



Telposta pension suffers Sh189m tenants' default

CRDB's Islamic banking serves 30,000 customers in Zanzibar

Support children in special needs during Ramadan, Tanzanians told

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ISSN 0856 - 5434 ISSUE No. 8814 • PRICE: Tsh 1,000, Kenya sh100 TANZANIA MONDAY 3 APRIL, 2023

National Pg 3 Samia to grace TOA's meeting



National Pg 4 RITA develops new digital system



National Pg 6 Govt surveys villages land in Meatu



Inflation holds steady at 9.2 percent in March



President Samia Suluhu Hassan swears in Jenista Mhagama as Minister of State in the Prime Minister's Office (Policy, Parliament and Coordination) at State House in Dar es Salaam yesterday. Photo: State House

PM, Mufti want pupils in religious instruction

By Guardian Reporter

PRIME Minister Kassim Majaliwa yesterday called on religious institutions to join efforts and help the government to fight the deterioration of moral values. Gracing this year's Quran

recital contest in Dar es Salaam, he said parents have a great role to play to protect moral values among children and youth. "We need a nation with a respectable generation and workforce," he told the gathering, urging that parents all over the

country put their children to religious studies as in doing so will help to reduce wrong attitudes among the younger generation. "Parents of all religious backgrounds have a great role to play here," he

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'Skip traders buying maize at farm gates, sell to NFRA'

By Correspondent Gideon Mwakanosya, Songea

TRADERS, local or foreign, will no longer buy maize directly from farmers while the crop is still in the fields, Songea district authorities have announced. Wilman Ndile, the DC, issued the directives over the weekend at the launch of quality maize seed dubbed: 'Zamseed TZ 638' produced at Ndolela area in Madaba District, Ruvuma Region. A survey carried out in some parts of the region showed that some traders go to farms and buy maize still on the farm, noting that some farmers are enticed with the farm-gate prices offered by traders and sell their produce. "This is unacceptable; we'll not tolerate this," he stated, cautioning farmers to stop selling the maize to middlemen

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Minister primes sector for 2024 global fisheries meet

By Guardian Reporter

FISHING stakeholders have been urged to be prepared as Tanzania readies to host the small-scale fisheries (SSF) summit next year. Abdallah Ulega (pictured), the Livestock and Fisheries minister, issued this appeal in remarks at the closing session of the international year of artisanal fisheries and aquaculture (IYAFA) 2022 meeting in the Italian capital of Rome at the weekend.

Explaining achievements attained in implementing SSF guidelines to boost small scale fishermen, he pointed at the launching of the national task force for the management of small-scale fishing plan. Tanzania has collaborated with Malawi, Ethiopia and Seychelles, exchanging experience in implementing the guidelines, he stated, citing the Tanzania Women Fishing Association (TAWFA) and the gender desk for the fishing sector within the ministry.



These measures are in line with efforts by President Samia Suluhu Hassan to enhance women income generating activities, he said, while Dr Qu Donguy, the United Nations Food and Agricul-

ture Organisation (FAO) director general thanked the minister for accepting the invitation. He said that the FAO gives priority to Tanzania's efforts in implementing various development projects, especially in boosting the fishing sector. The minister had a special role in the meeting as FAO sees the country's performance in implementing the SSF guidelines as salutary, being the first country in the world to launch the guidelines for small fishermen, the director

noted. Urged foreign investors to take up opportunities in the fishing sector, he said there are openings in the value chain for sustainable harvesting of fish for the local market and export. He pointed at sardines as an ample resource where plenty of fishing practitioners are involved, including women, urging stakeholders at the meeting to focus on sustainable management of fishing resources and in aquaculture development.



Catholic Church priest Honest Mapendo (L) blesses the faithful with olive and palm branches during Palm Sunday Mass held in Zanzibar yesterday. Palm Sunday, which is the Sunday before Easter, recalls an event in the Christian Scripture (The New Testament) of Jesus entering into Jerusalem and being greeted by the people waving palm branches. For Christians, it is a reminder of the welcoming of Jesus into their hearts and of their willingness to follow Him. Photo: Correspondent Martin Kabemba

MPs praise PSSSF for Rock City Mall

By Guardian Reporter, Mwanza

THE Public Investments Committee (PIC) has commended the Public Service Social Security Fund (PSSSF) for its investment in the Rocky City Mall project in Mwanza city. Jerry Slaa (Ukonga), the committee chairman, issued the commendation late last week after visiting the project, noting that the building has changed the landscape of the city whereas the plot it now stands was earlier occupied by small ramshackle buildings. The Rock City Mall investment is among

completed projects that are inspiring to the public, he said, elaborating that the project needs to be rectified in some areas to attract tenants. As PSSSF investments in various projects stem from members' contributions, and not government funds, utmost diligence is required in attaining the goals intended, he said. Dr Aggrey Mlimuka, the acting PSSSF board chairman, acknowledged the advice by the committee, pledging to work on the issues. The has set out strategies in

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Skip traders buying maize at farm gates, sell to NFRA, says DC

FROM PAGE 1

going to their areas looking for the crop. In the last farming season, farmers in the region and the district harvested little, while some lost their crops to drought, he said. High price of fertiliser in the market priced out some farmers, and later buyers were visiting farmers and pay for the crop in whatever way they want. This year the government injected money on fertiliser subsidy while there are adequate rains, he said, insisting that it is the National Food Reserve Agency (NFRA) which has priority in purchasing the maize. The buyers come from Dar es Salaam, Mtwara, Arusha and even from across the border in Kenya, bringing farmers to sell their entire maize crop "without leaving some for food." District officials and village leaders need to control middlemen, so that they follow laid down procedures, he stated, underlining that during the next

harvesting season the government is mobilised to buy maize from farmers at good prices through NFRA, at its Songea Zone. Frank Kileo, Zamseed (T) director, urged farmers in Ruvuma and Njombe regions to use the quality seeds produced in the region as the seeds withstand drought and heavy rains. Adequate research has been done on the seeds and produce up to 40 bags per acre where farmers abide by farming instructions, he stated. Farmers in the two regions who used the seeds in this farming season expect to reap between 30 and 40 bags of 100kg each per acre, he asserted. Kasiani Goliama, a Kigonsera villager in Mbinga District, speaking for upwards of 200 fellow farmers who attended the launch, said the farmers had received training though demonstration farms before using the seeds in the current season. They know they hope to get massive harvests per acre, he affirmed.



Prime Minister Kassim Majaliwa, who is legislator for Ruangwa in Lindi Region, pictured in the constituency yesterday presenting to Abulrahman Mnokota one of 100 motorbikes worth a total of 250m/- donated to Ruangwa youth for use in carrying out transport business. Right (in sunglasses) is Mpaluka Mtopelana, the main sponsor behind the scheme. Photo: PMO

MPs praise PSSSF for Rock City Mall

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making commercial decisions from time to time as the need arises, he stated. Hosea Kashimba, the fund director general, said the building has 21,151.82 square metres renting space and February

upwards of 82 per cent of the space area had been rented, or 17,436.09 square metres. Other applicants have taken up offers for some space, including space for shops and offices, he said, noting that progress on rent arrears has been

good, after the eruption of Covid-19 was eclipsed. New tenants coming in will be paying rent after three, six and 12 months, an arrangement that has helped the fund considerably, the director noted. The Rock City Mall is operated by the Mwanza

City Commercial Complex Co., in joint venture with PSSSF, the city council and Illemela municipality, he said. Originally the project was a joint venture with the Local Authorities Pensions Fund (LAPF), which was later merged into PSSSF,

while Illemela municipality was hived from the city council, and also took a portion of the shares. PSSSF holds a 90 per cent stake and the rest is shared by the two entities, at six per cent for the city and four per cent for the municipality, he added.

PM, Mufti want pupils in religious instruction

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said, emphasizing that the children need to be raised in good moral values. They need to grow with discipline, so parents need to make sure that children attend religious studies for their spiritual development.

"This will instill in them the fear of God and strive to avoid engaging in evil acts," he stated.

Ministerial data indicates that Muslim students who have performed well in their science and form four exams are mostly those who also feature in religious studies "and today here in the competition we have two of them (girls)," he said.

He similarly appealed to parents to stop hiding children with disabilities but send them to school, including in madrasas. The government has improved school facilities to ensure that such children are accommodated, he asserted.

Mufti Abubakar Zubeir bin Ally reminded parents and guardians to lay emphasis on children attending religious studies as this builds a God-fearing and obedient society.

Having a society that has fear of God and is respectful will enable maintaining peace and reducing criminal acts to a considerable extent, he said, insisting that believers need to join forces, all religious leaders and institutions.

"This is a national challenge and a disaster," he stated, asserting that moral values among the youth are rapidly deteriorating. "So let us work together to put things in line," he said.

Aisha Sururu, the chairperson of Aisha Sururu Foundation, the principal organizers of the competition, expressed gratitude at the government for providing the stakeholders a chance to support the country's development.

"We have obtained permission to run the competition for 22 years now and we thank stakeholders and the society for responding to this challenge and supporting us," she said.

The competition attracted 70 youths across the country, representing districts, regions and national level instances, she explained.

In the competition, Mussa Hamad Hamad from Pemba in Zanzibar emerged the winner for boys, scoring 98.5 marks and for girls, Asma Salehe from Dar es Salaam hit 99.25 per cent of the mark. Each one went out with a new motorcycle and a house as prizes.



Tanzania Commercial Bank Plc CEO Sabasaba Moshingi (C) pictured in Dar es Salaam at the weekend briefing members of the Tigo executive management team on business opportunities between the two institutions. Photo: Guardian Correspondent

Eyes on Raila as Ruto asks opposition to call off protests

NAIROBI

President William Ruto has urged Azimio la Umoja One Kenya leader Raila Odinga to call off demonstrations and allow for a bipartisan parliamentary approach in tackling issues raised by the opposition, particularly the recruitment of electoral commissioners.

Dr Ruto, who was addressing the nation from State House, Nairobi, called for a bipartisan engagement in Parliament over the reconstitution of the Independent Boundaries and Electoral Commission

(IEBC).

"I suggest a bi-partisan engagement in Parliament on the reconstitution of the IEBC panel within the parameters of the law and the constitution" he said.

The President said the country should not find itself in the same position it was in following the handshake between opposition chief Raila Odinga and then-President Uhuru Kenyatta.

"As a believer in the rule of law and running an accountable government, our position is that we should never be in the position where this country was put in by the handshake where there is no distinction be-

tween the government and the opposition," said Dr Ruto.

He has also reiterated the government's commitment to supporting the media saying no media will be shut down for covering anti-government protests.

"Kenya has come a long way and the era of switching off media is way behind us. The media has our absolute support no matter how biased they are against the government," said Dr Ruto.

The address came hours after the media called out the Kenya Kwanza government over plans to shut down the internet and a number of media houses

in a bid to block coverage of the protests called by the opposition.

Under the auspices of the Kenya Media Sector Working Group, the media stakeholders strongly called out Deputy President Rigathi Gachagua and pockets of senior Kenya Kwanza Alliance officials for attempting "to deny the free flow of information to the public".

The media stakeholders also threatened a raft of measures including giving the government a blackout and staging a peaceful demonstration on Wednesday, March 5. AGENCIES

US Vice President wraps up visit to 3 African nations

LUSAKA

THE US Vice President Kamala Harris has ended her weeklong trip across Africa. Kamala Harris met with Zambia's, Tanzania's and Ghana's heads of state during her 3-leg journey.

If the influence of other foreign powers loomed over her trip, she tried to deepen and reframe US relationship with the continent.

She highlighted major steps in that direction on Saturday.

"My visit has convinced me more than ever, that we must all around the globe appreciate and understand the importance of investing in African ingenuity and creativity. The type I have seen during the course of this trip," she said.

"In my meetings with the presidents of Ghana and Tanzania, and here in Zambia, we have launched new initiatives to strengthen our business ties. We have also advanced our work to support democracy and good governance on the continent, which will invariably create greater stability, predictability, the type that businesses require and need to invest," she added.

"In each of these engagements. It has been clear there was a strong desire from leaders on this continent, from young entrepreneurs on this continent to increase investments on this continent."

If Harris acknowledged some places on the continent lead the world in digital solutions, she laid out an agenda for partnerships in digital solutions as she pointed to discrepancies across Africa. For these, she vowed US support.

"In other places on the continent, we see that there is a lag and that there are many who lag behind and we must be clear about the challenges presented to close these gaps and then commit to take action because solutions are within sight and within reach."

The United States have ramped up efforts to reengage with African countries after last year's US - Africa summit. President Joe Biden said he intends to visit this year as well.

"President Biden, through these initiatives, has pledged to work with the United States Congress to invest \$350 million and to facilitate nearly half a billion dollars in development financing, to make sure that people across the continent can participate in the digital and global economy."

After speaking during a roundtable discussion with business and philanthropic leaders in Lusaka, Kamala Harris departed for Washington.

Harris' visit is the latest in a string of visits to Africa by high profile US officials.

4.7billion/- benefits 1,000 youth from Plan International project

By Correspondent Neema Emmanuel, Mwanza

MORE than 4.7bn/- has benefited 1,000 youth from 11 wards in Nyamagana and Ilemela districts through the 'Vijana Maisha na Kazi' project implemented by Plan International.

The youth, from 58 groups have benefited through education on entrepreneurship, financial management, farming, mechanics and ultimately provided with working tools for the trades they selected.

The project that started in 2018 and ended 2022, focusing to empower the youth access to capital, self-employment and bring about gender equality as well to unite them to various institutions including SIDO, VETA colleges TAHA, economic development initiatives of Tanzania (SEDIT) and digital opportunity trust (Dot).

Speaking at the workshop to officially close the project, project officer from Sedit, Nahum Fungo said more than

66m/- loan was given to the groups while 600 youth engaged in private activities after receiving training from TAHA, SIDO and VETA and out of the two groups one was for the people with disabilities who received more than 21m/- in loans.

For his part, an agricultural officer from TAHA, Raymond Gervais said apart from the youth who received agricultural training, they have also been trained in the irrigation systems, accessing to markets and counselled on better farming practices, while 35 groups started production with the aim of reaching 400 members, but surpassed the figure and reached 412 members.

He cited some challenges faced during agricultural training including the youth lacking farms, high cost for hiring them and some making the demonstration farm as part of earning income instead of part of training.

Mapolo Maneno from SIDO thanked Plan International for constructing a

building for food processing and chemicals costing over 70m/- which he said benefited the youth in the project as well as those from outside.

The project manager for Maisha na Kazi, Gadelly Kayanda said the aim of the project is to empower the youth to access to loans, self-employment and join them to the private sector and to promote gender equality.

He said the youth who received training from VETA colleges were trained in welding, cooking, painting, tailoring, plumbing, carpentry and every one was provided with capital and working tools according to the type of training taken.

Victor Heleman, a beneficiary of the project from



Prime Minister Kassim Majaliwa's wife, Mary Majaliwa (L), pictured in Dar es Salaam yesterday symbolically presenting a new motorcycle to Asma Rubea Salehe (C) for emerging the winner in the Girls category of the national Quran recitation competition. Photo: PMO

'Msitu ni Uhai' group said according to the training on food processing, they now own their own machine they bought for 1.5m/- for groundnut

milling. "As for now we are doing well and so far, we have made 800,000/- profit since we begun production in

February this year and we expect to apply to the Council for a loan to add another a flour milling machine," he said.

Samia to grace TOA annual general meeting in Dodoma

By Guardian Reporter, Dodoma

PRESIDENT Samia Suluhu Hassan tomorrow is expected to grace the 13th annual general meeting of the Tanzania local government reforms association (TOA), which is aimed at encouraging investments and industrial development.

Albert Msovela, TOA chairman said here yesterday when speaking to journalists on the preparations of the three-day

meeting from April 4 to 6, this year.

"The 13th annual general meeting is meant to encourage investments and industrialisation through local government authorities for sustainable development where various stakeholders will give the government and the private sector an opportunity to participate and various topics will be presented," said Msovela.

He also said that TOA planned

to encourage the management and improvement of the provision of community services such as health, education, agriculture, business, infrastructure and water, human resource management, finance, development projects and good governance.

The chairman said that TOA is managed by the administrative secretaries of the regions and all the directors of local government authorities in main-

land Tanzania as well as other members outside the President Office-Regional Administration and Local Government (PORALG).

He also stated that the time has come for local governments to ensure that the grassroots are the priority in developing projects to increase productivity instead of the central government doing everything.

"We see that there is a need at the moment for all the ini-

tiatives that are initiated by the government, the citizens should be the main leaders so that the initiatives are sustainable, unlike the current situation, many projects lack productivity due to the failure to involve the citizens," he said.

TOA secretary general Jacob Mtalitinya, said among other things, the meeting will award President Samia to recognize his performance in the past two years

"The members of the general meeting of TOA have agreed to award President Samia due to her work performance efforts by raising money for the development of the country and its people.

"Every Tanzanian witnesses the great efforts made by the head of state to improve various social sectors such as education, health, water, electricity and various developmental infrastructure," said Mtalitinya.

PIC satisfied with REA power projects in Singida Region

By Guardian Reporter

THE HOUSE Public Investment Committee (PIC) has expressed its satisfaction over the implementation of rural power projects in Singida Region and has advised people in the rural areas reached by the power supply services to use the energy profitably in their economic activities for income generation.

Addressing residents of Ikungi and Iriisiya villages, in Singida Region during the panel's visit to inspect the implementation of REA Phase III, Round III (R3R2) projects at the weekend, PIC Deputy Chairman, Augustino Vuma said the aim of the government to take power to rural areas is to make easy for the villagers to conduct various economic activities for income generation.

He also directed REA officials to continue to closely monitor power contractors implementing the projects by abiding to contract terms.

Meanwhile, Vuma said the panel was also satisfied by the implementation by R3R2 Projects saying already its benefits have started to be discerned.

"Today we are here at Iriisiya Secondary School and we have witnessed with our own eyes students who have started to benefit by electricity energy as it has already reached in their laboratories and classrooms," he said.

He said the expectation is to increase the number of students taking science subjects and that passes in examination will increase.

He said in regard to the members of the community, power has begun reaching them, hence they will start engaging themselves in economic activities for income generation.

For his part, Chairman of Rural Energy Board (REB) Janet Mbene said it was a great pleasure for REA to see power was now reaching villagers in various areas.

"Our aim is the same, to make sure every village gets power which will ultimately help village economically to attain development," she said.

Speaking at different times before the PIC, Singida Regional Commissioner Peter Serukamba and Headmaster of Iriisiya Secondary School Ernest Edward thanked the government through REA in making sure power has at last reached the village.

Earlier, submitting his report, REA Director General, Hassan saidy said the government, through the agency has provided 73.1bn/- and USD 988,707.60 to make sure four power projects in the region are completed.

He said R3R2 project for Ikungi and Singida districts is being implemented by Central Electricals International Ltd at a cost of 26.3bn/- and for Iramba, Manyoni and Mkalama districts, it is being implemented by M/s CRJE - CTCE Consortium at a cost of 31.6bn/-.



Small-time gold panning in progress at the weekend at the Magunga quarry at Irasanilo artisanal mining site in Butiama District, Mara Region, with mercury heavily in use but with none of those doing the job without any personal protective equipment such as gloves and therefore exposing themselves to health hazards. Photo: Correspondent Marco Maduhu

Managing Director Appointment

Mr. Obedi Laiser
Managing Director

The Chairman of the Board of Directors of Absa Bank Tanzania Limited, Mr. Paul Makanza, is pleased to announce the appointment of Mr Obedi S. Laiser as the new Chief Executive Officer (CEO) and Managing Director (MD) of Absa Bank Tanzania Limited, effective 01 April 2023, replacing Mr. Abdi Mohammed whose tenure comes to an end on 31 March 2023.

Obedi is the current Finance Director and Executive Director of the Board of Absa Bank Tanzania Limited. He joined Barclays Bank Tanzania Limited in March 2016, which was later rebranded to Absa Bank Tanzania Limited in February 2020 and has continued in the same role to date.

He has been with the bank for the last seven (7) years. Obedi has close to two decades (20years) of professional experience spanning across sectors including Banking, Mobile Money financial services, Telecommunication, Accountancy, Audit, Risk Management and Business Consultancy both locally and internationally having worked with global multinational corporates in all those sectors at professional and senior leadership levels.

Obedi has been instrumental in his role as a Finance Director, Executive Director of the Board, and a member of the Management Executive Committee, in the execution of the business turnaround strategy of the bank since 2016 that has seen Absa Bank Tanzania Limited performance

across all key metrics improving significantly with consistent balance sheet and revenue growth and a complete positive turnaround in profitability. His leadership and contributions towards this performance has been immense and quite remarkable and the Board is convinced he will continue towards that direction in future.

Prior to joining Absa Bank Tanzania Limited, Obedi worked with Millicom Tanzania Limited (MIC)/Tigo as the Head of Finance and Risk Management, where he successfully and actively developed, built and implemented world class mobile money finance, fraud and controls operations practices.

Was part of the leadership team and actively involved in the mobile money firsts innovations launches including Mobile Money App, Mobile Money Interoperability, Mobile Money Interest distribution, Microlending product etc. Before joining Tigo he worked with PwC, the global Accountancy firm in Tanzania and United Kingdom, where he started his

career. Commenting on his appointment, Mr. Mponji, Chairman of Board of Absa Bank Tanzania said – "On behalf of the Board of Directors, I congratulate Mr. Obedi on his appointment.

The Board is confident that the new MD with his unique set of skills and diverse experience and a deep understanding of the bank, will be able to steer the Bank into greater heights in the future as we embark onto our next chapter of transformation.

His customer obsession coupled with his leadership, finance, banking and telecom/mobile money experiences will enable the bank to maintain and improve its competitiveness as it continues to enhance its service and product offerings to clients.

On behalf of the Board, I wish Obedi every success in leading the Bank in delivering its promise and bring possibilities to life to all our stakeholders."

Mr. Obedi, commenting on his appointment said, "I am truly humbled

and honoured to be given the opportunity to lead this amazing organisation, a bank that has continued to contribute immensely in the country's financial inclusion agenda serving clients across multiple segments for the past 23 years.

It is an opportunity to leverage on the macroeconomic environment platform that continues to improve and build a strong and sustainable bank that will deliver improved and digital financial services to its current customers and explore new opportunities for growth in the market".

Obedi is a Chartered Certified Accountant and holds a Bachelor of Commerce Degree (Hons) majoring in Finance from the University of Dar es Salaam and has attended several executive leadership and management courses.

He is the graduate of the first cohort of the CEO Apprenticeship Program (CAP) of the Tanzania CEO Roundtable (CEOrt) and Strathmore University. He is a member of the Tanzania Institute of Directors (IoDT).

Absa Bank Tanzania Limited Absa House, 2nd Floor, Ohio Street P.O.Box 5137, Dar es Salaam, Tanzania Call: 0800750078 (Toll free) +255 (0)746 882 000 (Network charges apply) Email: talktous@absa.co.tz

RITA develops new digital system

By Correspondent Joseph Mwendapole, Morogoro

THE Registration Insolvency and Trusteeship Agency (RITA), has developed a new digital system dubbed "e-RITA" to enable people access all the services online to simplify operations and reducing costs.

RITA's chief executive officer, Angela Anatory, said at the weekend during the discussion of the agency's operations at the 12th retreat meeting of members of the Tanzania Editors' Forum (TEF).

She said the new digital system will bring services closer to the people, making it easier for Tanzanians to apply for birth, death and other certificates online and later go to the respective office near them to collect them.

"We want to ensure that Tanzanians receive their certificates or any services that we offer, timely and without spending a lot, previously people had to walk from their areas to reach district offices to access the services, but now as we are improving our systems, things are becoming easier," she said.

Angela said that the system is an important and basic improvement that will bring about a big revolution in expanding the scope of reaching more people in rural and urban areas.

She said that they decided to involve the media in the early stages of the introduction of the system because they are important stakeholders and a bridge between the agency and the people they serve.

"We thought we should talk to you even before the inauguration that will take place soon so that you can help us create a positive image for the public and promote the trust of the people that we have been entrusted to serve. RITA and TEF are important stakeholders and we will continue to cooperate," she said

She said that in 2017, RITA met with TEF mem-

bers and educated them about the improvements in the registration of important human events in Africa, Tanzania being one of them and especially the plan to register under five children.

She said that so far for 10 years the programme has been carried out in 23 regions and the results have been good because during that time eight million under five children were registered and given certificates. She said they planned to complete the exercise this year but there are challenges that have risen and added that they expect to complete the remaining regions of Dar es Salaam, Kigoma and Kagera by 2024.

"This is sustainable plan, we are grateful that members of TEF took the matter and spread the message to the public, challenges never miss for anything new, but this plan has brought us great results and when we go to meetings with our colleagues in Africa, we are praised for making this plan a success," she said.

She said that Tanzania has made efforts to ensure that within 10 years it has made progress and registered a large number of children and added that was not an easy task to achieve this success.

She said that in order to achieve this success, RITA is working with various stakeholders in the country and she thanked them for the cooperation they gave to ensure that a large number of children are registered.

She said apart from the programme to register children under the age of five, the government through RITA has various programmes aimed at many groups such as the programme called six to seventeen (6/17) which targets children in primary and secondary schools and those in colleges.

She mentioned that the services that will be available in the system are for birth, death, sponsorship and marriage and that experts are continuing their efforts to add more services to the system.



Renatus Malawa, a senior HR specialist with Barrick Bulyanhulu Gold Mine, addresses University of Dodoma students at a capacity building seminar AIESEC Tanzania organised in Dodoma city at the weekend with Barrick sponsorship. AIESEC is an international youth-run and led, non-governmental and not-for-profit organisation that provides young people with cross-cultural leadership development internships and global volunteer exchange experiences. It focuses on empowering young people to make progressive impact in society. Photo: Guardian Correspondent

'Govt will not tolerate embezzlement in environmental service programmes'

By Guardian Reporter

THE government, through the Vice President's Office (VPO) says it will not tolerate embezzlement of any kind in the implementation of environmental preservation projects in the country and stressed that it will be at the forefront to make sure the money value is reflected in the projects.

Dr Swibert Mkama, Deputy Permanent Secretary in the VPO (En-

vironment), made the remarks in his inspection visit to the implementation of the ecosystem and reforestation of the natural vegetation and the conservation of Tanzania's biodiversity in Mpimbwe District, Katavi Region.

Dr Mkama said the Phase VI Government has been at the fore front in seeking for funds from various source for development projects, hence it was the responsibility of officials to mobilise, supervise

and follow up the projects as they touch individual Tanzanians.

He said VPO has high expectations to see all environmental conservation projects accordingly contribute to government's efforts in enhancing food availability.

He also said in boosting the country's efforts against environmental destruction, the government has been taking various steps, in regard to policies and strategies aimed at restoring 100

million acres of forest area that has been destroyed, whereby through the strategy, Tanzania plans to restore 5.2 million acres by 2030.

He added that in attaining these goals, the government has established various environmental projects including the one on ecosystem for the restoration of the natural vegetation and the conservation of Tanzania's biodiversity for 2021-25 implemented in seven districts in Great Ruaha River and


Lake Rukwa basins.

He named the districts as including Mpimbwe, Tanganyika, Sumbawanga, Mbeya, Mbarali, Wanging'ombe and Iringa and praised Mpimbwe District for its efforts in implementing the project including setting aside 732 acres for establishing reserve forests for the carbon trade.

For his part, the project's national coordinator, Dr Damas Mapunda from the VPO said the project,

started in 2021/26 is being sponsored by the Global Environment Fund (GEF) valued at USD 11.2 billion and aimed to boost environmental management and restoration of degraded land areas.

He said the Deputy PS visit in the VPO has also seen the ghanding out of working tools including seven motorcycles valued at 36.2m/for the districts implementing the projects, and 208 beehives to four beekeeping groups in Kasa ward.



SIMBA CEMENT

STRENGTH WITHIN

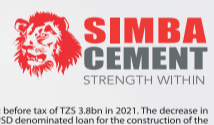
INVITATION FOR TENDERS FOR SERVICES

1. Tanga Cement Public Limited Company is hereby soliciting bids from interested eligible companies and individuals to purchase and render the services listed in the schedule below commencing on 1 June 2023.
2. Interested eligible bidders may obtain a complete set of bidding documents from the office of the Procurement Manager located at the Tanga Cement premises in Tanga between 08H00 and 14H00 Mondays to Fridays (excluding public holidays).
3. Sealed bids must be deposited in the Tender Box located at the Tanga Cement visitors' gate in Tanga by **12H00 on the 27 April 2023**.
4. Sealed tenders and modifications thereof must be deposited in the Tender Box located at the visitors' gate by 12H00 noon on the closing date indicated above. All tenders submitted must remain valid for the period specified in the tender documents from the closing date indicated above. All tenders must be sealed, marked with the relevant correct tender title and addressed to:

The Managing Director
Tanga Cement Public Limited Company
P.O. Box 5053
Tanga
Tanzania
5. This invitation to bids it does not in any way constitute an offer to a contract or bind the Company in any way.
6. The bidding documents will be purchased by interested bidders and collected upon payment of non-refundable fee **Tanzanian Shilling (TZS) 100,000.00 (one hundred thousand)** through either of the below bank details.

Bank Name	Account number	Account Name
CRDB Bank	0150385602300	Tanga Cement PLC
NMB Bank	41710039344	Tanga Cement PLC
7. All bidders must have the approved relevant level of "local content" as required by the Mining Commission
8. Any explanation desired by prospective bidders on the meaning or interpretation of this solicitation must be requested in writing to **Mr Sieddy Gimbi** at sieddy.gimbi@simbacement.co.tz
9. Schedule of tenders

S/N	Tender number	Tender Title
1	TCPLC-01-2023	Sale of used fleet (plant equipment)
2	TCPLC-02-2023	Cement Loading Services at Tanga Cement PLC's Depots
3	TCPLC-04-2023	Sale of metal scraps
4	TCPLC-05-2022	Sale of waste oil



SIMBA CEMENT
STRENGTH WITHIN

UNAUDITED RESULTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2022

Dear Shareholders,

We hereby present the unaudited annual results of Tanga Cement Public Limited Company ("Tanga Cement" or the "Company") and its subsidiary together, the "Group" for the year ended 31st December 2022.

Due to intensifying competitive landscape in the industry, significant increases in fuel prices and logistics costs which lead to an increase in material prices and frequent electrical power cuts and unstable electricity supply which necessitated increased fuel consumption for own diesel generators and increased maintenance costs of equipment, the group performance has been slightly in comparison to the previous year. The negative impact of these market and operational changes on the group's key financial indicators during the year is described in the Financial and Operational Overview section below.

We affirm our commitment to all stakeholders through our high-quality cement and clinker and our contribution towards the sustainable growth and development of Tanzania, a demonstration of our brand - "Strength Within".

The company has deployed the highest standards of health and safety protocols across all its operations and continues to enhance safety at the workplace to protect our employees and contractors.

Major economic Overview

The Group's growth outlook continues to be anchored in the growth in cement demand of the Tanzanian construction industry. Economic performance during the year has improved with annual GDP growth of 5.2% in 2022 compared to 4.3% in 2021 as published by National Bureau of Statistics. Whilst the increase in GDP reflected the primary drivers for business performance remained the robust infrastructure investment and a strengthening consumer base. Government's actions to support the medium term monetary policy inflation target of 5% also supported demand for our products.

The Group remains optimistic of the positive impact of infrastructure development plans under the Government's Development Vision 2025 programme and expect the project to continue gaining momentum in 2023. The Group is confident with the initiatives that the Government has taken to combat the effects of increase in fuel prices and commits to working together with the Government in growing the economy. The forecasted average annual headline inflation rate increased to 4.8% in 2022 from 4.2% in 2021.

Financial and Operational Overview

Group's sales revenue decreased by 9% to TZS 209bn from TZS 231bn achieved in 2021. Congruent to the decrease in revenue, the gross profit also decreased by 41% to TZS 36.4bn from TZS 61.7bn achieved in the prior year, and the gross margin decreased to 17% compared to 27% in 2021, due to major maintenance costs incurred in 2022 as a direct result of electrical power outages and power supply dips which increased the costs of production.


EBITDA decreased by 70% to TZS 12.3bn from TZS 40.6bn achieved in 2021 mainly due to major plant maintenance caused by numerous electrical power outages and power supply dips which increased the cost of production.

Consolidated and separate statements of profit or loss and other comprehensive income for the year ended 31 December 2022	Group Dec 2022 TZS'000	Group Dec 2021 TZS'000	Company Dec 2022 TZS'000	Company Dec 2021 TZS'000
Revenue from contracts with customers	209,196,629	230,781,686	209,196,629	230,781,686
Cost of sales	(172,743,263)	(168,119,218)	(172,743,263)	(168,119,218)
Gross profit	36,453,366	66,661,953	36,453,366	66,661,953
Other income	661,205	207,789	631,897	164,609
Other expenses	(444,354)	(4,803,075)	(444,354)	(4,803,075)
Selling expenses	(2,200,840)	(2,176,423)	(2,200,840)	(2,176,423)
Administration expenses	(19,551,588)	(19,722,625)	(19,405,739)	(19,592,482)
Depreciation charge	(19,050,571)	(19,238,837)	(19,118,509)	(19,261,948)
Impairment and other charges	(12,805)	-	(259,374)	-
(Increase)/decrease in expected credit losses	(2,065,639)	129,359	(2,201,762)	241,297
Operating profit	(7,321,230)	14,958,741	(7,545,320)	15,133,931
Interest expense	(17,608,339)	(12,196,229)	(17,618,395)	(12,201,543)
Finance income	1,190	1,221	1,190	1,221
Foreign exchange and fair value gain	3,322,642	1,003,681	3,336,935	996,351
Profit/(loss) before tax	(19,576,937)	3,767,414	(19,825,589)	3,929,960
Income tax credit/(charge)	2,880,699	(24,442)	2,883,965	(219,889)
(Loss)/Profit for the year	(16,696,238)	3,542,972	(16,940,336)	3,710,071
Other comprehensive income				
"Other comprehensive income to be reclassified to profit or loss in subsequent periods (net of tax)"				
Change in difference on translation of foreign operations	(177,116)	(9,529)	-	-
Other comprehensive income net of tax	(177,116)	(9,529)	-	-
Total comprehensive income/(loss) for the year, net of tax	(16,873,354)	3,533,450	(16,940,336)	3,710,071
(Loss)/Profit for the year attributable to:				
Owners of the parent	(16,696,238)	3,542,972	(16,940,336)	3,710,071
Non-controlling interests	-	-	-	-
Total comprehensive income for the year attributable to:				
Owners of the parent	(16,873,354)	3,533,450	(16,940,336)	3,710,071
Non-controlling interests	-	-	-	-
TZS/share	125	275	125	275
(Loss)/share	(265)	56	(269)	84
Basic and diluted (loss)/Earning per share				
Consolidated and separate statements of financial position as at 31 December 2022	Group Dec 2022 TZS'000	Group Dec 2021 TZS'000	Company Dec 2022 TZS'000	Company Dec 2021 TZS'000
ASSETS				
Non-current assets				
Property, plant and equipment	287,786,031	306,619,541	286,076,855	299,810,366
Right-of-use assets	5,008,975	4,772,307	4,891,745	4,710,543
Investment property	515,028	537,756	-	532,564
Investment in subsidiary	-	-	430,095	-
Financial asset - interest rate cap	7,492,379	1,023,612	7,492,379	1,023,611
Deferred tax asset	4,520,421	-	4,520,421	-
Current assets	305,322,835	306,953,216	304,902,396	306,097,084
Due from employees' share trust	81,189,517	63,717,282	773,466	773,466
Interventions	11,341,476	15,718,554	11,273,876	15,696,678
Trade and other receivables	619,964	6,891,761	69,301	6,383,224
Current income tax recoverable	4,780,902	12,189,443	4,669,349	12,124,442
Cash and bank balances	97,931,859	98,517,040	97,975,500	98,695,692
Non-current assets held-for-sale	3,870	3,870	-	-
TOTAL ASSETS	403,258,564	405,474,126	402,277,896	404,792,176
EQUITY AND LIABILITIES				
Equity				
Issued capital	1,273,421	1,273,421	1,273,421	1,273,421
Translation reserve	244,093	67,490	-	-
Reserves	11,017,509	138,689,514	120,352,459	137,293,209
Retained earnings	122,661,538	139,121,979	121,625,880	138,566,720
Equity attributable to owners of the parent	122,661,538	139,121,979	121,625,880	138,566,720
Non-controlling interest	-	-	-	-
Total equity	122,661,538	139,121,979	121,625,880	138,566,720
Non-current liabilities				
Lease liabilities	4,350,040	4,593,751	4,249,513	4,317,370
Provision for site restoration	30,014	29,637	30,014	29,637
Term borrowings - Non-current portion	208,960,479	192,886,904	208,960,479	192,886,904
Deferred tax liability	952,783	-	952,783	-
213,360,533	198,461,075	213,266,006	198,184,694	
Current liabilities				
Lease liabilities	650,007	391,407	634,985	443,444
Trade and other payables	39,807,205	41,740,773	39,616,607	41,477,981
Contract liabilities	752,226	688,277	780,452	721,022
Bank overdrafts	19,255,966	18,000,315	19,255,966	18,000,315
67,236,473	67,891,072	67,392,010	68,940,762	
280,597,065	286,352,147	289,693,016	286,225,456	
403,258,564	405,474,126	402,277,896	404,792,176	

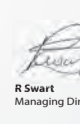
Information to Members

The company secretary would like to inform the members that dividends can be directly transferred to their bank.

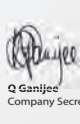
Members can contact the CSD & Registry Company Limited on +255 (0)22 211 8740 or on +255 (0)746 1605 16 for information on how to have the dividends deposited directly into their bank.



P. Rutabanzwa
Chairman
3 April 2023




R. Swart
Managing Director



O. Gijjer
Company Secretary

Tanga Cement Public Limited Company
 P.O. Box 5053
 Tanga
 Tanzania
info@simbacement.co.tz



China says international community must help Africa eradicate terrorism

UNITED NATIONS

A CHINESE envoy has called on the international community to help Africa address its most pressing challenges and eradicate terrorist threats.

Africa still has a long way to go to eradicate terrorism, special Chinese government representative on African affairs Liu Yuxi told a United Nations Security Council high-level open debate on countering terrorism through strengthening cooperation between the UN and regional organizations. He noted that regional terrorist organizations in Africa, such as Boko Haram, Lord's Resistance Army and al-Shabab, collude with Da'esh and al-Qaeda to cause trouble, with regional hotspots remaining volatile.

"The international community must respond to African countries' urgent needs and aspirations and work jointly to help them address the most pressing challenges and the root causes of terrorism," Liu said.

He underscored the need to build international consensus over counter-

terrorism, saying the international community should take the opportunity of this year's eighth review of the UN Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy to consolidate the global united front against terrorism.

The international community should also enhance Africa's ability to safeguard peace independently and further strengthen international counter-terrorism cooperation with Africa, redirect more global counter-terrorism resources to countries in Africa, and increase funding, equipment, intelligence and logistical supplies, he said. The arms embargoes imposed by the Security Council on Sudan, South Sudan and other countries have had negative impacts on enhancing the security capacity of the countries concerned and should be adjusted or lifted promptly, said Liu.

He also stressed eliminating breeding grounds for terrorism in Africa.

China calls on the international community to increasingly listen to the voices of African countries, give greater prominence to the continent's development agenda, take practical steps

to support Africa in eliminating poverty and achieving sustainable development, and help African countries fundamentally eradicate terrorist threats, said Liu.

He said the Security Council should use the annual meeting with the Peace and Security Council of the African Union to coordinate and build synergy on African counter-terrorism issues.

Liu emphasized that African countries rely on UN peacekeeping operations to assist them in their counter-terrorism efforts; therefore, the UN Secretariat must ensure that peacekeeping operations are better aligned with the specific needs of African nations. "China is always a staunch force for peace and security in Africa," the envoy said. "We will continue to implement the Global Security Initiative and the Global Development Initiative, work with Africa to build a high-level China-Africa community with a shared future, and make a greater contribution to lasting peace and sustainable development in Africa."



Rotary Club of Dar es Salaam president Nikki Aggarwal (front row, in specs) and Moses Amani (to her right), head teacher of Dar es Salaam's Kunduchi Primary School, seated with the school's teachers and pupils at the weekend shortly after the club gifted the school 300 desks worth 38m/-. The club has so far extended over 2,300 desks worth over 300m/- to primary school in Dar es Salaam Region. Photo: Guardian Correspondent



Social Development, Social Risk Management and Safeguards Consultants

The World Bank's Social Sustainability and Inclusion Global Practice (SSI) is recruiting Short Term Consultants (STCs) as **Social Development, Social Risk Management and Safeguards Consultants**. The positions are national STCs covering Tanzania under the SAES2 Unit which handles social development, social risk management, social safeguards, social inclusion and social sustainability in the country's portfolio. The consultants will address the day-to-day social development and social risk management and safeguards aspects of projects in preparation and under supervision/monitoring using appropriate knowledge of the World Bank's Environmental and Social Framework - ESF.

Duties and responsibilities

Working under the guidance of the Senior Social Development the STCs will assist SSI to provide continuous and timely support to the Tanzania Portfolio on social risk management and social inclusion and sustainability with a focus on ensuring compliance with the Bank's Environmental and Social Framework (ESF) and integrating the social development elements into projects. Consultants will support both project design, preparation and implementation. Specific tasks will include:

- Technical advice to the client;
- Review and input to various project preparation and implementation documents;
- Participate in missions and input to Mission Aide Memoires;
- Social Risk Rating and Social Performance Rating of projects, Tracking Social Performance;
- Review of various social safeguard related documents (including ESMFs, ESAs/ESMPs, RPFs, RAPs, SEPs, LMPs, GRMs);
- Review social compliance in bidding documents;
- Prepare ESSAs for PFR operations, organize and participate in ESSA stakeholder consultations and validations;
- Supervise and monitor projects through field visits, timely identification of social risks and provision of mitigation measures and where required provision of on spot guidance on social screening and due diligence;
- Train project implementation teams and any other support as requested on behalf of the Bank.

Selection Criteria

Any successful candidate should be a holder of at least a master's degree or its equivalent in Sociology, Social Studies, Social Development, Development Studies, Community Development or similar/relevant social sciences field with at least 5 years or more of demonstrated experience in social development, social risk management and safeguard compliance. Consultants should be familiar with the Bank's Environmental and Social Framework. Ability to work in teams essential, and especially cooperation with Task Team Leaders, government officials and partner organizations.

Duration of Assignment

The consultants will each work for 150 days within the period **July 1st, 2023, to June 30th, 2023**. The contract is subject to renewal based on business needs and performance.

How to Apply

To apply follow the link <https://wbgeconsult2.worldbank.org/wbgec/index.html> (Business Opportunities) Selection Number SSITZ1. **DO NOT CREATE A LOGIN OR LOGIN USING ANY USERNAME OR PASSWORD**. Applications must have a cover letter and a CV detailing academic qualifications, experience and description of similar assignments performed. Note that this is not a request for financial and/or technical proposals. Consultants shall be selected in accordance with World Bank procedures. The World Bank Group is committed to achieving diversity in terms of gender, nationality, culture and educational background. Only shortlisted candidates will be contacted for an interview. Closing date is **15th April 2023**



PUBLIC ANNOUNCEMENT

APPROVED BY THE CAPITAL MARKETS AND SECURITIES AUTHORITY (CMSA)

ISSUANCE OF TANZANIA MORTGAGE REFINANCE COMPANY LIMITED (TMRC) MEDIUM TERM NOTE (MTN) PROGRAMME TRANCHE 4

Tanzania Mortgage Refinance Company Limited (TMRC) wishes to inform the general public that the Capital Markets and Securities Authority (CMSA) in discharging its responsibilities conferred upon it under the Capital Markets and Securities Act, Cap 79 of the Laws of Tanzania, has approved Information Memorandum in respect of raising TZS 10 billion through issuance of tranche 4 of the TMRC Medium Term Note (MTN) Programme worth 120 billion.

Features of Tranche 4 are as follows:

Issuer:	Tanzania Mortgage Refinance Company Limited
Aggregate amount:	TZS 120,000,000,000
Series: Four:	TZS 10,000,000,000
Tranche: Four:	TZS 10,000,000,000 (Ten billion only)
Issue Price:	100% of the Aggregate Nominal
Coupon:	10.20% paid semiannually in arrears
Specified Denomination:	TZS 1,000,000.00
Calculation Amount:	TZS 1,000,000.00
Issue date:	03 rd April 2023
Maturity Date:	09 th May 2028
Interest payment:	09 th November and 09 th May
Commencement date:	09 th November 2023
Interest Basis:	10.20 percent. Fixed Rate payable semi-annually. [5 Years Treasury Bond coupon rate plus 50 basis point risk]
Tax obligation:	Exempted from withholding tax on coupon payments.
Listing status:	Tranche 4 will be listed at the Dar es Salaam Stock Exchange Plc (DSE).

Investment is done by completing Application Form available at stockbrokers and dealers of the Dar es Salaam Stock Exchange licensed by the Capital Markets and Securities Authority (CMSA); or from the TMRC website www.tmrc.co.tz. Applications are completed by making payment into Tanzania Mortgage Refinance Company Limited account Number 001000321691, maintained at Azania Bank Limited, Masdo Branch.

Offer timetable:

S/n	Event	Date
1.	Approval of TMRC MTN from CMSA	11 th May, 2018
2.	Approval of IM and Pricing Supplement from CMSA	31 st March, 2023
3.	Opening of the Offer	03 rd April, 2023
4.	Closing of the Offer	24 th April, 2023
5.	Date of Allocation	02 nd May, 2023
6.	Announcement Date	04 th May, 2023
7.	Coupon payment dates	09 th November and 09 th May
8.	Dispatch of Notes Certificates	18 th May, 2023
9.	Commencement of Trading	19 th May, 2023

Investors are advised to consult stockbrokers and dealers of the Dar es Salaam Stock Exchange licensed by Capital Markets and Securities Authority (CMSA); lawyers or other financial advisors for guidance and making informed investment decisions.

Issue by:

Chief Executive Officer,

Tanzania Mortgage Refinance Company Limited,
15th Floor, Golden Jubilee-Main Tower, Ohio Street,
P.O. Box 7539, Dar es Salaam.

Government surveys land in 12 villages in Meatu District

By Guardian Correspondent, Meatu

THE government has started surveying land in 12 villages that make up Makao Wildlife Management Area (Makao WMA) in Meatu District, Simiyu Region for the best land-use plan and reduce the encroachment of protected areas.

The land-use plan orchestrated by the Ministry of Lands, Housing and Human Settlements Development is also expected to help reduce Human-wildlife conflicts (HWC) in the district, due to several times elephants have been invading farms and people's homes.

Meatu district wildlife officer, Deusdedit Martin said that the survey will be of great benefit to the villagers.

"Our villages will organise themselves and allocate land for agriculture, livestock, settlements, sports and conservation activities," he said, adding that the district has strategies to

improve conservation and tourism activities, but also ensure that HWC are reduced.

On the increase of elephants' invasion in the residential areas, Martin said that the council in collaboration with conservation stakeholders continues to provide education to prevent the largest mammals into people's homes.

Makao villager Julius Yohana praised the government, Makao WMA and the investor Mwiba company, for facilitating the plan to measure their villages and have a plan for the best use of land.

Yohana said, their villages have been benefiting a lot from conservation. We now need to get funds for various projects for building schools, health centres, to get small loans and for entrepreneurial activities.

In Makao WMA, there is an investor Mwiba Holding Ltd that has been doing photo tourism activities including a luxury tourist hotel that has been visited by famous guests in the world.



Zanzibar House of Representative Speaker Zubeir Ali Maulid makes remarks at iftar NBC Bank hosted for its customers in Zanzibar at the weekend. Photo: Guardian Correspondent

Speaker praises NBC for contributing to Z'bar socio-economic development

By Guardian Reporter, Zanzibar

SPEAKER of the Zanzibar House of Representatives, Zubeir Ali Maulid has expressed his satisfaction with the National Bank of Commerce (NBC)'s cooperation with the House and the Isles' government and contribute substantially to the socio-economic growth of the Indian Ocean archipelago.

Maulid made the remarks here

over the weekend when speaking at an Iftar gathering organised by NBC for its customers in Zanzibar.

The speaker noted that apart from having a consolidated presence in the wholesale and retail banking segments including its La Riba Islamic product, the lender remains a key contributor towards the economic and social growth of Zanzibar.

"I would like to congratulate NBC for highlighting the importance of

its customers and reciprocating a portion of their profit in various ways including through donating health care facilities, engaging, and contributing to the wider community in which the bank operates. We're so grateful," he pointed out.

Speaking at the event, on behalf of NBC Bank managing director, the bank's credit director Salehe Mohamed said: "We consider our customers as a valued extension of

the NBC family and as we mark the blessed days of this holy month, we wanted to take this opportunity to share the spirit of togetherness with them."

"The event also provided us with an avenue through which we could show our appreciation to them for their continued patronage, while at the same time reaffirming our commitment to understand and address their needs and expectations."

"We've always been committed towards providing products that are specifically tailored to our customers. Gatherings such as these provide us with a vital opportunity to interact and understand their requirements better; further strengthening our relationships while also obtaining their valuable feedback for our existing products and services," he added.

Elaborating on the importance

of working with the community, Mohamed said those who have not joined them in banking services, are welcomed to enjoy their friendly packages spread all over their branches countrywide.

The event was attended by over 400 invited guests including government and political parties' senior officials, religious leaders, customers, the bank's agents and staff of the bank.

Minister pays visit to gas car crash survivors

By Correspondent Cheji Bakari, Tanga

HEALTH minister Umyy Mwalimu, has paid a visit to survivors of the Liquefied Petroleum Gas (LPG) vehicle accident admitted to Bombo referral hospital in Tanga city and instructed that they be transferred to Muhimbili National Hospital (MNH) for further specialised treatment.

The road accident that occurred last Friday morning at Komkonga village, Kabuku ward at Chalinze - Segera highway in Handeni district, killed three people and left nine seriously injured.

Minister Umyy stated that she held a discussion with hospital's medical in charge Dr Naima Yusuf and came up with the decision to refer them to Muhimbili hospital because that national hospital has special facilities to treat and care for patients who are severe burns.

"Due to their conditions, I advised them to transfer them to Muhimbili National Hospital for further treatment," stated minister Umyy.

According to Handeni district commissioner, Albert Msando, the accident occurred on Friday of last week at Komkonga village along Chalinze - Segera highway in Handeni.

Speaking at the scene of incident, DC Msando who is also district's defence and security committee chairman said the preliminary statement issued by the vehicle's driver which loaded 22 tonnes of LPG from Dar es Salaam heading to Nairobi its left tire burst.

"Due to speeding, the driver failed to control and it overturned and the gas started to leak, a situation that affected electricity infrastructure and three nearby houses that burnt to ashes, killing an elderly woman and her two children who were asleep," he explained.



Asma Mwinyi Foundation director Asma Mwinyi (C) serves children with special needs at an iftar hosted by the foundation in Zanzibar's Urban West Region Zanzibar at the weekend. Photo: Correspondent Maulid Mmbaga

IOM calls for seamless intra-African labour mobility to spur growth

NAIROBI

AFRICAN countries should enact policy and legislative instruments that facilitate seamless cross-border movement of the skilled labor force in order to realize economic growth, stability and cohesion, the International Organization for Migration (IOM) officials has said.

Mohammed Abdiker, the director of the IOM's Regional Office for East and Horn of Africa, said the continent should leverage organized labor mobility in its quest for integration and shared pros-

perity. "We need to ensure labor migration across the continent's borders is safe and orderly in order to unleash economic prosperity," Abdiker said at a regional media forum convened by the IOM in Nairobi, the Kenyan capital.

Abdiker said removing barriers to the seamless intra-African movement of skilled labor should inform future efforts to realize the fruits of the ongoing efforts to integrate the continent and tackle poverty and a host of social ills.

While suggesting that countries should hasten the implementation of regional

protocols on promoting orderly labor mobility to help tackle the growing threat of smuggling and human trafficking, he urged African governments to foster bilateral discussions on promoting a safe, legal and seamless cross-border movement of skilled labor as part of efforts to boost foreign exchange earnings in terms of diaspora remittances.

Abdiker added that other incentives like abolishing visa requirements, and rolling out medical insurance and pension schemes will spur intra-African migration of skilled labor force.

He observed that enacting friendly immigration laws will also help African states tap into the economic and social benefits of the free movement of skilled labor across borders.

The African Continental Free Trade Area (AfCFTA) agreement recognizes seamless cross-border labor mobility as key to the realization of full integration, economic prosperity, peace and long-term stability.

Tatiana Hadjiemmanuel, senior regional specialist for Labor Mobility and Social Inclusion at the IOM Regional Of-

fice for East and Horn of Africa, said that facilitating free movement of the continent's skilled youthful workforce should be at the heart of efforts to foster equitable growth.

According to Hadjiemmanuel, African nations should also prioritize sharing of best practices on enhancing orderly labor mobility besides spotlighting opportunities that skilled workforce can tap into across borders.

She added that legal protection for Africa's migrant workers is key to ensuring their rights are not violated.



Lucas Venance (3rd-L), executive officer for Chamwino in Dodoma Region, addresses residents of the ward yesterday. He underlined the need for the public to take full part in environmental hygiene. Behind him is Dodoma City Council sanitation manager John Lugendo. Photo: Correspondent Peter Mkwavila

GCRC coaches teachers and caregivers on best ways to deal with autism cases

By Correspondent James Lanka, Moshi

MOSHI-BASED Gabriella Children Rehabilitation Centre (GCRC) has empowered teachers and caregivers in Kilimanjaro Region with special skills on how to deal with children with autism and other brain disabilities.

The training is among the series of activities by GCRC to mark the World Autism Day, on April 2, every year and this year's theme is: "Transforming the Narrative: Contributions at home, at Work, in the arts and in policymaking".

Brenda Shuma-Mekere, GCRC executive director said over the weekend here that the training is aimed at improving sustainable inclusive quality education for all children in the community.

Brenda said that in recent years, major progress has been made in increasing awareness and acceptance

of autism and thanked autistic advocates who have worked tirelessly to support the group.

"Medical professionals, researchers and academics in many countries are now incorporating the neurodiversity paradigm, coined by sociologist Judy Singer in the late 1990s, in their work," she said, noting that GCRC is moving away from the narrative of curing or converting autistic people and instead focusing on accepting, supporting and including autistic people, and advocating for their rights.

"This is a major transformation for all autistic people, their allies, the wider neurodiversity community and the world at large. It enables autistic people to claim their dignity and self-esteem, and to become fully integrated as valued members of their families and societies," she said.

Brenda also said: "It's possible to

focus attention on the contributions that autistic people make to the world, as this year's World Autism Awareness Day (WAAD) observance will do, focusing in particular on their contributions in the home, at work, in the arts and in policymaking."

"Autistic people do, nevertheless, still face discrimination and other challenges. As with all populations, autistic people have a wide range of talents and challenges that are often not recognized by the world they are born into."

She also said that the levels of awareness and acceptance vary dramatically from country to country. We must also recognize that autistic people are especially vulnerable to the major upheavals to routines and daily lives that we witness all around us, such as pandemics, wars and natural disasters.

IITA
Transforming African Agriculture

ILRI

POSITION ANNOUNCEMENT RESEARCH ASSOCIATE 2 – DATA SYSTEMS IITA-TZ-2023 – R4D-005 –NRS-DSM

The International Institute of Tropical Agriculture (IITA) on behalf of the International Livestock Research Institute (ILRI) invites applications for the position of **Research Associate 2 – Data Systems**. The Research Associate 2 – Data Systems will contribute to livestock production/productivity and genetic data management systems (collation, processing, and storage) and tools for use in the African Dairy Genetic Gain Project Country Program

Duty Station: This is a Nationally Recruited Position, and the incumbent will be based in Dar es Salaam – Tanzania.

Roles and Responsibilities:

- Contribute to livestock production/productivity and genetic data management systems (collation, processing, and storage) and tools for use in the African Dairy Genetic Gain Project Country Program
 - Understand existing tools used for data capture and assist in developing modules that extend the scope of the current tools and provide training for the same.
 - Respond to ICT support requests from farmers, and field-based partner agents in a timely manner through WhatsApp/telegram/telephone/field visit programs.
 - Write procedures and software to import/ export data from/to appropriate database systems and share these for further analyses and interpretation.
 - Develop additional dashboards to enable monthly data monitoring of field agents submitting data per cluster, missing and incomplete information, unusual values, and other related issues and prepare a monthly report for the Country coordinator.
 - Implement and monitor Quality Assurance (QA) protocols and routines, including safe and remote back-up of database systems and tools.
 - Keep up to date with the latest tools and resources, including open-source software, for the collection, management, storage, and sharing of information.
 - Maintain the confidentiality of all information collected.
 - Participate actively in ADGG country meetings and workshops.
 - Participate, plan, and facilitate training of partners on ADGG systems.
- Provide 1st and 2nd level support to partners using the different technological platforms offered by ADGG.
 - Facilitate onboarding of new partners into ADGG platform and offer technical & user support.
 - Partner engagement on new platform requirements.
 - Perform any other activity as assigned by the national coordinator.

Qualifications and Experience:

- BA/BSc degree in Information Systems, Database Management, Computer Science, or related discipline.
- Experience working with integrated database systems preferably for research projects, including large-scale socioeconomic and/or biological surveys e.g., MySQL, MS SQL Server, or Oracle.
- Experience with database design, database management, and computer programming, and with the application of quality assurance standards and procedures.
- At least 4 years of relevant work experience in digital data systems.
- Advanced experience with SQL language for data extraction and management of databases.
- Knowledge and experience of Linux operating system.
- Experience in software programming.
- Understanding and experience of working in applied agricultural research preferred.

Additional skills:

- Fluency in Kiswahili and English is essential to communicate in writing and speaking.
- Ability to communicate effectively with different stakeholders.
- Ability to manage field teams and uphold the highest ethical standards by inspiring trust and treating all people with respect and personal integrity.
- Ability to work in a fast-paced environment with researchers, enumerators, and livestock value chain actors.
- Excellent interpersonal and relationship-building skills and ability to work collaboratively with people at all levels and from multiple disciplines and cultures in a respectful manner.
- Willingness to travel locally, regionally, and internationally.

General information:

The duration of contract for the position is three years. This is a nationally recruited position and IITA offers a competitive remuneration package.

Applications: Applications including curriculum vitae, copies of certificates, telephone number, email address, and names and addresses of two referees should be sent to the Country Representative, IITA-Tanzania, Plot No. 25, Mwenge – Coca-Cola Road, Mikocheni Industrial Area P.O. Box 34441, Dar es Salaam, Tanzania or by email to IITA-Tanzania@cgiar.org

Applicants are requested to please indicate the reference number for the position as indicated on the heading of the announcement in your application as well as on the subject of your email if sending by email. If sending by post or hand delivery, please indicate the reference number on your application as well as on the left-hand side of your envelope. **Please note that any applications without the reference number indicated will be automatically disqualified.**

Closing date: Two weeks from the date of advertisement appearing in the newspaper. Please note that only shortlisted candidates will be contacted.

ASPIRES Tanzania
Agricultural Sector Policy and Institutional Reforms Strengthening

MICHIGAN STATE UNIVERSITY

SENIOR POLICY SPECIALIST FOR HORTICULTURE (SPSH)

Background:

ASPIRES Tanzania is implementing a Horticultural Policy Enabling Environment component of the USAID/KILIMO TIJA project through a sub-grant from Agricultural Cooperative Development International / Volunteers in Overseas Cooperative Assistance (ACDI/VOCA), the prime contractor for the project. ASPIRES would like to hire a Senior Policy Specialist to support this activity. Kilimo Tija Activity (KTA) is a five-year project that aims to transform the Tanzanian horticultural market system into a more vibrant, competitive, resilient, and inclusive system capable of fueling sustained growth and drawing in new market participants.

Through the Kilimo Tija Activity, horticultural-related enterprises, smallholders, and producer organizations – especially youth – will benefit from improved commercial access to productive technologies and technical training to help them produce fresh, high-quality, processed fruits and vegetables for an expanding and diverse market of domestic and international buyers.

Job Summary: ASPIRES seeks to engage a qualified candidate to serve as the Senior Policy Specialist for Horticulture and Leader of the Policy Research Team. The SPSH will implement the SERA BORA project and take on the leadership role in implementing the Horticultural Policy Enabling Environment. The SPSH will spearhead policy research, analysis, and policy dialogue and provide technical support during policy reforms, approval, and implementation in horticulture.

The policy reforms include the horticultural sub-sector, fiscal policy, and legal and regulatory framework. The SPSH will be a liaison between ASPIRES and ACDI/VOCA. The SPSH will regularly interact with the Ministry of Agriculture and other sector Ministries, the Tanzania Horticultural Association (TAHA), the Southern Agricultural Growth Corridor of Tanzania (SAGCOT), and other horticulture stakeholders. Remunerations will be commensurate with education, background, and experience. The SPSH will divide time between Kilimo Tija and ASPIRES offices in Dar es Salaam.

Essential Duties & Responsibilities

- Participate in the preparation of work plans, and monthly, quarterly, and annual reports
- Coordinate and conduct horticultural policy research and analysis
- Facilitate horticultural policy dialogue, including the organization of seminars and conferences
- Provide technical support during horticultural policy reforms
- Collaborate with ASPIRES technical, administration, and communication teams during the implementation of activities
- Implement other tasks as assigned by the Chief of Parties of both ASPIRES and Kilimo Tija

Education and Experience

- At least a Masters degree in Agricultural Economics, Agribusiness, or closely related fields
- Ten (10) or more years of experience in Agriculture Development projects, Project Management (design, budgeting, work plan, Monitoring, Evaluation and Learning (MEAL), Writing Reports)
- Experience in high-level policy engagement with Government Ministers, Permanent Secretaries, Parliamentarians, etc
- Excellent analytical skills
- Demonstrated knowledge of the horticulture sector
- Demonstrated capacity to produce high-quality research and writing skills
- Strong team player, self-motivated, and able to work with people from different social and cultural backgrounds
- Excellent communication skills in written and spoken English

Preferred Qualifications:

- Demonstrated leadership skills and strong experience in building and managing teams
- Familiarity with the literature and demonstrated knowledge of research in one or more of the following areas: agricultural development and policy, food security, nutrition, and food systems transformation
- Field experience in agricultural and market surveys, including project and household data in developing countries
- Analysis of national survey and census data
- Good interpersonal skills and ability to lead research teams
- Strong results orientation, demonstrated ability to balance multiple projects with a high level of accuracy, and the ability to prioritize tasks and work independently
- Excellent working knowledge of word processing, database, statistics, and spreadsheet software.
- Experience with donor-funded projects is desirable, primarily USAID-funded projects
- Experience in/of the horticulture industry is an added advantage

How to apply:

Interested candidates who meet the mentioned qualifications should send an application letter and CV with at least three referees to info@aspres.or.tz by **April 14, 2023**.

MONDAY 3 APRIL 2023

**Taking A New Look
At The News**
ESTABLISHED IN 1995

Registration formalities not crime-proof control

ECONOMIC liberalisation brought up new dreams to make money and, simultaneously, opportunities for fraud as people eager to make money do not do all the necessary checks to detect intent of fraud. At the same time, the periodic collapse of fraudulent schemes in different guises pushed those scheming to defraud people to polish their art. In a recent well-polished scheme, the game movers had all the required registration formalities, to back them up.

Some eyewitnesses are on record affirming that pensioners, and civil servants in particular have since 2020 taken a deep interest in what rather convincingly passed off as an investment scheme. The trouble is that at the end of the day they lost 16bn/- in an 'invest and reap' fraudulent device, which initial reports say it attracted well over 300 people. They deposited money into a pyramid scheme—BestWay Capital Management Limited (BCM), now grieving over hundreds of millions of shillings some of them put into the scheme; they then lost contacts.

Individual efforts to locate the mover of the scheme to 'talk business' had failed, ruining their initial trust that the public approaches for personal investments were genuine.

A critical aspect they checked was registration with the Business Registration and Licensing Agency (BRELA), a precautionary aspect that the fraudsters made sure they covered. They earned upwards of 16bn/- for their sense of detail, a dizzying recital of clever money games.

This adds at least one lesson to the public, that registration with BRELA or the Tanzania Revenue Authority (TRA), having a tax

identification number and even one or two copies of annual tax returns is no proof that the scheme is genuine. With the victims still trying to recover from the shock of losing life-long savings, it may not be appropriate to inform anyone of what needs to be done in conducting such investments. But they and others would already have comprehended that public and listed institutions are safer, or bank deposits.

Plenty has been said on filing cases with adequate investigation but those who lot cash complain of lack of interest among law enforcement agencies on the case. The presumed culprit is reportedly living in Dubai, a few hours flight from Dar es Salaam, and Interpol hasn't been asked to assist. These days there are few hiding places for those being sought by the police; Dubai is accessible.

Investing in an 'invest and reap' scheme is to make easier money than in banks or listed investments, forgetting the maxim that 'there is no free lunch.' The fellow who promises more than regular bank deposit rates is a speculator and thus can't issue any guarantees, like a wizard given money to 'duplicate it tenfold.' We are victims of frauds when we think we cornered a salivating deal.

There was a mandatory deposit of 23m/-, opening an account and filling forms, with a one year or two years contract enabling the investor to receive six percent of the money invested each month. Clearly this kind of earnings was far too high for comfort, implying that someone else would be losing his or her money to fill those expected earnings. The moment one is okay with that feeling after having figures out that it is the case, he or she is in moral terms complicit with fraud.

With right policies and free trade, industrialisation will move faster

AFRICAN countries are in the process of upgrading and promoting the development of higher-productivity sectors, including manufacturing and high-end services. One of the key elements is the need to expand the industrial sector, which provides opportunities for employment generation, integration and value addition for boosting export earnings and income generation.

Three years ago, the global manufacturing and industrialisation summit (GMS) held a meeting in Tanzania at the headquarters of East African Community (EAC) aimed at connecting East Africa to the world.

The event brought together experts in different fields in manufacturing and industrialisation, with presentations and discussions on how Africa should move forward.

At no point in recent history have calls for Africa to industrialise been stronger than they have been lately. Across the continent, industrialisation is arguably the most talked about subject among policymakers. So why has action on the ground failed to move the needle on this important development marker?

Industrialisation has been a campaign promise across the African continent, with its acknowledged ability to bring prosperity, new jobs and better incomes for all. Yet the continent is less industrialised today than it was four decades ago. In fact, the contribution of Africa's manufacturing sector to the continent's gross domestic product actually declined from 12 per cent in 1980 to 11 per cent in 2013, where

it has remained stagnant over the past few years, according to the UN Economic Commission for Africa (ECA).

The Economist Intelligence Unit, a British business research group, reckons that Africa accounted for more than 3 per cent of global manufacturing output in the 1970s, but this percentage has since halved. It warns that Africa's manufacturing industry is likely to remain small throughout the remainder of this decade.

High commodity prices triggered by China's seemingly insatiable appetite for natural resources have fueled rapid economic growth in Africa since the 1990s. Many thought the boom would revive Africa's waning manufacturing industry. Yet to the dismay of analysts, it failed to live up to expectations. Instead of using the windfall to set up or stimulate manufacturing industries, African countries—with a few exceptions—wasted the money on non-productive expenditures. Ghana and Zambia, for instance, used profits from the commodity bonanza to solve short-term domestic problems, such as by increasing salaries for civil servants.

Now falling commodity prices and a cooling Chinese economy have conspired to expose the myth of the "Africa Rising" story line. The International Monetary Fund estimates that growth in 2016 fell below 4 per cent, which The Economist, a UK-based publication, warns will lead many to fret that a harmful old pattern of commodity-driven boom and bust in Africa is about to repeat itself.

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Who are the armed groups ravaging the eastern DRC?

By Michael Fitzpatrick

THE United Nations Security Council has "strongly condemned" violence perpetrated by armed groups in the Democratic Republic of Congo and has demanded that militia groups disband. Which militia are involved, and who controls them?

In its statement published this week, the Security Council called for "all members of armed groups [to] immediately and permanently disband, lay down their arms and release children from their ranks".

The Council focused in particular on rebels of the March 23 Movement (M23), whose attacks have increased in recent months in North Kivu, which borders Rwanda.

But this week's quarterly report on the DRC by UN Secretary-General Antonio Guterres says the Allied Democratic Forces and the Cooperative for the Development of the Congo (Codeco) are also responsible for the surge in regional violence, with at least 700 civilians murdered in the first three months of this year.

This Tutsi-led rebel group has seized swathes of territory and advanced close to the regional hub

city of Goma, prompting the seven-nation East African Community to authorise the deployment in November of a military force of mostly Kenyan soldiers.

M23 rebels were supposed to leave North Kivu by the end of March, but are have been seen throughout the region.

The Congolese government, independent UN experts and several Western governments say the M23 rebels are backed by Rwanda, a claim denied by Kigali.

The Security Council this week again demanded "that all external parties immediately cease their support" for M23.

The March 23 Movement was formed at the end of the Kivu war in 2009. Under a peace deal signed on 23 March of that year, rebels of Laurent Nkunda's National Congress for the Defence of the People (CNDP) were integrated into the Congolese army.

Dissatisfied with the way in which the peace terms were administered, and refusing Kinshasa's attempts to disperse them to other parts of the DRC, the rebels mutinied, murdered their officers and took to the bush with weapons, vehicles and uniforms stolen from

army stocks.

The group continues to control large swathes of North Kivu, and is probably financed by the illegal export of the region's raw materials - principally timber and minerals - to or through neighbouring Rwanda.

This Islamist-aligned militia was formed in Uganda in 1995 with a view to opposing then Ugandan President Yoweri Museveni.

A series of military defeats in the late 1990s forced group members out of Uganda's western Rwenzori mountains and into North Kivu, where their activities centred on the towns of Beni and Ituri.

With an estimated 500 active fighters, the group pledged allegiance to the Islamic State armed group in October 2017 and was listed as a terrorist organisation by the US administration.

Money, weapons and strategic advice for the ADF are believed to come from Islamist organisations in Somalia. The group is locally financed by the illegal export of coffee, timber and gold.

The group was formed as an agricultural cooperative in the 1970s, before morphing in the late 1990s

into an armed militia mainly fighting to defend Lendu people in Ituri and North Kivu.

Several of the militias that claim Codeco affiliation stand accused of massacres and war crimes by UN officials.

Today the group is described variously as an armed political-religious sect, an association of Lendu militias, and a political-military sect.

They are active in the region of Ituri and are suspected of being involved in several massacres and armed confrontations with the Congolese army.

Bintou Keita, the head of the UN mission in DRC, told the Security Council meeting on Wednesday that the country's "already immense" humanitarian needs continue to increase. "This humanitarian crisis remains one of the most neglected in the world," she said, calling for funding of two billion euros promised under the UN's 2023 humanitarian plan for the DRC.

At least 2,100 schools have shut their doors in North Kivu and Ituri provinces since January due to conflict, according to the UN's children's agency, which it said has affected some 750,000 children.

If we value human rights and the rule of law, then we must fight for climate justice

By Jotham Napat and Patricia Scotland

HUMAN life is sacred and every individual deserves an equal chance in life. We have a common desire, we all want to lead a free, fulfilling existence, with dignity, where our basic needs are met, with opportunities to advance and equal treatment under the law.

These are fundamental human rights, protected by international law, which we all have a shared responsibility to protect.

Out of the horrors and bloodshed of war, we created an international system for cooperation between nations under the United Nations, with our rights enshrined by the Universal Declaration on Human Rights.

Today, our rights are threatened not only by weapons, but by the destruction of our environment, our earth, our only home.

Climate change is wreaking havoc on people's basic human rights to life, food, water, housing, health and a decent standard of living. And as the IPCC stated just this week, we have a "rapidly closing window of opportunity" to prevent this destruction.

We cannot let these rights be taken away from us - particularly from vulnerable communities. We must act. This month, when formidable twin cyclones Judy and Kevin slammed into the small

island nation of Vanuatu within days of each other, they laid waste to homes, infrastructure and crops, severely impacting more than 80% of the population. And like many other climate-vulnerable Pacific Island countries, whose territories are 99 per cent ocean, Vanuatu could see more than a metre rise in sea levels by the end of the century, placing entire coastal communities further in jeopardy.

Elsewhere in the world, drawn-out droughts in East Africa - the worst seen in 40 years - are killing millions of livestock and placing 17 million people at risk of starvation.

In South Asia, tropical cyclones are becoming ever more destructive, with the likes of Cyclone Amphan (2020) displacing nearly five million people across India and Bangladesh.

These worsening conditions are not freaks of nature, they are a predictable - and predicted - process of intensifying environmental damage caused by human activity. The world's scientific community is unanimous and unequivocal that human influence has driven up average global temperature, causing unprecedented changes across the entire climate system.

The burning of fossil fuels to supply skyrocketing energy needs and the release of harmful greenhouse gases continue to trigger harmful, irreversible consequences for the environment - and it is the most vulnerable which suffer the most.

It is one of the world's deepest injustices and the root of growing inequality. While the most climate vulnerable countries have contributed the least greenhouse emissions that cause climate change, they are forced to endure the very worst of its impacts. Small island developing states - two thirds of which are in the Commonwealth - contribute less than 1 per cent of global emissions, while the world's poorest nations contribute less than 4 per cent. Yet it is their people who are frequently and directly in jeopardy, including their rights to development, self-determination and a healthy environment.

Addressing these injustices provides the foundation for an initiative led by Vanuatu, a Commonwealth member country, to obtain official advice from the world's highest court.

On 29 March 2023, Vanuatu, along with more than 115 other co-sponsoring countries including a host of Commonwealth nations, will table a proposed resolution at the United Nations General Assembly requesting an advisory opinion on climate change from the International Court of Justice.

Such an opinion, though non-binding, would outline the obligations of states under international law to protect the environment and future generations from climate change. It would also clarify the legal consequences of harming the environment, taking into account the impacts on vulnerable communities and future generations.

Pushing African, other societies to embrace homosexuality is against international human rights law (3)

By Obadia Kajungu

THE International Labour Organization's directives to member states number 190 on interpretation of Article 3, to wit 'Worst Form of Child Labour,' states that governments must take appropriate measures including legislation to prevent worst forms of child labour by explaining such child labour as being those according to their nature and environment, are likely to affect the health, safety and morals of the child.

This can be read together with Article 14 of the Convention on the Right of the Child, 1991 (CRC), ratified by at least 190 member states that is the world's majority community convention, which provides that a child shall have freedom of conscience, thought and religion.

If a child has a right to good environment to be taught religious doctrines or cultural belief which prohibits homosexuality while in fact at the same time the very child is exposed to a man who is publicly getting married to another man, the right of that child to have good environment for moral growth and religious teachings is contravened, thus not in the best interest of the child except grave child exploitation.

This is also a violation of the right of parents to bequeath their faith and morals inherited from grandparents to their children as an intangible cultural heritage of humanity. Such intangible cultural heritage of humanity will be

extinct because of states abandoning protecting and promoting them to continue existing through legislations.

By abandoning the protection and promotion of intangible cultural heritage of humanity inherent in their societies, states are in breach of duty imposed by international law and infringe the basic rights of future generations who will find such intangible cultural heritage of humanity extinct. Furthermore, Article 32 of the said CRC dictates the states to recognize the right of a child to protection against economic exploitation and against being subjected to any labour which is likely to be dangerous or likely to interfere with their education or likely to be injurious to their physical health, mental, moral, social and spiritual growth.

Article 2 of Convention on Genocide, 1948 which came in force in 1951 provides among other things, that to impose into any society the culture or behaviour which may render the extinction of culture, religion and morals of a society amounts to acts of genocide and is therefore an international crime.

Articles 17, 22 and 29 of African Charter on Human and People's Rights (AfCHPR) provides categorically that African states shall be duty-bound to pass legislations with the view to protecting culture, customs, religions, morals and traditions of an African. The emphasis of the AfCHPR is basically on the preservation of African traditions with the right of an African to cultural identity.

Further to this, Articles 2 and 15 of Algiers Declaration insists on the right to respect cultural identity and the right of people not to have an alien culture imposed on them.

By forcing African governments and other anti-gay governments around the world to accept homosexuality and single sex marriages in their societies is an offence of imposing alien culture into such societies.

There are numerous international instruments which seek to protect intangible cultural heritage of humanity such as The Mexico City Declaration on Cultural Policies which states that "every culture represents a unique and irreplaceable body of values since each people's traditions and forms of expression are its most effective means of demonstrating its presence in the world."

Also, there is the World Conference on Cultural Policies, Final Report, 1982, American Declaration on the Rights and Duties of Man, American Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous People and so on.

Don't homosexuals exist in Africa?

The truth is, as has been pointed out above that homosexual behaviour existed across generations but remained a prohibited behaviour by law, religion and customs. Had there not been homosexuals in Africa, there would never have been laws, religion and traditions prohibiting such behaviour. But homosexuality remains prohibited in Africa with the view to protecting religion, cultural traditions and social morality belonging to African societies which are fundamental rights of Africans.

Where are our rights to religion, culture, traditions by moral values inherited from ancestors of our tribes? Are these rights of ours protected by our governments or states in accordance with international law?

Proponents of homosexuality and single sex marriage claim that homosexuals were victims of harsh social environments and sexual abuse while still young and therefore become behaviourally impaired. They further argue that some homosexuals were biologically born with hormonal imbalance hence they found themselves in such sexual behaviour.

It is very true that some of homosexuals were subjected to harsh sexual experience and some were born biologically mutated. The issue arises as to which right must supersede another right after proving that the right to homosexual behaviour cannot co-exist in the same room with the right to intangible cultural heritage of humanity. That is why international law recognizes the right to intangible cultural heritage of humanity against any dangerous behaviour to this right. So, governments have a duty to protect their societies against cultural assault.

Does the law consider environment from which criminal behaviour was

adapted?

We have been seeing thieves whose stealing behaviours were adapted because of harsh poverty of their parents or being street children and orphans because their parents died of HIV AIDS or accidents thus living harsh life experience of their childhood but we prosecute and jail them.

We have also been seeing rapists who were biologically born sexually aggressive due to hormonal imbalance, that is excessive libido and testosterone inhibiting their proper functioning of central nervous system at the time of rape, but we prosecute and jail them harshly up to life sentence.

Likewise, the study has shown that in some cases, stealing behaviour is biologically inherited from parents to offspring but still theft has remained a crime everywhere around the world.

Furthermore, we have been seeing gunmen being shot dead by security officers so as to protect the society while in fact such actions of some gunmen have been associated with mental illness. Therefore, the background from which a person acquired undesirable or criminal behaviour cannot be of any legal justification when it comes to protection of wider societal interests.

This is because, according to Jeremy Bentham (1748-1832) and John Stewart Mill (1806-1873), the laws are there to bring maximum happiness to the many and pains to the fewest members of the community.

The Bentham and Mill theory still applies in our contemporary societies so as to protect interests of the majority. There is no law which can bring universal happiness in the whole society or world. It is impossible.

The author is an advocate of the High Court (To be continued on Wednesday)

E-waste: The dark side of ICT blessing and e-commerce boom

By Correspondent Emmanuel Onyango

WITH the rise of digital economy and e-commerce, adoption of Information and Communication Technology (ICT) has risen to unprecedented levels.

Since the outbreak of the COVID-19 pandemic in late 2019, people have been increasingly relying more on digital technologies due to pandemic prevention and control measures such as lockdown and social distancing which necessitated closure of certain types of businesses.

In the world we live in today, if you don't own an internet-connected electronic gadget, you miss big time not only on breaking news but also massive business opportunities.

But who wants to miss out on online chats, cheap offers, taxi hailing services or business deals? None, of course, unless one lives in a far-flung, yet-to-be-connected remote village.

The combined use of ICT, the internet and e-commerce has brought blessing to humanity due to cheap and fast communication globally as well as trade. Various studies put global online trading platform market size at around US\$10 billion in 2022.

But this blessing has come with the challenge of disposing electronic waste (e-waste) namely discarded electrical or electronic devices, especially for developing countries which have limited recycling capacity. This is a threat to the environment because electronic scrap components such as CPUs contain potentially harmful materials such as lead, cadmium, beryllium or brominated flame retardants.

To respond to this challenge, a number of countries, including Tanzania, have developed legal and policy frameworks to protect the public from the potential harms from discarded gadgets which environmentalists say are harmful and most detrimental to human health when left exposed in open spaces.

Tanzania hosted the fifth East African Communications Organization (EACO) regional workshop on sustainable management of e-waste to share knowledge and awareness towards minimizing the negative effects emanating from poor management of e-waste in communities.

The essence of the workshop was to enlighten people and stakeholders, including dealers of imported electronic gadgets, about the devastating impacts of e-waste thrown away in the open.

The three-day meeting which was organized by Tanzania Communications Regulatory Authority (TCRA) in collaboration with National Environment Management Council (NEMC) was attended physically by 184 delegates from the East African Community (EAC) member states.

Apart from those who came to Dar es Salaam, other 244 delegates attended the meeting virtually via zoom conference which was televised and streamed to some countries in Europe.

Nape Nnauye, Minister for Communication and, Information and Communication Technology officially graced the occasion which among others, discussed how member countries can train their people on how to handle and safely dispose of e-waste materials.

Other discussion points were ways of harmonizing management initiatives, the challenge of sound environment management with a view to minimizing negative effects of e-waste from communities within EAC member states.

Panelists observed that lack of technical facilities is among the challenges facing countries. Also, there are no budgets for e-waste management for member countries but even in case of allocation, the money is too little to do something useful. Also, countries don't have recycling systems and those that claim to have, use poor facilities used for dismantling e-waste, compounded by lack of awareness among users of electronic gadgets.

TCRA has come up with a programme dubbed 'Ex-



tended producer responsibility' which is about to be implemented in Tanzania. Dr Emmanuel Manasseh, TCRA Director of Industry Affairs said that under the initiative, users of electronic devices will have to submit their obsolete gadgets such as cell-phones in exchange for new ones and pay certain amount of money as a way of curbing of e-waste in the communities.

He said that TCRA will communicate to the public through various programmes to be aired on national radio and television stations to sensitize people on the same.

According to him, this will be done in collaboration with manufacturers, suppliers as well as dealers of all kinds of electronic de-

VICES to ensure that awareness is adequately communicated in communities.

"Our primary goal is to put in place strategic measures on how we can control e-waste and EAC members are consistently spearheading such efforts as they did on plastic bags", he said and added that EAC member states have jointly rolled out a long-term strategic plan to control e-waste.

The plans will focus on advocacy and capacity building among others, and will fine-tune policies, regulations, legislations and resource mobilization to ensure that the regional bloc remains is not turned into a dumpsite for used electronic gadgets.

"For Tanzania, the government will partner with

private companies through public-private partnerships (PPP) to build a robust and sustainable infrastructure to facilitate an environmentally responsible e-waste management system and encourage consumers to dispose of their e-waste," he said.

Speaking at the workshop, Executive Secretary of the EACO Dr Ally Simba said about 7.7 billion people in the world use cell-phones which have expired and should be thrown away. In Tanzania, he said there has been an increase of obsolete gadgets from 2,000 tonnes in 1998 to 19,000 tonnes in 2019. Africa where none of these gadgets is manufactured, has been turned into dumpsite and without people's knowledge more

imports of these expired electronic gadgets continue, he said.

Delegates called on national standards bodies such as Tanzania Bureau of Standards (TBS) to ensure that illegal imports are impounded by security forces deployed at border points.

To strengthen the move, standards agencies of each member country was cautioned to work collaboratively with importers and business stakeholders such as telecommunication companies and others to ensure availability of good quality ICT gadgets.

The meeting also identified the need for formal recyclers of ICT devices and called for EACO policy harmonization with the aim of identifying the positive impact of collaboration for

effective and sustainable e-waste management.

Amongst the certified e-waste management facilities in Tanzania is Chilambo General Trade Company Ltd which is located in Kisarawe District, Coast Region, about 32 kilometers away to west from Dar es Salaam.

The firm's managing director Gideon Chilambo told delegates that end of life IT appliances like desktop computers, laptops and printers are part of a waste stream called Waste Electrical and Electronic Equipment (WEEE) which comprise various forms of electric and electronic equipment that have ceased to be of any value to their owners.

One of the crucial steps in the e-waste management process is dismantling followed by opening each appliance, separating the housing from the rest, segregating the parts and removing the hazardous components and carefully categorizing other components into marketable fractions.

According to Chilambo, his firm is specialized in e-waste dismantling process of all kinds of electronic equipment from computers, laptops, LCD or LED screens, television, printer appliances and all kinds of batteries.

WEEE is one of the fastest growing waste streams and in 2020, the world produced 50 million tonnes of electronic waste, including kitchen appliances, mobile phones, computers, TV, electrical and electronic tools. These can all be either recycled or reused, he said.

The world needs strong legal treaty on business and human rights

By Simone Galimberti

THE ongoing discussions on an internationally treaty, described as a “legally binding instrument” on business and human rights, remains one of the most neglected issues that should instead command the attention of the public.

Such a legal tool would bind companies to uphold high standards and most importantly, it would entail mandatory guarantees for accessible and inclusive remedy and therefore, clear liabilities for victims of alleged abuses perpetrated by companies.

It all started in 2014 when two nations of the South, Ecuador and South Africa successfully pushed for a resolution at the UN Human Rights Council on the establishment of a so called “international legally binding instrument on transnational corporations and other business enterprises with respect to human rights”.

By reading the title of the resolution you can immediately realize that one of the conundrums being discussed is the overarching scope of such treaty especially in the reference of the nature of the companies being subject to it.

In practice, would only multinational or also national private corporations come under its jurisdiction?

Interestingly, at the Intergovernmental Working Group (IGWG) created to draft the text of the treaty, many developing nations, for example, like Indonesia, were strongly advocating for only multinationals to be included.

This is a position of convenience that would exclude local major operators involved in the plantations business from coming under scrutiny of the treaty.

Other complex issues are centered on the liability especially in relation to instances where a corporation

is “only” directly linked to the harm rather than cause.

As explained by Tara Van Ho, a lecturer at the University of Essex School of Law and Human Rights Centre, if “a business is only “directly linked to” the harm, it does not need to provide remedies but can instead use its “leverage” to affect change in its business partners.”

The difference between causing or contributing to harm and instead being only linked to it can be subtle and remain an exclusive debate among scholars, but its repercussions could or could not ensure justice to millions of people victims of corporate abuses.

Another point of attrition is the complex issue of the statutes of limitations and the role of domestic jurisdiction over the future treaty.

With all these challenges, after 8 years of negotiations, the drafting is moving in slow motion amid a general disinterest among state parties, as explained by Elodie Aba for Business & Human Rights Resource Centre

An issue that should capture global attention has instead become a realm of technical discussions among governments, academicians and civil society members without generating mass awareness about it.

The need for a treaty related to abuses of corporations is almost self-evident, considering the gigantic proofs that have been emerging both in the North and South.

Despite nice words and token initiatives, the private sector has been more than often keen to close its eyes before abuses occurring through its direct actions or throughout its supply chains.

Amid weak legislations, especially in developing countries, the hard job of trying to keep companies accountable, until now, has depended on a set of non-binding, voluntary procedures formally known as the Guiding Principles on Business and Human Rights.



The open-ended intergovernmental working group on transnational corporations and other business enterprises with respect to human rights was established in 2014. Credit: IPS

The Principles, prepared by late Harvard Professor John G. Ruggie in his capacity as UN Special Representative on Business and Human Rights, proved to be a useful but at the same time inadequate tool.

It has been useful because it was instrumental in raising the issue of human rights within the corporate sector, something that was for too long and till recently, a taboo.

In order to further mainstream it, for example, a UN Working Group on Business and Human Rights has been established as a special procedure within UN Human Rights.

Along the years, this independent group, composed by pro bono academicians, has carried out considerable work to strengthen both the understanding of and the adherence to the Principles.

There is no doubt that there have been attempts at going deeper, especially from the legal point of view on the Principles, especially on their articles related to right to remedy, the thorniest issue.

In this regard, the Accountability and Remedy Project have been providing a whole set of insights

through multiple consultations and discussions, a process that still ongoing with the overall purpose of making a stronger cases on “the right to remedy, a core tenet of the international human rights system”.

Yet principles, UN Global Compact, are toothless tool and showed considerable limitations, starting from the most obvious element, the fact that they are not binding. In the meantime, in 2021 the UN Working Group on Business and Human Rights, on occasion of their 10th anniversary of the Principles, launched road map for the next 10 years.

It is actions, despite their intrinsic limitations due to the nature of the Principles, should be supported but more financial resources are indispensable. Yet finding the financial resources or better the political will to do so remains an issue.

A recommendation from late Prof. Ruggie to create a Voluntary Fund for Business and Human Rights did not go anywhere.

“The Fund would provide a mechanism for supporting projects developed at local and national levels that would increase the capac-

ity of governments to fulfill their obligations in this area as well as strengthen efforts by business enterprises and associations, trade unions, non-governmental organizations and others seeking to advance implementation of the Guiding Principles”.

Even more worrisome is the fact that till now a new Special Representative for Business and Human Rights has not been appointed yet.

Having an authoritative figure, especially a former head of state rather than an academicians, could help bring more visibility to the ongoing “behind the curtain” discussions related to the need for a strong Treaty.

Such a political figure could not only command a stronger attention on the issue but also provide “cover” to the delicate work of the UN Working Group on Business and Human Rights, complementing and strengthening its mandate.

Engagement with the education sector, law and business schools, as advocated by a report published by Business and Human Rights Asia, a UNDP Program, can be essential.

Together with a stronger media coverage, students

and academicians can help elevate the issue of human rights and its linkages with the private sector.

We could imagine competitions among students at national and international levels on how the principles can be better implemented as a “bridge” tool towards a binding legal mechanism.

Students could also have a major say on the opaque drafting process of this treaty.

At the end of the day, there will be compromises and shortcomings, but with a bigger bottom-up approach, a strong Treaty could become a “global” Escazu’, the first ever binding environment agreement in Latin America and the Caribbean.

UNDP with its Business and Human Rights Asia unit that recently organized in Kathmandu an excellent 4th UN South Asia Forum on Business and Human Rights. But it could also be bolder.

The forum did a great job at giving voice to indigenous people, one of the key stakeholders in the global negotiations for the treaty.

A lot of discussions were rightly held on the impact of issues like climate change and migration and their links

with businesses’ attitudes and behaviors towards local populations.

Yet, there was no conversation nor on the treaty nor on the future evolution of the principles. It might certainly be an issue of a limited “mandate” but UNDP could, together with UN Human Rights, be a neutral enabler on a global discussion on the treaty and on how the Principles can further evolve while we wait for such a legal tool.

The Principles should also be better linked with the UN Compact, creating more synergies and coordination between the two.

The fact that nations like France, Germany and the Netherlands have been stepping up with new vigorous legislations in the field of business and human rights is extremely positive.

Equally important is the commitment of the EU to come up with Corporate Sustainability Due Diligence Directive (CSDDD) or the OECD to revise its Guidelines on Responsible Business Conduct but the nations behind these initiatives must commit to the drafting process of the Treaty.

Otherwise, we run the risk that discussions will continue without anyone caring about them. Such an unfortunate situation must truly be “remedied” with the right smart mix, political will, starting from the Secretary General and a powerful alliance of progressive nations in the both South and North driving the process and involving other peer nations.

Ultimately civil society must also step up beyond their technical and legal recommendations and truly engage the people.

Simone Galimberti is the co-founder of ENGAGE and of the Good Leadership, Good for You & Good for the Society.

Opinions expressed are personal.

IPS UN Bureau

Our wonderful differences should enrich societies

By Saima Wazed and Zain Bari Rizvi

WHEN is too much Autism awareness still not enough? This thought recurs every April as we near World Autism Day on April 2, and parents reach out to me after reading enthusiastic and well-meaning news and journal articles - which are actually harmful and hurtful.

In 2008, along with a few dedicated parents and professionals, we began our effort to raise awareness around Autism Spectrum Disorder (ASD). We eventually came together to form an advocacy, capacity-building, and research-based not-for-profit organization (Shuchona Foundation) established in 2014.

Today, we feel our work in Bangladesh, through effective national and international partnerships with equally dedicated parents and professionals, has impacted the country. Professional training, extensive awareness activities, and inclusion in social situations are demonstrable. The best part is that parents no longer view themselves as victims punished by fate for having a child with a disability.

Despite all the efforts in educating people in the many sectors of our country, including the formulation of a detailed National Strategic Plan, it is shocking to still find blatant disregard for the truth. I have, therefore, requested a parent, a former Shuchona Foundation head of operations and now a member of our executive board, to share her thoughts. Nothing speaks the truth louder and stronger than the person who has been on the receiving end of the discriminatory,

hurtful, and unethical behaviour than the parent who hears it over and over again.

Here below are excerpts of what I learned from Zain Bari Rizvi:

If I had a Taka (Bangladesh currency) for each time someone said: ‘But he looks so normal,’ when I share that my son is on the Autism Spectrum, I would have been able to take early retirement at a villa in the Maldives!

I do not blame these mostly well-meaning people and their lack of awareness when widely read, and circulated dailies choose to use photos of children with Downs Syndrome to illustrate what children with Autism look like. Autistic traits cannot be captured with a still photograph, and most individuals with ASD look just like any other typical peer.

This sort of misrepresentation is not innocent and borders on dangerously harmful.

Deliberately associating a congenital genetic condition with a neurodevelopmental one will confuse the readers into thinking they are the same. This may also prevent parents and caregivers of children with Autism from seeking early intervention services that could potentially improve outcomes because they will have the false sense of comfort that their child ‘looks normal’, aka neurotypical.

There is no one true face of Autism because it is a not-one-size-fits-all spectrum disorder. It stays true to this famous quote by an Autism Advocate and Autistic person, Dr Stephen Shore: “If you’ve met one individual with autism, you’ve met one individual with autism.”

I am not a psychologist nor an expert, but as a parent who had the



Saima Wazed

privilege to be educated and used my spare time and resources to do research, this incorrect and harmful visual misrepresentation enrages and upsets me.

Bangladesh has made considerable strides in Autism advocacy and policy changes due to extraordinary efforts by the leadership team at Shuchona Foundation. The Foundation has selflessly spearheaded the

job of educating and opening the minds and hearts of people about what it entails to be on the Autism Spectrum. Because of their single minded dedication to this cause, we, in Bangladesh, are finally having a discourse on what Autism is and acknowledge and accept the differences in our children with Autism. We also have access to world-class services like early interventions such as ABA therapy and parent/caregiver engagement

without shame or guilt.

And if there is one thing I learnt working closely with Shuchona Foundation, the key to making a difference is “to acknowledge that people will not always get it right but to look out for whether they want to learn to make it right”.

As World Autism Day on April 2 nears, my humble request to journalists and mainstream media is to do your duty of imparting factual and medically sound knowledge and information. Learn from your mistakes and ensure your stories and visual representations are accurate because media has the power to help or harm.

As I watch my feisty, opinionated and uber affectionate ASD child thrive in a typical school and social setting thanks to early childhood interventions and therapy, I shudder at the thought of what could have been our reality if I had paid heed to the photos of what Autism looks like in Bangladesh media.

I hope those reading this will take heed. Autism is a complex state of being, and no two autistics are alike. Every time I meet and spend time with someone with Autism, I am amazed at how unique, creative, and what a gift they are to the world. I want to change how we treat those we deem to be different, not change who they are.

For centuries all we have done is find creative ways to separate the majority from the minority. I hope the two years of the global pandemic will finally make us realize that when one group of people mistreat another, be it through military, financial or social power, we all suffer, not just the ones we discriminate against.

IPS UN Bureau

Harris peeks at peppers on farm having climate change in mind

By Chris Megerian, Lusaka

US Vice President Kamala Harris on Saturday travelled down a dirt road to tour a farm outside Zambia's capital that's using new techniques and technology to boost its vegetable crop as she highlighted ways to secure food supplies in an age of global warming.

"It's an example of what can be done around the world," she said after walking past rows of peppers and inspecting a drip irrigation system.

Unlike in the United States, where conversations about climate change usually revolve around replacing fossil fuels with clean energy, the focus in Africa is on expanding access to food. Rising prices stemming from the Russian invasion of Ukraine have been damaging to poor countries, and global warming is expected to bring more challenges in the coming years.

Hunger can also create instability, leading to migration and conflict.

"The connection between these issues is quite clear," Harris said.

She is pushing for \$7 billion in private-sector investments, mostly to boost conservation and improve food production, to help Africa prepare for the effects of climate change. Her announcement about that goal came as she wrapped up her weeklong visit to Africa, which included earlier stops in Ghana and Tanzania. The trip was intended to advance U.S. efforts to make inroads in a part of the world where China's influence runs deep.

For example, African Parks, a nonprofit group, has committed to raise \$1.25 billion over the next seven years in order to expand its conservation program. Another organization, One Acre Fund, plans to raise \$100 million to plant 1 billion trees by the end of the decade.

The politics of climate change are complicated in Africa, which has contributed far less to overall greenhouse gas emissions than richer corners of the world such as the United States. According to the International Energy Agency, 43% of Africans didn't have access to electricity in 2021, and recent outages have



US Vice President Kamala Harris visits Panuka farms outside Lusaka, Zambia on Saturday April 1, 2023. Harris is on the last leg of a seven-day African tour that took her to Ghana and Tanzania.

caused frustration.

In Ghana, Harris was questioned at a news conference about how the West can demand that Africa go green and forgo using its natural resources. She also was

pressed on whether wealthy nations would supply \$100 billion annually to help poor countries cope with climate change, a commitment made under the Paris climate accord.

Harris said it is "critically important that, as global leaders, we all speak truth about the disparities that exist in terms of cause and effect and that we address those disparities." She said

there were opportunities in the "clean energy economy" that could help generate growth in Africa.

As for the money, President Joe Biden has requested \$11 billion in his proposed budget to meet its international commitments.

"We are waiting for Congress to do its work," Harris said.

Programme showcases African youths driving climate novelty



Irri-Hub KE, an innovative climate-smart irrigation company and 2021 AAAP YouthADAPT winner, leverages technology to provide climate smart irrigation to smallholder farmers.

By Guardian Reporter

THE Africa Adaptation Acceleration program (AAAP), a joint initiative of the African Development Bank and the Global Centre on adaptation recently showcased its initiative to harness the dynamism and leadership of Africa's youth to drive climate adaptation innovation.

On the side-lines of the recent 3rd Gobeshona Global conference (link is external), AAAP brought together participants in its YouthADAPT programme to share their experiences with the programme as well as strategies to scale up youth-led approaches to adaptation.

In his opening remarks, Dr. Kevin Kariuki, African Development Bank Vice President for Power, Energy, and Climate and Green Growth underscored young people's integral role in Africa's sustainable development.

"Youth form the backbone of Africa's population, constituting over 60% of the population. The continent's sustainable development hinges on harnessing this demographic dividend,"

Kariuki said. "The AAAP, through its YouthADAPT pillar, has so far supported 35 youth-led enterprises in 14 African countries with \$3.5 million to drive climate actions in sectors such as agriculture, waste management, renewable energy, water and sanitation," Kariuki added. YouthADAPT is one of AAAP's four pillars for accelerating climate adaptation.

Caroline Mukuhi Mwangi, founder of Kimplanter Seedling (link is external) and Nurseries Limited, said her company was already seeing the benefits of participation in the program. Kimplanter provides drought resistant seedlings that boost food production and food security in Kenya.

Mwangi said, "We have ventured into new markets in semi-arid regions and expanded our seedling varieties, increasing our revenue by 36% as a result of AAAP support. Our customer base has also grown from 8,000 to 16,000 farmers and we have increased our staff from 17 to 32, all of whom are women or youth."

Aramide Abe, the Programme Lead of Jobs for Youth and Entrepreneurship at the Global Centre on Adaptation (link is

external) confirmed that participating enterprises have already begun to show results. She said some have seen revenues rise by up to 50 per cent. A fifth have ventured into new markets and have raised over \$106,000 in additional funding from different sources.

Juveline Ngum, the founder of Bleaglee Waste Management Limited, a Cameroon-based start-up company using drone technology to tackle waste disposal, also stressed the benefits of participating in YouthADAPT.

"We have expanded our waste disposal management solution from west Cameroon into Douala, effectively using drones to detect clogged drainages and utilizing data for demand driven waste management," Ngum said. Now, we aim to expand across national borders into Dakar, Senegal."

Noël N'guessan's Cote d'Ivoire-based company, LONO (link is external) - a winner of the 2022 YouthADAPT challenge - has patented technology for the production of organic fertilizer. The company has also introduced modular and mobile biodigesters for the agri-food sector. Biodigesters use microbes and

other bacteria to break down organic waste including fat, greases, and even animal manure.

Still, N'guessan said challenges remained. "The cost of prototyping hardware equipment can be prohibitively high, resulting in lengthy project development cycles," he said. He pointed to financial management training as vital for youth-led businesses.

The session also featured presentations by African Development Bank partners and other global organisations that have rolled out similar initiatives to YouthAdapt.

Sandra Simbiri, programme specialist at UNICEF's Generation Unlimited (link is external), said:

"Supporting entrepreneurs through STEM principles is key to preparing the young for technological innovations."

Alfred Asiko, senior market engagement manager for the ClimateTech Programme at GSMA (link is external), a mobile technology association, said it has played a role in empowering youth to deploy such technologies as the Internet of Things, artificial intelligence and block chain to tackle climate challenges.

"Through our innovation fund, we offer grants to climate startups, with a focus on supporting resilient solutions that utilize frontier technologies. We also provide skills development and training to help entrepreneurs succeed in scaling their innovations," Asiko said.

He said that venture capital (VCs) firms had a critical role to play. "We need to see more VCs stepping up and taking over from development finance institutions (DFIs) in providing financing and support to youth-led businesses," he added.

YouthADAPT targets reaching 10,000 African youth-led enterprises by 2025, promoting innovation and inclusive growth for young people in climate resilient jobs and through youth enterprise development. The AAAP's other three pillars are climate-smart digital technologies for agriculture and food security; the African infrastructure resilience accelerator and the innovative financial initiatives for Africa.

The third annual Gobeshona global conference, organised by the International Centre for Climate Change and Development, took place virtually from 10-16 March 2023. It focused on monitoring locally-led adaptation (LLA) and resilience.

New rural land grab as urban elites build homes in customary farming areas

By Sienna Molepo

ALL over southern Africa, new urban-to-rural migration and settlement trends are emerging. Far from being abandoned, rural areas are in high demand. This exacerbates the precarity of home and life for those who still live in rural areas, especially on customary land.

A study led by Institute for Poverty, Land and Agrarian Studies (Plaas) senior researcher Dr Phyllan Zamchiya and conducted with the Nkuzi Development Association has investigated how land tenure relations and livelihoods for people living on customary land are being reconfigured by the movement of domestic elites in Kwena Moloto and Ceres villages in the Capricorn West district of Limpopo.

The study found that members of the South African urban-based black middle and working classes are investing their life savings not in buying valuable urban property, but in building new homes in former homeland areas.

Driving through the rural village study sites of Moletjie and Ceres, one may wonder whether a whole town has gone on a visit to the countryside. This is a result of the massive movement of urban elites working in the city of Polokwane who have been moving onto customary land to avoid paying rates, and seeking cheaper retirement homes.

Members of the middle class are building expensive new mansions and multi-storey houses on customary land where they do not have formal title. Contrary to the dominant narrative about rural development paradigms, the middle class is not demanding institutional changes in tenure before making significant investments in residential property.

Instead, many of them feel secure on their land, even without formal titling. The only kind of formal documentation they have is a "Permission to Occupy" document issued by the traditional leaders.

This has led to increasing demand for rural land which accelerates the processes

of commodification of customary tenure. More than three-quarters (75.25%) of our respondents who acquired customary land in the past 10 years paid for it in cash to the traditional authority or to individuals (which is illegal) rather than acquiring the right to the land through customary social norms.

The demand for residential stands by urban elites has thus created an opportunity for traditional leaders and local residents to earn an income by selling land to the migrants.

The growing informal customary land market has been accompanied by the rise of new non-state institutions composed of young men who exercise autocratic power and authority over land by mimicking "stateness".

These are usually unemployed "young boys" aged between 28 and 36 illegally demarcating and selling land to urban elites. The residents in these areas believe that they are connected to certain political elites which gives them the power to influence how land is distributed.

By contrast, the local police believe the predatory informal institutions have the clandestine support of tribal authorities.

The types of land that are targeted for sale by traditional leaders and the "young boys" are communal fields and the land covering common property resources such as grazing land, natural resources and woods.

In turn, the sales are affecting access to common property resources which are central to the livelihoods of rural women.

The sales have also meant that there has been a change in land use from arable and grazing land to residential. Incomes are upended as locals must now find alternative ways to sustain their livelihoods. People in Moletjie who used to have fields for agricultural purposes have been reduced to wage seekers since their fields have been sold for residential and non-agricultural business purposes.

We found an increase in social and gendered conflicts over land and boundaries. In Moletjie, the traditional leader has



Upmarket houses built by members of the urban elite in Limpopo's Capricorn West district. (Photo Supplied)

private security who reportedly have destroyed people's houses that were built on land under contestation with another chief. The residents are victims of the fight between the two chieftaincies over land boundaries.

Furthermore, double allocation of land is not uncommon in these informal land markets. Headmen within one traditional authority may sell the same piece of land to two different people, leading to

conflict between the two buyers and conflict within the groups who claim authority to sell.

Related to these difficulties is the increasing violence by local "gang" groups who target women who speak out against traditional leaders and against land grabs. The local "gang" groups are usually aligned to traditional leaders.

Balance of power

To protect the land rights and livelihoods of rural women and men, the researchers argue that there should be a shift in the balance of power to individuals, families and members of the community living on customary land.

The current laws vest too much

power and authority over land in the hands of the traditional leaders. Common property resources should be securely vested in the hands of members of the community, including women.

New and amended land governance laws should ensure that within families, women - in their differentiated nature (married, single, poor and those living with disabilities) - should have secure rights that are legally equivalent to those that men enjoy in "ownership" of residential plots and arable land, along with clearly defined access rights to natural resources that are held in common.

State policing, the judiciary and other independent institutions

must penetrate customary territory to assert their authority in order to stop the illegal selling of land and to protect and stop violence against women from local gangs.

Finally, state institutions must intervene to stop the proliferation of predatory institutions that are shaping fortunes in these neo-rural landscapes, and promote legitimate land governance and public authority. DM

Sienna Molepo is an MPhil student in Land and Agrarian Studies at Plaas, University of the Western Cape. This research was conducted in 2021 and 2022 with fieldwork funding from the Austrian Development Agency, with 127 people interviewed for the project.

THE GUARDIAN SIMPLE WORD FIT // THE GUARDIAN CROSSWORD --00 411 00--

In this puzzle you have no clues, only a list of words that all fit into the grid. The Guardian have given you a head start

WORD FIT

3 letters PAS, DAM, MAN, MOA, AIT, DNA,
4 letters ADAH, LIRA, RARE, YAMS, AQUA, SEAR
5 letters POSSE, SAHIB, SHARE, UNITA, ENNUI
6 letters AARON, SCARE, TIDAL, KILIM
7 letters MALAWI, SAHARA, INDIAN
8 letters LIBERIA, NOONDAY, UGANDAN
9 letters UGARITIC, ODALISQUE

CROSSWORD

Clues Across

1. A penalty
5. Capital city of Italy
9. Egyptian deity
10. A remarkable person
11. An associate
12. Not more than what is specified
13. To appear
15. The appearance of a dead person
17. A rat in Kiswahili
19. An atom 21. Illegal drugs
23. People who plays video games
24. America
26. Hot drink for breakfast
27. The way in which something is done
28. A cover for a pot or pan
29. C6H6
32. To show someone how to do something

Clues Down

1. Wide recognition
2. Leader of prayer in a mosque
3. Paper money
4. The capacity for performing work
5. An attractive, passionate male seducer
6. Number less than two
7. Excellence
8. Before in time
14. Country founded by Kwameh
16. Exclamation used for emphasis
18. Occurring once a year
20. Numbers (Abbreviation)
22. An amphibious tracked vehicle used primarily by the military for shore landings
23. A rooster
25. A fit of temper
30. Royal Historical Society

SOLUTIONS

WORD FIT: T Y R R H E N I A N, N E W S P A P E R S, A P E, R E A A, A O, J H, M E A N, A W A S H, M A I D, A S S E S, E P O E M S, W E, F I O A S I B, C A M E R O N, F E W, T E M, H, G O D, C A R F E R, R, O E D E M, K, M I N I, L E A S T, O B E Y, E S T E R, N A, G, R, A, O, H, E, A D A P T O R S, I, A L L U S T R O N, D I N E, E, V, B L A T, U, S, D, A S S E T S, E, A, G H O S T S, E

My Guardian - @siennamolepo



Upmarket houses at Capricorn West, Limpopo. Photo: Supplied

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

MONDAY TIME PROGRAMME	TUESDAY TIME PROGRAMME	WEDNESDAY TIME PROGRAMME	THURSDAY TIME PROGRAMME	FRIDAY TIME PROGRAMME	SATURDAY TIME PROGRAMME	SUNDAY TIME PROGRAMME
05:00 AM HALI YA HEWA / KUMEPAMBAZUKA I 06:00 AM AMKA NA BBC 06:30 AM NIPASHE 06:50 AM MATANGAZO 07:00 AM NEWS BULLETIN 07:10 AM MATANGAZO 07:15 AM TAARIFA ZA BARABARANI 07:25 AM UDONDOZI WA MAGAZETI 07:40 AM KUMEPAMBAZUKA II 08:00 AM HABARI NYEPESI 08:10 AM HABARI ZA BIASHARA 09:00 AM HABARI NYEPESI 09:10 AM MATANGAZO 09:20 AM BRAND TALK 09:30 AM BRAND TALK 10:00 AM NEWS BULLETIN 10:03 AM DEATH ANNOUNCEMENTS 10:10 AM YALIVOMO YAMO 10:30 HRS DJ SHOW 13:00 HRS NEWS BULLETIN 16:00 HRS NEWS BULLETIN 16:03 HRS DEATH ANNOUNCEMENTS 16:30 HRS HOJA YA LEO 18:30 HRS DIRA YA DUNIA BBC 19:30 HRS SPOTI LEO 20:00 HRS NEWS BULLETIN 20:10 HRS RADIO ONE DOCTOR 21:00 HRS NEWS BULLETIN 21:05 HRS DAKIKA 45 22:00 HRS NEWS BULLETIN (24 HRS) 22:15 HRS AFRO TIZI 23:00 HRS NEWS BULLETIN 23:03 HRS AFRO TIZI 01:00-05:00 HRS MUZIKI (MCHANGANYIKO)	05:00 AM HALI YA HEWA / KUMEPAMBAZUKA I 06:00 AM AMKA NA BBC 06:30 AM NIPASHE 06:50 AM MATANGAZO 07:00 AM NEWS BULLETIN 07:10 AM MATANGAZO 07:15 AM TAARIFA ZA BARABARANI 07:25 AM UDONDOZI WA MAGAZETI 07:40 AM KUMEPAMBAZUKA II 08:00 AM HABARI NYEPESI 08:10 AM HABARI ZA BIASHARA 09:00 AM HABARI NYEPESI 09:10 AM MATANGAZO 09:20 AM BRAND TALK 09:30 AM BRAND TALK 10:00 AM NEWS BULLETIN 10:03 AM DEATH ANNOUNCEMENTS 10:10 AM YALIVOMO YAMO 10:30 HRS DJ SHOW 13:00 HRS NEWS BULLETIN 16:00 HRS NEWS BULLETIN 16:03 HRS DEATH ANNOUNCEMENTS 16:30 HRS HOJA YA LEO 18:30 HRS DIRA YA DUNIA BBC 19:30 HRS SPOTI LEO 20:00 HRS NEWS BULLETIN 20:10 HRS RADIO ONE DOCTOR 21:00 HRS NEWS BULLETIN 21:05 HRS DAKIKA 45 22:00 HRS NEWS BULLETIN (24 HRS) 22:15 HRS AFRO TIZI 23:00 HRS NEWS BULLETIN 23:03 HRS AFRO TIZI 01:00-05:00 HRS MUZIKI (MCHANGANYIKO)	05:00 AM HALI YA HEWA / KUMEPAMBAZUKA I 06:00 AM AMKA NA BBC 06:30 AM NIPASHE 06:50 AM MATANGAZO 07:00 AM NEWS BULLETIN 07:10 AM MATANGAZO 07:15 AM TAARIFA ZA BARABARANI 07:25 AM UDONDOZI WA MAGAZETI 07:40 AM KUMEPAMBAZUKA II 08:00 AM HABARI NYEPESI 08:10 AM HABARI ZA BIASHARA 09:00 AM HABARI NYEPESI 09:10 AM MATANGAZO 09:20 AM BRAND TALK 09:30 AM BRAND TALK 10:00 AM NEWS BULLETIN 10:03 AM DEATH ANNOUNCEMENTS 10:10 AM YALIVOMO YAMO 10:30 HRS DJ SHOW 13:00 HRS NEWS BULLETIN 16:00 HRS NEWS BULLETIN 16:03 HRS DEATH ANNOUNCEMENTS 16:30 HRS HOJA YA LEO 18:30 HRS DIRA YA DUNIA BBC 19:30 HRS SPOTI LEO 20:00 HRS NEWS BULLETIN 20:10 HRS RADIO ONE DOCTOR 21:00 HRS NEWS BULLETIN 21:05 HRS DAKIKA 45 22:00 HRS NEWS BULLETIN (24 HRS) 22:15 HRS AFRO TIZI 23:00 HRS NEWS BULLETIN 23:03 HRS AFRO TIZI 01:00-05:00 HRS MUZIKI (MCHANGANYIKO)	05:00 AM HALI YA HEWA / KUMEPAMBAZUKA I 06:00 AM AMKA NA BBC 06:30 AM NIPASHE 06:50 AM MATANGAZO 07:00 AM NEWS BULLETIN 07:10 AM MATANGAZO 07:15 AM TAARIFA ZA BARABARANI 07:25 AM UDONDOZI WA MAGAZETI 07:40 AM KUMEPAMBAZUKA II 08:00 AM HABARI NYEPESI 08:10 AM HABARI ZA BIASHARA 09:00 AM HABARI NYEPESI 09:10 AM MATANGAZO 09:20 AM BRAND TALK 09:30 AM BRAND TALK 10:00 AM NEWS BULLETIN 10:03 AM DEATH ANNOUNCEMENTS 10:10 AM HIZI NAZO 10:30 HRS NEWS BULLETIN 13:00 HRS DJ SHOW 16:00 HRS NEWS BULLETIN 16:03 HRS DEATH ANNOUNCEMENTS 16:30 HRS HOJA YA LEO 18:30 HRS DIRA YA DUNIA BBC 19:30 HRS SPOTI LEO 20:00 HRS NEWS BULLETIN 20:10 HRS MATANGAZO / MUZIKI 21:00 HRS NEWS BULLETIN 21:05 HRS KIPINA JOTO 21:15 HRS WEEK END SHOW 01:00 - 05:00 HRS MUZIKI (MCHANGANYIKO)	05:00 AM HALI YA HEWA / KUMEPAMBAZUKA I 06:00 AM AMKA NA BBC 06:30 AM NIPASHE 06:50 AM COMMERCIALS 07:00 AM NEWS BULLETIN 07:15 AM NEWS PAPERS REVIEW 07:30 AM KUMEPAMBAZUKA - KISWAHILI 08:00 AM NEWS BULLETIN 10:00 AM NEWS BULLETIN 10:03 AM DEATH ANNOUNCEMENTS 10:15 AM MIWANI YA MAISHA 11:00 AM MATAA WA MAGOMA 13:00 HRS NEWS BULLETIN 13:10 HRS DEATH ANNOUNCEMENTS 13:30 HRS CHAGUO LAKO 15:00 HRS MUZIKI NA MICHEZO 16:00 HRS NEWS BULLETIN 16:03 HRS DEATH ANNOUNCEMENTS 16:15 HRS MIQUUNDO MOTOMOTO 18:00 HRS BONGO TEN 19:30 HRS SPOTI LEO 20:00 HRS NEWS BULLETIN 20:15 HRS CHEMBA BONGO 21:00 HRS NEWS BULLETIN 21:03 HRS WEEK END SHOW I 22:00 HRS NEWS BULLETIN (24 HRS) 22:15 HRS WEEK END SHOW II 23:00 HRS NEWS BULLETIN 23:03 HRS WEEK END SHOW III 01:00-05:00 HRS MUZIKI (MCHANGANYIKO)	05:00 AM HALI YA HEWA / KUMEPAMBAZUKA I 06:00 AM AMKA NA BBC 06:30 AM NIPASHE 06:50 AM COMMERCIALS 07:00 AM NEWS BULLETIN 07:15 AM NEWS PAPERS REVIEW 07:30 AM KUMEPAMBAZUKA - FAMILIA 08:00 AM NEWS BULLETIN 10:03 AM DEATH ANNOUNCEMENTS 10:15 AM SUNDAY SPECIAL 11:00 HRS TOP 20 13:00 HRS NEWS BULLETIN 13:10 HRS DEATH ANNOUNCEMENTS 13:30 HRS NANI ZAIDI 16:00 HRS NEWS BULLETIN 16:03 HRS DEATH ANNOUNCEMENTS 16:30 HRS MAMBO YA PWANI 18:00 HRS AFRICAN PANORAMA 19:30 HRS SPOTI LEO 20:00 HRS NEWS BULLETIN 20:10 HRS MBAVU ZANGU 21:00 HRS NEWS BULLETIN 21:03 HRS MAMBO MSETETO 22:00 HRS NEWS BULLETIN (24 HRS) 22:15 HRS RAFIKI I 23:00 HRS NEWS BULLETIN 23:03 HRS RAFIKI II 01:00 - 05:00 MUZIKI (MCHANGANYIKO)	

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

CRDB's Islamic banking serves 30,000 customers in Zanzibar

By Guardian Reporter

A total of 30,000 CRDB Bank Plc customers in Zanzibar have so far benefited from Shari'ah-compliant banking services (Al Barakah) with non-interest financing amounting 73bn/- in the period of one year since it was officially launched.

CRDB Bank chief operating officer Bruce Mwile said this during an Iftar prepared over the weekend at Verde hotel located in Mjini Magharibi, attended by 500 customers.

In his special message to Muslims during Holy Month of Ramadan, which also explained financing opportunities offered through CRDB Al Barakah, Mwile thanked customers for their trust to the bank.

"This is total number of CRDB Barakah customers who have joined our services during the period of one year starting from 2021



Minister of State in the Zanzibar President's Office (Economy and Investment) Mudrick Soraga (2nd L) and CRDB Bank Plc chief operations officer Bruce Mwile (4th R) presents Iftar donation to Jukumakhe orphanage centres located in Melitano and Sebleni Masjid Jumma during an Iftar prepared by CRDB Bank Plc at Verde Hotel in Mjini Magharibi. Others are Member of House of Representative for Kikwajuni Nassoro Salim Ali, (2nd R), CRDB Bank chief finance officer Fredrick Nshekanabo (L), and head of CRDB Al Barakah, Rasid Rashid (R). Photo: Guardian Correspondent

to 2022 closing. This is greater achievement for us, but we proud to provide finances amounting 73bn/- to individuals and businesses," he said.

He insisted those who have not joined the CRDB Barakah services, which targets Muslim and non-Muslim communities, through non-

interest personal and business banking services, popularly known as Murahabah.

Mwile explained that CRDB Barakah services is provided through the bank's countrywide branch networks and agents conveniently to ensure smooth opening on the Shari'ah compliant banking and insur-

ance services.

Speaking on behalf of the bank's customers, minister of state-President's office, economy and investment Mudrick Soraga thanked CRDB Bank for achievements attained through CRDB Barakah, since launched one year ago

Minister Soraga ex-

plained that CRDB Barakah services has helped to promote financial inclusion in Zanzibar.

He called for Tanzanians who have been excluded from banking services, due to their faith to exploit available opportunities to build their economies.

The minister also thanked the CRDB Bank management for the goodwill during ongoing Holy Month for preparing an Iftar for customers and stakeholders in need during Ramadan.

He also called for all Tanzanians to stick on their faith through living endless faith during this month and after Ramadan.

The Iftar also went hand in hand with provision of Iftar to orphanage children centres include Jukumakhe located in Melitano and Sebleni Masjid Jumma to support children who are fasting.

Telposta pension suffers Sh189m tenants' default

NAIROBI

TELPOSTA Pension Scheme has issued a three-month notice to over 100 residents occupying its properties in Nairobi's Kilimani and Makongeni estates to vacate, following rental arrears accruing to Sh189.3 million.

Families of former employees occupied the estates of Kenya Posts and Telecommunications Corporation which was split into Postal Corporation of Kenya and Telkom Kenya Limited in the 1990s.

Restructuring of the defunct KPTC resulted in some of the staff becoming employees of Telkom Kenya and still residing in the properties.

"This is to notify the occupants of the following properties owned by Telposta Pension Scheme and situated within Kilimani Estate, along Elgeyo Marakwet Road and Makongeni along Jogoo road," the notice read.

"That they are in unlawful occupation of its premises without express or lawful or without any right or license under any law due to non-payment of a total outstanding amount of rent of Sh189,335,887 as of February 2023."

The notice highlighted 20 flats along Elgeyo Marakwet road in Nairobi that were occupied illegally and over 100 others along Jogoo Road.

The issued notice said the illegal occupants are required to vacate the premises within three months from March 30th or the

scheme will force them out at their cost and peril.

"Pay all outstanding rent due and owing to the scheme as issued in the notice, immediately stop any further activities on the property, remove all their belongings from the property and vacate the premises within three months from the date of the notice," said 30th March 2023 statement.

Last year, former employees of Telkom Kenya were dealt a blow after the Court of Appeal declined to suspend a decision that dismissed their plea to be granted houses, which they claimed to have purchased from the company years ago.

They appealed after losing the case at the Environmental court in December 2021, hoping to be granted restraining orders judgement.



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Support children in special needs during Ramadan, Tanzanians told

By Guardian reporter

A call has been made to Tanzanians to give a special focus on orphans and those with special needs for the, to feel part and parcel of the society.

Kigamboni District Police Chief (OCD), Thobias Walelo has said that orphans and children with special needs have potential needs which should be cared of.

Speaking at Kigamboni while receiving 1,210 litres of Coral

Paints from the Insignia Limited company for the renovation of the Amani Foundation based at Kibugumo in the district, the police officer appealed to individuals, companies and institutions to be at forefront to support the special community.

"We, as police officers felt obliged to support them by seeking support from Coral Paints after part of their foundation's building being burnt in February this year,"

"We played well on our part

and therefore call others to show up for the needy community," he said.

Beatrice Ishimanyi, the head of Kigamboni Police Station representing the Women's Police Network (TPFN) in Temeke Municipality, said that after the burning of the dormitory of the Orphanage Foundation, they started looking for help for the instant repair of the dormitory, thanks for Coral Paints to show up their timely support.

"On women's day, March

8,2023 we paid a courtesy to the Foundation to see how the dormitory was burnt down, it touched us a lot and started looking for support," she said.

On his part, the firm's Marketing Manager, Adam Kefa said his company has provided 1,210 litres and 10 wall put bags all valued at Tsh 6 million shillings.

He said their support was part of the company's CSR initiatives to support the needy community and give back part of their profit to Tanzanian society.

Inflation holds steady at 9.2 percent in March

NAIROBI

INFLATION in March held steady at 9.2 percent, helped by a drop in the prices of onions and tomatoes after rains towards the end of the month.

Data from the Kenya National Bureau of Statistics (KNBS) shows that while cooking oil also recorded a drop in prices, overall, food costs rose by 13.6 percent this month compared to March 2022.

The inflation rate – a measure of the cost of living over the last 12 months – remains above the Central Bank of Kenya (CBK) target of between 2.5 and 7.5 percent.

On Wednesday, the CBK increased its lending rate to 9.5 percent from 8.75 percent, citing sustained inflationary pressures, the elevated global risks and their potential impact on the domestic economy.

High prices in the economy have been aggravated by drought, a depreciating shilling and the war in Ukraine that has disrupted global supply chains and driven up costs of key raw materials like fuel.

"The prices of cabbages, carrots and potatoes (Irish) increased by 8.9, 8.5 and 8 percent, respectively between February 2023 and March 2023. During the same period, prices of onions-leeks and bulbs, cooking oil (salad) and tomatoes de-

creased by 0.9, 0.7 and 0.3 percent, respectively," said the KNBS on Friday.

Food usually has the biggest impact on the overall movement in prices because it accounts for nearly a third of the shopping basket for Kenyan families.

Transport costs remained elevated due increases in prices of petroleum products by 12.6 percent in the review period, while those of housing, water, electricity, gas and other fuels as well as household maintenance, rose by 7.5 percent.

Prices of alcoholic beverages increased by 8.7 percent, insurance and financial services (6.5 percent), recreation, sport and culture (6.2 percent), and clothing and footwear by three percent.

President William Ruto, who took power in September last year partly on a campaign platform of easing the cost of living for the majority of poor households, has ruled out short-term fixes, dropping subsidies on unga and super petrol, and instead opted to subsidise fertiliser.

The Central Bank of Kenya (CBK) has increased the benchmark lending rate to the highest level in five years to curb inflation, signalling costlier loans for homes and businesses.



Traders selling onions at Marikiti Market in Nairobi

tember last year that triggered banks to increase lending rates.

The jumbo rate hike is aimed at easing demand for credit in the hope of cooling inflation, which rose to 9.2 percent in February from 9.0 percent in January, reversing the fall in the cost of living measure for three consecutive months

The 9.5 percent rate is the highest since March 2018 and will egg banks on to make a fresh round of lending rate increases that will hurt businesses in a recovering economy.

The average cost of bank loans hit a 52-month

high in December at 12.67 percent in the wake of the CBK rate hikes and rising yields on government paper.

The higher cost of loans risks locking out businesses from accessing the credit they need for expansion and in turn, limiting their ability to create more jobs.

"The Monetary Policy Committee noted the sustained inflationary pressures, the elevated global risks and their potential impact on the domestic economy, and concluded that there was scope for a further tightening of monetary policy in order

to anchor inflation expectations," said CBK Governor Patrick Njoroge, who presided over his second last MPC meeting before his term ends in June.

Kenya's inflation has since June breached the target range of 2.5-7.5 percent, prompting the MPC to raise benchmark interest rates to curb consumer spending.

Despite increasing the benchmark lending rate by a similar margin in September, inflation has remained outside the preferred government range of 2.5-7.5 percent since June last year.

Costly food and fuel due to the worst drought in 40 years and Russia's war in Ukraine pushed inflation from 7.1 percent in May.

The CBK rate has been increased thrice in six months, including September's MPC meeting.

Dr Njoroge said MPC acted because "inflation is expected to remain elevated in the near term", partly because of further increases in electricity prices.

The central bank said that surveys conducted before the MPC met showed declining optimism about business activity and economic

growth prospects for the next 12 months.

"Respondents expressed concerns over elevated domestic inflation, the weakening of the Kenya shilling, and high food prices," Dr Njoroge said.

The CBK joins central banks across the globe, from Ghana to the US, that are still increasing interest rates to fight high inflation.

Last year, commercial banks increased their cost of loans after the upward review of the benchmark rate.

Absa Bank Kenya, in an investor briefing earlier this month, disclosed it had adjusted its average yields on loans from 9.7 percent in 2021 to 11 percent in 2022 to reflect changes in the interest rate environment.

The CBK reckons that the number of loan applications and approvals declined, reflecting reduced demand.

In November, it had forecast Kenya's inflation rate to fall within the government's target range early this year.

"We are addressing the inflation momentum that is there and the policies that were put there, we believe are appropriate," Dr Njoroge said on November 24.

"Consequently, we would expect the inflation outcome to begin to come down in the near future and hopefully early next year we will see the outcome in the target band."

UDSM: Community participation in conservation rises

By Francis Kajubi

COMMUNITY participation in conservation of natural resources in the forestry, fishing and wildlife sectors is gaining momentum as researchers call upon the government to collaborate with independent actors to provide clear economic incentives in support of community-based enterprises.

A book published by the College of Social Sciences (CoSS) of the University of Dar es Salaam (UDSM) in collaboration with Copenhagen Business School and the University of Barcelona to be launched tomorrow in Dar es Salaam, reveals that local communities are yet to perceive partnerships as responsive, accountable and trustworthy arrangements that strike the requisite balance between community welfare and conservation goals.

The book titled: 'Contested Sustainability: The Political Ecology of Conservation and Development in Tanzania' reveals that communities living in forestry sites perceive relatively higher levels of socio-economic and environmental outcomes accruing from new partnerships than their counterparts in wildlife and coastal resource sites.

Briefing journalists yesterday in Dar es Salaam ahead of the book launch, Prof Christine Noe, Principal CoSS, said the lack of material incentives in wildlife partnerships and coastal partnerships limited their legitimacy in the eyes of local

communities.

She said from the study conducted in Mtwara and the Coast regions between 2016 and 2020, and that lead to the publication of the book, findings shows that fishers and consumers of bush meat are affected by access restrictions, and alternative livelihood activities failed or their benefits went to a small number of wealthy investors.

The book comes out when new and more complex partnerships are emerging to address the sustainability of natural resource use in the Global South. These partnerships variously link donors, governments, community-based organizations, Non-governmental Organizations (NGOs), business, consultants, certification agencies, and other intermediaries.

The book analyses sustainability partnerships in three key natural resource sectors in Tanzania: wildlife, forestry, and coastal resources.

This book, in each of these sectors, assesses whether co-management with local communities and private and civil society actors, and putatively more participatory processes in the governance of natural resources, result in positive environmental outcomes and improved livelihoods.

"It compares these 'more complex' partnerships to relatively 'simpler', more traditional top-down and centralized management systems and to locations where sustainability partnerships are not in place," said Prof Noe.



Prof Christine Noe, principal CoSS displays a copy of a book on contested sustainability prepared by the college. Looking on are Faraja Namkesa (C) lecturer Geography department CoSS and Dr Richard Sambaiga, senior lecturer at CoSS. Photo: Guardian Correspondent

She asserted that the researched analytical comparison across the three different sectors allows the identification of possible common experiences and lessons that can be applied to natural resource governance more broadly.

"In each of these sectors, we assessed whether co-management with local communities and private and civil society actors, and putatively more participatory processes in the governance of natural resources, result in positive environmental outcomes and improved livelihoods," she said.

"We compared institutionally 'more complex' partnerships to relatively 'simpler' (more traditional top-down and centralized) management systems - and to

'control' locations where there are no partnerships in place."

The research also assessed network complexity as actors can use social networks to share their experiences, values, interests, knowledge and resources, but also to facilitate resource exchange and handle possible tensions.

Dr. Robert Katikiro, senior lecturer college of Agriculture and Food Technology UDSM said the book reveals consistency in the relationship between institutional complexity and positive environmental outcomes using remote sensing data.

"There is a clear relationship between a higher degree of both institutional and network complexity and the maintenance of

forest cover in relation to forestry, wildlife habitat, and mangroves," said Dr. Katikiro.

Dr. Pilly Silvano, Lecturer Geography Department CoSS, said that most people researched are farmers.

She confirms that farmers' livelihoods are likely to improve to the extent that their farming revenues increase, and this happens mainly in relation to improved transport arrangements and farm-gate prices.

"New sustainability partnerships need to support farming activities if they are to bring prosperity. New partnerships on sustainability matter. They can make laws more just and fairer. They can introduce new business opportunities," said Dr. Silvano.

"They can safeguard natural resources more effectively. But they are not likely to be engines of large-scale prosperity of agricultural communities."

Dr Richard Sambaiga, senior lecturer CoSS said the research reveals that the functional quality of sustainability partnerships in Tanzania depends on how they are embedded in networks of actors and institutions.

"We have shown in the book that social networks can act as potentially positive mediators of collective action coordination and collective learning processes," said Dr. Sambaiga.

According to him, sustainability partnerships have been more

inclined towards the provision of training on conservation issues than the development of alternative livelihood activities.

As a result, he said, they have had limited effects on socio-economic and livelihood outcomes, especially at the household level.

"They have thus failed to strike a balance between conservation and socio-economic outcomes, with the partial exception of community-based forest management. This has culminated into significant levels of community dissatisfaction with their performance," he said.

Prof Noe said researchers in the book suggest that local community governance needs to be strengthened to improve a sense of ownership and increase cooperation and trust.

Better integration of different knowledge systems is needed among the actors involved in sustainability partnerships. Translation of scientific knowledge into local contexts is necessary in view of making local communities feel that management of natural resources is also their business.

"When access to resources is tightened, it is essential that alternative sources of livelihood that make sense to local communities are facilitated," said Prof Noe.

"Efforts should be made to facilitate contacts between local communities and other key actors before the establishment of sustainability partnerships and maintained during their operation."

KIGALI

THE Australia-Rwanda Trade and Investment Council (ARTIC), a new body formed during the Australian leadership retreat in Brisbane from March 24 to 25, aims to strengthen relations between Australia and Rwanda by building mutually beneficial links in business, education, and culture.

The council which is composed of business and community leaders, plans to use Rwanda as a conduit to broader opportunities throughout Africa.

The Australian Davos Connection Forum (ADC Forum) announced the formation of the new entity. The ADC Forum, is a non-political and non-profit leadership organization based in Australia.

The think tank organized the Australian Leadership Retreat 2023 which was attended by officials from Rwanda. The organization brings together leaders from various sectors such as business, government, public sector, academia, and the broader community to improve their understanding of key issues affecting Australia.

According to Anton Roux, the chief executive of ADC Forum, ARTIC builds on the organization's past experience of promoting relations between Australia and Africa.

Roux praised Rwanda for being an inspirational example of a nation that moved on from a devastating ground zero, embracing a positive national vision, and a spirit of reconciliation.

Roux maintains that Rwanda is one of Africa's leaders, recognized as one of the easiest places to do business in Africa, the best place to be a woman, one of the top 10



How new Rwanda-Australia trade and investment body will boost ties

most transparent governments in the world, and one of the safest countries in the world.

During her visit to Australia's major cities this week, the chief executive of Rwanda Development Board, Claire Akamanzi, made an exciting announcement for offshore investors.

She stated that Rwanda would provide a seven-year tax holiday along with

a 50% tax deduction to those investors who showed interest in investing in Rwanda's priority sectors such as technology, infrastructure (including energy and water), tourism, mining, housing, and manufacturing.

The Australia-Rwanda Trade and Investment Council will continue to foster mutual opportunities in business, education, and culture, and provide

learning opportunities to address the current challenges facing the world.

Initiatives planned for 2023 include an Australian trade and investment and cultural mission to Rwanda in June, a delegation of journalists to Rwanda, and tourism promotions.

The mission of the Council will be to broaden and deepen the relationship between Australia and Rwanda,

advance trade, investment, and cultural exchange, increase awareness and understanding between the peoples of Australia and Rwanda, and strengthen ongoing links between Australia, Rwanda, and the East African region.

Rwandan officials on Tuesday, March 28, visited Haileybury Independent College, one of Australia's leading independent schools, and held discussions centred on adapting the institution's education model to encourage academic excellence in Rwanda.

This was as part of the ongoing investment and tourism roadshows in Australia.

The Rwanda Development Board's CEO, Clare Akamanzi, and the Rwandan High Commissioner to Australia, Jean de Dieu Uwhanganye, earlier kick-started tourism and investment promotion roadshows in Australia. They are promoting Rwanda as a global sports tourism hub and intend to increase the volume of traded goods between Rwanda and Australia.

Haileybury Independent College is an academically selective, co-educational public school for 11- to 18-year-olds near Hertford in England. The college is exploring opportunities to expand its education model in Africa.

In addition to the visit to Haileybury Independent College, the Rwandan officials also met with the Honorary Consul-General of Rwanda to Australia, Michael Roux.

The meeting focused on ongoing trade and investment promotion initiatives between the two countries.

Later, on Tuesday evening, in Melbourne, Australia, the visiting RDB team organised a promotion event where Rwanda's diverse tourism offerings were showcased to tour operators, travel agents and members of the Rwandan diaspora living in the city.

The government has been actively promoting investment in the country through its Invest in Rwanda initiative.

The initiative aims to attract foreign investors into different sectors of the economy.

Young African women join third CyberGirls fellowship



CAPE TOWN

ALMOST 500 young female cybersecurity enthusiasts from 22 African countries have been admitted into the third cohort of CyberGirls fellowship programme.

Hosted by the CyberSafe Foundation, the CyberGirl PROGRAM is one of Africa's largest female-focused free cybersecurity training and mentorship programmes aimed at young women aged between 18-28 years.

CyberSafe Foundation says the 2023 edition marks another milestone in the Foundation's efforts to close gender diversity and inclusion gap, which currently stands at only 9% female participation in the cybersecurity workforce.

This year's cohort was selected from over 20 000 applications received from across Africa, high-

lighting the growing interest in cybersecurity among African women, says the organisation.

CyberGirls Fellowship is a free one-year fellowship programme that equips girls and women with globally sought-after cybersecurity skills, positioning them to start a career in cybersecurity and helping them to seize work opportunities within Africa, and across the world.

"We are thrilled to launch our third cohort of the CyberGirls fellowship programme, which is designed to attract and empower young women across Africa to take on cybersecurity as a profession," said Confidence Staveley, executive director of CyberSafe Foundation.

"Our fellowship programme continues to play a critical role in promoting gender diversity and

inclusion in the cybersecurity industry. We believe that training more women in cybersecurity is not only closing the gender gap in the industry, but also contributing to Africa's digital transformation."

To celebrate the launch of the third cohort, CyberSafe Foundation recently hosted an orientation ceremony in the Microsoft Auditorium at the University of Strathmore in Nairobi, Kenya.

During the event, the new fellows had the opportunity to physically and virtually network with their peers and learn more about the programme.

"The CyberGirls Fellowship has produced nothing but excellence in the cyber world. This has been possible thanks to the unwavering commitment of our community mentors and the guidance of highly skilled trainers," said Dr. Bright

Gameli, board member of CyberSafe Foundation.

The unveiling of this year's programme coincides with the growing global demand for talent within the cyber security sector.

According to the World Economic Forum (WEF) Global Cyber Security Outlook 2022, hiring and retaining proficient cyber security talent will be one of the top challenges for businesses this year.

The WEF warns the lack of skilled cyber security experts is a threat to business and societies, with key sectors - such as energy and utilities - reporting a 25% gap in critical skills.

This talent crunch, WEF cautions, is a key challenge for managing cyber resilience, and more needs to be done to increase the flow of cyber security talent into the workforce.

Govt deploys more commercial representatives to boost trade

KAMPALA

TRADE representatives nominated by government in different parts of the world must get involved in gathering market intelligence to support exporters, Uganda National Bureau of Standards has said.

Speaking during the Trade Representatives' Forum in Kampala yesterday, David Livingstone Ebiru, the Uganda National Bureau of Standards (UNBS) executive director, said for a long time Ugandan exporters have been trading blindly without having in-depth knowledge of markets they trade in, which makes many of them fail to meet standards and specifications of consumers.

Therefore, he said: "Going forward our trade representatives must be able to participate in doing market research, so that they give us information", especially in the area of standards and other requirements for Ugandans to trade comfortably.

Ugandan traders face a number of challenges with some countries blocking their goods over failure to meet required standards.

Mr Ebiru said UNBS will, going by market information, ensure that standards are met as well as ensuring that Uganda acquires



Ambassador Judyth Nsababera, Consul General, Uganda Consulate in Guangzhou China

universally accepted standards.

However, he noted that even where standards have been met, goods still face restrictions some of which are not quality related.

Speaking at the same event, Odrek Rwabwogo, the chairman of the Presidential Advisory Committee on Exports and Industrial Development, said what is of value takes time to create, noting that for anyone to build a product and sell it, it must go through a product development cycle and must be followed consistently.

A number of products from Uganda, he said, have not been worked on or layered properly to reach the international markets, noting that there were ongoing works in terms of production, processing, storage, laws and regulations, which are expected to improve the export market.

Last month the Uganda Consul General to Guangzhou, China Ambassador Judyth Nsababera called on Ugandans to tap into different business opportunities for trade in China in order to achieve growth of locally owned businesses in the Asian country.

"There are many untapped opportunities for trade particularly the importation and sell of Ugandan products to China and transferring of appropriate small technologies to Uganda. As government representatives in China, it is our aspiration to see more Ugandans taking up the huge opportunities this country offers," she said while addressing the business facilitation symposium for Ugandans doing and intending to do business in China held recently in Guangzhou.

"It is our view that the growth of Ugandan owned businesses in China, can lead to increased remittances from China to Uganda which will ultimately contribute to Uganda's national develop-

ment," she argued.

According to her, the symposium will provide Ugandans with relevant information to mitigate the challenges they face while doing business in China.

"With the recent opening up of China, the consulate felt this is the most opportune time to hold the symposium, given that many policies that affect how business and trade operations in China changed during and after the pandemic," she added.

Junius Xu, Equity Partner and Lawyer, Kingbridge Law Firm that co-sponsored the event said the symposium was important to equip the Ugandan business community with up-to-date information on the post-pandemic business environment in China so as to mitigate the challenges they are likely to face while doing business.

Kingbridge Law Firm is a full-service law firm with 18 professional legal divisions and has established in-depth cooperation with more than 30 law firms around the world to continuously help it adapt to trends in globalization.

Wema Bank gets new boss

LAGOS

WEMA Bank Plc. on Saturday confirmed the appointment of Mr Moruf Oseni as its substantive Managing Director and Chief Executive Officer with effect from April 1.

Oseni, who had been serving in acting capacity since Jan. 1, 2023, succeeds Mr Ademola Adebise, following approval by the CBN.

Oseni joined Wema Bank in 2012 as an Executive Director.

"He served as Deputy Managing Director in the last four years, a role where he demonstrated capacity to lead the bank to greater heights as it continues to evolve into a financial powerhouse.

"He has had more than 25 years of experience, including more than 16 years at senior and executive management levels.

"Oseni was the managing director of MG Ineso, a principal investment and financial advisory firm.

"He had also served as Vice-President at Renaissance Capital and was an Associate at Schroder Salomon Smith Barney/Citigroup Global Markets in London," the

bank stated.

Oseni has an MBA from the Institut Europeen d'Administration des Affaires in France, a Master's in Finance from the London Business School, and a B.Sc. in Computer Engineering from Obafemi Awolowo University, Ile-Ife, Osun.

He is also an alumnus of the Advanced Management Programme of the Harvard Business School and King's College, Lagos.

Wema Bank added that the CBN also approved the appointments of Mr Wole Akinleye as Deputy Managing Director and Mr Tunde Mabawonku as Executive Director also with effect from April 1.

"Akinleye previously served as the Executive Director in charge of Corporate Banking and the Southwest Business of the bank, while Mabawonku served as the bank's Chief Finance Officer.

"The Board is confident that these new appointments will be crucial to the continued transformation and growth of the bank as it positions itself as a leader in Nigeria's banking industry through technology and innovation.

50 years of mobile phones

FROM brick-sized handsets popular with stockbrokers to intensely powerful computers that sit in all our pockets today, mobile phones have been forged by a half-century of innovation.

1973: Hello, moto

On April 3, 1973, an engineer at the US firm Motorola makes the first call from a mobile device, dubbed DynaTAC.

Martin Cooper calls Joel Engel, a competitor working for Bell Labs, from 6th Avenue in New York.

But it takes a further 10 years for the first mobile to be marketed.

In 1983, Motorola starts selling the DynaTAC 8000X in the United States for a cool \$3,995.

Nicknamed the brick, it weighs just shy of a kilo and measures 33 centimetres.

1992: 'Merry Christmas'

On December 3, 1992, Vodafone employee Richard Jarvis receives the first text message.

His computer wishes him "Merry Christmas".

The message would one day sell at auction in the form of an NFT in 2021 for \$150,000.

1997: Finn-ovation

Finnish brand Nokia begins a string of innovations that pushes the boundaries of mobile.

In 1997 its 6110 model introduces mobile games to the masses with "Snake".

Two years later the 7110 is the first phone to use wireless networks for browsing, and the same year the 3210 brings predictive writing to the world.

In 2003, Nokia launches its affordable, robust 1100 model, targeting developing countries. It shifts 250 million units, making it the best-selling phone in history.

2001: 3G in Japan

In 2001, Japan is the first country to benefit from a 3G mobile network, allowing high-speed internet access.

It comes hot on the heels of other Japanese innovations including a phone with video-calling

capabilities, the Kyocera VP-210 in 1999, and a year later the Sharp SH04, the first with a built-in back camera.

2007: First iPhone

"Today, Apple is going to reinvent the phone," says Steve Jobs as he presents the iPhone to an adoring crowd in 2007.

He promises an iPod, a phone and an "internet communicator" all in one device, which eventually retails for between \$499 and \$599.

The App store is introduced in 2008.

The same year, the HTC Dream is the first smartphone released with Google's Android operating system.

2009: Rise of the messenger

WhatsApp launches in 2009 and is quickly followed by many other messenger apps -- Viber, WeChat, Telegram, Signal.

These apps, which use the internet rather than traditional networks, become more popular than SMS in 2012.

Stockholm is the first city to offer users very high-speed 4G coverage in 2009.

2011: 'Emoji' fever

Siri arrives in 2011, allowing users of Apple's iPhone 4S to send messages, set appointments, make calls or even search the internet by simply asking your phone.

Google and Amazon develop competing voice assistants in the years after.

In the same year, "emoji" fever seizes the planet when the tiny faces, sketched in 1999 by Shigetaka Kurita, are integrated into the character library of the iPhone.

2019: 5G, foldables

On April 5, 2019, South Korea becomes the first country covered by 5G with the promise of even faster navigation.

In the same year, South Korean firm Samsung and China's Huawei are the first major manufacturers to release foldable screen smartphones, the Galaxy Fold and the Mate X.



MONDAY - WEDNESDAY FROM 10:30 PM

ITV

<p>MONDAY 3 April</p> <p>5:00 Soap rpt: Uzalo</p> <p>5:30 Uwanja wa Mazoezi</p> <p>6:00 HABARI</p> <p>6:40 Kumekucha</p> <p>7:30 HABARI</p> <p>8:00 Kumekucha Michezo</p> <p>8:55 Habari za saa</p> <p>9:00 Kumekucha Kishindo</p> <p>9:30 Soap: In Love with Ramon rpt</p> <p>9:55 Habari za saa</p> <p>10:00 Watoto wetu</p> <p>10:55 Habari za saa</p> <p>11:00 ITV Top Ten</p> <p>11:55 Habari za saa</p> <p>12:00 Al Jazeera</p> <p>12:30 Jungu Kuu</p> <p>12:55 Habari za saa</p> <p>13:00 Mjue Zaidi</p> <p>13:40 Art and Lifestyle rpt</p> <p>13:55 Habari za saa</p> <p>14:10 Soap rpt: Rebecca</p> <p>14:40 Kipindi maalum: Watumishi Housing</p> <p>14:55 Habari za saa</p> <p>15:00 Meza Huru</p> <p>16:30 Watoto Wetu</p> <p>17:00 Music: The Base</p> <p>18:00 Jiji Letu</p> <p>18:15 DW: Afrimaxx</p> <p>18:45 Kipindi Maalum: Brela</p> <p>19:30 Afya ya Jamii</p> <p>19:30 Soap: In Love with Ramon</p> <p>20:00 Habari</p> <p>21:05 Dakika 45</p> <p>22:00 Bundesliga na DW</p> <p>22:15 Filler: Mizengwe</p> <p>22:30 Soap: Uzalo</p> <p>23:00 Habari</p> <p>23:30 Music: The Base</p> <p>00:30 Al Jazeera</p> <p>02:00 DWTV</p>	<p>14:30 Igizo rpt: Rebecca</p> <p>14:55 Habari za saa</p> <p>15:00 Meza Huru</p> <p>16:30 Watoto wetu</p> <p>17:00 Music: The Base</p> <p>18:00 Jiji Letu</p> <p>18:15 Mapishi</p> <p>18:30 Kipindi Maalum: Sema na Mahakama ya TZ</p> <p>19:30 Soap: In Love with Ramon</p> <p>20:00 Habari</p> <p>21:05 Kipindi Maalum: Maisha ni Nyumba</p> <p>21:30 Kipindi Maalum: NSSF</p> <p>21:45 Chetu ni chetu</p> <p>22:30 Soap: Uzalo</p> <p>23:00 Habari</p> <p>23:30 Music: The Base</p> <p>00:30 Al Jazeera</p> <p>02:00 DWTV</p> <p>WEDNESDAY 5 April</p> <p>5:00 Soap rpt: Uzalo</p> <p>5:30 Uwanja wa Mazoezi</p> <p>6:00 HABARI</p> <p>6:40 Kumekucha</p> <p>7:30 HABARI</p> <p>8:00 Kumekucha Michezo</p> <p>8:55 Habari za saa</p> <p>9:00 Kumekucha Kishindo</p> <p>9:30 Soap: In Love with Ramon</p> <p>9:55 Habari za saa</p> <p>10:00 Watoto wetu</p> <p>10:25 Kipindi maalum: TMDA rpt</p> <p>10:55 Habari za saa</p> <p>11:00 Hawavumi lakini wamo rpt</p> <p>11:55 Habari za saa</p> <p>12:00 Al Jazeera</p> <p>12:30 Bundesliga na DW rpt</p> <p>12:55 Habari za saa</p> <p>13:00 Dakika 45 rpt</p> <p>13:55 Habari za saa</p> <p>14:00 Kipindi maalum: NSSF rpt</p> <p>14:15 Chetu ni chetu rpt</p> <p>14:55 Habari za saa</p> <p>15:00 Meza Huru</p> <p>16:30 Watoto Wetu</p> <p>17:00 Music: The Base</p> <p>18:00 Jiji Letu</p> <p>18:15 Igizo rpt: Mizengwe</p> <p>18:30 Jarida la wanawake</p> <p>19:00 Kipindi maalum: BOT</p> <p>19:30 Soap: In Love with Ramon</p> <p>20:00 Habari</p> <p>21:05 Aibu Yako</p> <p>21:10 Kipindi maalum: Tanesco</p> <p>21:40 Kipindi maalum: Pesa Fasta</p> <p>22:00 Ripoti maalum</p> <p>22:30 Soap: Uzalo</p> <p>23:00 Habari</p> <p>23:30 Music: The Base</p> <p>00:30 Al Jazeera</p> <p>02:00 DWTV</p>	<p>6:00 HABARI</p> <p>6:40 Kumekucha</p> <p>7:30 HABARI</p> <p>8:00 Kumekucha Michezo</p> <p>8:55 Habari za saa</p> <p>9:00 Kumekucha Kishindo</p> <p>9:30 Soap rpt: In Love with Ramon</p> <p>9:55 Habari za saa</p> <p>10:00 Watoto wetu</p> <p>10:30 Shamba lulu</p> <p>10:55 Habari za saa</p> <p>11:00 Ripoti maalum rpt</p> <p>11:55 Habari za saa</p> <p>12:00 Al Jazeera</p> <p>12:30 Jarida la wanawake rpt</p> <p>12:55 Habari za saa</p> <p>13:00 Kipindi maalum rpt: BOT</p> <p>13:30 Kipindi maalum: Brela</p> <p>13:45 Shamsham za pwani rpt</p> <p>13:55 Habari za saa</p> <p>14:00 Shamsham za pwani rpt</p> <p>14:55 Habari za saa</p> <p>15:00 Meza huru</p> <p>16:30 Watoto wetu</p> <p>17:00 The Base</p> <p>18:00 Jiji Letu</p> <p>18:15 Mapishi</p> <p>18:30 Kipindi maalum: TMDA</p> <p>19:00 Usafiri Wako</p> <p>19:30 Soap: In Love with Ramon</p> <p>20:00 Habari</p> <p>21:05 Malumbano ya hoja</p> <p>23:00 Habari</p> <p>23:30 Music: The Base</p> <p>00:30 Al Jazeera</p> <p>02:00 DWTV</p> <p>FRIDAY 7 April</p> <p>5:00 Soap rpt: Uzalo</p> <p>5:30 Uwanja wa Mazoezi</p> <p>6:00 HABARI</p> <p>6:40 Kumekucha</p> <p>7:30 HABARI</p> <p>8:00 Al Jazeera</p> <p>9:00 DW Journal</p> <p>9:30 Soap rpt: In Love with Ramon</p> <p>10:00 Watoto wetu</p> <p>10:30 Usafiri Wako</p> <p>11:00 Igizo: Mizengwe rpt</p> <p>11:15 Jungu kuu</p> <p>11:45 Mapishi</p> <p>12:00 Al Jazeera</p> <p>12:30 Kipindi maalum rpt: Tanesco</p> <p>13:00 Kipindi Maalum: Maisha ni Nyumba rpt</p> <p>13:30 Kipindi Maalum rpt: Sema na Mahakama ya TZ</p> <p>14:30 DW: Afrimaxx rpt</p> <p>15:00 Bongo Movie:</p> <p>16:30 Watoto Wetu</p> <p>17:00 The Base (DJ Show)</p> <p>17:30 Kiislam</p> <p>18:00 Jiji Letu</p> <p>18:15 Kipindi maalum: REA</p> <p>18:45 Kipindi maalum: Soka Bet</p>	<p>19:00 Shamba lulu</p> <p>19:30 Soap: In Love with Ramon</p> <p>20:00 Habari</p> <p>21:05 Kipima Joto</p> <p>23:00 The Base</p> <p>00:00 Al Jazeera</p> <p>02:00 DWTV</p> <p>SATURDAY 8 April</p> <p>5:30 Uwanja wa Mazoezi</p> <p>6:00 HABARI</p> <p>6:40 Kumekucha</p> <p>7:00 Habari</p> <p>8:00 Al Jazeera</p> <p>9:00 Watoto wetu</p> <p>10:00 Kipindi maalum: FAO</p> <p>10:05 Shika Bamba 5</p> <p>10:35 Mjue Zaidi rpt</p> <p>11:15 Chetu ni chetu rpt</p> <p>12:00 Hawavumi lakini wamo</p> <p>13:00 Usafiri wako</p> <p>13:30 Jagina</p> <p>14:00 Soap: In Love with Ramon rpt</p> <p>16:15 Igizo: Mizengwe</p> <p>16:30 Igizo: Rebecca</p> <p>17:00 Shamsham za Pwani</p> <p>18:00 Jiji Letu</p> <p>18:15 ITV Top 10 rpt</p> <p>19:00 Jungu Kuu</p> <p>19:30 Shika Bamba</p> <p>20:00 Habari</p> <p>21:05 Kipindi Maalum: Tatu Mzuka</p> <p>21:15 Igizo: Rebecca</p> <p>21:40 Art and Lifestyle</p> <p>22:10 ITV Top 10</p> <p>22:50 Hawavumi lakini wamo</p> <p>23:40 Soap: Uzalo rpt</p> <p>01:15 DWTV</p> <p>SUNDAY 9 April</p> <p>5:30 Uwanja wa Mazoezi</p> <p>6:00 HABARI</p> <p>6:40 Kumekucha</p> <p>7:00 Habari</p> <p>8:00 Al Jazeera</p> <p>09:00 Watoto Wetu</p> <p>10:00 Soap: In Love with Ramon rpt</p> <p>11:50 Bongo Movie rpt:</p> <p>14:00 Tamasha la Michezo</p> <p>15:30 Mwangaza</p> <p>16:30 ITV Top 10 rpt</p> <p>17:20 Kipindi cha kikristo</p> <p>18:00 Jiji Letu</p> <p>18:15 Mapishi</p> <p>18:30 Matukio ya wiki</p> <p>19:30 Igizo: Rebecca</p> <p>20:00 Habari</p> <p>21:05 Kipindi maalum: Biko</p> <p>21:10 Kipindi maalum: Reflexology</p> <p>21:15 Kipindi maalum: Mchezo Supa Jackpot</p> <p>21:30 Igizo: Mizengwe</p> <p>21:45 Mjue Zaidi</p> <p>22:20 Bongo movie:</p> <p>23:30 Soap: Uzalo rpt</p>	<p>02:05 Al Jazeera</p> <p>CAPITAL TV</p> <p>Mon 03 April</p> <p>06:00 Al Jazeera</p> <p>07:00 Morning Jam (Via Capital Radio)</p> <p>09:00 Dw</p> <p>11:00 Al Jazeera</p> <p>11:30 Business edition</p> <p>12:00 Out and About</p> <p>12:30 Our earth</p> <p>13:00 Telenovela rpt: The Three Sides Of Ana rpt</p> <p>14:00 Club 101 (via Capital Radio)</p> <p>16:00 Tomorrow Today</p> <p>16:30 EcoAfrica</p> <p>17:00 Dw News Africa rpt</p> <p>17:30 Meza huru</p> <p>19:00 The Décor rpt</p> <p>19:30 Shamba lulu</p> <p>20:00 Innovation Rpt</p> <p>20:45 The Monday Agenda</p> <p>21:30 Capital Prime News</p> <p>22:00 Kipima Joto</p> <p>00:00 Al Jazeera</p> <p>Tues 04 April</p> <p>06:00 Al Jazeera</p> <p>07:00 Morning Jam (Via Capital Radio)</p> <p>09:00 Dw</p> <p>11:00 Al Jazeera</p> <p>11:30 Monday agenda rpt</p> <p>12:15 Spots gazette</p> <p>12:45 Filler doc</p> <p>13:00 Telenovela rpt: The Three Sides Of Ana rpt</p> <p>14:00 Club 101 (via Capital Radio)</p> <p>16:00 Culinary Delights Rpt</p> <p>16:30 Capchat rpt</p> <p>17:30 Meza huru</p> <p>19:00 Innovation</p> <p>19:30 Our Earth</p> <p>20:00 Décor Rpt</p> <p>20:45 Telenovela: The Three Sides of Ana</p> <p>21:30 Capital Prime News</p> <p>22:00 Jagina rpt</p> <p>22:30 EcoAfrica</p> <p>23:00 Al Jazeera</p> <p>Wed 05 April</p> <p>06:00 Al Jazeera</p> <p>07:00 Morning Jam (Via Capital Radio)</p> <p>09:00 Dw</p> <p>11:00 Al Jazeera</p> <p>11:30 Tomorrow Today rpt</p> <p>12:00 Dw News Africa rpt</p> <p>12:30 Our Earth</p> <p>13:00 Telenovela rpt The Three Sides of Ana</p> <p>14:00 Club 101 (via Capital Radio)</p> <p>16:00 Bussines Edition Rpt</p>
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Engineer Martin Cooper holds in his right hand a contemporary copy of the original cell phone he used to make the first cell phone call on April 3, 1973, in Del Mar, California

WORLD

Death toll tops 20 as storm takes aim at eastern US

LITTLE ROCK, Arkansas

A VIOLENT storm packing high winds and heavy rains ripped through Southern and Midwestern sections of the United States as it headed east on Saturday, leaving at least 22 dead and scores injured, according to officials and media reports.

At least five people were killed in Arkansas, according to officials, as first responders sifted through debris for more possible victims after tornadoes sliced through the state on Friday.

Officials also reported four deaths in Illinois and three in Indiana.

Meanwhile, the Tennessee Department of Health confirmed seven weather-related deaths in McNairy County, at the Mississippi border. Tennessee Emergency Management Agency Director Patrick Sheehan said the number of people injured and damaged structures in several counties were not yet determined.

Just south of the Tennessee border in Madison County, Alabama, 90-year-old

Ovie Lasater was killed when a tornado destroyed her home, county coroner Tyler Berryhill told Reuters.

In Illinois, three people were killed in Crawford County after the collapse of a residential structure, the state Emergency Management Agency said.

These were in addition to the 50-year-old man who died in Belvidere, a city in northern Illinois, after a roof collapsed at a theater with 260 people inside. Dan Zaccard, a senior emergency management official in Boone County, said on Saturday that the incident left 40 people injured.

The crowd at the city's Apollo Theatre was attending a concert featuring the heavy-metal group Morbid Angel, which was on its "Tour of Terror."

One person was killed in Sussex County, Delaware, after a line of powerful storms tore through the region on Saturday night, an ABC News affiliate reported.

The National Weather Service on Saturday warned of thunderstorms moving across the eastern third of the United



The damaged remains of the Walnut Ridge neighborhood is seen on Saturday in Little Rock, Arkansas. (PHOTO / AFP)

States, likely resulting in power outages and downed trees from winds with gusts over 60 mph (100 kph).

The twisters sheared roofs and walls from many buildings in Arkansas, flipped over vehicles and downed trees and power lines in Little Rock and large areas east and northeast of the state capital, officials said.

The blast of extreme spring weather swept much of the United States on Friday, menacing the nation's midsection from Texas to the Great Lakes with thunderstorms and tornadoes.

Arkansas Governor Sarah Huckabee Sanders on Saturday said there were five confirmed dead in the state.

"Right now, we have five confirmed fatalities. We have a couple of others that have been reported, but we do not have confirmation from local law enforcement on the ground. And, so, awaiting that. But right now, statewide, we have five confirmed fatalities," she said.

Four of the Arkansas fatalities were reported in Wynne, about 100 miles (160 km) east of Little Rock, Cross County Coroner Eli Long said.

One person was killed and more than 50 people were hospitalized in North

Little Rock, Pulaski County spokeswoman Madeline Roberts told the Washington Post.

US President Joe Biden spoke with Huckabee Sanders and the mayors of Little Rock and Wynne, the White House said in a statement. He also spoke with Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) Administrator Deanne Criswell.

Huckabee Sanders said Biden and Homeland Security Secretary Alejandro Mayorkas, in phone calls on Saturday, offered federal government support.

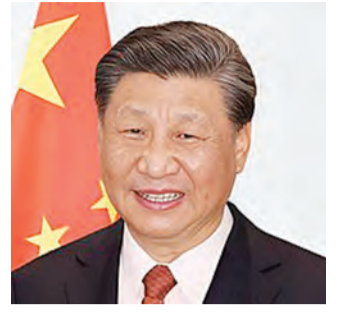
"Anything that Arkansas needs, they have assured us that those resources will be here and on the ground," she said at a news conference.

In Sullivan County, Indiana, three people were killed, Indiana State Police Sergeant Matt Ames said. A state of emergency was declared for the affected areas, Sheriff Jason Bobbitt said on Facebook.

The turbulent weather occurred one week after a swarm of thunderstorms unleashed a deadly tornado that devastated the Mississippi town of Rolling Fork, destroying many of the community's 400 homes and killing 26 people.

Xi stresses studying, applying Thought

BEIJING



XI JINPING, general secretary of the Communist Party of China Central Committee, has stressed further advancing the study and implementation of the Thought on Socialism with Chinese Characteristics for a New Era to push for new progress and breakthroughs in the Chinese path to modernization.

While presiding over a group study session on Thursday of the Political Bureau of the CPC Central Committee – the Party's central decision-making body – Xi urged officials to excel in using the Thought to strengthen political leadership, enhance strategic pillars, expand paths of practice and solve problems in development.

In doing so, the Chinese characteristics of the Chinese path to modernization can be more prominent, its strengths more distinctive and prospects even brighter, he said.

Liu Guozhong, Li Ganjie, Li Shulei, He Weidong and Chen Min'er, all members of the Political Bureau of the CPC Central Committee, shared their understanding of studying and applying the Thought during the group study session.

The session was held on the same day that the Political Bureau adopted a decision to launch a thematic campaign for the entire Party to study and implement the Thought starting from April.

Xi said that the study session was held to set a good example for the entire Party to study and implement the Thought and strengthen the ideological and theoretical foundation.

He pointed out that it is the key experience for the CPC to create history and achieve brilliance by arming the whole Party with the latest outcomes from adapting Marxism to the Chinese context and using them to guide practice and promote work.

He noted that the Party is faced with complex situations both at home and abroad on the new journey in the new era, with challenging tasks related to domestic reform, development and stability, as well as uncertain and unpredictable risks and challenges lying ahead.

To fulfill the strategic goals set at the 20th CPC National Congress, it is imperative that all Party members and officials, especially senior officials, further advance their study and implementation of the Thought, Xi said.

The general secretary encouraged officials to be good at using the Thought to solve various contradictions and problems in socioeconomic development, fully and faithfully apply the new development philosophy, accelerate steps to foster a new development pattern, advance high-quality growth and promote common prosperity. *Xinhua*

Russia to act as honest broker during UN Security Council presidency – diplomat

UNITED NATIONS



RUSSIA will act as an honest broker during its presidency in the UN Security Council, and attempts to provoke Russia are doomed to fail, First Deputy Permanent Representative to the UN Dmitry Polyanskiy said on his Telegram channel on Saturday.

Russia has assumed presidency over the Security Council on April 1.

"Thus, all our haters and adversaries, for whom this perspective was like a bone in the throat, were shamed," Polyanskiy noted.

He noted that "international law and procedure rules, developed over decades are actually in effect in the UN, instead of the 'rule-based order,' which the collective West seeks to replace international law with."

"As a president should be, we will act as an honest broker, just like we did in February 2022, when our presidency coincided with the beginning of the special operation," the official underscored. "Any attempts to provoke us are doomed to fail in advance."

Unlike our former Western partners, we play fair on the international arena and we do not promote double standards."

Earlier, a campaign unfolded in US media in regards to Russia's presidency in the Security Council in April. A number of US editions doubted Russia's right for presidency. Russian Permanent Representative to the UN Vasily Nebenzya said in an interview for TASS that it is impossible to strip Russia of this right.

DR Congo's border town Bunagana reopens amid presence of Ugandan army

BUNAGANA

BUNAGANA, a city in the eastern Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC) at the border with Uganda, had been occupied by the March 23 Movement (M23) rebel group since June, but it will reopen gradually following the deployment of Ugandan army, said Jeff Nyagah, the East African Community (EAC) regional force commander on Thursday.

General Nyagah of Kenya made this statement in Bunagana a few hours after co-chairing the reception ceremony for Ugandan military elements.

According to him, the Ugandan troops are deployed in the Bunagana area for a regional peacekeeping mission in the DRC.

An agreement between the EAC and the M23 rebel group led to the reopening of Bunagana, an important trade town in Rutshuru Territory, North Kivu Province, allowing the civilians to move freely, he said.

"We have reached an agreement in principle between us and the leaders of the M23 that the road from Bunagana to Goma, the capital of the province (North Kivu) must be reopened. The population must circulate freely, vehicles and goods must also be conveyed without concern," he declared after his meeting of several hours with the leaders of the M23. For the military authorities of the EAC,



M23 rebels

a regional bloc, no one should oppose this agreement in principle that will allow the rapid relaxation of the suffering of the population following the crisis caused by the fighting between the Congolese army and the M23 rebels.

In 2022, EAC member countries established a regional force to end the activism of armed groups in eastern DRC, including the M23 rebels. Elements from Kenya and Burundi have already been deployed on the ground in the province of North Kivu.

Apart from the border city of Bunagana, the Ugandan army troops, composed of around 1,000 soldiers, will also deploy in the cities of Kivanja and Mabanga, according to General Nyagah who insisted that this unit

has an essential role in assisting the peace process for the eastern DRC.

With this deployment, Uganda is the third country to join Kenya and Burundi to deploy their troops on the ground in North Kivu as part of the peace mission validated and adopted by the EAC member countries.

The main mission of these forces is to end local and foreign armed groups active in the northeast of the DRC, more particularly the M23 rebels who have occupied several areas in North Kivu since last year.

On Wednesday, the UN Security Council adopted a presidential statement, demanding the end of any further advances, and withdrawal from all occupied areas by M23 rebels in the DRC. The

Security Council demands the immediate and full implementation of commitments on the cessation of hostilities, the end of any further advances by the M23, and its withdrawal from all occupied areas as agreed through the African Union-endorsed Luanda Process, read the statement.

The M23 emerged from the rebel group National Congress for the Defense of the People (CNDP), which laid down arms in March 2009, following a peace agreement stipulating that its soldiers would be integrated into the Congolese police and army, while the CNDP's political wing would become an officially acknowledged party.

A faction within the CNDP, however, subsequently denounced the poor implementa-

tion of the agreement and developed into the M23, which took its name from the date of the peace agreement, in April 2012.

It later occupied Goma in 2012. After its military defeat in 2013 and barring some minor incidents, the M23 lay dormant for almost a decade until late 2021 when it ramped up attacks again.

In addition, the M23, which was deemed as "terrorists" by the DRC government in May 2022, took control of vast parts of Rutshuru territory, in particular, the capture of the Bunagana border town in June 2022.

M23's resurgence has also reignited tensions between the DRC and Rwanda, as Kinshasa accuses Kigali of supporting the M23.

Meanwhile, Kigali in return accuses Kinshasa of being in coalition with the Democratic Forces for the Liberation of Rwanda, whose members are blamed for the 1994 genocide against the Tutsi ethnic group.

According to data from the UN Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA) in early March 2023, more than 20,000 people have been displaced due to recent fighting in the eastern DRC.

In the past year, more than 800,000 people have been affected by renewed fighting between Congolese forces and the M23.

Xinhua

Old house renovation project revitalizes traditional villages in China's Zhejiang

ZENG Ronghua lives in Yinyuan village, Sandu township, Songyang county, Lishui of east China's Zhejiang province. In his newly renovated old house, red Chinese couplets pasted up on the two sides of the gate, and freshly baked fried sugar cakes make the house full of sweet smell.

This century-old house, surrounded by an atmosphere of happiness, was in disrepair two years ago. It was constantly buffeted by wind and rain.

"It all thanks to a restoration project," Zeng said.

The project, aiming at conserving part of historical and cultural sites, as well as some heritage buildings with private property rights, was launched by the China Culture Relics Protection

Foundation in Songyang county seven years ago. Zeng's ancestral house was included in the project.

The worn-out door has been replaced with a handmade new one, and the ceiling and floor were also renovated. Four months later, the dilapidated house has been fully revamped and revitalized. According to Zeng, the renovation waterproofed the house and installed insulation with modern techniques, and retained the house's rammed earth walls to maximally keep its original appearance.

Over 100 traditional villages have been well preserved in Songyang county, including 78 on the state protection list. Sandu township is home to nearly 1,000 old houses like Zeng's,

around 150 of which were included in the restoration project. A renovation team was specially established in the township to better preserve these buildings. Zheng Sheng, deputy director of Songyang's tourism development and service center, told People's Daily that the project was launched to both optimize rural residents' living environment and put cultural relics under better protection.

The China Culture Relics Protection Foundation funded around half of the renovation spending for each household, and 70 percent for those receiving subsistence allowance, Zheng said, adding that the rest of the spending was self-raised.

According to him, owners of the old

houses could deduct the self-raised part through working and waste recycling, so that they could shoulder only around 1/4 of the total spending.

Apart from the old buildings, ancient roads, wells, monuments, and trees in the villages of Sandu have also been renovated while retaining their original appearance.

"The village is developing better now. We had only dirt roads in the past, but now they are paved with stones. Besides, cultural activities are often held in the hall that's been renovated by the project," said Chen Limei, a resident of Yinyuan village.

At present, the renovation project is still underway. Zeng has turned his spare rooms into a B&B hotel, which

is the first in Yinyuan village and earns him an extra 20,000 yuan (\$2,907) each year.

Nowadays, many young villagers who used to work out-of-town have returned to Sandu township, including Liu Wenyue, a designer of traditional Chinese costumes from Lishui village. She turned a storage room of her ancestral house into a workshop and divided it into shooting, exhibition and working areas. She told People's Daily that the ancestral house is her source of inspiration, where she designed 104 sets of traditional Chinese costumes last year that helped her gain an income of 700,000 yuan.

"I found the old houses in the village very lively," said Sun Yingying,

who runs a B&B hotel in Songzhuang village, Sandu township. A few years ago, Sun came to Songyang county. After visiting 18 villages in the county, she settled in Songzhuang village and established her B&B brand Taoye.

The foot traffic of the village surged nearly tenfold during the National Day holiday last year thanks to the B&B brand. The increasing visits have increased the income of villagers.

Zheng said the old house renovation project is not only a practice that advances the conservation of cultural relics, but also a livelihood program that inherits China's fine traditional culture and promotes coordinated economic and social development.

People's Daily

'Peacekeepers' deployed to Ukraine without Russia's consent must be eliminated - Medvedev

MOSCOW

SO-CALLED peacekeepers, whose deployment to Ukraine under NATO auspices is currently being mooted in Europe, will be eliminated should any appear at the frontlines without Russia's consent, Russian Security Council Deputy Chairman Dmitry Medvedev said on Friday.

"It is obvious that such 'peacekeepers' are our unvarnished enemies, wolves in sheep's clothing. They would be a legitimate target for our armed forces should they be deployed at the frontlines, without Russia's consent, with weapons in hand and presenting a direct threat to us," Medvedev wrote on his Telegram channel.

According to Medvedev, "those 'peacekeepers'" must be destroyed mercilessly as they are the "soldiers of the enemy."

"They will die in the course of combat," the deputy chairman of the Russian Security Council stated with confidence.

"Is Europe prepared for a long line of coffins holding its 'peacekeepers'?" he asked rhetorically.

"Their (NATO member countries' - TASS) true intentions are crystal clear - to impose a peace that is favorable to them on the line of contact from a position of strength and to station their 'peacekeeping' troops in Ukraine, who would be armed with assault rifles and riding on tanks, and would be wearing some sort of blue helmets with yellow stars," the deputy chairman of the Russian Security Council said.

Medvedev recalled that the potential results of such actions can be seen in the "history of operations conducted by the United States and its allies in various regions of the world, [including] the tragedies of Korea, Vietnam, Yugoslavia, Iraq, Afghanistan and numerous African countries."

"It is clear that the so-called NATO peacekeepers are simply preparing to enter the conflict on the side of our enemies in order to make hay out of this, bringing the situation to the point of no return, and to unleash that World War III they claim to be so afraid of."



Italy adopts first labeling rules on insect-based foods



Tomatoes only became widely eaten around 150 years ago, when pizza became popular. -AFP FILE PIC

ROME

NOW a centerpiece of Italian cuisine, the beloved tomato was shunned for years in the country's kitchens.

An import from the Americas dating back to the 1500s, the tomato was nicknamed the "poison apple" in Italy, and was feared for generations even after it was proved to be safe to eat.

Tomatoes only became widely eaten around 150 years ago, when pizza became popular. Could a similar process be underway for food made with insects?

The benefits of insect-based foods are well-documented: the cultivation of insects for food is environmentally sustainable; insects are high in nutritional value, and can be prepared in a wide variety of ways.

An estimated 2 billion people eat insects regularly, according to the United Nations Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO).

Earlier this month, legislation in Italy helped pave the way for some insect-based products to be sold in Italian

stores, by establishing guidelines for how they should be labeled.

However, Carlotta Totaro Fila, founder of the Alia Insect Farm in Milan, told Xinhua: "There is the problem of what I call a 'yuck factor' behind eating insect-related foods."

It is the same problem Italy once had with tomatoes, as well as corn, potatoes, beans, and cocoa. Totaro Fila and other insect food advocates in Italy use insects to make a powder which can be added to traditional flour to make bread, pasta and pizza.

This adds protein to the meal without substantially changing its taste. "You are aware they are in the ingredient list for the composition of the food, you are aware of the benefits, and you will only choose this type of product if you want to. But you don't see the insects," said Totaro Fila.

According to Carla Severini, a professor of food science and technology at Italy's University of Foggia, the nutritional and ecological benefits of insect-based foods mean that their integration into Italian cuisine is inevitable.

However, a "cultural leap" will be required for it to become a staple, she said. "In order to produce a kilogram of beef it takes around 22,000 liters of water," Severini told Xinhua. "For insects it can change a bit depending on which of the 2,000 kinds of cultivated insects are used. But at the most a kilogram of insect protein requires no more than 150 liters. That is a difference too large to ignore."

Insects are rich not only in protein, but also in healthy fats, iron, and calcium. A report from the Rome-based FAO has predicted that in the future, farm-raised insects will play an ever-increasing role in human diets, as well as in animal feed.

Both Totaro Fila and Severini said that as a country known for its gastronomic riches, Italy could play a key role in helping insect-related foods become more accepted in Europe and beyond.

A research project released earlier this month by the University of Bergamo, near Milan, found that two out of three Italian consumers said they were willing to try insect-based foods. Totaro Fila called this "amazing" progress.

Meanwhile, Severini predicts that it will only take a few years for Italians to start regularly seeing insect-based options in grocery shops and on restaurant menus. She predicts that the products will eventually be embraced by Italian foodies. "Italian chefs are among the most innovative in the world," she said. "We will see variations we cannot yet imagine." A restaurant in Milan has already started selling cheeseburgers that contain an insect powder made from crickets, Fila said.

"It's a very good cheese burger and they sell out every day," she said. "I am sure that if the taste is good people will overcome the 'yuck factor.' It's just a matter of time."

AU Commission lauds Chinese construction workers for success of China-aided Africa CDC project

ADDIS ABABA

THE African Union Commission (AUC) has presented letters of appreciation to Chinese construction workers in recognition of their "extraordinary and professional cooperation" in the construction of the China-aided Africa Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (Africa CDC) headquarters.

The AUC on Friday lauded members of the Chinese engineering, technical and logistic teams at a ceremony held inside the newly-built premises of the Africa CDC headquarters in the southern suburb of the Ethiopian capital of Addis Ababa.

"We express our gratitude to the government of China for constructing such a prestigious facility, which is another symbol of Africa and China friendship," said Angela Martins, acting director of Social Development, Culture and Sports of the AUC while presenting the letters of appreciation.

Officially inaugurated in January, the Africa CDC headquarters is a flagship project of cooperation between China and Africa. "We expect continued support from the Chinese government in operationalizing this facility. We also look forward to strengthening friendship between China and Africa in other areas," Martins said.

The China Civil Engineering Construction Corporation (CCECC) had undertaken the construction of the Africa CDC project while the AUC team had been the major actor in the project.

"We are celebrating the achievement from engineering, technical and logistical support, ensuring the quality standard of the facility and resolving all day-to-day challenges while maintaining the smooth progress to give us this prestigious facility," Martins said.

Hu Changchun, head of Mission of China to the AU, said the successful completion of the Africa CDC project is the result of the joint efforts of both sides in team interaction, coordination, communication, and problem-solving, and is a model of unity and cooperation between teams from China and Africa.

"The Africa CDC project is significant in meeting a tight deadline, employing complex technology, and a high degree of specialization," said Hu, noting that the Chinese construction company had insisted on handling each matter on a case-by-case basis and prioritized the preparation of materials for the project.

The CCECC has been hailed for overcoming multiple challenges, including the COVID-19 pandemic, cargo shipping disruptions, and rising costs.

The Africa CDC project manager of the construction team Yang Meng said he was surprised and felt deeply honored upon receiving a letter of appreciation from the AUC.

"I feel so excited and I am really proud to be part of the construction of this building which is built for the African people for disease control," said Yang. Rico Bien-Aime, head of the Administration and Facilitation Management in the AUC, has worked as a coordinator for the Africa CDC project.

Malawian govt ponders psycho-social support for cyclone victims

BLANTYRE

MALAWIAN Vice President Saulos Chilima has announced that the government intends to provide psychosocial support to people affected by Tropical Cyclone Freddy to help them recover from the traumatic experiences.

Chilima made the announcement on Thursday during his visit to Blantyre City, where he observed that many people were psychologically disturbed due to the loss of loved ones, businesses and property in the wake of the cyclone. "If this is not taken seriously, we may end up having many people with mental health problems.

As such, it is high time we considered providing psychosocial support to such affected people," he said. He also advised people living in the affected areas to consider relocating to safer places to protect their lives and property. "The government is committed to ensuring that those affected by the disaster are supported during this difficult time.

We will work with different stakeholders to provide the necessary support to the affected people," he added. He commended different stakeholders for supporting the displaced people with humanitarian assistance and he further appealed for more support from well-wishers across the world.

Chilima also called on the general public to embrace different initiatives, such as resettlement and reforestation drives, to prevent heavy losses due to disasters in the future. According to a draft situation report released Wednesday by the country's Department of Disaster Management Affairs (DoDMA), over 2.2 million people have been affected by the disaster, with 676 people confirmed dead, and 538 people still missing.

The cyclone, which hit the southern part of the country hard from the night of March 12, also left about 2,000 people injured, and 650,000 people displaced.

Xinhua

China strengthens solidarity with other developing countries to make pie of cooperation bigger

"THE Addis Ababa-Djibouti Standard Gauge Railway has shown remarkable achievements in the areas of operation, maintenance and capacity building, and became an example of the ever-flourishing Sino-African relations," said an Ethiopian official during a celebration ceremony of the railway's fifth anniversary of operations recently.

The project has effectively promoted the sustainable development of local communities and bettered people's wellbeing. It mirrors the tangible achievements of the cooperation between China and other developing countries.

Since Chinese President Xi Jinping put forward the principles of sincerity, real results, affinity and good faith 10 years ago, China, with concrete actions, has enhanced its cooperation with other developing countries and set a good example in helping them achieve common development.

The tangible achievements come from China's efforts to promote win-win cooperation.

China continues to place its own development in the coordinate system of human development, seeing that its future is closely connected with that of the rest of the world and the interests of the Chinese people are integrated with the common interests of the peoples of other countries.

China actively responds to the priority needs of developing countries for social and economic progress, aiming to improve people's wellbeing and provide them with tangible gains.

China takes an open and inclusive approach to cooperation. It strives for long-term development of its cooperation with other developing countries, which is in line with the common interests of relevant parties and the general trend of global development.

The tangible achievements come from how China has practiced the spirit of win-win results.

Over the past 10 years, the country has constantly deepened its cooperation with Africa, draft-



Photo shows passengers on a train running on the Addis Ababa-Djibouti Standard Gauge Railway. (Photo by Huang Peizhao/People's Daily)

ing and implementing ten cooperation plans, eight major initiatives and nine programs.

Over the past 10 years, the country's Belt and Road Initiative has drawn nearly \$1 trillion of investment, built over 3,000 cooperation projects, created 420,000 jobs and lifted nearly 40 million people out of poverty in participating countries.

Over the past 10 years, China has provided a series of international public products that significantly promoted the common development of developing countries.

During the summits commemorating the UN's 70th anniversary in September 2015, China announced to build "six 100 projects" for other developing countries - 100 poverty reduction projects, 100 agricultural cooperation projects, 100 aid for trade projects, 100 ecological conservation and climate change response projects, 100 hospitals and clinics, and 100 schools and vocational training centers. It also vowed to set up an assistance fund for South-South cooperation, establish an institute of South-South cooperation and development and a center for international knowledge on development.

At the High-level Dialogue on Global Development held in June 2022, China announced important measures to implement the Global Development Initiative, including upgrading the South-South Cooperation Assistance Fund to a Global Development and South-South Cooperation Fund, increasing input to the UN Peace and Development Trust Fund, and setting up a global development promotion center and a global knowledge network for development.

China always keeps in mind the difficulties faced by developing coun-

tries and accommodates their concerns.

"This fully indicates China's ceaseless efforts to make sure that no country or individual is left behind," said Togo's President Faure Gnassingbe.

The tangible achievements come from China's efforts to enhance their capacity for self-development.

Fully considering the resources, development level and needs of other developing countries, China shares unreservedly its experience and technologies with them by various means, and trains local talent and technicians for them, so as to empower them to tap their own potential for diversified, independent and sustainable development.

The Juncao technology, which refers to planting a grass named Juncao with strong adaptability to the environment and rich nutrition while using processed Juncao grass to cultivate edible and medicinal fungi and raise poultry and livestock, is a typical example.

China has launched Juncao programs in over 100 countries, making the grass a "grass of happiness and prosperity."

Kaul Gena, Pro-Vice-Chancellor administration of Papua New Guinea (PNG) University of Technology, noted that Juncao has been planted in 16 districts of eight provinces in PNG, lifting tens of thousands of people out of poverty, adding that China's sincere assistance is well appreciated by the people in PNG.

The tangible achievements come from China sincerity in helping other developing countries cope with challenges.

The country has set up a South-South cooperation fund on climate change, set up 10 pilot low-carbon in-

dustrial parks, launched 100 mitigation and adaptation programs, provided 1,000 training opportunities on climate change cooperation in developing countries, and established the China-Pacific Island Countries Climate Change Cooperation Center.

China has provided emergency assistance to Tonga, Afghanistan and Pakistan after they were hit by severe natural disasters. Facing the global spread of COVID-19, it has announced to give \$2 billion of international aid over two years to countries hard hit by Covid-19, especially developing countries, in supporting their fight against the virus and their efforts to resume economic and social development.

UN Secretary-General Antonio Guterres commented that when it comes to helping developing countries realize common development, China's efforts have been unmatched.

Today, the global development process has hit major roadblocks, the momentum of international development cooperation is being weakened, and development gap between the North and the South keeps widening.

The international community needs to take more concrete actions to fulfill its promises to help with the development of developing countries.

China will keep strengthening solidarity and cooperation with other developing countries, take concrete measures to make the pie of cooperation bigger and make greater contributions to improving the wellbeing of mankind. **People's Daily**



Dar es Salaam's junior basketball players put their skills to show in a training which took place at Jakaya Kikwete (JKM) Youth Park courts recently. PHOTO: CORRESPONDENT JUMANNE JUMA

TAHA hails government for backing Africa-Zone V Championship

By Correspondent Joseph Mchekadona

TANZANIA Handball Association (TAHA) has expressed its gratitude to the government for its continued support of the development of sports in the country.

Michael Chibwala, TAHA president, issued the gratitude in Dar es Salaam on Saturday when the government pledged to foot some of the expenses for the national handball team's preparations for this season's International Handball Federation (IHF)-sanctioned Africa-Zone V Championship.

He said TAHA values the financial support from the government, describing the backing as timely.

The THA boss pointed out: "We are very happy with the support we are getting from the government and we promise Tanzanians that as the host of the Africa-Zone V Handball Championship, the showdown's trophy will remain in the country."

"Winning the championship is the only way for us to show our gratitude to President Samia Suluhu Hassan who is the champion of sports development in the country," he said.

The TAHA president, in a previous interview, stated that his association needs 39, 080, 000/- to successfully prepare the national team ahead of the championships.

However, he could not disclose the government's financial support to them but described it as enough to prepare the team that entered the camp in Dar es Salaam last Saturday.

"I can't disclose how much the government has supported us but let me assure you that the money will enable us to prepare our team ahead of the championships," the official noted.

"This moreover does not mean that we have closed the doors for others to financially support us, the doors are open as we still need money for the preparations," he said.

He revealed that the IHF will cater for flight tickets and other necessities for all visiting teams and officials, while TAHA needs 64, 167, 000/- for the teams' and officials' internal expenditures.

Meanwhile, National Sports Council (NSC) Secretary-General Neema Msitha yesterday could not be reached on her phone to issue details on the government's financial support to TAHA for Africa-Zone V Handball Championship.

Thirty-nine handballers making Tanzania's national handball team entered the camp in Dar es Salaam last weekend to prepare for the coming International Handball Federation (IHF)-sanctioned Africa-Zone V Championship slated for later this month.

Chibwala said all players are ready for the camp which will be located in Temeke.

The championships will be held at Benjamin Mkapa Indoor Stadium from April 24-30.

He said the country's female

handballers come from both Mainland Tanzania and Zanzibar, noting they were selected in the last year's National Inter-Secondary Schools Games (Umisseta) and National Inter-Primary Schools Games (Umitashumta).

The TAHA official said the 39 handballers have been put into two teams consisting of 19 players and 20 players.

Chibwala noted they will be under head coach, Kombo Ally Kombo, who will be assisted by Phillip Makumbi, Daudi Martin, and Moshi Ally while Gloria Mtui is the team's matron.

He mentioned the players as Gloria Chiwali, Angela Mahwata, Maimuna Mnyamuke, Agnes Mhawe, Irene Ndawa, Mary Elikana, Amina Mgbwene, Prisca Maige, Rehema Seme, Frola Kahawa, Sweatheart Okeyo, Juliana Kapinga, Fatuma Burushafi, Maria Chalema, and Augenia Haule.

Others handballers are Ashura Moshi, Shemsha Juma, Jokha Salum, Khajra Juma, Halima Khatibu, Thumaiya Hassan, Blandina Amos, Umukuruthum Hassan, Zulfia Hajji Kheri, and Fatma Ame.

Khadija Selemani, Sada Maulid, Leyla Abdallah, Sada Yusuph, Subira Haji, Asha Hassan, Wahida Makame, Halima Kombo, Suhaila Ali, and Mwanakheri Issa also make the list.

"The team is expected to enter camp in Dar es Salaam, they will be training at Indoor Stadium and Ngome grounds, the foreign teams are expected in a few weeks to come," Chibwala said.

Ten national women's handball teams made up of U-17 and U-20 handballers from Kenya, Ethiopia, Rwanda, Uganda, Burundi, Djibouti, Somalia, South Sudan, Sudan and the host Tanzania will honour the championship.

Recently, Chibwala disclosed TAHA needs 64, 167, 000/- to successfully host the championships and 39, 080, 000/- for preparations for the tournament, noting they, as of last weekend, were still looking for funds.

Hungary's Peter Kovacs (IHF) and Zambian Victor Banda (CAHB) are top officials set to oversee the championship.

The championships will go alongside coaches and umpires course aimed at having many qualified coaches and umpires.

The instructors for the two courses are George Asimeto from Kenya and Coulibaly Nanga from Algeria, imparting skills to coaches and umpires respectively.

The championship's officials are Antonio Escurinho and Gomes Elvio from Angola, Ghol Maheddine and Chergui Oussama from Algeria, and Togo's Aduay Sentowu and Aduay Tonkomabu.

Egyptians Mustapha Hossein and Kedis Mostafa, as well as Tunisians Haggui Sahara Haggui Roua, are as well the showdown's officials.

Reliant Lusajo still topping Namungo FC's scoring charts

By Correspondent Nassir Nchimbi



Namungo FC's goal-getter Reliant Lusajo.

NAMUNGO FC striker Reliant Lusajo has said the desire to bolster his career has triggered him to thrive as the club's top scorer for five seasons.

The towering goal-getter has so far been the club's most reliable attacker since it won promotion to the Mainland Premier League in the 2019/20 season.

Lusajo was adjudged the top goal scorer in the First Division League (now Championship League) in the 2018/19 season, notching 16 goals - a feat that had become a record yet to be broken.

Since promotion to the NBC Premier League, Lusajo has had a good streak in finding the opponents' back of the net and has been called several times to the senior national side, Taifa Stars.

The attacker disclosed: "I want to scale great heights, this leads me to score many goals in the Premier League and even in the Championship League - a

tournament that has seen me hold the record for scoring the most goals in a season."

In the 2019/20 Premier League season, which had Namungo FC battling it out in it for the first time, the goal-getter finished the season with 12 goals, a performance that attracted many Premier League teams.

Lusajo was mentioned a lot in the transfer market for the 2020/21 season as he was on Yanga's radar but, in the end, he landed at Kinondoni Municipal Council FC.

He, though, did not last long at the team due to various reasons that made him stay out for a long time and end the season with four goals.

In the 2021/22 season, he returned to Namungo FC and finished the season as the top goal scorer having notched 10 goals and he has, this season, already scored eight goals.

He started this season by scoring two goals in his outfit's 2-2 draw with Mtibwa, he went into the score sheet in Namungo FC's clashes against Ihefu SC, Ruvu Shooting, Coastal Union, Mbeya City FC, Geita Gold FC, posting one goal in each tie.

Lusajo was last on target when Namungo FC took on Tanzania Prisons in Lindi on March 11.

Out of the attacker's eight goals, only one goal has been scored away, in a 2-1 defeat against Mbeya City FC at Sokoine Stadium, Mbeya on November 4.

Lusajo further pointed out that seeing his health improve after recovering from the injuries he had sustained at the end of last year makes him happy.

"I cooperate with my colleagues to see that we get better results for the team in terms of scoring more goals, it is only a matter of time, the important thing is to see the team's success comes first," Lusajo noted.

Lusajo started his football career at Machava FC of Kilimanjaro which participated in the Second Division League (SDL) in 2010, he also turned out for another Kilimanjaro outfit, Panone FC.

In the 2012/13 season, he joined Yanga and signed a two-year contract for the Jangwani Street club, but he served the team for only one season in 2013/14 and was then roped in by JKT Ruvu (JKT Tanzania) for a one-year contract.

Kitambi under pressure as Namungo FC targets to return to winning ways

By Correspondent Nassir Nchimbi

NAMUNGO FC head coach, Denis Kitambi, has admitted being under pressure as inconsistency troubles his squad in its effort to return to winning ways in this season's NBC Premier League.

The Lindi-based team is set to face Mbeya City FC in the domestic top flight upon its resumption next week.

The two teams with lock horns at Majaliwa Stadium in Ruangwa, with Namungo FC eager to pick maximum points.

In the first meeting between the two sides at the Sokoine Stadium in Mbeya, Mbeya City FC won 2-1. Namungo FC, alias 'Southern Killers', have so far notched two wins from the last five games and have, consequently, been placed a few places above the relegation zone.

The Lindi outfit is only separated from the drop zone by seven points with five games remaining.

Kitambi revealed that the challenge they have at the moment lies in defense as it has been allowing goals in recent games.

In the last four games, Namungo FC has conceded seven goals, going down 2-0 to league leader, Yanga, conceding a 2-0 loss to Kagera Sugar, cruising to a 2-1 victory over Geita Gold FC, and suffering 3-2 loss to Tanzania Prisons.

Kitambi pointed out that they need to make adjustments to their defense so that they can finish well in their remaining five league games.

The tactician noted: "We are back in training and the biggest thing we are looking at is defense because, in the last three games, we have allowed seven goals - this is a lot on average - we need balance in attack and defense to get a proper rhythm to our games."

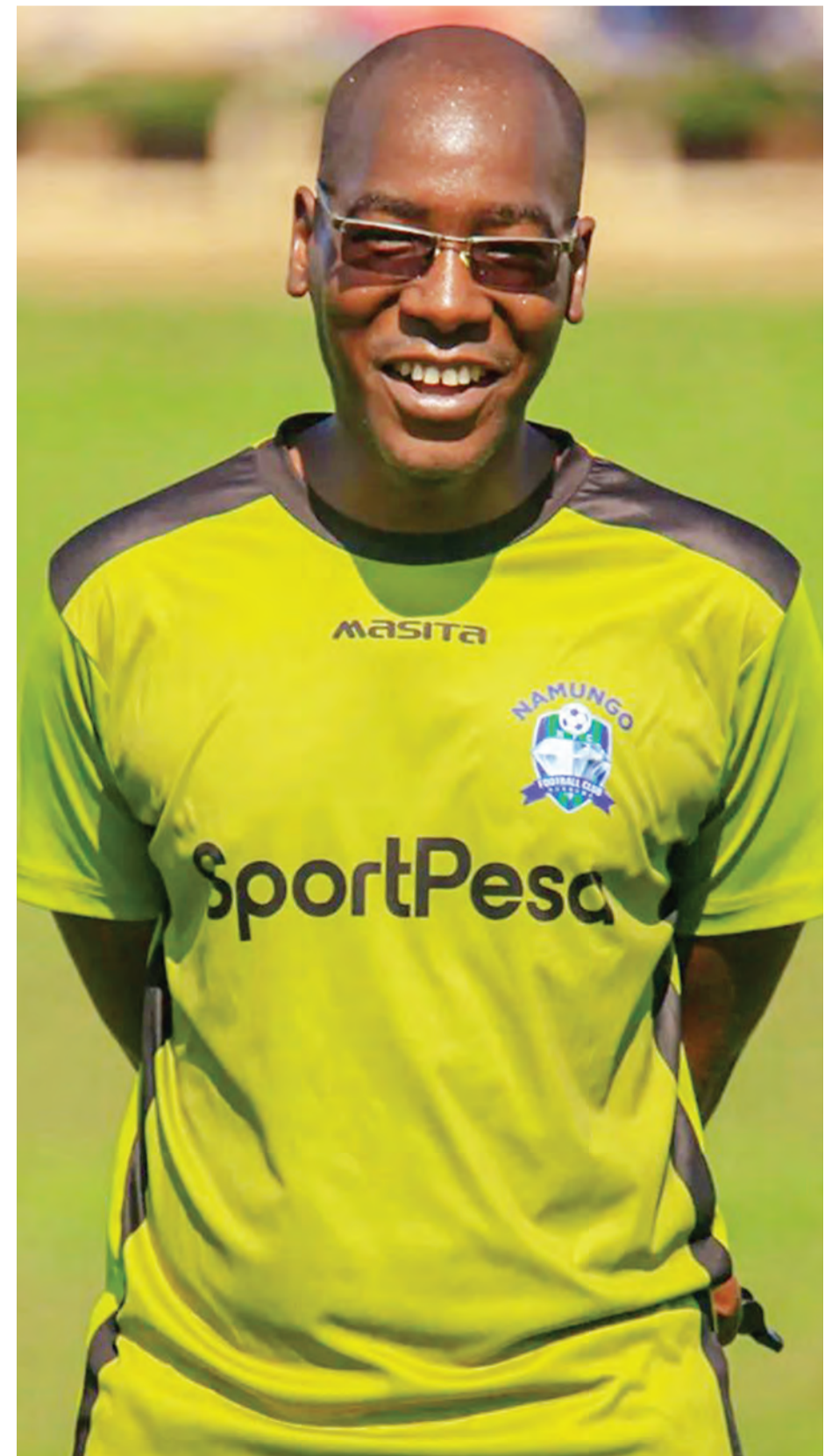
The coach added: "The players are aware and I know they are under pressure to do well, as is the case for every one of us, but they will give us maximum points."

"It will be a tough game because Mbeya City FC is a stubborn team when facing us," Kitambi stated. "We shall handle them in a disciplined manner in this home game, we shall require more effort," he added.

The Lindi-based team is currently sitting eighth on the 16-team league table and is desperate to pick maximum points to ascertain its safety in the NBC Premier League.

As for the visitor, Mbeya City FC, the outfit will hope to return to winning ways after losing the previous encounter before the league break.

The Mbeya side has recorded two wins from the past five clashes, as is the case for host Namungo FC.



Namungo FC's head coach, Denis Kitambi. PHOTO: COURTESY OF NAMUNGO FC

'I may never celebrate with players,' says new Bayern boss Tuchel

MUNICH

THOMAS Tuchel said "he may never celebrate" with his players despite leading Bayern Munich to a 4-2 win over Borussia Dortmund in his first game in charge on Saturday.

Tuchel replaced the sacked Julian Nagelsmann last week and preferred a low-key celebration as Bayern went back to the top of the Bundesliga table.

"I think it's not the moment. Julian was the coach until now and I came late in the season," Tuchel told reporters after being asked why he opted not to join his players on the pitch at the Allianz Arena in front of fans at the end of the game.

Tuchel said "he may never" do so at Bayern, admitting he was "happy to stay out of it".

"It was not the moment to put me in the middle of it and maybe it will never be the moment to put me in the middle of it.

"I'm happy if my players shine and I'm happy if my players show their potential and I'm more than happy if they can celebrate in front of the spectators."

He added: "I try to help them fulfil their potential as a team. I try to influence them and create a good environment where everyone wants to come to work. All other stuff, I'm happy to stay out of it."

Bayern captain Thomas Mueller, who scored two goals in the win, said the players should take the blame for Nagelsmann's sacking.

Asked if the sacking was the right decision after the dominant win, Mueller said: "If I have an opinion, I wouldn't share it here.

"When a manager is changed, it's because we (the players) didn't bring the right performance on the pitch."

The win saw Bayern overtake Dortmund atop the Bundesliga table with a two-point lead.

Tuchel said the win was "a good first step", but vowed to improve his "sloppy" side.

"We showed our desire and we need the desire to get better, because we have to get better," he added.

"We have a lot to learn. There are a lot of small things we need to improve."

Meanwhile, Borussia Dortmund midfielder Jude Bellingham said his side were not out of the title race after Saturday's 4-2 loss at Bayern Munich, which saw them drop to second.

Dortmund had a chance to go four points clear but were outclassed, down 3-0 after 23 minutes and 4-0 down early in the second half, before scoring two late consolation goals.

"We just made up 10 points in eight games and now (Bayern's lead) is only two," the teenage English midfielder told the Bundesliga website after the match.

AFP

Lewandowski hits brace in Barca cruise, Sevilla earn crucial win

BARCELONA

ROBERT Lewandowski struck twice as Barcelona moved 15 points clear at the top of La Liga with a comfortable 4-0 win at Elche on Saturday.

Earlier Lucas Ocampos and Youssef En-Nesyri struck to earn new Sevilla coach Jose Luis Mendilibar a crucial 2-0 victory over relegation rivals Cadiz in his first game in charge.

Barca's Polish forward Lewandowski has endured a small dip in form recently but was back to his lethal best to continue the Catalans' procession towards their first title since 2019.

Ansu Fati also scored for the first time since October in the league and Ferran Torres rounded out the comfortable win, as Xavi was able to start some reserve players ahead of Wednesday's Copa del Rey semi-final clash with Real Madrid.

Elche, playing under new coach Sebastian Beccacece for the first time, are bottom of the table and never seemed likely to trouble the runaway league leaders. Champions Madrid, second, host Real Valladolid on Sunday.

"We'll see what Madrid do tomorrow, (but) if we win our games, we will be champions," Eric Garcia told Movistar.

"The coach told us all at the start of the season, everyone is important.

"We have an important game on Wednesday and he was able to rest some players."

Barca coach Xavi took the chance to experiment by deploying Garcia in Sergio Busquets' usual pivot role, and made several other changes to his usual side.

Torres and Fati started on the flanks, the latter having made headlines this week after his father complained about the Barca number 10's lack of minutes.

"(Goals) always give confidence to the forwards, today it went perfectly," Xavi told Movistar.

"Two goals for Robert, one for Ferran, one for Ansu, and Ansu's work -- he ended up exhausted, that's the truth.

"Aside from the goal, that is very positive for him and his confidence, how he worked for the team, it's really important for me, and the goal is a consequence of his work and his talent.

AFP

Man City thrash Liverpool but Jesus keeps Arsenal eight points clear

LONDON

MANCHESTER City thrashed Liverpool 4-1 on Saturday but remain eight points adrift of Arsenal at the top of the Premier League after Gabriel Jesus scored twice in the Gunners 4-1 win over Leeds.

In the clash between the two sides that have dominated English football over the past five years, City were a class apart despite the absence of Erling Haaland due to injury.

Liverpool went in front through Mohamed Salah's 23rd goal of the season but were blown away in the second half after Julian Alvarez brought City level before the break.

Pep Guardiola's men needed less than a minute in the second period to go in front as Kevin De Bruyne tapped home Riyad Mahrez's cross.

Ilkay Gundogan slammed home the third before Jack Grealish rounded off his best performance in a City shirt with a fine finish for the fourth.

"Now it's the Jack we thought (we were buying). Aston Villa fans know this Jack," said Guardiola of Grealish, who joined for a Premier League record £100 million (\$124 million) in 2021 from the Birmingham club.

City still have a game in hand on Arsenal and the two meet in a potential title decider at the Etihad later this month.

A sobering defeat is another blow to Liverpool's hopes of a top-four finish as the Reds slip to eighth in the table.

"Deserved chance"

Arsenal did not feel the pressure of City briefly cutting the gap before kick-off at the Emirates as Jesus marked his first league start since November with a double.

Bukayo Saka was handed a rare rest by Mikel Arteta and Jesus took responsibility from



Arsenal's Gabriel Jesus (third R) scores during the Premier League match against Leeds United at the Emirates Stadium on Saturday. Reuters

ham club.

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Bukayo Saka was handed a rare rest by Mikel Arteta and Jesus took responsibility from

the penalty spot in his absence to open the scoring 10 minutes before half-time.

Jesus was sidelined for three months after picking up a knee injury at the World Cup but the former City forward's return for the run-in could deny his old club a fifth title in six years.

The Brazilian fired home his second goal of the game after Ben White doubled Arsenal's lead early in the second half.

"He's been working so hard the last four or five months with a lot of support obviously from the team and the staff," said

Arteta on Jesus' impact. "Today he deserved the chance to start and he grabbed the opportunity with a lot of conviction and scoring two very important goals."

Rasmus Kristensen pulled a goal back for Leeds, but Granit Xhaka rounded off the scoring as Arsenal made it seven consecutive league wins for the first time under Arteta.

Brighton and Brentford shared the points after a thrilling 3-3 draw at the Amex.

Three times Brentford led through Pontus Jansson, Ivan Toney and Ethan Pinnock.

But the Seagulls grabbed a deserved point thanks to Alexis Mac Allister's late penalty after Kaoru Mitoma and Danny Welbeck also equalised in the first half.

A point apiece sees both sides edge above Liverpool and within six points of the top four.

Aston Villa are also making a late push for Europe as their superb form under Unai Emery continued with a 2-0 win at Chelsea.

Ollie Watkins and John McGinn scored for the visitors at Stamford Bridge, who moved above Chelsea into ninth.

- Hodgson's 'wonderful feeling' -

Roy Hodgson's return at Crystal Palace delivered the Eagles' first victory of 2023 as Jean Philippe-Mateta's 94th minute goal beat Leicester 2-1 at Selhurst Park.

The Foxes looked on course for a much-needed win when Ricardo Pereira fired home on 56 minutes.

But Eberechi Eze's free-kick hit the woodwork and deflected in off Leicester goalkeeper Daniel Iversen to quickly get Palace level before Mateta coolly slotted home at the death.

"It's a wonderful feeling," said Hodgson, who is back in the dugout at 75. "It's such a relief, really, because I thought over the course of the 90 minutes we deserved to win the game."

Defeat sees Leicester slip into the relegation zone after Bournemouth also came from behind to beat Fulham 2-1 thanks to goals from Marcus Tavernier and Dominic Solanke.

Nottingham Forest and Wolves remain outside the bottom three after a 1-1 draw at the City Ground.

Daniel Podence struck seven minutes from time to snatch a draw for the visitors after Brennan Johnson opened the scoring for Forest.

AFP

Liverpool's season reaches new low: And even Jurgen Klopp looks confused

CHRIS BASCOMBE

FORGET the battering in Brighton, the bruising by Bournemouth and the walloping in Wolverhampton. Liverpool's mauling in Manchester was the nadir in Jurgen Klopp's lamentable season.

This was the afternoon when his so-called mentality monsters looked more like the Kop Spice Boys of the mid-1990s; untrustworthy, flaky, high on promise, low on substance, and leaving their global fanbase dreaming of the missing pieces which will supposedly make next season better.

Anyone can lose to Manchester City in the mood they were in on Saturday. Etihad regulars purred that the 4-1 win ranked among the most complete performances of the Pep Guardiola era, and Jack Grealish has never looked so smart in sky blue.

Liverpool currently possess neither the conditioning, nor players to go toe-to-toe with City on this form. Even when Klopp's side were level it was like watching them try to play the famed 'heavy metal football' on George Formby's ukulele.

The lingering, damning and increasingly regular question is why Liverpool and City now seem to be operating in a different weight division?

As against Real Madrid during their meek Champions League exit,

Klopp said the opposition's quality cannot be disregarded when assessing the margin of defeat.

Great Liverpool teams, including those built by Klopp, have lost to these clubs. There is usually no shame in it. But being outclassed within close proximity symbolises the depth to which Liverpool have sunk in unfathomably rapid time.

Having waited so many years to close what once looked an impregnable gap to the wealthiest and most powerful teams in England and Europe, Liverpool have regressed to where they were when Klopp took over. That makes the one-sided defeats to the teams which denied Liverpool a quadruple less than a year ago the most deflating of the campaign.

While plenty of mitigating factors have been presented as a means of explaining the decline - many of them worthy of a sympathetic hearing - recurring unattractive traits are inexcusable.

There was a time not-so-long ago when Klopp's players came off the pitch so exhausted they fell into his arms like marathon runners who had just clocked a personal best.

There was a time when no matter what the outcome, opponents felt as though they had to deliver a career-defining performance to beat Klopp's side, Liverpool's capacity to besiege the opposition guaranteeing every duel resembled Rocky

versus Apollo Creed.

And there was a time when even if Liverpool were trailing in injury time, the opposition was so nervous of conceding under immense pressure, they generally did.

Where has that Liverpool gone?

The senior players' lack of resolve means every mid-game setback is greeted like a game-ending calamity, precipitating a defensive collapse and incomprehensible lack of application. It will not wash to keep citing a shortened pre-season, disrupted conditioning due to the November World Cup, or even the now widely accepted conclusion that Liverpool went into this campaign a top-class midfielder light. Real Madrid's and City's players have endured the same exertions, albeit they seem to have two world class players for each position.

It didn't stop Grealish

tracking back to prevent Mohamed Salah teeing up Diogo Jota at one end 30 seconds before creating City's equaliser at the other, the perfect representation of the kind of tireless running Klopp could once take for granted from his players.

Even injuries to key personnel - undoubtedly a factor in Liverpool struggling to finish in the top four or match the class of the high fliers such as City - cannot explain all the lame defeats to clubs in the relegation fight.

The contradiction between a team which would be third based on home form and that which has collected fewer points than Leicester City and Southampton on the road will perturb Klopp. There have been so many clear-the-air talks at the AXA training ground recently, he may as well work them into

his schedule after each away trip.

There are hints that even Klopp is confused about the root of the problem, or to be charitable feels unable to speak candidly about the extent of his concern in signalling how he will remedy it. His public pronouncements have had a little something for everyone, occasionally implying significant changes are afoot but then rolling back to suggest the core of his preferred starting XI will remain intact.

The Liverpool manager is obviously working within certain parameters. He has neither the money, nor inclination, to oversee a complete clear-out before next season, and in any case his rebuild began when the likes of Luis Diaz, Cody Gakpo, Darwin Nunez and Ibrahima Konate were recruited.

He must have serious

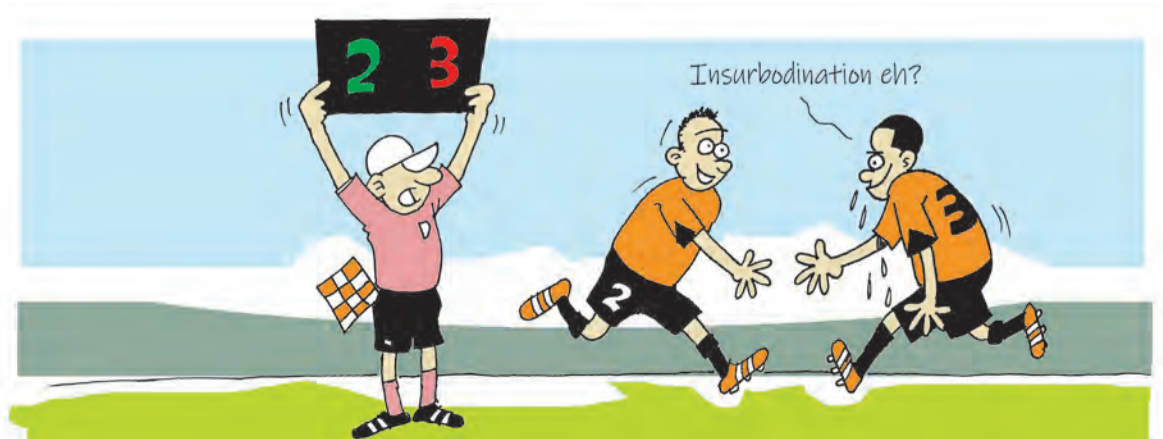
doubts as to whether only one or two more additions will change the situation, however.

The idea that all Klopp has to do is plant Jude Bellingham in his midfield and all the defects will be eradicated is as delusional as believing the team of the mid-90s would be transformed once Paul Ince signed.

Realistically, Liverpool have the next two games - away at Chelsea and home to Arsenal - to keep top-four hopes intact. Beyond that, Klopp's job this summer is as big as it was when he signed his first Anfield contract. Klopp said pre-match he considered a 19-point gap between Liverpool and City unrepresentative. He was right. The twenty-two it was extended to is a much fairer representation of how much catching up Liverpool must do.

THE TELEGRAPH

Gwiji by David Chikoko



SPORT

Man City thrash Liverpool but Jesus keeps Arsenal eight points clear

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Fountain Gate Academy set for CAF Schools Football Championship

By Correspondent Joseph Mchekadona

TANZANIA'S representatives in the inaugural CAF Schools Football Championship, Fountain Gate Academy, left for South Africa yesterday to battle it out in the continental showdown.

The finals are expected to get underway at King Zwelithini Stadium in Durban on Wednesday.

Fountain Gate Academy's Chief Executive Officer (CEO), Japhet Makau, said they are ready for the finals and promised Tanzanians his youngsters will lay their hands on medals in the championships.

He said the team's contingent is made up of 16 players and six officials.

Makau also thanked the government for its support of women's football in the country.

"We are going to South Africa, the team is more than ready for the finals, we will hoist our country's flag high...I'm confident we will do well and hopefully bring the trophy home," he said.

Speaking at the flag handover function which took place in Dar es Salaam last Friday, Minister for Culture, Arts, and Sports Pindi Chana hailed the school for being at the forefront in promoting and developing women's football in the country.

She said there is a need for all local primary and secondary schools to have football grounds which will be used to groom many girls into good football players.

"I wish to thank Fountain Gate Academy for its unwavering support towards the development of girls' football in the country, we have, through such an institution, had a strong Women's League and a strong national women's soccer team, I'm asking you hoist the country's flag high in South Africa," she said.

Ahead of Fountain Gate Academy's departure, the squad beat Ilala Queens 5-0 in a friendly clash, which wound up the former's preparations for the CAF Schools Football Championship.

Makau said after the CAF African Schools Football Championship, his team will start preparations for the Federation of East African Secondary Schools Sports Associations (FEASSA) Games, to be held in Rwanda, and the World Cup for Schools set to take place in Spain later this year.

Fountain Gate Academy emerged as the winner of the CECAFA Zone Qualifiers which took place at Azam Complex Stadium in Dar es Salaam last month.

They beat Awaro Secondary School of Ethiopia 3-0 courtesy of goals scored by Mary Siyame, Rede Julius, and Winfrida Hurbet.

A statement issued by CAF said all teams should report for the finals two days before the showdown.

The 14 teams set to compete in the boys' category are CEG Sainte Rita of Benin, Clapham High School of South Africa, Complex Scolaire of Guinea, CS Horizon of the Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC), Tunisian side, E Cole Hedi Ayadi, Royal Giants of Uganda, and Salima Secondary School of Malawi.

The girls' category consists of Anse Boileau from Seychelles, CEG from Benin, CEG Mfilou of Congo Republic, Ecole Omar Bin Khatab of Morocco, South African side Edendale Technical and Fountain Gate Academy.

The CAF Schools Football Championship is a brainchild of the confederation's president Patrice Motsepe who said Africa needs to invest in young football talents.

The CAF African Schools Football Program is a partnership involving CAF, African governments, and Football Associations from 41 participating countries.

The program also involves the provision of education, coaching, football, and skills development courses.

The CAF African Schools Football Program received a donation of USD 10 million from The Motsepe Foundation which will be used as prize money.

The winning schools will use the prize money to provide football infrastructure and educational, and other skills development facilities at these schools.

One of the objectives of the program is to the social impact of football in the communities and countries where the schools are - using the game to change the face of Africa.

Robertinho hails Simba SC's performance despite defeat to Raja Club Athletic



Simba SC head coach, Roberto Oliveira.

By Correspondent Michael Mwebe

TANZANIA'S Simba SC head coach Robert Oliveira has hailed the performance of his team despite conceding a 3-1 defeat to Moroccan outfit, Raja Club Athletic, in the 2022/23 CAF Champions League Group C tie that took place in Morocco on Friday night.

The results saw Simba SC finish seven points behind Group C leader, Raja Club Athletic, with both teams already qualified for the quarter-finals.

The dead rubber was notable for highlighting not only the hosts' ruthlessness in

front of the goal but also the degree to which Simba SC might not be considered the former's equal.

Raja Club Athletic was dominant but they had to wait till the 44th minute to break the deadlock when striker Hamza Khabba beat Joash Onyango to the ball

before rifling past keeper, Aishi Manula.

Onyango had the situation under control but his indecision as to whether to either chest the ball to Manula or kick it out for a corner was punished by the on-rushing Khabba.

Simba SC, however, re-

grouped after the break and showed their fighting spirit, drawing level just three minutes after the break when Jean Baleke scored with a sumptuous finish, chipping the ball over the keeper from the edge of the box after he had raced off his line.

But, the home side was not about to drop three points and they battled to get back into the lead.

They did so in the 70th minute when Khabba completed his brace from the penalty spot after he had been brought down inside the box by Onyango.

They completed the job four minutes to time when Mohamed Boulacsou ran behind the defense to pick up a pass from Abdelraouf Benguit before firing past the keeper on the volley.

Simba SC's attempts to put some respect to the scoreline were hardly successful as Raja Club Athletic saw out the 3-1 victory, completing a home and away sweep of the Tanzanian giants.

Speaking after the game, Oliveira, alias 'Robertinho', was pleased with the performance of his players and suggested had it not been

for two costly mistakes the game could have ended in a stalemate.

The gaffer revealed: "We had a good strategy because Simba SC had control of the game for ninety minutes. We scored one goal and our opponents also scored one."

"We gave priority to playing with the ball, only Jean Baleke stayed up front without the ball. I changed our strategy because I wanted to try new ones for the difficult games ahead," the coach pointed out.

Robertinho said: "I am happy, congratulations to my players, they played well for the fans. Simba SC has a good future. I have been here for just four months, I can change many things for the good future of Simba SC."

The tactician noted: "It is football, it's time you understand if there were no mistakes today maybe the match would have been drawn because Raja CA scored then we equalized and then there was something that happened thereafter which I prefer not to talk about. It's a shame, it's football."

Aga Khan SC cricketers stretch winning run in 2023 DC 50 Overs League

By Guardian Reporter

AGA Khan SC cricketers have compounded TCA Combine's woes in this season's Dar es Salaam Cricket (DC) 50 Overs Division A's League after commanding a comprehensive 296-run victory over the latter recently.

The clash's eventual winners were completely dominant and made TCA Combine mostly made up of inexperienced youngsters pay for every mistake the latter committed.

Aga Khan SC cricketers raced to 366/9 in the allotted 50 Overs, having won the toss and chose to bat in the Group B clash.

The batting side made full use of its depth with the top order, in particular, being more menacing.

Promising all-rounder Harsheed Chohan had the best innings when Aga Khan SC took the crease, having ended with a century.

Chohan, deployed as a top-order batsman, showcased his no-nonsense approach to notch a 70-ball 112 which included nine fours and six sixes.

There was earlier solid batting showcased by opening batsmen, Jumanne Mohamed and Abhik Patwa, as they scored 41 runs and 36 runs respectively.

The youthful Mohamed blasted six fours on his way to ending nine runs short of a half-century, as the performer rediscovered his batting



Aga Khan SC's all-rounder, Harsheed Chohan (L), receives the Kiwingu Man of the Match prize from Tanzania Cricket Association (TCA) information officer, Atif Salim, when the former's side locked horns with TCA Combine in this season's Dar es Salaam Cricket (DC) 50 Overs Cup duel which took place recently. PHOTO: COURTESY OF DAR ES SALAAM CRICKET

pro prowess.

The experienced Patwa was equally in good form, putting good knocks to show and making his way back with the 36 runs.

Riziki Kisetu, the other dependable experienced all-rounder, had his contribution at the crease coming in handy for the team given the cricketer ended with 66 runs.

Kisetu, deployed as a middle-order batsman, hammered four fours in his 71-ball spell to efficiently ensure Aga Khan SC is in control.

Youthful cricketers, Dhruvit Mehta and Kartik Syal, deployed as top-order and middle-order batsmen respectively, saw to it Aga SC add more runs on the board with well-executed knocks.

Mehta was slotted in at number three and made his way back with 29 runs whilst clearing the boundary once.

Syal had Aga Khan SC's batting unit keep on punishing the TCA Combine youngsters with his 26 runs.

The TCA Combine's bowling unit, led by Hamza Ally, was in for a tough opposition showcased by the well-drilled Aga Khan SC's batting unit.

Ally was, nevertheless, one of TCA Combine's cricketers that had impressive bowling figures.

The youthful performer ended his 10-over spell with three wickets whilst giving away 66 runs.

Impressive during TCA Combine's turn with the ball,

having taken three wickets and given away 59 runs in 10 overs. Mohamed Simba, moreover, did his best to frustrate Aga Khan SC's attempt to end with an imposing score, as the TCA Combine's bowler took two wickets, leaking 92 runs in 10 overs.

Chasing 367 runs to emerge victorious turned out to be a tall order for the youthful TCA Combine's cricketers, as they were bowled out for mere 70 runs in 23.4 overs.

The TCA Combine batting unity's naivety was duly exposed by the determined Aga Khan SC's bowling unit and the youngsters ultimately lost steam in less than 30 overs.

A notable showing with the bat for the TCA Combine was exhibited by Omary Hilal that was, by far, the batsman with the most runs.

Hilal, slotted in as an opening batsman, scored 18 runs whilst clearing the boundary once.

The cricketer, to some extent, made up for a dismal showing put by fellow opener Ally Hassan that suffered an early exit without a run to his name.

Darpan Jobanputra, slotted in as a middle-order batsman, was the other performer with a two-digit figure having ended with 11 runs.

Jimmy Kamande, Tanzania's senior national cricket team's coach that plays for TCA Combine in the DC 50 Overs Division A, chipped in with eight runs for the squad. Middle-order batsman Mo-

hamed Simba also ended two runs short of a two-digit figure for the TCA Combine.

Aga Khan SC's bowling unit, led by Mehta, mercilessly tormented the TCA Combine's batting unit to keep the tie out of the latter's reach.

Mehta had an impressive bowling showing for Aga Khan SC as the performer took three wickets, leaking seven runs in 2.4 overs.

He was ably assisted by Patwa, Syal, and Chohan, with the trio having ended with two wickets each.

Chohan bowled three overs whilst conceding 14 runs, Patwa gave away 17 runs in his six-over spell, and Syal bowled three overs whilst conceding seven runs.

A scintillating all-round showing showcased by Chohan, which had the cricketer posting a century and taking two wickets, handed him the Man of the Match prize.

Aga Khan SC has, as a result, kept on clinging on to the top place in Group B following the victory, notching a 3.0938 net run rate with the squad amassing 812 runs and giving away 408 runs.

Pak Stars, Strikers, and Shree Kutchi Leva Patel Sports Center (SKLPSC) occupy second, third, and fourth places in Group B.

The TCA Combine youngsters are still languishing at the bottom of the group following the defeat, posting a -4.6276 net run rate after amassing 319 runs and leaking 990 runs.

Flexibles by David Chikoko

