market activities worth 36m/- and 17.6 per cent of all sell-side market activities worth 330m/-Meanwhile, Bank of Tanzania (BoT) on June 22,

2022 offered 129bn/- to investors through issuing a new 20-year treasury bond with results indicating that the auction was slightly over-subscribed, as it has been the custom for long tenured bonds since the reduction of coupon rates.

Panda Hill Tanzania Limited allocates 14bn/- for use in the relocation of Songwe prison

By Guardian Reporter, Mbeya

A local mining company, Panda Hill Tanzania Limited, has set aside 14bn/- for the relocation of Songwe Prison located in Mbeya region to pave way for mining of Niobium minerals which have been discovered in the area.

Speaking at a mineral and energy symposium in Mbeya region, a representative from the company Emanuel Kisasi said the amount will be used after the finalization of consultation with the government.

He said apart from relocating the prison, about 120 residential houses and 600 inmates will moved from the place and the money will be used to construct essential social services such as schools, Mosques sports grounds and electricity.

Niobium, a rare earth metal, is used in practically everything. Wind turbines, jet engines, airplane bodies, high-pressure pipelines, superconducting magnets, bridges, brake discs, and the steel frames of skyscrapers all become better, tougher, and more lightweight with a bit of niobium added.

"The minerals are very important to the country's economy, we are determined to

ensure they are extracted of which the factory is expected to be built in Mbeya and its exports are supposed to make the country earn \$224 million in foreign exchange every vear.

He said 54-percent of raw materials to be used at the mining site will be from the country while levies and royalties will be used to improve infrastructure in the country.

Explaining further on the relocation of the prison, Regional Prison Officer of Mbeya Adriano Mduda said discussions are underway between the government and the stakeholders.

"There is no exact date as to when the relocation exercise will begin but we are waiting for official communication on the matter," he said.

Speaking when opening the symposium, Chunya District Commissioner Simon Mayeka said the government was committed to support small scale miners to access loans materials to ease their operations.

The symposium brought together various stakeholders from the mining and energy sector with aim of discussing challenges and opportunities in the sector to improve lives those involved.



BUSINESS NEWS/NEWS FEATURES

SDF empowers 40,000 youth with entrepreneurship skills

By Correspondent Valentine Oforo, Dodoma

OVER 40,000 youth have been empowered with training on entrepreneurship skills, which is being supported by the Skills Development Fund (SDF) programme under the

Tanzania Education Authority (TEA). SDF coordinator Masozi Nyirenda unveiled this recently, saying that the five-year initiative compliment efforts by the government to stamp- out a challenge of unemployment among majority of local youth.

SDF is a product of the National Skills Development Strategy (NSDS) and a Program for Education and Skills for Productive Jobs (ESPJ).

According to him, SDF acts as an instrument to promote the expansion and quality of skills development opportunities in six cores and enabling economic sectors in the country, including agriculture and agribusiness, tourism and hospitality, energy, construction, transportation and logistics and information, communication and technology.

"The fund fosters an effective results-oriented tool for improving relevance, quality, equity and efficiency of post-secondary education and training," Nyirenda said, expressing that TEA was partnering with some institutes, including the Vocational Education Training Authority (VETA), Small Industries Development Organization (SIDO), Dar es Salaam Institute of Technology (DIT), Arusha Technical College as well as other local varsities and some Non-Governmental Organizations (NGOS).

"Through our partnership, we usually empower the colleges in terms of key training facilities and infrastructures, but moreover, we help them in updating their training curriculum to ensure the beneficiaries are being shaped more professionally," he added.

Lisa Mkuyu, a graduate from the



 $_{
m he}$ These are some of the beneficiaries of SDF support

Dodoma-based College of Business Education (CBE) is one among the beneficiaries of the programme.

After graduating and luckily got a chance to be enrolled in TEA's SDF programme she successfully managed to embark on a wine processing project, the initiative which has so farfetched good results.

Currently, she's a proprietor of Roslyn Enterprises, the up-coming wine processing company which produces favorable brands, including Ugogoni and Rosyline wines.

"I am appealing to other youth in the country to seek and effectively use different opportunities on skills development that continues to crop-up in the country in order to grasp key entrepreneurship knowledge to help them venture into self-economic projects," she urged. The programme, SDF is a product of a thorough research conducted in 2014/15 between the government through support from the World Bank (WB), the vital study which discovered that huge percentage of the local youth, both educated and uneducated, need to be imparted with potential skills to enable them to venture into different key production sectors.

The World Bank (WB) has injected \$120million to support implementation of the 10-years National Skills Development Strategy (NSDS 2016/17-2025/26).

The NSDS pioneers the creation of a skilled and competitive Tanzania workforce capable of effectively fostering inclusive and sustainable socio-economic growth by developing a sustainable transformation of the Tanzanians workforce to achieve a composition that guarantees timely attainment of middle-income status by 2025.

Financial institutions urged to support women-owned construction firms

By Beatrice Philemon

FINANCIAL institutions have been advised to come up with new package for women engaged in construction sector to enable them access government construction contracts and assist them to participate in public procurement tender from the government institutions.

Ibra Contractors Ltd's Director, Maida Waziri made the advise recently in Dar es Salaam when speaking at the launch of the study on Women and Special Groups Participation in Public Procurement in Tanzania progress, constraints and strategies with funding from TradeMark East Africa (TMEA).

He said there is need to support them because women owned construction firms in Tanzania are not benefiting from the construction industry because they don't have funds.

"There are a lot of construc-

tion job available to women at every stage of a construction project's journey, but the problem is lack of funds," he said, adding: "Just look, foreigners are the ones who benefit from construction industry because when entering Tanzania, they

en just registered their companies in as Tanzanian companies and g later on take the construction ry projects."

C- Tanzanian women construction companies also have capacity to run these projects because they have qualified experts specialized in construction sector, but they don't have money or enough capital.

"As result, we called on banks to see how they will help women to access funds to implement their construction projects and even accessing government supply contracts," she said, calling on women in all areas where they are to have a confidence with what they carry out and

search correct information about tender offered by the government.

He also stated that women should be trained on how to bid for tenders to enable them benefit from funds allocated by government through Procuring Entities (PEs).

According to the research which was conducted by the Institute of Management and Entrepreneurship Development (IMED) this year, in

2019/2020, the government of Tanzania set aside over 25trillion/- for procurement of goods, works and services.

"This translates to a huge opportunity to empower the marginalized through government contracts."

Marginalized are women, youth, elderly and people with disabilities.

Institute of Management and Entrepreneurship Development (IMED)'s Chief Executive Officer, Donath Olomi, added that women and other Special Groups (SGs) wishing to participate in public procurement shall apply for registration with the appropriate Special Groups Supporting Entities (SGSE).

The guidelines stipulate that: the SGSE shall register special groups in categories of suppliers, contractors, non-consultancy services, consultancy services and any other category as may be deemed necessary by SGSE.

Artisanal miners urged to step up capital, become big-time players with TIC licence



By Guardian Correspondent, Mbeya

SMALL miners from Southern Highlands regions have been advised to increase their capital capacity to be able to be registered with Tanzania Investment Centre (TIC) in order to be given big mining licences.

The advice was given here yesterday by TIC Southern Highlands Zonal Manager VenanceMashiba in an interview with this paper on the strategies by the Centre to empower small miners to benefit by opportunities by TIC.

Mashiba said TIC continues to mobilise small miners to look for capital to qualify for registration as big miners as its main condition so that they can benefit by various opportunities it provides including reduction of the cost of imported mining equipment.

"A small miner cannot directly benefit by these opportunities until he boosts his business to become a big miner, there are so many things that we supervise in regard to big miners," he added

Some mining stakeholders said small miners still work in difficult surroundings including levies charged by various institutions, the issue that has contributed to their making losses in their activities.

Amos Abraham, a miner from Chunya District said if the government removes some of the levies, it will increase their profits than it is now when the entire profits is gobbled up by taxes.

He said another complain from miners is their call for the government to establish a centre that will have the responsibility to allocate them areas with minerals.

He said this will simplify mining activities and arrest environmental destruction as miners look for areas with gold in the District.

Some of the small-scale miners in Chunya District, Mbeya Region

New technology digitises Tanzania homes, saves time, energy

By Guardian Reporter

SOUTH Korean firm–LG Electronics has introduced smart home appliances aimed at complementing a busy, hectic schedule and challenging daily chores among Tanzanians.

LG Electronics East Africa Managing director Sa Nyoung Kim said recently at the launch of the new technology, noting that the smart home appliances seek to digitize

Tanzanians' homes turning them into an interconnected network set up that allows them to control

their home appliances remotely and/or by voice demands. Kim said: "The move to digitize

living rooms, the kitchen and any other room in Tanzania homes is inspired by our commitment to priorities convenience and comfort for our customers. For all of us to achieve this, there must be enough supply of smart home appliances which we have made fo available."

According to a recent survey by LG ThinQ Smart Home Report, 17.3 % of surveyed users selected energy saving as the biggest smart home benefit. Other top benefits mentioned in the survey included ease and convenience to use for TVs and refrigerators and improved performance through Artificial Intelligence (AI) technology for the washers and energy-saving

for the air conditioners.

Among the key smart home appliances introduced by LG in the country include the Smart OLED TVs powered by advanced artificial intelligence technologies that make homes smart and convenient.

The TVs have inbuilt AI processors that analyze on-screen content to adjust it to the best possible audio, picture and video by the user's viewing environment.

Besides, the TVs have intelligent

voice recognition feature that enables users to control them with simple commands. They also provide a home dashboard that displays the status of other smart home appliances in the home and notifies users of any situation that users should be aware of, such as the fridge door being open and the remaining time for the washing cycle to end.

Kim said: "To help with laundry, LG has stored up Smart washing machines such as the Vivace Wash-

ing machine and other (Artificial Intelligence Direct Drive) AI DD
washing machines which identify
users' laundry's fabric type and recommend the best laundry course
for it. They also troubleshoot minor
issues quickly before they escalate."
For users who want to keep
foods and fruits fresh for longer periods, LG has confirmed
a lineup of smart Refrigerators
designed to be connected to the
user's smartphone to control the refrigerator's temperature, control express freeze, and receive any diagnostics of the user refrigerator and food expiration date notifications.

According to Sa Nyoung Kim, this latest core technology featuring intelligence applications helps households conserve energy, and water and are environmentally friendly while being easily usable, thus promoting key sustainable development goals.

Drought in the Horn of Africa: FAO appeals for \$172 million to help avert famine and humanitarian catastrophe

ROME

WITH the increasing risk of famine in the Horn of Africa due to severe and prolonged drought conditions, urgent life-saving and livelihood assistance is needed to avert a humanitarian catastrophe, the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO) has warned.

As the peak of the crisis fast approaches, FAO launched a revised Rapid Response and Mitigation Plan, which exclusively focuses on four drought epicentres across the region: Djibouti, Ethiopia, Kenya and Somalia.

The time frame for the new plan has been extended from June to December 2022 with the aim of preventing a deterioration in food security conditions in the region, saving the livelihoods and therefore the lives of almost five million rural people across the four countries.

FAO is appealing for a total of \$219 million. So far, the UN Agency has mobilized around \$47 million, leaving a gap of \$172 million

While the funds received thus far will provide life-saving livelihoods assistance through cash and livelihood packages, including animal health and infrastructure rehabilitation to approximately 700 000 people, millions more can be reached if the plan is fully funded.

"Agricultural livelihoods are hugely underfunded in humanitarian responses, even in droughts when agriculture bears 80 percent of the impact," said Rein Paulsen, Director of the FAO Office of Emergencies and Resilience. "Business as usual is no longer an option. It's time to properly invest in more efficient and forward looking assistance. This must be linked to long-term development assistance".

Worsening food insecurity

Drought is among the most devastating of natural hazards - crippling food production, depleting pastures, disrupting markets and, at its most extreme, causing widespread human and animal deaths. Droughts can also lead to increased migration from rural to urban areas, placing additional pressures on declining food production. Herders are often forced to seek alternative sources of food and water for their animals, which can create conflict between communities, competing for the little resources available.

As of early May, the performance of the 2022 long rains

initially projected over the same period. Similarly, in Somalia, some 7.1 million people

15

(close to half the population) now face crisislevel food insecurity or worse through at least September 2022, including 2.1 million people in Emergency (IPC Phase 4) and 213 000 people in Catastrophe (IPC Phase 5).

The revised plan

The revised drought rapid response and mitigation plan aggregates the FAO components of the humanitarian appeals in the targeted countries. It provides further details on what urgently needs to happen to scale from January 2022 and the risks associated with an insufficient or untimely response.

The document also explains that responding to a drought is, first and foremost, about implementing the right set of actions at the right moment of the drought cycle. Partners will have to balance resources between each life-saving sector, namely a) food assistance and livelihoods; b) nutrition; c) water, sanitation and hygiene; and d) health. Failure to respond to one of the aforementioned four sectors will undermine the efforts of the others.

"Timely and at-scale implementation is required immediately," said David Phiri, FAO Subregional Office for Eastern Africa Coordinator. "The cost of humanitarian action will be exponentially higher and the impact on people's lives would be tremendous if we do not act soon enough or at the scale needed to avert catastrophe," he added.

FAO and partners are advocating for better coordinated planning and programming. Urgent interventions include unconditional cash transfers to enable drought-affected households to cover basic expenditures on food, health and shelter; livelihood package distribution containing animal feed, vaccines, quality seeds, tools; restoring water holes; as well as trainings on good agricul-

Investors 'excited' over Zimbabwe plan to mint gold and curb inflation

HARARE

ZIMBABWE is set to introduce gold coins that will enable investors to store value within the country as inflation spirals out of control and the local currency continues to rapidly devalue against major currencies.

The move comes after inflation for June jumped to 191.6% from 132% in May.

The southern African country's central bank chief John Mangudya announced the new gold coins would be available through normal banking institutions.







"The Reserve Bank of Zimbabwe's Monetary Policy Committee (MPC) resolved to introduce gold coins into the market as an instrument that will enable investors to store value." Mangudva said. "The gold coins will be minted by Fidelity Gold Refineries (Private) Limited and will be sold to the public through normal banking channels."

Fidelity Gold Refineries (Private) Limited is the sole gold buying entity and refining entity in the country and is owned by the central bank.

The central bank's monetary policy committee expressed "great concern on the recent rise in inflation", which increased by 30.7% on a month-on-month basis for June 2022.

Authorities are struggling to pull Zimbabwe from the grips of an economic crisis characterised by high inflation, a rapidly devaluing local currency, 90 percent unemployment and declining manufacturing output.

The country's inflation has been on an upward trend in the past three months as inflation pressures rise, driven by the continued weakening of the Zimbabwean dollar which is trading at \$1:650 on the black market.

The printing of new money by the central bank has also worsened the situation, reversing gains made in the past two years that saw inflation decrease from a peak of 800 percent in 2020 to 60 percent in January this year.

As part of measures to stabilise the economy, the central bank will more than triple the lending rate from 80 percent to 200 percent per annum and raise the interest rate from 50 percent to 100 percent per annum.

Harare-based independent economist Victor Bhoroma commended the apex bank's interventions, saying positive interest rates would reduce both "speculative borrowing in the economy and money supply growth".

"Gold coins are a good idea in terms of storing value. It can be a way to reduce pressure on the US dollar if sold in Zim dollar thus stabilising inflation," Bhoroma told Al Jazeera. "But they will likely be indexed in US dollar which means it's a fundraising scheme to get USD from the market by the central bank. The success will thus depend on confidence in the central bank as the seller of the coins and guarantees that back them."

If confidence continues to dip, the market will maintain a preference for hard currency, he said.

Batanai Matsika, the head of research for stockbroking firm, Morgan & Co, said the gold coin was a welcome development in a market starved of investment options and will help investors hedge against inflation.

"For a long time, the market did not have many investment options and this is a new asset class," Matsika said.

"The thinking was inspired by the need to come up with an instrument that addresses the inflation problems in the economy where purchasing power has been eroded. From what we are gathering, this is going to be a store value."

Gold has certain fundamentals that help it hedge against inflation and geopolitical risk, he said, adding that the concept was not entirely new.

RTING 7:30 PM

-	GM SCHEDULE	00:30	Al Jazeera
WEDNESD		02:00	DWTV
WEDNESD	AY 29 June	02.00	
5:30	Uwanja wa Mazoezi		
6:00	HABARI	FRIDAY 1 J	
6:40	Kumekucha	5:30	Uwanja wa Mazoezi
7:30	HABARI	6:00 6:40	HABARI Kumekucha
8:00	Kumekucha Michezo	6:40 7:30	HABARI
8:55	Habari za saa	8:00	Kumekucha Michezo
9:00 9:30	Kumekucha Kishindo Soap: Uzalo	8:55	Habari za saa
9:55	Habari za saa	9:00	Kumekucha Kishindo
10:00	Watoto wetu	9:55	Habari za saa
10:25	Uchumi wetu	10:00	Watoto wetu
10:55	Habari za saa	10:30	Usafiri wako
11:00	The Base rpt	10:55 11:00	Habari za saa The Base rpt
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12:55	Habari za saa	12:30	Kipindi Maalum rpt: Tanesco
13:00	Dakika 45 rpt	12:55	Habari za saa
13:55	Habari za saa	13:00	Kipindi Maalum: Maisha ni Nyumba rpt
14:00	Kipindi maalum rpt: Watumishi Housing	13:30	Kipindi Maalum rpt: Sema na Mahakama ya TZ
14:15	Soap: I Plead Guilty	13:55 14:00	Habari za saa
14:55	Habari za saa	14:00	Kipindi Maalum rpt: Sema na Mahakama ya TZ Igizo rpt: Rebeca
15:00	Meza huru	14:55	Habari za saa
16:30 17:00	Watoto Wetu The Base	15:00	Meza Huru
18:00	Jiji Letu	16:30	Watoto Wetu
18:15	laizo: Mizenawe rot	17:00	The Base (DJ Show)
18:30	Jarida la wanawake	17:30	Kiislam
19:00	Kipindi Maalum: TMDA	18:00	Jiji Letu
19:30	Soap: Uzalo	18:15 18:30	Igizo: Mizengwe Uchumi wetu
20:00	Habari	19:00	Shamba lulu
21:05 21:10	Aibu Yako	19:30	Soap: Uzalo
21:10 21:40	Kipindi Maalum: Tanesco Ripoti Maalum	20:00	Habari
21:40	Soap: I Plead Guilty	21:05	Kipima Joto
23:00	Habari	23:00	Habari
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5:30	Uwanja wa Mazoezi	SATURDAY	2 July
6:00	HABARI	5:30	Uwanja wa Mazoezi
6:40	Kumekucha	6:00	HABARI
7:30	HABARI	6:40	Kumekucha
8:00	Kumekucha Michezo	7:00 8:00	Habari Al Jazeera
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10:30	Shamba lulu	11:10	Chetu ni chetu rpt
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18:00	Jiji Letu	21:40	Art and Lifestyle
18:15 18:45	Jagina Kipindi Maalum: Brela	22:10	ITV TOP 10
10:40	Usafiri wako	22:50	Hawavumi lakini wamo
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20:00	Habari	01:15	DWTV
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23:30	The Base	6:00	HABARI

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	Tamasha la Michezo
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	Matukio ya wiki
	Igizo: Rebeca Habari
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	Kipindi maalum: Reflexology
	Igizo: Mizengwe
	Mjue Zaidi Bongo movie:
	Soap: I Plead Guilty rpt
	Al jazeera
CA	PITAL
Sat 25 June	
08:00	Al jazeera
	Rev rpt
09:30	Turning the Spotlight rpt
	Culinary delight rpt
	Innovation rpt Out n'about rpt
	Sports Gazette rpt
12:00	Shamba Lulu rpt
	Our Earth rpt
	Business edition rpt Korean Drama rpt : Hwarang
	Telenovela rpt: Laws of love
17:15	Eco@Africa
	Bundesliga kick off
18:15 19:15	Capchat rpt Mizengwe
	The Decor
	Korean Drama: Hwarang
	Out n' About
21:30 23:00	Music : Club 101 rpt Series rpt: Lake Hill
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Sun 26 June 08:00	a Aljazeera
	In good shape
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	Sports Gazette rpt
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19:00	Cookery pgm: Culinary Delights
	Korean Drama: Hwarang 21:00
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09:00	Lete Raha (Via Capital Radio)
13:00	Telenovela rpt: Laws of love 14:00 Club 101 (via Capital Radio)
16:00	Series rpt: Lake Hill
16:30	Eco@Africa
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19:30	Shamba lulu
20:00	Series: Lake Hill
20:45	The Monday Agenda
21:30	Capital Prime News
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19:30	Cookery pgm: Culinary Delights

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Telenovela rpt: Laws Of love Al Jazeera

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Capchat live

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Canabat mi



E. African initiative seeks to tap bioeconomy potential

NAIROBI

THE East African Community on Friday unveiled its Regional Bioeconomy Strategy at the EAC Headquarters in Arusha, Tanzania. The strategy is aimed at making use of the region's abundant natural resources to develop the bioeconomy.

The strategy will offer an opportunity for partner states to achieve their individual aspirations, making use of the region's underutilized agricultural waste materials to produce value-added products with applications in many sectors including food, health, energy and industrial goods.

While unveiling the 2021/2022-2031/2032 strategy, Steven Mlote, EAC deputy secretary-general in charge of planning and infrastructure, said the strategy seeks to ensure the transformation of economies and place innova-

tion at the center of bio-based products and processes, with a bio-based circular economy as the organizing framework

"Today, more than 65 percent of the population in Eastern Africa depends on biological resources for food, energy, medicine and other uses.

They frequently use these biological resources in their raw form and dispose of significant portions as biological waste. There is therefore huge potential to add value to these biological resources through the development of a bioeconomy," Mlote said.

Sylvance Okoth, executive secretary of the East African Science and Technology Commission, said the bioeconomy strategy is aligned to expressed commitments to environmental sustainability, climate change adaptation and mitigation aimed at reversing unsustainable policies and practices.



The launch of the strategy is a result of the resolutions of the Second Eastern Africa Bioeconomy Conference held virtually in November.

The outcome of the conference was the adoption of the East Africa Regional Bioeconomy Strategy and the launch of an Eastern Africa Bioeconomy Observatory portal to serve as a knowledge repository and to enable monitoring of advances in bioeconomy in the region.

Among the key interventions proposed in the strategy are the creation of new forms of sustainable bioenergy and the conversion of

waste materials to useful products.

The EAC, made up of Burundi, Kenya, Rwanda, South Sudan, Tanzania, the Democratic Republic of the Congo and Uganda, has untapped biowaste material from the agroprocessing sector that could be used as building blocks for expanded utilization of bioprocesses and the growth of agro-industries.

However, the EAC secretariat said the dominance of the informal sector in countries in the region and a shortage of investment funds hamper the development and growth of significant bioprocessing initiatives.

Agencies

UK Foreign Secretary urges West not to show signs of fatigue over Ukraine

MADRID

THE West should not show signs of fatigue amid the Ukrainian crisis, UK Foreign Secretary Liz Truss said in an interview published in Spain's El Pais newspaper.

"There is a lot of support for Ukraine in Europe," the foreign secretary said, "I spoke with



ministers from the Group of Seven on Friday, and we all agree to give Ukraine all the support it needs and to strengthen sanctions against Russia."

"But in this crisis, the unity that has been shown has become very important," she added, "I ask you to maintain it (unity - TASS) and not to show signs of fatigue or a desire to give in."

According to Truss (pictured), NATO's response to the situation around Ukraine "should be to increase its presence [in eastern Europe] and make it more permanent". She also believes that Western troops "must prepare for all possible contingencies."

"We cannot have an unconvenient peace with Russia's continued presence in Ukraine," the minister argued, "I believe that all of Ukraine's territories have been illegally occupied. Ultimately, this is about what Ukrainians want."

Russian President Vladimir Putin said on February 24 that in response to a request by the heads of the Donbass republics he had made a decision to carry out a special military operation, after which the US, the EU, the UK, as well as some other states, imposed sanctions against Russian persons and legal entities. Agencies

Climate change is driving 2022 extreme heat and flooding

LONDON

EXTREME weather events - from scorching heatwaves to unusually heavy downpours - have caused widespread upheaval across the globe this year, with thousands of people killed and millions more displaced.

In the last three months, monsoon rains unleashed disastrous flooding in Bangladesh, and brutal heatwaves seared parts of South Asia and Europe. Meanwhile, prolonged drought has left millions on the brink of famine in East Africa.

Much of this, scientists say, is what's expected from climate change.

Yesterday, a team of climate scientists published a study in the journal Environmental Research: Climate. The researchers scrutinized the role climate change has viously had a 1 in 10 chance of oc-

affected an extreme event using computer simulations and weather observations

There are also large data gaps in many low- and middle-income countries, making it harder to understand what's happening in those regions, said co-author Friederike Otto, one of the climatologists leading the international research collaboration World Weather Attribution (WWA).

Heatwaves

With heatwaves, it's highly probable that climate change is making things worse.

"Pretty much all heatwaves across the world have been made more intense and more likely by climate change," said study co-author Ben Clarke, an environmental scientist at the University of Oxford.

In general, a heatwave that preplayed in individual weather events curring is now nearly three times



People wade through a flooded area following heavy monsoon rainfall in Companiganj on Sunday. AFP

46 people found dead inside 18-wheeler in Texas

HOUSTON

AT Least 46 people, believed to be undocumented migrants, on Monday were found dead inside an 18-wheel ractor-trailer in San Antonio, a major city in south central U.S. state Texas, authorities said.

Sixteen others, including 12 adults and four children, have been transported to area hospitals, with at least five of them reportedly in critical condition, according to San Antonio police and fire officials. The identity of the victims and their country of origin are not immediately clear.

Those who were found alive were hot to the touch and suffering from heat stroke and exhaustion, and there was no sign of water in the refrigerated tractor-trailer and no visible working air conditioning unit, San Antonio Fire Chief Charles Hood said. About 60 firefighters were on the scene.

Temperatures in San Antonio climbed to 101 degrees Fahrenheit (38.3 degrees centigrade) on Monday, while the heat in a packed trailer was likely way higher than that, according to the U.S. National Weather Service.

The U.S. National Association of Medical Examiners has recommended that bodies with a temperature of

over the past two decades.

The findings confirm warnings of how global warming will change our world - and also make clear what information is missing.

For heatwaves and extreme rainfall, "we find we have a much better understanding of how the intensity of these events is changing due to climate change," said study coauthor Luke Harrington, a climate scientist at Victoria University of Wellington.

Less understood, however, is how climate change influences wildfires and drought.

For their review paper, scientists drew upon hundreds of "attribution" studies, or research that aims to calculate how climate change as likely – and peaking at temperatures around 1 degree Celsius higher - than it would have been without climate change.

An April heatwave that saw the mercury climb above 50C (122 Fahrenheit) in India and Pakistan, for example, was made 30 times more likely by climate change, according to WWA.

Heatwaves across the Northern Hemisphere in June - from Europe to the United States - highlight "exactly what our review paper shows ... the frequency of heatwaves has gone up so much," Otto said.

Rainfall and flooding

Bangladesh was hit with a floodtriggering deluge.

Overall, episodes of heavy rainfall are becoming more common and more intense. That's because warmer air holds more moisture, so storm clouds are "heavier" be-

fore they eventually break. Still, the impact varies by region, with some areas not receiving enough rain, the study said.

Drought

Scientists have a harder time figuring out how climate change affects drought.

Some regions have suffered ongoing dryness. Warmer temperatures in the US West, for example, are melting the snowpack faster and driving evaporation, of New Mexico in April, after a

the study said. And while East African droughts have yet to be linked directly to climate change, scientists say the decline in the spring rainy season is tied to warmer waters in the Indian Ocean. This causes rains to fall rapidly over the ocean before reaching the Horn.

Wildfire

Heatwaves and drought conditions are also worsening wildfires, particularly megafires - those that burn more than 100,000 acres.

Fire raged across the US state

controlled burn set under "much drier conditions than recognized" got out of control, according to the US Forest Service. The fires burned 341,000 acres.

Tropical cyclones

On a global scale, the frequency of storms hasn't increased. However, cyclones are now more common in the central Pacific and North Atlantic, and less so in the Bay of Bengal, western North Pacific and southern Indian Ocean, the study said.

There is also evidence that tropical storms are becoming more intense and even stalling overland, where they can deliver more rain on a single area. Agencies

105 degrees Fahrenheit (40.6 degrees centigrade) or greater at the time of collapse be certified as heat-related deaths, local media said.

Three people are in police custody, but it's unclear if they are involved in the tragedy, San Antonio Police Chief William McManus told a briefing Monday night. Police received a call on Monday evening from a person working nearby, who heard a cry for help from the 18-wheeler in the southwest of the city, approached and saw bodies inside the trailer with its doors partially open, said McManus.

The U.S. Department of Homeland Security is leading an investigation on an alert by San Antonio police to "an alleged human smuggling event," a spokesperson from the U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement said Monday.

"There are, that we know of, 46 individuals who are no longer with us, who had families, who were likely trying to find a better life. And we have 16 folks who are fighting for their lives in the hospital," San Antonio Mayor Ron Nirenberg told the briefing.

"Migrants seeking asylum should always be treated as a humanitarian crisis, but this evening we're facing a horrific human tragedy," he tweeted earlier.

Texas Republican Governor Greg Abbott, who is seeking a second reelection in November, on Monday night slammed U.S. President Joe Biden for the tragedy, tweeting: "These deaths are on Biden.

They are a result of his deadly open border policies." In 2017, 10 migrants died in a packed truck carrying 39 people in San Antonio in summer. In 2003, 19 migrants were found in a sweltering truck southeast of the city.

Xinhua

Sri Lanka to ration fuel by issuing token numbers amid severe shortage

COLOMBO

SRI LANKA's Minister of Power and Energy Kanchana Wijesekera has said that fuel filling stations across the country would issue tokens for consumers from Monday as only limited stocks of fuel were available.

Speaking to journalists in Colombo, Wijese-

kera said that the assistance of the Sri Lankan army and police had been sought and token numbers would be given to the public to fill petrol and diesel as only limited quantities were available.

The public was requested to register their mobile numbers at their nearest filling stations and once their numbers were issued, they would be notified.

Wijesekera said that the date of the arrival of the next fuel shipments in the county was unsure, but added that two ministers would leave for Russia on Monday to discuss fuel imports from Russia and other related matters. Sri Lankan motorists have been queueing up outside fuel stations for weeks as the coun-

try faces its worst-ever economic crisis leading to a shortage in essentials including fuel.

Sri Lanka's two fuel distributors Ceylon Petroleum Corporation and Lanka IOC announced on Sunday that they have increased fuel prices, the fourth time the country has raised fuel prices this year

Xinhua

Tokyo heatwave worst since 1875 as power supply creaks under strain

TOKYO

JAPAN baked under scorching temperatures for a fourth successive day yesterday, as the capital's heat broke nearly 150-year-old records for June and authorities warned power supply remained tight enough to raise the spectre of cuts.

A high of 36 C was predicted for Tokyo yesterday, after three successive days of temperatures topping 35 C - the worst streak of hot weather in June since records began in 1875.

Cases of hospitalization from heatstroke rose early in the day, with many in the capital continue to flout government advice by continuing to wear face masks outdoors - a legacy of more than two years of the COVID-19 pandemic.

For a second day, authorities asked consumers in the Tokyo area to conserve electricity to avoid a looming power cut.

The heatwave comes less than two weeks before a national election in which surging prices - including electricity - are rated the top concern for voters in opinion polls that show the government's approval rating slipping.

As of 9:00 am local time (0000 GMT), 13 people had been taken to hospital with suspected heatstroke, Fuji News Network said.

At least two people are believed to have died from heatstroke, media said, prompting authorities to moderate their calls for power saving.

"Apparently there are some elderly people who have turned off their air conditioners because we are asking people to save energy, but please - it's this hot - don't hesitate about cooling off," trade and industry minister Koichi Hagiuda told a news conference. The government warned on Monday that reserve generating capacity could drop below 5 percent on Tuesday afternoon, close to the minimum of 3 percent that ensures stable supply, in Tokyo and eight surrounding prefectures. Reserve capacity below 3 percent risks power shortages and blackouts.

Government offices on Monday including the Ministry of Economy, Trade and Industry (METI) - turned off some lights in the afternoon and evening, with METI halting use of 25 percent of elevators in its building.

Around 21 percent of respondents

conditioners helped them beat the heat, with staying hydrated in the top slot at 53 percent. Only 12 percent said they had stopped wearing face masks despite government guidelines that they no longer need to be worn outside.

Though expected to do well in the July 10 election for the upper house of parliament, Prime Minister Fumio Kishida's ruling party faces headwinds from rising prices, worsened by a slide in the value of the yen that makes imports more costly.

The Kishida cabinet's approval to a Yahoo Japan survey said using air came to 50 percent in a voter survey

conducted by public broadcaster NHK on June 24-26, down from 55 percent last week.



At least two people are believed to have died from heatstroke, media said, prompting authorities to moderate their calls for power saving



WORLD NEWS

Guardian

Conflict, climatic shocks deteriorate overall humanitarian situation in Ethiopia - UNOCHA

ADDIS ABABA

THE cumulative impact of ongoing conflict and climatic shocks are deteriorating the overall humanitarian situation in Ethiopia, the UN Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (UNOCHA) has warned.

"The overall humanitarian situation in Ethiopia has significantly deteriorated since the beginning of the year leading to increased humanitarian needs across the country," the UNOCHA said in its periodic humanitarian situation for Ethiopia issued Monday.

It said the collective impact of ongoing conflict and violence, climatic shocks such as the prolonged drought and more recently floods constitute the main triggers of such a rise.

More than 29 million people were estimated in need of humanitarian assistance and protection at the beginning of 2022, compared to 23.5 million people at the beginning of 2021, and 8.4 million people in 2020, according to figures from the UNOCHA.It further said nearly three-quarters of the people in need this year are women and children.

The UNOCHA said in conflict-affected parts of northern Ethiopia, the humanitarian situation continues to be dire with high needs across various sectors, including high levels of food insecurity and malnutrition.

According to the UNOCHA, the East African country is experiencing one of the most severe droughts in the last 40 years following four consecutive failed rainy seasons, eventually pushing an increasing number of people into an alarming situation.

Most recent forecasts project that the October-to-December season will also be below average, setting the stage for an unprecedented fifth failed rainy season, it said.

The climatic shock has compromised already fragile livelihoods heavily reliant on livestock, most of which have died, and deepening food insecurity and malnutrition, the UNOCHA said.

"People living in these same areas have barely managed to recuperate from the severe drought in 2017 followed by an unprecedented desert locust infestation, which further deteriorated vegetation, to witness again such harsh conditions, the first signs of which started appearing toward the end of 2020," the situation update read.

It said at least 8 million people in Ethiopia's Somali, Oromia, Southern Nations Nationalities and Peoples' (SNNP) and South-West regions are currently affected by the drought, warning that the figure is under review and it is expected to increase once an assessment of new areas affected by the drought is completed, including in Afar.

According to the latest UN data, more than 2.1 million livestock have died, while at least 22 million are at risk and are very weak and emaciated with no or little milk production, the main source of nutrition for children.

In some areas, drought is also compounded with violence, including in southern Oromia region due to conflict and in the Somali region due to inter-communal conflicts, exacerbating previous humanitarian needs and hindering access to hundreds of thousands of people in need of assistance, the UNOCHA said.

THE international community is being called upon to give assistance to Afghanistan as recent drought, a conflict-induced economic crisis, and now an earthquake, exacerbate its people's hardship.

The call came as Chinese aid supplies landed in the country's capital with experts urging the United States to unfreeze funds belonging to Afghanistan.

A devastating 5.9-magnitude earthquake hit southeastern Afghanistan on June 22, claiming more than 1,000 lives and injuring almost 2,000 others. Tens of thousands of homes were destroved.

Since the disaster, the Talibanrun administration in Afghanistan has called for international assistance amid ongoing rescue operations. Neighboring countries including China, Pakistan and Iran showed no hesitation in giving timely aid to the Afghans.

On the night of June 27, the first batch of earthquake relief supplies donated by the Chinese government arrived at Kabul International Airport and was handed over to the Afghan side.

According to Chinese Ambassador to Afghanistan Wang Yu, the Chinese government decided to provide 50 million yuan (\$7.5 million) in emergency humanitarian assistance supplies to Afghanistan, and the first batch of supplies included tents, folding beds and blankets.

Six more Chinese aircraft would deliver relief supplies in the next three days, he said, adding that all food supplies China had promised in assistance to Afghanistan had arrived earlier.

The Taliban government's Acting Minister of State for Disaster Management and Humanitarian Affairs, Ghulam Ghaws Naseri, thanked China for expressing its condolences and offering emergency assistance supplies immediately after the earthquake, saying this showed the longtime friendship between the people of



Haji Mirza, a shopkeeper in Taimani area's central market in Kabul, is worried about how his business will sustain in the face of acute economic crisis in the country. ICRC

the two countries.

The US, meanwhile, is being widely criticized, as even at this juncture it has not unfrozen around \$9.5 billion of Afghanistan central bank assets, most of which is held in the Federal Reserve Bank of New York.

"In these testing times, we call on the United States to release Afghanistan's frozen assets and lift sanctions on Afghan banks so that aid agencies could easily deliver assistance to Afghanistan," Amir Khan Muttaqi, foreign minister of Afghanistan's Taliban-led caretaker government, told media in Kabul on June 25.

In an interview with Reuters, the Taliban government's foreign ministry spokesman Abdul Qahar Balkhi also said, "The Islamic Emirate is asking the world to give the Afghans their most basic right, which is their right to life, and that is through lifting the sanctions and unfreezing our assets and also giving assistance.'

Imtiaz Gul, executive director of the Center for Research and Security Studies in Pakistan, told China Daily, "This is indeed unfortunate that Afghanistan has no access to its critical assets in times of urgent needs largely because of political limitations of the Biden administration."

Salman Bashir, a former Pakistani ambassador to China, told China Daily that he truly hopes "the US will reconsider and unfreeze Afghanistan funds", especially to enable assistance to the earthquake victims.

"Humanitarian catastrophe warrants a humane and generous response," he said. In February, Biden signed an executive order to re-

We should respond to people' s concerns,

lease \$7 billion in Afghan assets frozen in the US, dividing taken a hard hit. "I am always thinking it between funding humanitarian relief in Afghanistan about how to support my family of six and creating a fund to compensate victims of the Sept 11, 2001, terror attacks

White House Press Secretary Karine Jean-Pierre said on June 25, "We are urgently working to address complicated questions about the use of these funds to ensure they benefit the people of Afghanistan and not the Taliban."

A UN envoy last week stressed the need to engage the Taliban, the de facto authorities in Afghanistan, despite difficulties

A deepening economic crisis, fueled by decades of conflict, is affecting the people of Afghanistan on many different levels. After the Taliban took control of the country in August, various international donors immediately suspended non-humanitarian funding that constituted around 70 percent of the government's expenditure.

Compounding the impact of this dire situation, the country has been hit by one of the worst droughts in recent years, significantly reducing food crops and water supplies in many parts.

Ahmad Siar, a truck driver in Kabul, has been without a contract for many months. He complains about unemployment and the spiking food prices. "Earlier my family could afford to eat a good meal at least once a week, but now we barely manage a good meal once a month," he said.

The truck driver shared that his mental health has

children. This is not only about me but all Afghans," he said.

Between January and June, more than 7,000 most vulnerable families (56,000 individuals) across Afghanistan have been assisted by the International Committee of the Red Cross in Afghanistan through multi-purpose cash grants to meet their basic family needs

"We also helped around 11,000 drought-affected farmers' households to resume farming activities," the ICRC said in a statement. "Many of them were forced to stop farming for some time as they had to flee their homes because of violence."

The ICRC has served the people of Afghanistan for more than 40 years and is working across the country together with the Afghan Red Crescent Society

In addition, the ICRC launched a cash-for-work project in Gulbahar, providing short-term employment and income-generating opportunities for the most vulnerable people.

Xinhua

US Supreme Court endorses football coach's on-field prayers

According to the UNOCHA, the East

district, which suspended Kennedy in 2015 after he repeatedly defied THE US Supreme Court, in the lat- directions from officials to stop the



African country is experiencing one of the most severe droughts in the last 40 years failed rainy seasons, eventually pushing an increasing number of people into an alarming situation

Continued arms supplies from US to Ukraine increase threat of further escalation – envoy

WASHINGTON

CONTINUED weapons deliveries from Washington to Kiev only tighten the conflict spiral and heighten the threat of the further aggravation with unpredictable consequences, Russian Ambassador to the US Anatoly Antonov said on Monday.



"The reckless and unanswered flooding of Ukraine with arms only tightens the conflict spiral and increases the threat of the further escalation with unpredictable consequences," the Russian Embassy's Telegram channel quoted him as saying.

"However, Washington's ruling circles, blinded by the idea to weaken Russia, are still not capable to rationally assess the whole danger of their moves," the envoy added.

"The administration increases the supplies of weapons to Kiev. If previously they were delivering MPADS and ATGMs, now it's on to heavy artillery, MLRS and, by all appearances, air defense systems," he noted.

The diplomat emphasized that additionally, the US shares intelligence data with the Ukrainian side and consults as to "how to act on the battlefield." "Essentially, with its provocative moves the US is pushing the Kiev regime to commit mass murders of civilians.

Additionally, here they are condoning the continued deployment of US mercenaries to Ukraine," he added. "Such a policy creates additional risks in relations between the largest nuclear powers," the ambassador emphasized.

On February 24, Russian President Vladimir Putin said in a televised address that in response to a request by the heads of the Donbass republics he had made a decision to carry out a special military operation in order to protect people "who have been suffering from abuse and genocide by the Kiev regime for eight years."

Following this, the US and its allies announced the introduction of sweeping sanctions against Russia and stepped up arms deliveries to Kiev.

pursue the larger interests of all countries, and steer global development to a new era to deliver benefit to

> Chinese President Xi Jinping at the opening ceremony of the BRICS Business Forum BRICS

all.



Asylum applications in EU last year up a third from 2020

BRUSSELS

THE European Union received 648,000 applications last year for international protection, a third more than in 2020, its asylum agency EUAA said yesterday, with Syrians and Afghans the main groups of applicants.

In addition, the bloc received about 3.4 million requests for temporary protection from those fleeing conflict in Ukraine.

The EUAA said altogether about

6 million people ran from the Russian special military operation for the EU, though many have since returned.

Applications by Syrians and Afghans numbered 117,000 and 102,000 respectively, followed by nationals of Iraq, Pakistan, Turkey and Bangladesh, the agency said in a report. The main destinations were France, Germany, Italy and Spain.

Half of all applicants were aged between 18 and 34, while about 70

percent were male. Nearly three in 10 applications came from minors and four percent of all requests were from unaccompanied minors.

The EU granted about 185,000 people asylum or subsidiary protection, with Eritreans securing the highest such rate, at 81 percent, and Georgians the lowest, at 3 percent. Nearly 770,000 decisions were still pending, the agency added.

Agencies

est in a spate of decisions expanding religious liberty, ruled on Monday that a Washington state public school district violated the rights of a Christian high school football coach who was suspended for refusing to stop leading prayers with players on the field after games.

Broadening the religious rights of government employees, the justices sided with Joseph Kennedy, who until 2015 served as a part-time assistant football coach in the city of Bremerton and has since become a cause celebre for conservative Christian activists. The court's conservative justices were in the majority in the 6-3 ruling, with its liberal members dissenting.

The decision, authored by Justice Neil Gorsuch, held that Kennedy's actions were protected by his rights under the US Constitution's First Amendment, which protects free speech and religious expression.

Gorsuch rejected the local school district's concerns that in a public school setting Kennedy's prayers and Christian-infused speeches could be seen as coercive to students or a governmental endorsement of a particular religion in violation of the First Amendment's so-called establishment clause.

Powered by its increasingly assertive conservative justices, the court in recent years has expanded individual and corporate religious rights while narrowing the separation between church and state. The ruling was another victory for the court's conservatives, following Friday's decision overturning the 1973 Roe v. Wade precedent that had legalized abortion nationwide.

"Respect for religious expressions is indispensable to life in a free and diverse republic - whether those expressions take place in a sanctuary or on a field, and whether they manifest through the spoken word or a bowed head," Gorsuch wrote. The justices overturned a lower

court's ruling siding with the school

post-game prayers while on duty and rebuffed their offers for him to use private locations in the school as an alternative.

"This is just so awesome. All I've ever wanted was to be back on the field with my guys," Kennedy said in a statement issued by First Liberty Institute, a conservative religious rights group that helped represent him.

Rachel Laser, president of Americans United for Separation of Church and State, which represented the school district, said the Supreme Court has "continued its assault on church-state separation" driven by the interests of conservative Christians.

"As the network of religious extremists and their political allies behind this case celebrate victory, we can expect them to try to expand this dangerous precedent - further undermining everyone's right to live as ourselves and believe as we choose," Laser added.

Gorsuch said that the district's "reprisal" against Kennedy "rested on a mistaken view that it had a duty to ferret out and suppress religious observances even as it allows comparable secular speech. The Constitution neither mandates nor tolerates that kind of discrimination."

The decision appeared to formally overrule a 1971 precedent that had outlined how to determine if a government has violated the establishment clause.

'A disservice'

In dissent, liberal Justice Sonia Sotomayor said the court was again giving "short shrift" the establishment clause when weighed against individual rights.

"This decision does a disservice to schools and the young citizens they serve, as well as to our nation's longstanding commitment to the separation of church and state," Sotomayor added.

SPORTS

Sending team to Qatar to study World Cup hosting a clear case of misplaced ambitions

By Correspondent Michael Eneza

REPORTS during the Budget sessions of the legislature say that Tanzania is sending a team of sports department officials to learn from the 2022 World Cup finals hosts, Qatar, ahead of the kick-off in November.

There was also talk of Tanzania being allotted several temporary employment places as many service attendants will be needed during the soccer jamboree held every four years. By the way, the world soccer federation, FIFA, during the past year floated the idea of biennial finals, but it failed.

The reason for sending such a team was to see at close range what it takes to organize a major tournament - with an obvious implication that Tanzania may use such perception concerning regional and even some international tournaments

It may not be altogether a bad idea, but is it helpful to study Qatar 2022 to organize a final tournament for the Africa Cup of Nations?

Such experience ought to have been sought where the last finals were being organized, so Qatar is relevant if we wish to bid to host any future World Cup finals, as such an event is at least 30 years away, and current learners will not help us conduct it.

The difficulty that a casual observer meets with that suggestion is figuring out at what point Tanzania organizes a world event where such experience is instructive, first in terms of facilities and then our ability to participate substantially in such a tournament.

Tanzania is still a rank outsider in the routine run to reach the African Nations Cup finals, our last participation coming close to 40 years from the earlier qualification.

Minister for Culture, Arts and Sports, Mohamed Mchenge

routinely failed to put up a proper Games squad for the Olympics, the Commonwealth Games, or other athletics competitions.

In the past two or three months, pundits were astonished to learn that Tanzania had failed to assemble an athletics team for an international meet in Nairobi, a few hours' drive from our athletics capital, Arusha.

With a little spending cash for the participants, a team assembled at the right time could easily have been packed in a Noah for the Nairobi trip, and even within Arusha they could have brought together a competitive side, but that did not happen.

That is why seeking experience on how to organize a mammoth international tournament like the World Cup finals is a big misfit for Tanzania, it is nowhere near there.

The issue is why there is a clear disconnect between the need to assemble teams for international competitions in a regular manner, and coming up with an idea of learning how to host huge events like the World Cup finals.

It is like a child trying to run before she can even walk, or sad she is not running the same day as she starts to walk, as it is true Tanzania has organized some competitions but our level of participation in global events is abysmally poor.

We should be learning how to nurture teams for field and track events, from the end of one international competition to the start of the next one, to be appreciated.

It is not an exaggeration that officials at a higher level of a sports organization, especially the Tanzania Olympic Committee, are not preoccupied with such issues but routine matters of attending meetings, holding elections to fill such posts to attend meetings, etc.

Tied to those meetings is an occasional disbursement of funds to develop this or that sport, which definitely will go to the field, as an aspect Things are much worse when one of empowerment here or there, but without working systems from the turns to look at athletics, as we have grassroots, leaving athletes to nurture themselves as it were a poor

proposition, especially with a depreciating currency and stagnant incomes.

Even concerning soccer, as Qatar is about soccer and not a generalized sports bonanza, our ranking in African football does not warrant ambitions to hold the continental finals.

The pride that takes officials to such learning trips has little backing on the national side but the oftrepeated claim that Simba SC is one of the top 10 best clubs in the continent.

Now it is scaled down to one among the best 15 clubs or so. The summary joke is therefore something like 'Tanzania has one among the 15 most successful clubs in Africa, so it is seeking to learn how to organize the World Cup finals,' right?

It sounds definitely like a big joke, and thus the sports organizers will be there on a holiday financed either by budget funds or taken from FIFA disbursements, instead of doing something more profitable and sustainable with that money.

And it would similarly be interesting to know how the ministry paymaster preparing its budget estimates for the coming financial year categorized the learning trip item as part of the 'development' vote or if it was indeed assigned its rightful place in ministerial expenditure, as part of privileges, listed as 'other charges.'

Special Olympics Tanzania conducts screening for athletes

By Correspondent Joseph Mchekadona

MORE than 30 Special Olympics athletes from Dar es Salaam's Al Muntazir Special Education Needs were screened on Friday by Special Olympics Tanzania (SOT).

Leadership Programs (ALPS), Healthy Athletes and Community, Young Athletes and Activation, Family Health Forum, Unified Sports, Champion Schools, and Refugee Camps Programs.

He said the screening will also

for the screening of our Special Olympic athletes, this is not the first time that we are conducting it, we did it in Temeke, Dar es Salaam and Nyarugusu Refugee Camp it helps teachers, guardians, and in Kigoma and we will continue parents to know if children have conducting the screens," he said.

have many challenges which are unnoticeable but with regular screening they can be detected.

"The screening is very good as other issues, I thank SOT for the

census awareness campaign, which was conducted by the Youth Wing's secretary-general Kenan Kihongosi, at Mwembe Yanga venue in the city recently. PHOTO: CORRESPONDENT SABATO KASIKA

Prisons FC plots Ruvu Shooting downfall

TANZANIA Prisons FC's assistant coach,

The tie, slated for today at Mabatini Stadium at

given it will decide the Mbeya side's fate in the battle to avoid relegation to the Championship.

in the encounter to maintain their place in the next season's top flight.

Both Tanzania Prisons FC and Ruvu Shooting are languishing in the top flight's relegation zone, with the latter sitting 13th with 31 points.

Tanzania Prisons is placed 14th with 29 points, trailing the Coast Region squad by two points after participating in 29 matches.

The other 14 teams will as well take the pitch in various stadia across the country to wind up 2021/22 NBC Premier League.

Mtupa's worries hinge on results that Biashara United, now sitting 15th, will notch in its tie

against Azam FC. By Correspondent Cheji Bakari, Tanga If Biashara United defeats Azam FC, while

Shabani Mtupa, has revealed his outfit treats a 2021/22 NBC Premier League clash, which will see it confronts Ruvu Shooting, as final.

Mlandizi, Coast Region, is one of the top-flight's final round clashes.

Mtupa noted his club will give its all in the duel,

The tactician stated both teams need a victory

playoffs with any outfit which will finish in the top flight's playoffs' zone, should it remain in its current place.

Should Prisons FC garner victory over Ruvu Shooting, the achievement will assure the former of its place in the next season's Premier League. Prisons FC is further facing the risk of battling it out in the relegation/promotion

Premier League

In an interview with The Guardian, Mtupa said Prisons' 1-0 win over Simba SC in last weekend top-flight due held at Sokoine Stadium in Mbeya gave his players confidence ahead of

Prisons goes down to Ruvu Shooting, the results

will mean the Mbeya squad will join bottom-

placed Mbeya Kwanza FC to bid farewell to the

today's match, which promises to be tough. He said: "I feel this game stands to be tough for our side because either squad needs good results to remain in the next season's Premier League.'

Mtupa stressed: "Henceforth all our thoughts target to make sure we get victory over Ruvu Shooting."

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SPORT

Salim Abdallah calls for patience among Simba SC members, supporters

By Correspondent Ismail Tana

SIMBA SC's Board of Directors Chairman, Salim Abdallah, has asked the club's members and supporters to calm down as the time will come when the outfit will introduce players whose registration has been completed.

The official stressed the Msimbazi Street club's signings will be a surprise to the members and fanatics, as opposed to an approach used by the club's age-old rival, Yanga.

Simba has been silent since announcing Zambian attacker Moses Phiri from Zanaco FC as the former's new signing.

It was not the case with the club for the past seasons. Abdallah said the registration period opens on July 1 and will run up to August 31 so there are surprises for his club's fanatics.

The official said there are a lot of issues concerning the side that are talked about on social media but Simba's leaders are working for the interests of their club.

He said they could not rush into signing footballers, adding all they have done is track Phiri carefully before they sealed an agreement with him.

Abdallah disclosed: "Let's finish the league and we will do the registration exercise, we don't have a coach at the moment, when he comes we will keep you informed as we did during Phiri's arrival."

He said this season his squad has lost the three trophies it was holding, noting it is part of the game so the management is developing the most competitive team for next season to regain the outfit's prestige at home and in African club competitions.

Simba SC managed a quarterfinal berth in the 2021/22 CAF Confederation Cup after crashing out of CAF Champions League's Second Preliminary Round stage.

Meanwhile, Simba SC's Senegalese midfielder Pape Ousmane Sakho has thanked the outfit's fans for the love they have shown him since joining the club at the start of this season.

Sakho has expressed his gratitude via his Instagram page while urging the fans to continue to be patient in this period in which Simba SC has finished the season without lifting silverware in Mainland Tanzania showdowns.

The midfielder has promised fans that next season will be a happy one for the squad, as he believes it will fight to regain the top-flight top honour.

Sakho wrote: "The season is coming to an end, I take this opportunity to say thank you Simba SC fans for all your efforts, to encourage me with the love and support you have given me from the beginning."

The midfielder revealed: "You were always there in difficult and happy times, you were strong and mighty, brave even when things went wrong."

"We will come back stronger to make you smile again, just know that I love you with all my heart and I will never forget the love that this great team gave me, see you soon."

Sakho was signed by Simba SC earlier this season from Senegal Premier League club Teungueth FC.



We will come back stronger to make you smile again, just know that I love you with all my heart and I will never forget the love that this great team gave me, see you soon

The event involved volunteers who are studying medicine at the Kairuki, Muhimbili, and Kampala universities and the athletes were screened on opening eyes and med fest.

Speaking at the event, Charles Rays, the SOT Director, said the screening that was sponsored by Golisano Foundation is part of his association's initiatives.

He mentioned other SOT initiatives such as Athletes

help parents and guardians of the athletes to know and discover some of the health challenges their children encounter.

The SOT Director also disclosed that the screening involves medical student volunteers as the country targets to have 500 medical doctors that are more knowledgeable on how to work with people with intellectual disabilities in their communities. "Today (Friday) we are here

thanked Rays Golisano Foundation for the support, saying the foundation strives for inclusive health for people with intellectual disabilities.

Al Muntazir's Head of Special Education Needs, Zahida Changani, thanked SOT for the screening, describing it as beneficial to special needs athletes and their teachers, parents, and guardians.

She said special needs athletes

screening," she said. She said Al Muntazir Special Education Needs is very active and recently its five athletes competed in the Special Olympics Championships which were held in Mwanza.

Special Olympics is a global organization that serves athletes with intellectual disabilities working with hundreds of thousands of volunteers and coaches each year.



One of Yanga's supporters displays a banner praising the club for clinching the 2021/22 NBC Premier League trophy. The outfit held the trophy parade in Dar es Salaam on Sunday, having received it after taking on Mbeya City FC in the top-flight match that took place in Mbeya on Saturday and ended in a 1-1 draw. PHOTO: CORRESPONDENT JUMANNE JUMA

SPORTS

Guardian

Even Djokovic knew he wasn't at his best in Wimbledon debut

WIMBLEDON, England

NOVAK Djokovic's play was not particularly, well, Djokovic-esque, at Wimbledon on Monday.

Even he acknowledged as much.

He got broken early and trailed 3-1 as he began his bid for a fourth consecutive championship and seventh overall at the grass-court Grand Slam tournament. He recovered to take that set, then dropped the next. He slipped and fell to the grass. He accumulated more unforced errors than his opponent. Maybe he was a bit under the weather; he grabbed tissues from a black box on the sideline and blew his nose. Maybe he was simply a bit off, not having played a match that mattered in nearly a full month.

This, though, is the top-seeded Djokovic, and there's a reason he extended his winning streak at the All England Club to 22, and his career victory total there to 80 making him the first player in tennis history with at least that many at each major – by beating Kwon Soon-woo of South Korea 6-3, 3-6, 6-3, 6-4 at Centre Court under the retractable roof.

And there's a reason that friends of the wife of Kwon's coach, Daniel Yoo, held up decorated signs in a player guest box bearing Korean messages that Yoo said meant "Fight!" and "Don't get hurt!"

So Kwon walked on court jittery. But after just two games, the 81st-ranked Kwon said through Yoo's translation, "I felt like, 'Oh, this is doable. ... I can hang with him a little bit.'

With the exception of a loss for No. 7 seed Hubert Hurkacz, a semifinalist at the All England Club a year ago, Day 1 signaled a fairly routine return to pre-pandemic normal, with capacity crowds, zero masks, the Wimbledon Queue in full effect and, of course, on-and-off-and-on-again showers.

Hurkacz, coming off a grass title over the weekend, lost 7-6 (4), 6-4, 5-7, 2-6, 7-6 (10-8) to Alejandro Davidovich Fokina in a match that featured Wimbledon's new final-set format: women's third sets and men's fifth sets that get to 6-all will go to a first-to-10and-win-by-two tiebreaker.

That might as well be called the John Isner Rule, owing to the American's 70-68 fifth-set victory over Nicolas Mahut in 2010 and 26-24 fifth-set loss to Kevin Anderson in 2018, both at Wimbledon, both before the

tournament adopted deciding-set tiebreakers.

On Monday, Isner was back on Court 18, the site of the Mahut marathon, and smacked 54 aces in a 6-7 (6), 7-6 (3), 4-6, 6-3, 7-5 victory over Enzo Couacaud. Isner's next match figures to be held at a bigger court, because he'll be facing Andy Murray, who has won two of his three major championships at Wimbledon.

Murray's 4-6, 6-3, 6-2, 6-4 win over James Duckworth came at Centre Court and followed another triumph there by a British major title winner, reigning U.S. Open champ Emma Raducanu.

"From the moment I walked out through those gates, I could really just feel the energy and the support and everyone was behind me from the word 'go," the 19-yearold Raducanu said after defeating Alison Van Uytvanck 6-4, 6-4. "I just really tried to cherish every single point out there. Played every point like it could have been one of my last on that court."

Djokovic, a 35-year-old from Serbia, had not played since losing to rival Rafael Nadal in the French Open quarterfinals and it seemed to show. Kwon's piercing, flat groundstrokes and soft drop shots were effective for stretches.

"I did not start, or did not play, at my best," said Djokovic, whose 20 Grand Slam trophies are tied with Roger Federer for the second-most in men's tennis history behind Nadal's 22. "But I think when I needed to find the right shots, I did. I think (my) serve got me out of trouble in some decisive moments. I know I can do better.'

Keep in mind, too, that this might very well be Djokovic's last major event of this season – and for 11 more months, until the 2023 French Open.

As things stand, he will not be allowed into the United States as a foreigner who hasn't gotten his COVID-19 shots and must miss the U.S. Open, which begins in August. He also could end up sitting out a second consecutive Australian Open because he is unvaccinated – a status he said Saturday he would not consider changing.

After Monday's match, Djokovic said he's not thinking ahead to New York at the moment but added: "I'm hoping some things can change and that I'll be able to go and compete. I would want to.'

AP

Mane signing eases pressure on Bayern to keep wantaway stars

Female referee at men's World Cup wants the game to shine

TOKYO

JAPANESE referee Yoshimi Yamashita agrees with Pelé or whoever it was decades ago that first described soccer as the "beautiful game."

Yamashita is one of three women picked by FIFA to be referees at the men's World Cup in Qatar, which opens on Nov. 21. It's the first time a woman will be in charge on soccer's largest stage.

She sees her job this way: Let the game shine, as it should.

"One of the big goals as a referee is to bring out the the attractiveness of soccer," she said Monday in Tokyo in an interview with the Associated Press. "I do my best for that, and I will do what I should at that time toward that end. So if I need to communicate with the players, I will do that. If I need to show a card, I will show a card. Rather than control, I'm thinking about what to do toward the big goal of bringing out the appeal of soccer.'

Stéphanie Frappart of France and Salima Mukansanga of Rwanda are the other women who were selected. There are 36 referees in total. FIFA has also named three female assistant referees in a pool of 69: Neuza Back of Brazil, Karen Diaz Medina of Mexico, and Kathryn Nesbitt of the United States.

Though it's likely all three will be in charge of games, it's not a given. They would also be used as so-called "fourth referees" on the sidelines. However, they cannot be used as assistants.



Yoshimi Yamashita of Japan, one of three women picked to be head referees at the men's soccer World Cup, works out at a gym on Monday, June 27, 2022, at JFA YUME Field in Chiba, near Tokyo. (AP Photo)

"Each match official will be carefully monitored in the next months with a final assessment on technical, physical and medical aspects to be made shortly before the World Cup," Massimo Busacca, FIFA's director of refereeing, said in a statement.

Yamashita's selection puts the focus on Japan's low ranking on most measures of equal pay for women, and in global studies of gender equality.

Only 14.3% of the seats in Japan's national legislature are held by women - 152nd of 190 countries in a study published several months ago by the U.S. Congressional Research Service. Another study on the gender pay gap placed Japan 120th of 156 countries.

"I would be very happy if women could play an active role in sports in this way, and if sports and especially soccer could lead this," Yamashita said. "In Japan, there is still a long way to go in the world of soccer (regarding participation of women), so it would be great if this could connect to promotion of female participation in different ways, not only in soccer or in sports.'

Women's soccer has led the way in Japan. Japanese women won the 2011 women's World Cup, were runners-up in 2015, and have been been consistently among the game's elite teams.

Yamashita went through a workout on Monday just outside Tokyo, sweltering in temperatures that reached 35 C (95 F). She laughed

when she was reminded that games in Qatar - located on a tip of the Arabian Peninsula – will be much cooler, being played in the Northern Hemisphere winter and in air-conditioned stadiums.

Yamashita seemed relaxed during the interview, removed from the obvious pressure. She has been a referee in Japan's men's J League, and has also been in charge of the Asian equivalent of the men's Champions League. She also handled matches during last year's Tokyo Olympics.

"Of course, I think the pressure is huge," she said, "and I think I have a lot of responsibility. But I am really happy to take this duty and pressure, so I try to take it positively and I try to be happy."

She described the excitement of leaving the waiting room just before a match.

"I guess it cheers me up in that moment. I feel like that's when I switch gears the most," she said.

She said the difference in the men's and women's game was, of course, speed. But not simply that some men might run faster.

"It's the speed, but not just the players' speed," she said. "Not the ball speed. It's just the game speed. It means for me I have to make quicker decisions - more speed."

Yamashita conducted most of the interview in Japanese, but said she would use English and "facial gestures, body gestures" when communicating with players in Qatar.

"Usually when I give a card, I say nothing," she said, shifting to English. "But when I give a warning, I just tell them I'm not happy. They understand."

Ten Hag begins work at Man United on back foot as rivals get transfers done early

By Mark Ogden, Senior Writer, ESPN FC

ERIK ten Hag was always facing a tough start to his role as Manchester United manager, but it's unlikely that the former Ajax coach would have expected to start preseason training with a squad weaker than the one which posted the club's worst Premier League season last term.

But as Ten Hag, 52, and his players (minus United's internationals) got down to business on the first day of training at Carrington on Monday, Ten Hag was already playing catch-up with



competitive fixtures. New tactics can be tried out on the training pitch and in warm-up games and players have the time to gel with new teammates and build up an understanding. And while summer tours all over the globe can be punishing in terms of travel and fatigue, the value of being away in camp for 2-3 weeks means that relationships can be forged before the real action starts in August.

Completing transfer business early also matters for players off the pitch. While fans often only see what a player does on the field, that is only a fraction

SADIO Mane's transfer from Liverpool to Bayern Munich is a coup for the Bundesliga champions, who have signed a ready-made replacement for either wantaway striker Robert Lewandowski or winger Serge Gnabry.

Mane, 30, arrives in Munich on a three-year contract with sufficient star status to enhance Bayern's attack.

"Often it's the other way around, but this time a Bundesliga club has signed a top Premier League player," German magazine Kicker commented last week.

The Senegal forward reportedly cost the German giants around £35 million (41 million euros, \$43 million), only slightly less than the sum Liverpool paid for him in 2016.

Crucially for Bayern, Mane can replace either Lewandowski, who insists his Munich "story has come to an end" as he eyes a move to Barcelona, or Gnabry, who is stalling over signing a contract extension.

In six years on Merseyside, Mane led Liverpool's transformation under Jurgen Klopp from Premier League also-rans into serious contenders for major trophies.

One of Klopp's first major signings, Mane won a clean sweep of Champions League, Premier League, FA Cup, League Cup and Club World Cup titles in his time at Anfield. - 'Low maintenance'

Liverpool legend Jamie Carragher sees Mane as a great signing for Bayern.

"My favourite @LFC player of this era - low maintenance, high performance & never injured," Carragher said on Twitter this week.

"Trophies & goals galore, a true Liverpool Legend. Thank you, Sadio."

Another former Reds player, Dean Saunders, has claimed his talent will be wasted in the Bundesliga, where Bayern have just capped a decade of dominance by winning a 10th straight league title.

"The league is nowhere near a challenge for Mane. He'll get goals. They win 5-0 every week, only one team can win the league," Sanders told TalkSport.

"It's not a challenge. He will get in his armchair, light a cigar up, he'll play for Bayern in third gear and he'll coast for two years and ruin the best two years of his life as a footballer."

Mane scored 120 goals in 269 games for Liverpool.

That pales into comparison with the phenomenal tally of 238 Bundesliga goals in eight years which Lewandowski, twice voted FIFA's best male player, managed in 252 appearances games for Bayern.

However, it is his all-round, high-energy game that made Mane a favourite at Liverpool. He can also perform just as well playing off both wings as through the middle. Mane's career began far from the spotlight of the Allianz Arena.

"In the village you're going to be a farmer, there's no other job to do. My dream as a kid was to make history and win all the trophies," he said in the documentary Sadio Mane: Made in Senegal.

Spotted by French club Metz while playing in Dakar, around 400km from his native village, he moved to France in early 2011.

Three years later, he left for RB Salzburg, where he learnt German and impressed with 31 goals in 63 games.

He helped them win the Austrian league and cup double in 2014, then graduated to England's Premier League when he was snapped up by Southampton.

After two years on England's south coast, Liverpool swooped for Mane, who became the second highest transfer in the club's history at the time when the Reds paid £37 million for him.

After scoring the winning penalty to claim Senegal a first ever African Cup of Nations title and qualifying his country for the 2022 World Cup in Qatar, Mane faces a new challenge with Bayern.

rivals including Manchester City, Liverpool, Tottenham Hotspur and Arsenal due to the club's failure to add a single new signing so far this summer.

United have seen five players leave as out-of-contract free agents so far this summer -- Paul Pogba, Juan Mata, Edinson Cavani, Jesse Lingard and Nemanja Matic -- but no money has been raised by offloading other unwanted players. While sources have told ESPN that a deal for Barcelona's Frenkie de Jong is progressing, United have been down the road before of spending weeks on a fruitless chase for a player before ending up with somebody else.

But even if United accelerate their transfer dealings and get everything done before their opening game of the season against Brighton & Hove Albion at Old Trafford on Aug. 7, they have still wasted crucial time in delivering the stability and certainty that Ten Hag and his team undoubtedly need going into the 2022-23 campaign.

Among the Premier League's so-called Big Six, only Chelsea have been similarly inactive in the transfer market to date. But at least the Londoners, who finished as runners-up in both domestic cups last season, can cite the major disruption of the club being sold by Roman Abramovich to a consortium led by L.A. Dodgers co-owner Todd Boehly as a significant factor in their lack of recruitment so far.

Reigning champions City have been as impressive and decisive off the pitch as on it by beating the world's biggest clubs to the £52 million signing of Erling Haaland from Borussia Dortmund and they are close to sealing a deal worth up to £50m for Kalvin Phillips. Leeds United's England midfielder is regarded by Pep Guardiola as the long-term replacement for Fernandinho, who left the Etihad as a free agent.

Liverpool have also been quick to build on the success of last season - two domestic cups and near-misses in the Premier League and Champions League - by completing a deal which could ultimately rise to £85m for Benfica for-



Erik ten Hag begins preseason training at Manchester United while still waiting to make his first signing of the summer. (Agencies)

ho (£8m from Fulham) and Calvin Ramsav (£6.5m from Aberdeen) have also been added to Jurgen Klopp's squad, which has seen significant departures from Sadio Mane (£35m to Bayern Munich) and Divock Origi, who is close to a free transfer move to AC Milan.

Spurs, with coach Antonio Conte demanding an ambitious summer recruitment programme ahead of their Champions League return, have made an impressive start to their business by adding midfielder Yves Bissouma from Brighton and winger Ivan Perisic from Inter Milan, as well as backup goalkeeper Fraser Forster. And even Arsenal, who have generally been as indecisive and wasteful as United in the transfer market in recent years, have added new faces to Mikel

ward Darwin Nunez. Fabio Carval- Arteta's squad with the £34m signing of Porto's Fabio Vieira and a £5.5m deal for United States goalkeeper Matt Turner from the New England Revolution.

> Further down the Premier League table, Aston Villa, Newcastle United and West Ham United have also made big statements of intent in the transfer market, but getting deals done early is not just about appeasing supporters and ensuring a regular stream of positive news from the club. It is also crucial in terms of planning on and off the pitch.

> Every coach would want all new signings to be in place before the start of preseason, with the unwanted players already moved on, because preseason is when they have the time and space to implement new ideas and assimilate new signings without the distraction of

of their time at the club and moving into a new house, finding a school for the children, adjusting to a new language -- even learning to drive on the other side of the road - all take time and energy and it suits everyone for those issues to be addressed in the summer. Most clubs attempt to take care of most off-field concerns for new signings, but there are always complications and resolving them properly is important. Being asked to get all of the above sorted in mid-August, when the season has kicked off and the player is training and travelling to games while his family are having to adjust in a new city, club and country is a tall order and doesn't lend itself to a successful outcome.

City, Liverpool, Spurs and Arsenal have all given their summer signings the chance to find their feet gradually by getting deals done early. The coaching staff can also get to know their new player and tailor a training programme to suit their needs. But United - and Chelsea -- have already seen a valuable month pass by without a player being signed, and the clock is ticking.

United fly to Thailand on July 8 for the start of their preseason tour, and it will be nonstop for months ahead from the moment they check in for the journey to Bangkok. And by failing to get early deals done, United have already made Ten Hag's huge job even harder.



AFP

Female referee at men's World Cup wants the game to shine

COMPREHENSIVE REPORT, PAGE 19



Venance Mabeyo launches new modern golf club in Dodoma

By Correspondent Renatha Msungu, Dodoma

TANZANIA's Chief of Defense Forces, General Venance Mabeyo, has said the golf club built at Ihumwa in Dodoma has met Olympic standards, so, the facility will help to attract international competitions to the country.

Mabeyo stated so during the inauguration of the golf club in the region yesterday.

Mabeyo said the club is the first to have been built in the city but it is the second golf club built by the army in the country. Dar es Salaam's Lugalo Golf Club is the first.

He said the club's construction targets to support the government in developing sports in the country.

He was adamant the facility will make Tanzanians develop a passion for sports, as well as improving chances of taking part in competitions internationally.

"I would like to congratulate this club's Construction Committee, which operates under Chairman Brigadier Hassan Mabena, it has done a great job," Mabeyo stated.

Mabeyo asked the generals and other army officers to learn how to play golf and other sports so that they can turn up in large numbers to take part in tournaments when they have time to do so.

"There are various levels of competition in the army, so once they learn how to play the sports, the approach will boost competitiveness once competitions are organized," Mabeyo pointed out.

He further noted the army expects to construct sports venues all over the country aiming at putting its weight behind sports promotion. He said the golf club that is being built will consist of facilities for vari-

ous sports, including basketball, athletics, and swimming. Mabeyo thanked retired General George Waitara, the founder of the

golf in the army, adding that the latter's influence has led the institution to build a big golf club, which is third in Africa after the ones found in South Africa and Egypt.

He also said they are looking into setting up a zoo that will serve as a tourist attraction in the city.

Waitara asked the army generals to learn how to play golf so they can use the facility instead of letting it be solely used by other golf players.

He said golf is everyone's game and urged the community to come forward to participate in the sport and abandon the notion that it is only played by the rich.

NBC Premier League relegation battle goes down to the wire



Mtibwa Sugar winger, Deo Kanda (L), attempts to get the better of his Namungo FC counterpart, Shiza Kichuya, as the clubs faced off in the 2021/22 NBC Premier League match held in Morogoro last week. Namungo FC cruised to a 4-2 victory. PHOTO: COURTESY OF MTIBWA

Mayele, Mpole in thrilling battle for 2021/22 Premier League golden boot prize

By Correspondent Michael Mwebe

AFTER almost nine months of drama, excitement, and the unexpected, the 2021/22 NBC Premier League season comes to a climax today afternoon.

Eyes will not only be fixed on who gets relegated, but also on the race for the golden boot prize to determine the top scorer.

The race to win this season's Premier League golden boot is poised to go right down to the wire and will also see a new winner of the coveted prize for the second straight season.

Last campaign's winner John Bocco of Simba is completely out of sight this time round while two-time winner Meddie Kagere also playing for Simba is trailing the top scorers by nine goals.

Of the 16 clubs in action this evening, both Young Africans 'Yanga' and Geita Gold FC are involved.

Champions Yanga will be hosting relegation-threatened Mtibwa Sugar at Dar es Salaam's Benjamin Mkapa Stadium while Geita Gold FC has travelled to Tanga to face Coastal Union in a must-win game in their hopes of securing a third-place finish ahead of Azam FC. As well as both clubs, collectively, still having something left to play with Yanga chasing to end the season unbeaten, goal getters Fiston Mayele and George Mpole also have the small matter of the golden boot battle being finalized. Ahead of this evening's games, both players are locked on 16 goals apiece, with both of them failing to increase their respective tallies last weekend. Mayele came on as a second-half substitute in Yanga's 1-1 draw with Mbeya City FC at Sokoine Stadium while Mpole managed to grab an assist in Geita Gold FC's 1-0 victory over hosts Polisi Tanzania. With the battle poised to go right down to the wire, both players will be doing their utmost to ensure they lay their hands on the ultimate individual prize that the NBC Premier League has to offer. There is no secondary statistic to separate players if they end the season level - Mayele and Mpole will share the award if this happens. Meanwhile, Yanga goalkeeper Djigui Diarra is set to win the golden glove this season, currently sitting on top of the list for clean sheets. The Malian international has 15 clean sheets in 22 league matches. He beats his closest challengers by four clean sheets.

Tanzania Golf Union (TGU) Chairman Chris Martin thanked the army for supporting sports, particularly golf, in the country.



EATV SAA 1

UJENZI provides information and ideas on residential construction, interior decor and residential appliance markets values. The show aims to enhance residential construction. It provides free expert advice, news and commentary.

By Correspondent Michael Mwebe

AFTER 29 rounds of matches, the end of the 2021/22 NBC Premier League season is here.

Young Africans, popularly known as Yanga, wrapped up the title with relative ease, Simba SC will finish second but there is still quite a bit to be settled today at both ends of the table.

The top-four finish is confirmed but the matter of who finishes third and heads into next season's CAF Confederation Cup, with Azam FC and Geita Gold FC in contention, is unsettled.

Azam FC, with 46 points, has one hand on that ticket and will need a victory at home to relegation-threatened Biashara United to guarantee the former's return to continental football again next season.

For Geita Gold FC, with 45 points and an inferior goal difference, to take the third spot, the squad must win its away game against Coastal Union and then hope Azam FC suffers defeat.

The fourth-place team can still qualify for the CAF Confederation Cup if Coastal Union fails to beat Yanga in the Federation Cup final on Saturday. At the other end of the table, the fate of Mbeya Kwanza FC has been sealed, but the matter of who joins the club and who goes into the playoffs will be decided among Biashara Kwanza, Prisons, Ruvu Shooting, Mtibwa Sugar, and Dodoma Jiji FC.

To escape the 15th spot, Biashara United needs a victory away to Azam FC, coupled with a Prisons defeat at Ruvu Shooting, while a heavy loss for Mtibwa Sugar against Yanga could see them end as high as 12th courtesy of a better goal difference.

Mtibwa Sugar will neither need to look over its shoulders nor to anyone else for favours, with a win and potentially a draw enough to avoid slipping into the danger zone.

However, a loss could see them go for either playoff or even automatically relegation.

Dodoma Jiji FC has the better options as the side's safety depends merely on a draw, while a defeat could still secure the squad's top-flight spots depending on the results involving both Mtibwa Sugar and Ruvu Shooting. As usual, all eight matches will be played simultaneously.

Polisi Tanzania will travel to Kagera to lock horns with Kagera Sugar in what will be a glorified friendly with neither side having much on the table, other than the possibility of finishing one place ahead of each other.

Wednesday fixtures:

Kagera Sugar vs Polisi Tanzania (Kaitaba Stadium, Kagera), Coastal Union vs Geita Gold FC (Mkwakwani Stadium, Tanga), Dodoma Jiji FC vs Kinondoni Municipal Council FC (Jamhuri Stadium, Dodoma), Ruvu Shooting vs Tanzania Prisons (Mabatini, Mlandizi), Yanga vs Mtibwa Sugar (Benjamin Mkapa Stadium, Dar), Azam FC vs Biashara United (Azam Complex Stadium, Dar), Mbeya City FC vs Namungo FC (Sokoine Stadium, Mbeya), Mbeya Kwanza FC vs Simba (Majimaji Stadium, Songea).

> Mayele came on as a secondhalf substitute in Yanga's 1-1 draw with Mbeya City FC at Sokoine Stadium while Mpole managed to grab an assist in Geita Gold FC's 1-0 victory over hosts Polisi Tanzania

Flexibles by David Chikoko



12:00 Kipenga Xtra 13:00 Planet Bongo 16:00 EA Drive 20:00 Kipenga 21:00 The Cruise

11:00 DADAZ LIVE

12:00 Mpera Mpera

13:00 MJADALA (r)

13:30 Kali Za Wana

15:30 Mpera Mpera

14:00 Bongo Hits

16:00 Zote kuntu

16:30 #HASHTAG

17:00 5SELEKT

17:55 Kurasa

18:00 eNewz

18:30 Bongo Hits

19:00 EATV SAA 1

29:00 DADAZ (r)

22:30 Zote Kuntu 23:00 KURASA

21:00 UJENZI

21:30 Movie

15:00 Funguka



