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ISSN 0856 - 5434 ISSUE No. 8709• PRICE: Tsh 1,000, Kenya sh100 TANZANIA THURSDAY 1 DECEMBER, 2022

### National Pg 3 'More efforts needed to end GBV'



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# Samia: Graduates must be demand-driven

By Correspondent James Kandoya

**P**RESIDENT Samia Suluhu Hassan yesterday challenged higher learning institutions countrywide to update their development visions to steer demand-driven graduates, employable locally and internationally.

The president threw the challenge after being conferred with an honorary doctorate citation by the University of Dar es Salaam, in recognition of her outstanding achievement in public service since taking office as Head of State.

She expressed confidence in the University of Dar es Salaam 2020 to 2060 development vision, anchored in producing demand-driven graduates, urging other universities to borrow a leaf.

While putting into action such visions, it is vital to establish technological parks to broaden graduates' ability to compete in the labour market, she said.

The government was bent on allocating budgetary funds meant to ensure that no eligible students are left behind, she said, pointing at the key sphere of higher learning institutions' contribution to development as conducting research.

The president emphasized the need to ensure non-infringement in the learning atmosphere, as the ability to explore, and discuss enables an institution to yield competent graduates.

In other remarks, she emphasized the quadruple 'R' in her leadership, as reconciliation, resilience, reforming and rebuilding, while Prof Adolf Mkenda, the Education, Science and Technology minister lauded the president for being honoured by UDSM.

He expressed expectations of higher education institutions to see transformation in the financing, infrastructure expansion and capacity building through the Higher Education for Economic Transformation (HEET) project.

The five-year project billed to cost \$425m in World Bank credits targets at unleashing the power of higher education to propel development and transformation.

It addresses the critical need for high-skilled workers in priority areas with labour market aligned competencies, he explained.

UDSM Chancellor Jakaya Kikwete, the fourth phase president, said Dr Samia becomes the third national leader to be awarded at that level by UDSM, saying it was a long process to select the honoris causa candidate and get it approved. He expressed gratitude to the Head of State for accepting the UDSM award.

Previous national leaders awarded with a Doctor of Letters were Netumbo Nandi-Ndaitwah, at that time deputy prime minister of Namibia, and the former Speaker of National Assembly Pius Msekwa, who in the past was UDSM vice chancellor.

Ndaitwa is now the ruling party vice president, lining her up as the country's first female presidential candidate when the current leader steps down in March 2024, the chancellor added.



University of Dar es Salaam Chancellor former president Jakaya Kikwete confers upon President Samia Suluhu Hassan the university's Honorary Doctorate in the Humanities and Community Science at the university's 52nd graduation held in Dar es Salaam yesterday. Photo: State House

## Govt seeks investments in SDGs impact sectors

By Francis Kajubi

**N**EW private investments will chiefly be directed into sectors that directly improve livelihoods and helps to achieve the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) set for 2030, the government has stated.

Prime Minister Kassim Majaliwa made this observation

in a speech read by Dr Stergomena Tax, the Foreign Affairs and East African Cooperation minister at the Tanzania SDGs forum in Dar es Salaam yesterday.

The speech cited the critical sectors as food and agriculture, renewable energy, infrastructure, education and services, underlining that the government would like to see

smart investments that can safeguard people from climate change impacts and disease outbreaks.

Elaborating, the policy address noted that sectors that align with SDGs include alternative energy sources, real estate, waste management, infrastructure, education and processing.

They include the process-

ing of fruits and vegetables, adding value to raw hides, affordable residential units, crop storage and transport infrastructure. Others cited are low to middle-level fee schools, daycare centers, polytechnics and community-based tourism services, he stated.

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## Chaos reigns as Burunge WMA key protocols collapse

By Guardian Reporter, Babati

**F**OR over three months now a conflict has raged in the Burunge Wildlife Management Area (Burunge WMA) between the board of trustees and the surrounding community over eligibility to a hunting block.

The village community chaired by Hamisi Juma is battling the WMA board of trustees which has

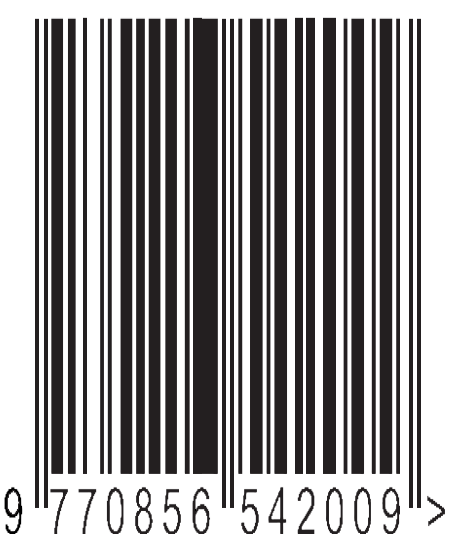


**EBN received assurance of involvement in the contract after the Ministry of Natural Resources and Tourism made some evaluation and issued recommendations for integrating the contract after EBN received sufficient marks**

the support of the district natural resources advisory board, where Juma and others want the hunting block contract it signed back on

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# MP, Oryx Gas in 600 free cylinders gesture



Jenista Mhagama (L), Minister of State in the President's Office (Public Service Management and Good Governance) and Peramiho constituency legislators, pictured at Peramiho in Ruvuma Region yesterday symbolically receiving 600 gas cooking stoves. The items are a donation by Oryx Gas Tanzania Limited managing director Araman Benoit (2nd-R) to the wives of Songea Rural council leaders, given as part of a strategy to encourage the use of clean energy in cooking. Photo: Guardian Correspondent

By Guardian Correspondent, Ruvuma

**T**OP government officials yesterday graced an event to distribute 600 gas cylinders and stoves to local leaders' wives in Songea District, Ruvuma Region, provided by Oryx Gas (T) Ltd. Jenista Mhagama, the Public Service Management and Good Governance minister at PMO, said at the event that the government is working to help communities to replace wood and charcoal as domestic energy by promoting health friendly energies. The goal is to ensure that up to 90 percent of the population uses

clean cooking solutions within this decade, with the roadmap for clean cooking energy targeting both urban and rural areas, she said.

As the world is grappling with mitigating the impacts of climate change, adoption of clean energy sources for cooking would save the 469,000 hectares of woodland lost annually from charcoal burning and tree felling for firewood, she said.

The gas stoves will relieve hundreds of women in the district

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## Chaos reigns as Burunge WMA protocols collapse

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July 14 with EBN, a tourist firm to be given to another hunting firm. The block borders the Tarangire National Park.

As the WMA management board is placed under the villagers, Juma and others recently announced the dissolution of its board of trustees, suspending the community's secretary, Benson Mwaie. Other members of the board have opposed the decision, arguing that the villagers have no authority to suspend it, and the hunting block can't be given to another investor contrary to procedures.

Juma affirms that the contract between WMA and EBN is void as no tender was put up to allow other applicants to apply, a position rejected by the board of trustees. Patricia Mosea, the chairperson, opposed all the points advanced by Juma and others, including the need for floating a tender for the hunting block. She says there were no prospective investor in the first place, required by regulation 55 of the 2018 Wildlife Management Act to be part of the tender process.

Another trustee, Lebrice Makao rejects the non-tendering matter or that EBN violated investment procedures. "EBN received assurance of involvement in the contract after the Ministry of Natural Resources and Tourism made some evaluation and issued recommendations for integrating the contract after EBN received sufficient marks," he said.

Apart from EBN receiving sufficient marks, the firm was endorsed via a lengthy, transparent and inclusive process that took more than two years, he specified, noting that the ministry was involved in conducting an assessment for the investor.

It released a statement endorsing him as having sufficient qualification, he said, elaborating that the ministry was invited in the current debate on the investor and reiterated its support for the investor even as the debate is conducted.

Lazaro Twange, the Babati district Commissioner (Manyara Region), and chairing the WMA advisory committee said the government is closely following the conflict and will later make a decision.



Prime Minister Kassim Majaliwa addresses the first retreat for heads of African insurance regulatory agencies in Arusha city yesterday. The Nov 30 to Dec 2, 2022 event is jointly organised by the Africa College of Insurance and Social Protection, the Tanzania Insurance Regulatory Authority and the Organisation of African Insurance Supervisory Authorities. Photo: PMO

## Govt seeks investments in SDGs impact sectors

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The forum is themed 'Invest in Tanzania's Sustainable Future' and was organised by the Tanzania Investment Centre (TIC) and the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), with country representative Christine Musisi emphasizing the investment map as aiming at positive impacts on spe-

cial groups, especially women. She remarked that the UNDP hopes that the government considers this investment map as the flagship for attracting impactful investments to the country, "where the forum will provide guidance to the private sector on the potential to contribute to national development priorities and support the achievement of SDGs."

The forum provides insights into local market conditions, SDG investment opportunities, indicating the business element and expected development impact of such investment, she said.

UNDP expects that private companies can make a significant contribution to filling the financing gap in SDGs realization by targeted investments, she said.

Exaud Kigahe, the Invest-

ment, Industry and Trade deputy minister, said the government has selected six projects for showcasing at the direct business exploration meetings at the forum to attract investors.

The projects include two edible oil processing plants backed by the Tanzania Investment Bank, developing an agricultural special economic zone project at Usa River in Arusha Region, and the Farkwa dam construction and conveyance

project in Dodoma Region supervised by the Water ministry, he said.

Other listed projects are Singida solar power project pegged at 100 megawatts for the National Development Corporation (NDC), waste recycling and renewable energy project under TIRDO and the development of a railway network for Dar es Salaam commuter services under the Tanzania Railways Corporation (TRC), he added.



Foreign tourists pictured at the weekend taking a breather at Barranco Camp before continuing with their trek towards the Mount Kilimanjaro summit, Uhuru Peak (5,895 metres above sea level) via the Machame and Lemosho routes. Photo: Correspondent James Lanka

## Mbeya RC directs TRA to enforce use of EFDs

By Guardian Correspondent, Mbeya

TANZANIA Revenue Authority (TRA) in Mbeya Region has been called on to prepare strategies to ensure all traders qualified to issue sale receipts via Electronic Fiscal Devices (EFDs) are registered according to the requirements of the law.

The authority is also required to make sure the traders use the said

devices according to the law to avoid tax evasion among unfaithful traders.

The directive was issued by Mbeya Regional Commissioner, Juma Homera at the conclusion of the celebration of Thanks to Taxpayers Week which also involved the issuance of awards to good taxpayers in the region.

Homera said the problem regarding traders not issuing EFD receipts

causes revenue loss to the government through deliberate tax evasion.

"Now I direct TRA to make sure all traders qualified to use EFDs, do so in order to control tax evasion as traders are merely government agents in tax collection," he said.

TRA Director of Research and Policy, Ephraim Mdee said in the current financial year, Mbeya Region has been

targeted to collect 85bn/- in taxes.

He said every region has been given a tax collection target according to the number of revenue sources. Mbeya Region TRA Manager, Shabani Muhibu said the problem they now face is smuggling that cause a lot of revenue loss.

He said goods smuggled in are sold same prices as those legally imported.

## MP and Oryx Gas in 600 free gas cylinders gesture

FROM PAGE 1

from searching for firewood, enabling them to properly engage in income generating activities, she stated.

The minister commended the firm for assisting in the quest for cleaner energies and changing the lives of women in the district, alluding to remarks by President Samia Suluhu Hassan at the Tanzania clean cooking conference recently, last month on the signaled the importance of the issue.

The president directed the relevant authorities to form a national task force to prepare a roadmap to shift to clean energy for cooking.

Medical statistics indicate that over 33,000 people die each year from using firewood for cooking, as biomass accounts for up to 90 percent of household energy use countrywide.

Maria Haule, one among women leaders in Peramiho constituency, said they are grateful for the stoves, promising that a networking group would be formed, for each woman to deposit funds for refilling the gas cylinders.

Costansia Mwanja,

another leader, said the stoves priced at 70,000/- a unit will enable them to enhance their other activities including gardening.

Araman Benoit, the company director, said the company seeks to support various groups in promoting the use of LPG (liquefied petroleum gas) as a clean cooking solution.

He said the firm is investing in the importation, storage, bottling and distribution of LPG throughout the country, spending plenty on new cylinders being added to the market.

The cylinders are offered at a considerable discount to diminish the cost of the LPG starting kit (cylinder, gas, burner and trivet) to enable a switch from dirty energies to LPG, he said, expressing the desire that LPG be made available throughout the country.

The company expects that within 10 years each household will have at least one gas cylinder in use, he said.

Neema Maghembe, the acting district executive director, said women will no longer use firewood and charcoal in cooking. This commendable move will largely save trees and forest land, she added.

# Govt underscores need for stakeholders to provide appropriate support to GBV victims

By Felister Peter

THE government has underscored the need for stakeholders to work together to ensure the provision of appropriate support and health care to women and children who have experienced GBV.

Dr Dorothy Gwajima, Minister for Community Development, Gender, Women and Special Groups made the appeal on Tuesday evening during a joint press conference with European Union (EU) ambassadors to Tanzania that aimed to enlighten the common European commitment to fight against GBV and present activities that embassies have organised to mark the 16 Days of activism against GBV.

The global theme for this year's 16 Days of activism against GBV which runs from 25th November to December 10th, 2022 is 'Unite! Activism End Violence against Women and Girls' while locally the theme is 'Every Life Matters: End Femicide and Violence against Women and Children' which emphasizes actions to eradicate all forms of GBV to save the lives of women and children.

"We need to work together to ensure that we improve GBV response at all levels, raise awareness to overcome cultural barriers that hinder women from seeking help and increase access to justice for survivors of GBV," she stated.

According to her, the gov-

ernment has taken various initiatives to fight against GBV which includes implementation of the National Plan of Action to End Violence against Women and Children (2017/2018 - 2021/2022) for Tanzania mainland.

Dr Gwajima noted that the government enacted the Legal Aid Act in 2017 to oversee the provision of legal aid in the country and recognizes paralegals to provide legal services in different localities.

Their recognition facilitates women especially in rural areas to access legal services free, she said.

She said the initiatives include the establishment of 420 gender and children's desks at police stations to attend GBV

cases, the establishment of 153 gender desks at prison stations and the introduction of 21 one stop centers to address GBV issues.

"We have 18,186 women and children protection committees through the country at all levels of the communities which are responsible for handling violence against women and children cases," Dr Gwajima said.

Speaking on behalf of European countries, Ambassador of the EU, Manfredo Fanti said they strongly condemn violence against girls including harmful practices as a blatant violation of human rights.

Fanti said the harmful practices escalated during crises whereas the outbreak of COV-

ID-19 aggravated the situation leading to record-high levels of domestic violence, rising poverty and increased risk of women and girls becoming trapped in cycles of violence.

He noted that since Tanzania's population consists of 49 percent men and 51 percent women, it is not realistic to discuss sustainable development plans with half of the population being in a disadvantageous situation.

Nabil Hajlaoul, Ambassador of France said that feminist diplomacy has become a priority all over the world including in Tanzania and Sub-Saharan Africa.

"Most of the crises happening around the globe bring more violence that mostly tar-

gets women and girls. Women are targeted because they are the weakest community. In Sub-Saharan Africa rapes were reported to happen in neighbouring Rwanda during the genocide," he noted, adding no country is immune to GBV.

Ambassador Hajlaoul said that France promotes feminism diplomacy through defence of human rights.

The Tanzania Demographic Health Survey-TDHS 2015-2016) shows that sexual violence is frequently committed by persons with whom the woman has a close personal relationship.

40 percent of women who experienced sexual violence reported current or former

boyfriends as perpetrators and nearly one-third (31percent) reported friends/acquaintances as perpetrators and 7 percent reported strangers as perpetrators.

The Social Institutions and Gender Index study (SIGI 2022) indicates that most of the reported offenses include rape, defilement, incest, sodomy, indecent assault, abduction, and bigamy.

It states that about 55 percent of women aged 15-49 have experienced physical violence. In the last 12 months, statistics show that about 16 percent of women have experienced psychological violence, physical violence (15 percent), economic violence (9 percent) and sexual violence (7 percent).

## UNFPA calls for equal access to sexual, reproductive health

By Correspondent James Kandoya

THE United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA) has called upon nations to dismantle discriminatory barriers to rights and choices stressing that it is more important than in the response to HIV which is under unprecedented pressure.

UNFPA Executive Director Dr Natalia Kanem made the call during the World AIDS day commemoration that calls for equal access to sexual and reproductive health and rights as crucial to all 8 billion people.

"On World AIDS Day, we must recommit to equality to address what remains a major global public health threat. While the growth of the global population is the result of steady advances in health care, it is unacceptable that progress is still so uneven," she said.

"More than 40 years into the AIDS epidemic, we can mark significant advances in stopping the spread of HIV and mitigating its consequences. Yet in 2021, 1.5 million new HIV infections occurred, triple the agreed global target of no more than 500,000 new infections per year," she said.

Kanem explained why more than 60 per cent of new HIV cases were in women and girls in sub-Saharan Africa saying gender discrimination and women's lack of bodily autonomy, including around choices to protect themselves was one of the reason.

As a result, HIV infections are three times higher among adolescent girls and young women than among boys and men of the same age.

Kanem explained that UNFPA advocates an integrated response to HIV because people at high risk of HIV often face multiple inequalities that deepen their vulnerabilities.

It includes providing essential services and supplies, while also working within the broader social context to end all forms of discrimination and accelerate the realisation of rights for everyone.

"UNFPA embraces the rallying cry, "Equalize!" that champions a world in which all people can protect themselves and stay free of HIV and other sexually transmitted infections, including those at highest risk. Every person should know the freedom and safety - and right - of bodily autonomy," she noted.

They should be able to exercise their sexual and reproductive rights irrespective of their gender identity, sexual orientation, sexuality or sexual behaviours.

While progress may be stalling in the HIV response, they have the tools to move forward, including new forms of prevention and treatment.

She said it was time to use them, making them universally affordable and accessible and in doing so they will stop the further spread of HIV.


The UNFPA statement comes while Tanzania is mentioned to have consistently reduced new HIV infections and reduced AIDS related deaths.

Since 2010 there has been a nearly 50 per cent (46.6 per cent) decrease in new infections here in Tanzania.


Also, successful treatment scale up has led to an over 50 per cent reduction in the number of AIDS-related



Barrick Country manager Georgia Mutagahywa (L) makes remarks in Dar es Salaam yesterday at a sensitisation event jointly organised by the firm and the Police Gender Desk in commemorating 16 Days of Activism Against Gender-Based Violence. The annual international campaign kicks off on International Day for the Elimination of Violence against Women (November 25) and runs until Human Rights Day (December 10). Photo: Guardian Correspondent



**The Nature Conservancy**  
Protecting nature. Preserving life.



**TUUNGANE**  
creating a healthy future for people and nature

**Date: 25/11/2022**  
**The nature conservancy, Lake Tanganyika Program**  
**Nkomolo Street, Namanyere**  
**P. O Box 02 Nkasi - Rukwa.**  
**Tel +255 719 185 252**

**Re: Invitation to tender for supply of one Toyota Land Cruiser vehicle Landcruiser HZJ 76.**

Summary:	
Program name	LAKE TANGANYIKA PROGRAM
Name of assignment	Supply of one new Toyota Landcruiser vehicle
Geographical Location	Nkomolo Street, Nkasi-Namanyere, western Tanzania
Contract Type	Short time

**1.0 Background and introduction**  
**1.1. Lake Tanganyika Program**  
 The Nature Conservancy (TNC) is a global conservation organization which works in over 60 countries worldwide (7 countries in Africa) to protect Nature (lands, rivers, lakes, and oceans) and improve people's livelihood. TNC's Lake Tanganyika Program, collaborates with the Government of Tanzania, DRC, Burundi, and Zambia to support fisheries co-management and strengthen community-based protection of fisheries resources around Lake Tanganyika.


We travel and reach fisher communities at "difficultly to reach" areas to build and strengthen their capacities and link them with relevant policy and guidelines that helps communities to set up strong Co-Management Institution Structure (BMUs) in collaboration with Government, community, and other stakeholders. The vehicle request in this tender will be based in Nkasi - Rukwa (western Tanzania) and operate around the terrains of Lake Tanganyika basin.

The Program therefore invites tenderers from reliable company/firms/Institutions to supply one (1) Toyota Landcruiser vehicle with specific listed below

**2.0 Specifications**  
**2.1 Vehicle.**  
 1. Make: Toyota  
 2. Model: Landcruiser HZJ 76  
 3. Model number: JTEEB71J  
 4. Body type: station wagon  
 5. Colour: white  
 6. Class: light passenger vehicle (<12 persons)  
 7. Fuel: Diesel  
 8. Engine capacity: 4164  
 9. Seating capacity  
 10. Number of doors: 5  
 11. Gross weight: 2,349

**3.0 Requirements**  
 3.1 Bidders should be a registered company/firm with experience of making/supplying Toyota Landcruiser vehicle.  
 3.2 We reserve the right to carry out clarifications if necessary.

**4.0 Expression of interest**  
 Bidders of interest will be evaluated against a set of weighted criteria and the leading company or firm will be invited for a contract negotiation with TNC.  
 Interested company/firms/Institutions that meet the requirements above should send a letter (through an email) of "expression of interest" to [hshilinde@TNC.ORG](mailto:hshilinde@TNC.ORG) detailing: estimated itemized price for the items to be supplied not later than 20/12/2022.



**PUBLIC TENDER NOTICE**

**TENDER NO: MKURANGA II 3652 CONSTRUCTION SERVICE IN DESIGN AND BUILD (EXTENSION) OF EXISTING PLASTERBOARD PRODUCTION LINE.**

**Knauf international** is one of the world's leading manufacturers of modern insulation materials, drylining systems, plasters, thermal insulation composite systems, paints, floor screed, floor systems, construction equipment, tools, and other accessories. Knauf has more than 300 production facilities, with sales organizations in over 90 countries, 40,000 employees worldwide.

**Knauf Gypsum Tanzania Limited** being a part of Knauf international produces German quality drywall products using locally sourced materials. **Knauf Tanzania** is going to extend its plasterboard production line, located at Ksemvule, Mkuranga, Tanzania, from the manufacturing capacity of **15 million square to 40.5 million square.**

**The Company do hereby** invite competitive, reliable, well performing, experienced and eligible **Local Contractors** to tender for the construction service in **Design and Build** of its plasterboard production line based on the description and pre - qualification criteria provided in the table below.

**Description and pre - qualification criteria**

No	Reference number	Description of work	Pre-qualification criteria
1	Mkuranga II 3652	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Extension of current plant building</li> <li>New raw material stock area</li> <li>New parking area including internal roads.</li> <li>New social building</li> </ul>	Civil and Building works Contractor Class 1

If your company meets the pre - qualification criteria you may obtain information from the Procurement & Logistics department at Knauf HQ offices, **Plot 17 Block 186030 14110 - Off Kinondoni Road - Mwindu Lane street, Dar es salaam** from 10:00AM to 16:00PM weekdays only.

A complete set of Tender Documents in English which include tender rules, terms and conditions will be available for physical collection at a fee of Tshs. 100,000/=. Funds must be deposited to the below bank details; (ensure your company details are clearly indicated on the deposit slip when collecting the tender documents for record and reference)

BANK DETAILS	
Bank Name:	CRDB Bank Tanzania Ltd
Account Name:	<b>KNAUF GYPSUM TANZANIA LTD</b>
Account Number	<b>0150440243800</b>
Branch	Oysterbay Branch

Submission deadline is **14<sup>th</sup> December 2022**, Late tenders, partial submission will not be considered.  
**ENQUIRIES: [Magretha.VanDerMerwe@knauf.com](mailto:Magretha.VanDerMerwe@knauf.com)**  
**NB: This tender advert does not entail any commitment on the part of Knauf to any applicant. Knauf reserves the right to accept or reject any or all applications without incurring any obligation to inform the applicant (s) of the grounds.**



Emmanuel Nnko (L), ICT director with the Tanzania Revenue Authority (TRA), presents a certificate to CPS chief operating officer Katrin Dietzold in recognition of the company's outstanding tax compliance in financial year 2021/2022. This was at a Taxpayers' Appreciation Day event held in Zanzibar yesterday. Right is the firm's CEO, Sebastian Dietzold. Photo: Guardian Correspondent

## Beekeeping value chain stakeholders deliberate on challenges facing sector

By Correspondent Carlos Banda, Dodoma

THE Beekeeping Value Chain (BEVAC) support project is facilitating honey stakeholders in Dodoma to discuss trade obstacles that affect the beekeeping sector in Tanzania.

The stakeholders meeting aims to build understanding amongst stakeholders, including officials from the Ministry of Natural Resources and Tourism about the various business procedures and regulations that create obstacles, especially when it comes to export and market access.

Tanzania's beekeeping sector is among the most engaged economic activities in the country with about 2 million individuals working in the sector from production, processing and selling of apiculture products as well as in the provision of beekeeping appliances, pollination services using honeybee colonies and operations of Api-tourism services.

Yet despite the sector's contribution to the economy and its potential to create wealth and employment, its development is hampered by a number of challenges ranging from administrative hur-

dles to cross-sectoral coordination to lack of effective beekeeping extension services and lack of efficient and effective marketing of bee products.

Speaking during the stakeholder meeting, the Director of Forestry and Beekeeping in the Ministry of Tourism and Natural Resources, Deusededith Bwoyo highlighted the importance of the stakeholder meeting saying, "The government continues to improve the management systems of various sectors to be productive for our nation. The contributions you will make in these sessions will enable the ministry to make improvements that will result in productivity in the beekeeping sector."

The 2-day meeting aims to improve the bee keeping sector value chain and address the existing obstacles in order to bring more output from the sector which is up to a total of \$61.4 million worth of honey and beeswax produced annually while employing about 2 million farmers in rural Tanzania. The efforts to improve honey production will ensure that the country taps into its endowment with over 33.5 million hectares of forests and woodlands.

## Adhere to CSR guidelines, govt directs cement factory in Mbeya

By Guardian Correspondent, Mbeya

THE government has instructed Mbeya Cement Company's management to prepare the right procedure that will involve the surrounding communities to implement development projects that go in tandem with investment laws.

The instructions have been given by the Minerals Minister, Dotto Biteko during his recent visit to the factory.

The instructions follow the explanation from Mbeya Rural Member of Parliament, Oran Njeza that the factory has no right procedure for implementing projects through corporate social responsibility (CSR). Njeza said the factory has been contributing to some development projects without involving the government, a situation that causes a lack of correct statistics in regard to its contribution to the people in the area.

He said the factory has been contributing towards development projects as sheer assistance to the local people and not part of its responsibility according to investment laws. He said people in the area gave up their land voluntarily to allow the factory to mine for minerals used as raw materials for cement production, hence the factory should reciprocate in a transparent manner.

Meanwhile, Mbeya Cement di-

rector general Khaled Ghareb said the factory has been contributing towards various projects including the refurbishing of classrooms as well as the purchase of 100 desks used by over 300 students in various schools in the area.

He further said the factory has been assisting the local communities with water it produces, treats and provides for free including to the area's primary and secondary schools. Ghareb said apart from

this assistance it has been involved in environmental conservation by planting over 200 trees within the Songwe Valley.

"Not only these, but our factory has also been contributing hugely to government coffers through taxation, and each month it pays over 40m/- and have endeavored to create jobs to the local people of which we have employed 180 people with only two being foreigners," he said.

He added that as for now the

factory produces cement that is consumed locally and exported to various neighbouring countries including Malawi, Zambia, Burundi and Congo DRC.

Following this explanation, minister Biteko appeared not satisfied in regard to the factory's responsibility to the community surrounding it saying their contribution to them was dismal and called upon them to create new projects for them instead of revamping existing ones.

## Zanzibar launches rabies vaccination campaign

By Guardian Reporter, Zanzibar

THE director of livestock development in Zanzibar, Asha Zahran Mohamed has said in order to control rabies it is necessary to vaccinate all dogs to prevent the disease's infections.

Asha made the remarks at Uzi Island yesterday during the launching of the rabies vaccination campaign for all dogs in Zanzibar.

She said the exercise will last 10 days and the vaccination is free, hence called upon dog keepers to take their dogs to vaccination centres in every shehia to be vaccinated.

She said rabies is a dangerous disease as it affects the health of humans especially when someone is bitten by a dog.

"We have started the campaign in Uzi Island because it is rarely visited due to its geography, and we expect to vaccinate 200 dogs here," she added.



Asha Zahran Mohamed (R), Director of Livestock in Zanzibar's Agriculture, Irrigation and Livestock ministry, launches a rabies vaccination campaign on Uzi Island in South Unguja Region yesterday. Photo: Rahma Suleiman

Asha said the yearly vaccination will reduce incidences of people being bitten by rabid dogs.

Meanwhile, the Doctor in Charge of the Zanzibar Community Development Department, Ali Zahran Mohamed said the disease is dangerous and affects a person when bitten by a rabid dog and without immediate treatment, the person could die.

He said initially there were challenges in regard to a response from dog owners, but due to the involvement of shehas in advertising the campaign, the response is now good and our aim is to reach 70 per cent of all dogs.



**We have started the campaign in Uzi Island because it is rarely visited due to its geography, and we expect to vaccinate 200 dogs here**



### TENDER NOTICE

Church World Service (CWS) is a faith-based organization transforming communities around the globe through just and sustainable responses to hunger, poverty, displacement and disaster.

Church World Service invites applications from qualified, competent, eligible and interested firms for the supply of goods as stated below: -

Item No	Tender Number	Description	Closing Date
1	CWS/RSC/TZ/KSL/002/FY23	Supply of Laptops	December 15 <sup>th</sup> , 2022

Tender documents detailing the requirements of the above tenders are available through the link below: - <https://cwsafrica.org/tenders/>

Completed tender documents should be submitted through [Tenders@cwsafrica.org](mailto:Tenders@cwsafrica.org) clearly indicating the tender number and description being applied for.

**Late submissions will not be accepted**

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

27/11/2021

## Mwadui Mine opens new page to enhance relations with surrounding communities

By Guardian Correspondent, Shinyanga

WILLIAMSONS Diamond Mines at Mwadui in Kishapu District has opened a new page in boosting good relations with the community around it by paying compensation to those who were victims of its transgression and human rights infringements.

Williamsons Diamond Mines through Petra Diamond Limited, its present owner on Tuesday launched an independent board that will be dealing with people's complaints around the mining area who are victims of its transgression and finding solutions on how to pay them compensation.

Speaking soon after the launching of the board, Kishapu District Commissioner Joseph Mkude who was representing Shinyanga Regional Com-

missioner Sophia Mjema said the complaints of the people who have experienced various transgressions from the Mwadui Mine have been heard and they will receive their rights.

"This independent board should go and mete out justice to the people who have been victims of the transgressions from Mwadui Mine," said Mkude.

Meanwhile, Kishapu Member of Parliament Boniface Butondo said the board will be the end for the conflict pitting Mwadui Mine and the people around it, as it will act as a link in opening a new page for good relations between the two sides.

The chairman of the independent board, Dr Rugemeleza Nshala said following a lot of people's complaints to Mwadui Mine including beating and other

human rights infringements, the board was thus launched that will be dealing with all such complaints for the purpose of paying compensation to them.

He said so far they have received 5,575 complaints from residents of 12 villages around the Mwadui Mine, which the board will start processing.

He said the board has also extended the time for receiving complaints to include those who were victims of the mine's transgression beginning 2009 to 2021, and not only for those beginning in 2012.

Petra Diamond Director General, Richard Duffy, the present owner of Mwadui Williamson diamond mines said the main aim to launch the board is to strike an accord and boost relations with the people around the mine.

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## Utilise ICT in your endeavours, auditors and accountants urged

By Correspondent Joseph Mwendapole

ACCOUNTANTS and auditors in the country have been urged to make use of Information Communication Technology (ICT) as an important tool in their daily activities to move with the modern world.

The call was made yesterday in Dar es Salaam by Zanzibar Minister in the President's Office (Planning and Finance), Jamal Kassim Ali at the climax of the 50 years anniversary of the National Board of Accountants and Auditors (NBAA).

He said NBAA has tried its best to transform and make use of ICT as a top priority which is a good sign of the preparations as they move to use modern technology in accountancy and auditing. "In this modern world accountancy and auditing without ICT is useless. I commend NBAA for the achievements made, but you should continue with this transformation in your systems of registration and revenue collections to simplify your daily activities," he said.

He urged the NBAA management to work closely with the e-Government (e-GA) to enhance their capacity in using standards and directives in the planning and implementation of government orders.

The minister reminded accountants and auditors to adhere to ethics and respect all ac-

countancy guidelines and country laws.

He said in the public service, the internal audit department needs to make some improvements since there are a lot of queries in the Chief Auditors General (CAG) report each year.

"You must ask yourself why there are a lot of queries in CAG reports every year and that happens because we are weak in auditing systems, especially in district councils. If we strengthen our auditing departments, we will reduce embezzlement and queries," he said.

The NBAA Director, CPA Pius Maneno said to celebrate the 50th anniversary, NBAA conducted various activities including a competition whereby the institutions, district councils, companies, departments or agencies that managed to prepare good financial reports were rewarded.

He said NBAA has done a commendable job in registering accountants and auditors whereas statistics show that there are 26,000 accountants who have passed the board's examinations, among them, 12,000 are Certified Public Accountants (CPA) holders.

He said the board managed to organise various local and international meetings adding that only last year they conducted 17 meetings with its members which involved officials from the Bank of Tanzania (BoT) and Tanzania Revenue Authority (TRA).



UNAIDS executive director Winnie Byanyima (L) has a word with George Simbachawene, Minister of State in the Prime Minister's Office (Policy, Parliament and Coordination), at Tuesday's launch in Dar es Salaam of 'Dangerous Inequalities: World AIDS Day Report 2022'. Right is Health deputy minister Dr Godwin Mollel. Photo: Correspondent Tegemeo Kastus

## Stakeholders partner to conduct free plastic reconstructive surgeries on women and girls

By Correspondent Mary Kadoke

THE Agha Khan hospital in collaboration with Reconstruction Women International (RWI) and Muhimbili National Hospital (MNH) has successfully conducted 23 free plastic reconstructive surgeries worth 210m/- for women and girls.

MNH Plastic Surgeon, Edwin Mrema told journalists yesterday in Dar es Salaam that surgeries which involved breast reconstruction were aimed to serve injured patients and those incapable to pay medical bills.

"We are happy to announce the successful free reconstructive sur-

geries conducted on 23 patients. We have consulted 400 people across the Aga Khan Health services network in Tanzania and Mnazi Mmoja hospital in Zanzibar," said Mrema.

He said: "The programme targets to help those in need, injured and not knowing where to go. It's until we satisfy ourselves that you are incapable of paying bills, then we can provide you with the free service."

According to Mrema, the surgery programme with doctors from Canada and Switzerland is a great opportunity for local surgeons, residents and nurses to build their capacity towards bringing smiles back to vulnerable women and girls.

Dr Adrea Pusic, (RWI) Plastic Surgeon said having an opportunity to participate in the seventh phase of the reconstructive surgeries camp for women and girls aims to help train local surgical residents.

"Our Reconstructive Women International team is very happy to be back in Dar es Salaam for the seventh year of our collaboration with the Aga Khan and Muhimbili hospitals," she said.

"We are a team of six female plastic surgeons from Canada; The United States and Switzerland. The goal is to train local surgical residents in plastic surgery techniques to benefit the people of Tanzania."

She added that throughout the week they have been working closely with three plastic surgery residents and nine general surgery residents to teach reconstructive surgery procedures including cancer reconstruction and trauma care.

"Our special focus is on conditions affecting women and children. On Thursday we'll also be holding a citywide medical symposium to raise awareness and understanding of how plastic surgery can improve patient lives."

Dr Aidan Njau, a Consultant General Surgeon at the Aga Khan hospital who is also a beneficiary of

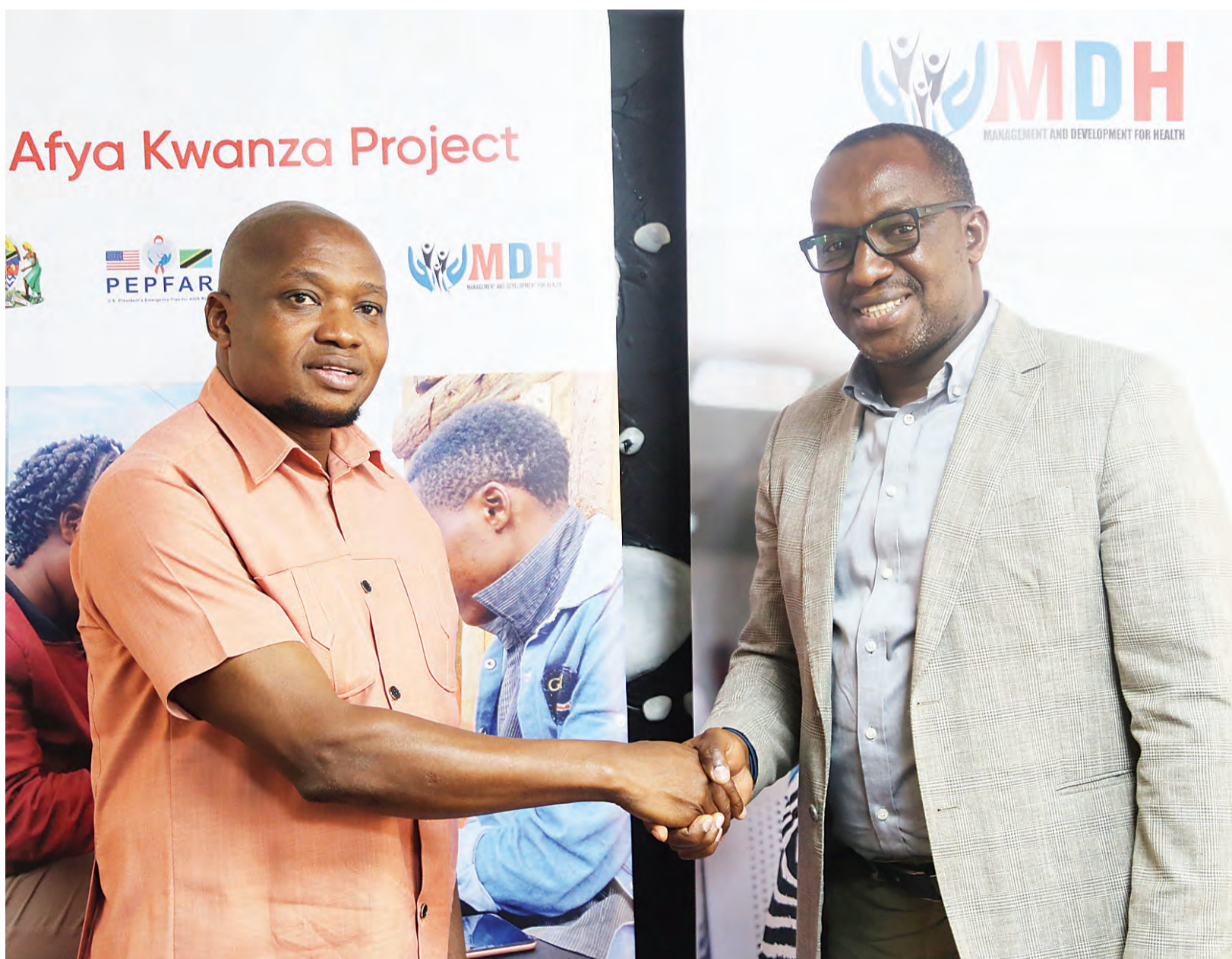
this program's training said he has benefited tremendously through the programme, "I have personally performed ten successful breast reconstructive surgeries because of the knowledge and skills acquired through the programme. I thank the Aga Khan Hospital leadership team for this innovative initiative and RWI team for their support."

Dr Athar Ali, Consultant General and Laparoscopic Surgeon at the Aga Khan hospital said the overall financial contributions assist in covering all costs of care provided including medical screening, surgeries and hospital stay, post-oper-

ative care, meals and accommodation this year amounted to 210m/-.

Dr Ali said that the programme has impacted over 250 beneficiaries since it started marking the importance of public private partnerships in supporting the needy and the government.

These free plastic reconstructive surgeries are being performed once every year since 2016 at Aga Khan Hospital and are led by a team of plastic surgeons from the United States, Canada and Switzerland working together with Tanzanian medical professionals to build local capacity upon the programme.



Cayus Mrina (L), Dar es Salaam Archdiocese CEO of Pastoral Activities and Services for People with Aids (PASADA), and his Management and Development for Health (MDH) counterpart, David Sando, pictured in Dar es Salaam on Monday shortly after a 'meet and greet' meeting on the devising of strategies to strengthen their agencies' management and promoting cooperation. Photo Correspondent Mary Kadoke

## PASADA to strengthen children palliative care efforts

By Correspondent Mary Kadoke

THE Pastoral Activities and Services to Aids Patients Dar es Salam Archdiocese (PASADA) is set to strengthen children's palliative care in efforts to improve their quality of life and at the same time reduce psychosocial torture.

Speaking ahead of today's World AIDS Day, PASADA Medical Director Dr Dorothy Mandwa, said as much as PASADA is concerned, they are entitled to ensure they offer intensive care to children based on their vulnerability, likewise changing parents or guardians' notion that children don't endure pain as much as elders.

"We sometimes think children don't suffer. The suffering of children is as much as the suffering of adults; their pain is more severe as they can't explain their pain," she said.

"Therefore we are entitled to treat the group with care and urge parents if not guardians to offer them necessary attention until when they are aware and become capable of adhering to palliative care without any backup."

According to Dr Mandwa, children's palliative care isn't a one man task as PASADA engages clerics in offering psychosocial and spiritual support in a process to reduce harm to patients.

"Our community is very supportive, our workflow depends on parish priests, sheikhs who offer spiritual counseling to our patients. Normally the board chairperson is a certified specialist in

the field."

PASADA nurse and palliative care specialist Mary Bahane said in a strategy to release pain and other distressing symptoms, to a child patient grieving sessions are held to treat pain and other psychosocial problems.

"As we handle children in palliative care, most of their questions are how did I get infected. They even threaten to kill their mothers because of not having a clear picture of what has happened," she said.

Bahane added "sometimes it takes moments like re-digging a grave, tossing soil on coffins for a child to cry out loud for their beloved ones and release their anger over so many unanswered questions."

In the same vein, PASADA Project Coordinator Esther Mbwana said it's time parents see the need to disclose their sickness to children as they endure more pain when left alone and discover that they acquired it from their loved ones.

"Many parents are not ready to reveal the truth to their children, because of the fear of how their beloved ones will portray them. It's necessary, to tell the truth as it eases the treatment process."

Currently, almost 300 children are under PASADA palliative care. It's also a beacon center in the provision of children's palliative care in Tanzania. It is recognized its strive to reach the poor people living with HIV and promote them with holistic care and support

## Mining firm vows support to fight against AIDS through Kili challenge campaign

By Guardian Reporter

AS World AIDS Day is celebrated today, Geita Gold Mining Limited (GGML) has vowed to continue with the fight against HIV/Aids through its Kili challenge campaign initiative.

With support and collaboration from stakeholders, the campaign has made great strides and impact since its inception in 2002 to the extent of becoming an

international fund.

Making the revelation in Lindi Region yesterday Dr Kiva Mvungi, Senior Manager (Health Safety, Environment and Training) at GGML said the campaign launched 20 years ago was aimed at raising awareness and funds to fight HIV/Aids in Tanzania.

He remarked: "The challenge has evolved into an international fund involving Kilimanjaro climbers and cyclists

from all seven continents and more than twenty countries. We are glad that this accomplishment allows us to make this fund sustainable so that the government's goals against this epidemic can be met."

Dr Mvungi stated that this year, the mining firm in collaboration with the Tanzania Commission for AIDS (TACAIDS), through the Kili challenge campaign was able to raise more than 1.1bn/- to be used in the fight against the pandemic.

Dr Mvungi stated that the GGM Kili challenge 2022 campaign, which commenced on June 29th and concluded on July 21st of this year, has supported the government's efforts to reach the three zero targets, namely; zero new HIV infections, zero deaths connected to AIDS, and zero discrimination.

52 people were enlisted for this year's campaign, with 24 climbing Mount Kilimanjaro on foot and 28 cycling around

the summit from the Machame Gate to the Mweka Gate.

This year's campaign was launched in the capital Dodoma on 14 July, followed by a subsequent fundraising event accompanied by free, voluntary HIV/Aids and diabetes testing and Covid-19 vaccinations for Kilimanjaro residents.

Dr Leonard Maboko, director of TACAIDS, urged other stakeholders to emulate the mining firms' spirit.



**INVITATION FOR EXPRESSION OF INTEREST – PREQUALIFICATION OF CONTRACTORS FOR THE SUPPLY & DELIVERY OF VARIOUS CAPITAL PROJECTS TO GEITA GOLD MINING LIMITED (GGML), TANZANIA**

**I. INTRODUCTION**

Geita Gold Mining Limited ("The Company") an AngloGold Ashanti's ("AGA") asset is located in north-western Tanzania, in the Lake Victoria goldfields of the Geita region, about 5km from Geita town.

The Company is in the process of procuring Various capital projects and is, therefore, inviting interested eligible suppliers to submit Expression of Interest for the supply of this equipment's as detailed below.

**NB: THE DOCUMENTS REQUESTED BELOW MUST BE SUBMITTED WHEN EXPRESSING INTEREST ON THIS SERVICE/WORK. QUALIFIED CANDIDATES WILL BE SUBJECTED TO ANGLO GOLD ASHANTI VETTING PROCESS.**

**I. COMMERCIAL PART - INFORMATION REQUIRED**

PRE-QUALIFICATION REQUIREMENTS	20%
<b>COMMERCIAL</b>	
Company Profile	1.54%
Company Code of Conduct	1.54%
Company Code of Ethics	1.54%
Copy of registration/Incorporation Certificate	1.54%
Copy of Valid Tax Clearance Certificate (TCC)	1.54%
Copy of 2021 BRELA search Registration Documents	1.54%
Copy of Company Memorandum and Article of Association	1.54%
Copy of Latest BRELA Application of Annual Returns	1.54%
Copy of TIN Certificate of Firm/company and VRN	1.54%
Copy of Current Business Permit/Trade license.	1.54%
Company Shareholding Structure (ownership of shares in percentage (%), Share certificates and Passport/Voter or National ID card for Management & Shareholders	1.54%
List of Directors	1.54%
Compliance with the Mining (Local Content) Regulations, 2018 by having Local Content plan - Approved by mining Commission	1.54%
<b>FINANCIAL POSITION &amp; TERMS OF TRADE</b>	
Audited & certified financial statements (2020-2021)	2.5%
At least 1 reference from the applicant's banker regarding supplier's credit position	2.5%
<b>SAFETY AND ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT SYSTEMS</b>	
OSHA Compliance Certificate	1.25%
Workers Compensation Fund Certificate/ any proof of compliance	1.25%
Environmental Management Plan / Programme / Policy	1.25%
Health and Safety Programme	1.25%
<b>OTHER POLICIES</b>	
Gifts / Hospitality / Sponsorship Policy / Procedure	1%
Policies / Procedures dealing with Forced and Child Labour	1%
Policies / Procedures dealing with Abuse, Discrimination and Harassment	1%
Grievance Procedure	1%
Human Rights Policy / Procedure / Programme	1%
<b>PAST EXPERIENCE</b>	
At least 3 names of the applicant's clients, value and duration of the contracts entered with the clients in the past two years (must be listed)	1.7%
Signed contracts/LPOs (proof of the above)	1.7%
Provide at least 3 recommendation letters from different clients	1.7%

**II. PROJECT NAME AND INFORMATION REQUIRED**

Reference Number	Service Description	Technical Criteria (60)
GGME01559	Supply And Delivery of Condition Monitoring Tools to GGML	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>All tools should have calibration certificates.</li> <li>Able to Provide basic tools use for training.</li> <li>Provide after sale services/assistance e.g. tool calibration</li> <li>Provide tool warranty, and not less than 1 year.</li> </ul>
GGME01562	Supply And Delivery of a 4 Function Combination RMU for Remote Switching Upgrades	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Must be authorised dealer (Schneider)</li> <li>Proof of supplying same equipment's to other companies</li> <li>Provide after sale services/assistance</li> <li>Able to Provide basic tools use for training.</li> </ul>
GGME01563	Supply And Delivery of Brand New Allight Syskes Pumps XH150	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Proof of Sykes Dealership letter.</li> <li>Proof of warranty not less than 1year.</li> <li>Proof of Sykes pumps sales history.</li> </ul>

Interested bidders must submit their expression Letters of Interest ("LOI") by quoting the SERVICE DESCRIPTION AND REFERENCE NUMBER (GGME01559, GGME01562, GGME01563) of the service they intend to express interest on THE SUBJECT OF THE EMAIL together with supporting information to GGML, which states the full name, address, telephone and e-mail address of the bidder, name of the principal contact, and signed by an authorized representative. The LOI must outline a statement of firm capability to provide the relevant Services, including similar contracts undertaken over the past three years. All LOIs and support documentation must be received by the GGML Office via e-mail at [geita.eoi@anglogoldashanti.com](mailto:geita.eoi@anglogoldashanti.com) not later than 8.30AM 14<sup>TH</sup> December 2022 (the "LOI" Submission Deadline"). EOI submissions should not exceed 10MB per email. In case the size of the email exceeds 10MB, please split the submissions into more than one email.

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**INVITATION FOR EXPRESSION OF INTEREST – PREQUALIFICATION OF CONTRACTORS FOR THE SUPPLY & DELIVERY AND INSTALLATION OF ACCESS CONTROL SYSTEMS TO GEITA GOLD MINING LIMITED (GGML), TANZANIA**

**I. INTRODUCTION**

Geita Gold Mining Limited ("The Company") an AngloGold Ashanti's ("AGA") asset is located in north-western Tanzania, in the Lake Victoria goldfields of the Geita region, about 5km from Geita town.

The Company is in the process of procuring a service of installation of access control systems and is, therefore, inviting interested eligible suppliers to submit Expression of Interest for the supply of this service as detailed below.

**NB: THE DOCUMENTS REQUESTED BELOW MUST BE SUBMITTED WHEN EXPRESSING INTEREST ON THIS SERVICE/WORK. QUALIFIED CANDIDATES WILL BE SUBJECTED TO ANGLO GOLD ASHANTI VETTING PROCESS.**

**Scope of work:**

Reference Number	Service Description
GGME01561	Supply And Delivery Nyankanga Block 2 Access Control Systems

**II. INFORMATION REQUIRED**

PRE-QUALIFICATION REQUIREMENTS	20%
<b>COMMERCIAL</b>	
Company Profile	1.54%
Company Code of Conduct	1.54%
Company Code of Ethics	1.54%
Copy of registration/Incorporation Certificate	1.54%
Copy of Valid Tax Clearance Certificate (TCC)	1.54%
Copy of 2021 BRELA search Registration Documents	1.54%
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Copy of TIN Certificate of Firm/company and VRN	1.54%
Copy of Current Business Permit/Trade license.	1.54%
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List of Directors	1.54%
Compliance with the Mining (Local Content) Regulations, 2018 by having Local Content plan - Approved by mining Commission	1.54%
<b>FINANCIAL POSITION &amp; TERMS OF TRADE</b>	
Audited & certified financial statements (2020-2021)	2.5%
At least 1 reference from the applicant's banker regarding supplier's credit position	2.5%
<b>SAFETY AND ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT SYSTEMS</b>	
OSHA Compliance Certificate	1.25%
Workers Compensation Fund Certificate/ any proof of compliance	1.25%
Environmental Management Plan / Programme / Policy	1.25%
Health and Safety Programme	1.25%
<b>OTHER POLICIES</b>	
Gifts / Hospitality / Sponsorship Policy / Procedure	1%
Policies / Procedures dealing with Forced and Child Labour	1%
Policies / Procedures dealing with Abuse, Discrimination and Harassment	1%
Grievance Procedure	1%
Human Rights Policy / Procedure / Programme	1%
<b>PAST EXPERIENCE</b>	
At least 3 names of the applicant's clients, value and duration of the contracts entered with the clients in the past two years (must be listed)	1.7%
Signed contracts/LPOs (proof of the above)	1.7%
Provide at least 3 recommendation letters from different clients	1.7%
<b>TECHNICAL CRITERIA</b>	
Approved Supplier and Installer of Cathexis surveillance equipment	10%
Approved supplier and installer of Axis Surveillance systems	10%
Approved supplier and installer of Proxim Wireless link equipment	10%
Approved Supplier and Installer of Centurion boom gate and TurnStar systems	5%
Approved Supplier and installer of Softcon Access control system	10%
Approved Supplier and Installer of Gallagher Power fencing equipment	5%
Approved Installer and Supplier of INTREPID Long-Range Microwave Link - Intrusion detection	5%
Watchmanager approved technical personnel	5%

Interested bidders must submit their expression Letters of Interest ("LOI") by quoting the SERVICE DESCRIPTION AND REFERENCE NUMBER (GGME01561) of the service they intend to express interest on THE SUBJECT OF THE EMAIL together with supporting information to GGML, which states the full name, address, telephone and e-mail address of the bidder, name of the principal contact, and signed by an authorized representative. The LOI must outline a statement of firm capability to provide the relevant Services, including similar contracts undertaken over the past three years. All LOIs and support documentation must be received by the GGML Office via e-mail at [geita.eoi@anglogoldashanti.com](mailto:geita.eoi@anglogoldashanti.com) not later than 8.30AM 14<sup>TH</sup> December 2022 (the "LOI" Submission Deadline"). EOI submissions should not exceed 10MB per email. In case the size of the email exceeds 10MB, please split the submissions into more than one email.

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## Gender inequalities just a factor in Aids persistence

EXPERTS in medicine and various other fields as well as multitudes of activists and 'ordinary people' are today (December 1) marking World AIDS Day (WAD) - not to celebrate it as such but to renew the resolve the fight against the disease demands.

What used to be a pandemic in the real sense of the word has largely been reduced to a chronic disease, a perpetual state of a communicable disease.

The world commemorates UN-designated WAD each December 1, with people around the world uniting to demonstrate support for people living with HIV and to remember those who have contracted or even succumbed to AIDS-related illnesses.

It is widely seen as the least that people can do, while each such commemoration has a specific theme to pursue.

This year's theme is a reaffirmation or continuation from last year, focused on equalising access to awareness of status, treatment and wider needs to remain safe.

The thrust of this year's theme is on the need to equalise, and it takes a sharper gender dimension while last year it was still about the equalisation of conditions that potential patients face after fears of infection are checked.

So this year's focus raises new challenges, with UNAIDS, the UN commission on the disease, urging each of us to address the inequalities believed to hold back progress in ending it.

This year's theme joins a growing list of challenges in respect of which World AIDS Day has alerted people globally to focus upon, raising the banner ever higher each year.

For some reason, World AIDS Day was the first ever international day related to global health, and each year UN agencies, governments and civil society organisations close ranks to liaise worldwide awareness-raising activities around specific themes related to HIV.

The gist of this year's WAD commemoration is that the inequalities perpetuating AIDS are not inevitable - and we can tackle them. This was addressed at a ceremony in Dar es Salaam to unveil the UNAIDS annual report for this year.

A UN chronicle says the "Equalise" slogan is a call to action, as it is an appeal for all of us to work for the proven practical actions needed to address inequalities and help end AIDS.

While one can pursue the details, like availability, quality and suitability of services for HIV treatment, testing and prevention so that everyone is well-served, the issue doesn't end there. The crucial issue there is ending AIDS.

The details that follow from this formulation don't quite labour the crucial aspect of ending AIDS, in pointing at the need to reform laws, policies and practices to tackle the stigma and exclusion faced by people living with HIV.

As a matter of fact, with the near-universal availability of anti-retroviral medicine and people leading healthy lives even with regular medication, stigma has vastly been reduced.

Once, HIV infection saw most of those affected swing from denial, anger, despair and ultimately to acceptance, with stigmatisation generally easing.

edly making the preliminary arrangements.

Insiders say a special unit already exists that is ready to receive project proposals from regional offices to initiate economic projects.

It is said that leaders of the wing at the regional and district levels are being tasked to work together with other officials and submit reports on what each region wishes to do.

To be sure, everything will not end or be finalized at the special unit level, this regardless of how well-connected the incoming chairman is and regardless of how many real experts he has lined up for the job.

These things will have to be scrutinised by the party's secretariat as it has procedural and disciplinary oversight over all its wings.

The impression is that CCM truly wants to see its wings establishing units for self-reliance where they can and thus help their members lead better lives - which is commendable.

Still, both leaders and plain members ought to be sober about the chances of their objectives being attained and their projects being successfully executed.

The proposed bank could conceivably stand up as a commercial venture while just having breathing space in a clogged market.

Hoping to meet members' expectations with an unsure source of funds would be, at best, too optimistic for anyone's comfort. Surely, no one would enjoy seeing any envisaged scheme collapsing too early.

### The Guardian Limited Key Contacts

MANAGING EDITOR: WALLACE MAUGGO  
CIRCULATION MANAGER : EMMANUEL LYMO

### Newsdesk

General Line: 0745 700710  
News Editor: LUSEKELO PHILEMON  
0757 154767  
E-mail: guardian@guardian.co.tz

### Advertising

Cel: + 0782 253676 E-mails: Advertise@guardian.co.tz  
Website: lppmedia.com, epaper.ippmedia.com



## Report: Women of colour are 'effectively invisible' in UK and US news industries

By Charlotte Tobitt

WOMEN of colour are "almost completely locked out" of the UK news industry, a new report has found.

They also face "extraordinary exclusion" across all elements of the news landscape in the US, according to the "From Outrage to Opportunity: How to Include the Missing Perspectives of Women of All Colors in News Leadership and Coverage". This is a report produced and commissioned by the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation.

But the disparity could prove a major opportunity for the global news industry as, if the imbalance is corrected in representation within both news coverage and newsrooms themselves, "greater engagement by women could revitalise the news industry and generate billions of dollars of additional revenue".

The report's author, audience strategy consultancy AKAS co-founder Luba Kassova, said its findings were a reason for both "outrage and hope".

She explained: "Outrage because women are still severely sidelined as top editors and news protagonists, while women in multi-racial societies are suffering unfathomable exclusion in leadership and their stories are routinely missed. Hope because, if brought in from the sidelines, women can be a lifeline for the news industry."

The report raised concerns around women of colour in particular being "marginalised" in news leadership. In regard to the UK, it said: "Compared to their proportion in the UK working population and compared to the US and South Africa, women of colour are severely underrepresented or altogether missing from editorial roles in the UK."

It added: "Moreover, women of colour are experiencing extraordinary levels of exclusion and remain invisible within news organisations and the news industry, both as leaders and as protagonists in news stories. Global news coverage of stories focusing on gender issues, including seven fundamental gender gaps, is largely absent."

Meanwhile, in both the UK and US, the discrepancy between women and men being assigned "soft" or "hard" beats has lingered, with more editors-in-chief being recruited from the latter category.

The UK did have a "comparatively good performance" in terms of overall women's representation in top news roles compared to the other countries analysed - the US, India, Kenya, Nigeria and

South Africa - in part because of a strong showing at the helm of the major national newspapers.

However, the analysis found that women remain "far off gender parity", making up around 40 per cent of editors in chief, 20 per cent of political editors (lagging behind representation in Parliament), and less than one-third of economics editors or foreign affairs editors.

Men were quoted twice as much in news stories as women in an analysis of stories between January and May.

### US news 'glass ceiling'

The US did slightly better on several of these metrics, although women in news leadership hit a "glass ceiling" of under one-third.

Women in the US are underrepresented as editors in chief, political editors and foreign affairs editors, making up one-third of each, despite nearing parity for ministerial positions in politics.

"News lags behind society in terms of women's representation in top news leadership and in editorial leadership in the highest-profile beats," the report said.

Nonetheless, the US has achieved a much higher level of women who are economics/business (60 per cent) and health editors (70 per cent) and had a better ratio of women's voices in news coverage (1.7 men's voices to every woman's).

But the picture is bleaker for women of colour, who make up 21 per cent of the working population in the US but just 3 per cent of editors in politics, 4 per cent in foreign affairs, 6 per cent in health and 9 per cent in economics/business.

The report described them as "severely underrepresented", adding: "Women of colour are experiencing extraordinary levels of cultural exclusion and remain invisible within news organisations and the news industry, both as leaders and as news protagonists/contributors in coverage. In addition, women of colour are four times less likely to be political editors than men of colour."

The report's authors assessed 214 journalist roles in key editorial beats in the UK and 153 in the US as of June 2022. More than 80 per cent of 25 news editors from all five countries in the survey said they believed newsrooms and news cultures were still dominated by men.

The biggest barriers to women in news leadership were deemed, in order, to include lower representation, persistent gender stereotyping in story assignments, work-life balance, being outside an all-boys club that aids career progression, harassment on the

job, and women's perceived inefficacy at making their own case.

It was further noted that, additionally, women of colour had to face "systemic sidelining".

The report said: "They operate in a triply stressful environment: dealing with a situation that is personally taxing, where they are expected to resolve their own underrepresentation, at the risk of damaging their already slow-progressing careers."

### Solutions

The report said a focus on retention and the use of targets for representation could begin to improve newsroom culture and representation, also deliberately targeting women audiences.

It recommended that newsrooms also consciously look for stories that would appeal to both men and women, work on their inclusive storytelling and carry out 360 degree editing - the practice of making sure to include perspectives from all around different areas of a story.

The report noted: "The truth is: there is no silver bullet. While hiring more women leaders is an imperative starting point, it is simply not enough to resolve the issue. To accelerate change, women's missing or muted voices must be amplified at each stage of the news value chain: that is, in news leadership and newsrooms, in newsgathering, in news coverage, and in news consumption."

It added: "Moreover, to improve gender and racial equity in news, organisations should drive change at the individual level, as typically happens now, but also at two other levels: the systemic and organisational."

Shereen Bhan, managing editor of CNBC-TV18 in India, has meanwhile reported that in her country as well as globally there is currently a "herd mentality" around what stories and issues get picked up and discussed in newsrooms. She said there is also a tendency to depict women as "victims or heroes" with nothing in between.

Instead, she said, a large part of media business models would have to become creating "communities around content" with the senior editorial leadership all on board.

"I think it is an existential issue," Bhan said, elaborating: "If a large constituency of your audience feels alienated from the content that you're producing and decides to switch off or turn off or not buy the newspaper or switch the remote off, you have a problem and I think the management as well as the news leadership needs to recognise that this is an existential crisis that we are dealing with as well."

### Business opportunity

Despite a global decline in newspaper revenues, lead researcher Richard Addy said at the report's launch that there was an 11-12 per cent addressable gender consumption gap and making the necessary changes could see news organisations globally earn an additional US\$11bn over the next five years and US\$38bn by 2032.

Amanda Barrett, vice president of standards and inclusion at the Associated Press, reported having led the introduction of an "inclusive storytelling" drive at the agency following a "bit of a crisis" in the newsroom triggered by the removal of an activist woman of colour from a photo.

She said: "It led to some soul searching in our newsroom about who gets coverage, who is considered important and who is considered valuable in our reports across formats and around the world."

"And so I really wanted to set the table for our journalists so that they can understand different perspectives and that we were actually leaving people out of our coverage, people who deserve coverage, people who need coverage in their communities," she added.

Barrett said there was a case for making efforts to diversify newsrooms on an everyday basis because "many journalism organisations are not going to survive and are not going to thrive if they don't reach more women - and more women of colour - and diversify their coverage areas".

She elaborated: "We're in dire straits as an industry. A lot of journalism organisations are struggling. Some have closed entirely. Newspapers have gone from publishing seven days a week to three days a week, and part of the reason for that is that we have not diversified our audience."

"And so when I went and started trying to create inclusive storytelling, it wasn't just something for the newsroom, but it's also for our revenue teams."

"They need to understand that there is a business reason for diversifying, otherwise we're not reaching the audiences and in the years to come we'll have shrinking income from women from people of colour, because they won't have a relationship with those news outlets that are ignoring them and ignoring their needs."

"So there really is a reason to push forward and make sure that we are including a lot of different people in our coverage so that we can reach them - so that we can be of service to them."

• **pressgazette**



# If you quit because of only two or three failures, plan to forget all about success



It is early morning and I walk to my study table, hit my computer's power button and a power point presentation stares at me. Fresh from college some years back and working as a paid intern, I made up my mind to start a business.

I was channeling most of my earnings into two side gigs: an online advertising agency and an auditing firm mostly offering consultancy services. The agency was doing okay but with major client cash-strapped and private investors holding back their cash, business was painfully slow for audit firm.

Six months into business on one fateful day, I saw a newspaper ad by some NGO looking for auditing firms. After consultations with my partners, we decided it was time we ventured into that other side of the business. I then bought the tender documents, went around to different suppliers for prices before filling in the bill of quantities.

I spent the next three weeks working on the proposal. Hell, I was doing less than four hours of sleep a day. At 6:53 am the next day, I was supposed to present the tender documents at a venue in an area I had never been to. I then did my last dry run while making a few changes then jumped into the shower. I quickly put on my favorite blazer, blue pants, black leather block heels and a matching belt. I then scooped all the documents and left.

I searched the destination via Google Maps some 32km away. By 7:56 am I arrived at my destination and found a dozen people sitting on wooden desks with sealed brown envelopes in hand. There were more ladies than gents. Everyone looked oddly calm except for this 60 plus years old man. He was chatty. With him were two younger men. His employees I presumed.

A few minutes later, representatives of the NGO arrived in a yellow double cabin then we were all ushered in. A burly man with a long name took charge of the tendering process. He introduced his team and read out the rules. I was intrigued by the rules. Most of my previous clients were private individuals hence I didn't have to follow such protocols when pitching.

We were then asked to open the brown envelopes. Nine firms were represented. Each one of us had time to make a public presentation on how they were to carry out the project. I was third in line.

Going through my tender documents, I realized I didn't attach one crucial document. Cold sweat started trickling down my armpits. My pulse quickened. I had this huge internal debate. Should I raise this or keep quiet? After trying moments, I raised my hand.

Upon explaining that I was missing tax compliance certificate, in hard copy though, I could get it from my email or ask someone to bring it physically, the room whipped into frenzy.

"She should immediately be disqualified," demanded a lady in thick glasses.

"Nobody is special, kick her out," a man with a bushy beard and multiple golden rings on his fingers chimed in.

The weirdly timid men and women turned into a couple of crazies. Everyone was trying to talk over the other. The old man, who was sitting on my left, leaned closer. "Young lady, what happened?"

I quickly explained to him how I printed the certificate last night only to forget it in the printer. He nodded like an understanding father then raised his hand. Everyone kept their cool. He cleared his throat. Finally, I had someone in my corner, I thought to myself.

"This is a very serious process whose rules must be followed to the letter. This young woman should be disqualified and kicked out of the room before we proceed," he said with an air of finality.

What the hell just happened? I thought he was on my side! With a renewed sense of disdain, all the competitors demanded my immediate removal from the room. I stood up and pleaded my case. I begged them to let me sit in and witness the process so I didn't make

the same mistake again

A petite well-dressed lady who was the senior most member of the NGO team tried to reason with the room that my request was valid. They could at least let me sit in. The old man that sat next to me wouldn't hear any of it. He claimed that letting me stay would give me an edge in future so I should be made to leave. The panel was left with no choice but ask me to pack and leave the room.

At 8:32 am, I collected my belongings, stood up and walked to the door. I stopped at the door, turned around and scanned the room one last time. They all had this gleeful grin on their faces. I wanted to insult them, flip the middle finger or even spit on the old man's face but my mentor's words kept playing in my head.

"Business knows no emotion; only fools make decisions out of anger."

I put on a brave face and left the room with my dignity intact. Fatigued, disillusioned and angry, I set out to that one place where I always found peace: the beach.

I stood on the beach all alone, head

tilted upwards, eyes closed, arms stretched out wide, toes dug into the sand as the constant ebb of small waves hit my submerged feet. Tiny fishes with yellow and black stripes circled around me like sharks about to go for the kill. I started to feel the sun rays warming up my face, drops of sweat formed on my skin were quickly blown away by the gentle salty breeze.

I was terribly embarrassed, ashamed and disappointed in myself. I wanted to blame the old man for getting kicked out but then I clearly knew the blames fell squarely on my shoulders. This wasn't the first time!

The most painful part was that I never got to even make the presentation. All the sleepless nights, effort and resources spent on that only to be kicked because I had forgotten one piece of paper. What was I to tell my business partners?

But it was that awful experience that built my character today. Apparently, my work supervisor couldn't handle pressure. I unofficially took over his role and did exceptionally well just from that painful scenario. My influence increased so much that the top boss en-

trusted me with the most sensitive aspects of a demanding project towards its culmination.

I am a product of life's gradual growth process. I have failed terribly on my first attempt at most if not all the things I am celebrated for today. Nothing I do is ever average. When I fail, I do it so disastrously that I could easily clinch an award for the world's dumbest. I have since concluded that if you quit because of just two or three failures then forget about success.

Life is like a full marathon. When the gun goes off, thousands sprint from the start line only to fall out of the race before the 10km mark. Meanwhile, the real champions increase their pace until they cross the finish line. If you are a late winner, don't waste your life competing with the fast sprinting fellows who only fall out midway. Keep your eyes on the finish line, run your pace while continuously improving your skills and learning from your failures until you emerge a champion.



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**Salima Hamisi**

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**saly30@gmail.com**  
**0762 174 124**

# Child abuse content recklessly posted online does more harm than good

By Thomas Lyimo

SAD stories of child abuse are nowadays commonplace in both online and mainstream media. It is as if both our female and male children face predators left, right and centre. The worst part is that culprits include trusted people like close relatives and respected ones such as teachers and religious leaders.

In the good old days, career of teaching (both secular and religious) was considered a vocation and the entire society paid attention to it and no one could easily temper with it as that would mean a serious offense. But the situation has changed and it is now very possible to find people mocking teachers and religious based on misdeeds of their colleagues.

Teachers and clergy were previously regarded as symbols of moral uprightness. In this era of social media, there are those who record and post images of abused children online. This is reckless behaviour because such clips and images normally go viral and impossible to trace and delete.

Why the respect for teachers and religious leaders has faded is not something easy to establish. There are some who think that if a person in secular or religious teaching misbehaves then it is that individual's fault by failing to adhere to codes of conduct but others consider the mistakes committed by these teachers to be a result of social irresponsibility in the formation of people who are given critical roles in society.



It is well known that human beings are not perfect but there are some responsibilities that once you accept, require you to be perfect. For instance, one may ask why a teacher engages in sexual relations with a pupil while there are many adults out there!

Sexual abuses committed by teachers and religious leaders affect not only the victims but the society as a whole because of the shock that comes with the same. I support exposing these heinous crimes but the manner in which some fellows do it causes more harm than good.

Children who are sexually abused may drop in academic performance and other activities. This results from poor self-image that they suffer from if their abuse is made public as some fellows do. Before the cases are made public, victims of sexual violence should be provided with counseling and guidance so that they can gather courage to continue with life in school and in the society in general. Right to education is for every child.

As we exercise press freedom whereby reporters are allowed during arrests and in courts of law, it is also important to protect the right of someone

before the allegations are well established and hence right punitive measures to take place.

What if a person is shamed in the public with wrong accusations and later it is revealed that it was a mistake? How can the damage caused to this person be undone? Investigation, arrest and arraignment procedures in Tanzania need to be improved to secure the rights of both the accused persons and victims before courts of law determine cases.

If professionalism and human rights are not considered when it comes to dealing with the problem of sexual abuse to children, the society may not learn from the offenders so as to avoid repetition of the same crimes.

If processes of investigation, arrest and arraignment are not followed or improved, we stand to lose a lot in terms of prevent more crimes. Most importantly, accused persons should not be embarrassed before the investigation is fully conducted.

Wrong approach to a problem may escalate it instead of giving a relief. Improvement in investigation is a must if we want to register victory in the war against child abuse and other crimes.

**The author is a teacher based in Moshi. He can be reached at [lyimo.thomas@yahoo.com](mailto:lyimo.thomas@yahoo.com)**

By Denys Reva and Tshogofatso Johanna Ramachela

## New wave of drone tech could assist in making Africa's seas safer

**T**HIS new frontier of naval warfare uncovers drones' potential role in maritime security, particularly in Africa. All coastal states on the continent face non-military and cross-border threats, including trafficking, overfishing, illegal migration and piracy – with insufficient resources to protect their domains. Could this new technology plug the gap?

Militaries globally are recognising the potential of unmanned systems to enhance naval operations. Beyond Ukraine, several countries including the United States, United Kingdom, France and China use advanced UAVs for maritime border protection, while developing USV technology.

The 'unmanned' component is a clear benefit. Tasks are completed using only a small team of experts, and modern platforms allow for a variety of payloads, making the systems relatively affordable. Drones can also perform different tasks and reach remote or inaccessible locations.

The private sector was the first to use this technology for surveillance, monitoring ports and offshore oil and gas facilities, detecting marine pollution, and oceanographic surveys. But criminals also use such innovations to exploit law enforcement and surveillance gaps.

In July, Spanish police apprehended suspects linked to the manufacture of underwater drones used for drug smuggling from Morocco. Colombian guerrillas use similar tactics, smuggling narcotics with remote-controlled USVs. Yemeni Houthi rebels have also conducted several attacks in the Red Sea using similar drones.

The proliferation of drone technology and its use by non-state ac-

tors for nefarious purposes should worry policymakers in Africa, where armed groups drive many conflicts, and organised crime is rife.

At the same time, securing Africa's maritime seascape is a major undertaking. Countries have a vast area of responsibility, with a combined coastal length of 26,000 nautical miles and a combined exclusive economic zone of 13 million km<sup>2</sup>. The scope of Africa's maritime threats requires significant investments in raising awareness, tracking people and cargo at sea, and detecting suspicious activities promptly. Most states lack sufficient capacity to act on surveillance, either to deter or to apprehend potential offenders.

Because they are affordable and relatively easy to deploy, drones can assist navies and coastguards. Ebuloluwa George Ojo-ami, a UAV pilot and information and operations officer in a Nigeria-based maritime security firm, told ISS Today that 'unmanned technologies could supplement and support the duties of African navies.'

He said even current technology could significantly improve maritime situational awareness and support law enforcement operations at sea, while lessening the risk to human life. This may address one of Africa's main challenges – working with limited capacity to achieve maximum impact.

Several African countries have already begun using unmanned systems for maritime security. Nigeria has procured maritime UAVs for its Deep Blue maritime security project. According to Dr Bashir Jamoh, Director-General of the Nigerian Maritime Administration and Safety Agency, the new systems would provide "real-time information for

timely action to keep our waters safe for shipping and seafarers."

The Seychelles Fishing Authority recently acquired maritime UAVs with advanced artificial intelligence capabilities. These drones will facilitate real-time surveillance of 'target vessels' and improve search-and-rescue operations by monitoring remote areas along the Seychelles coastline.

Despite its benefits, the technology isn't perfect and several factors may delay its deployment.

First, the drone's size determines its tasks, the length of time it can operate in open seas, its range, speed and vulnerability to changing weather patterns. Neil Timmouth, CEO of Acua Ocean and a USV expert, told ISS Today of a current preference for smaller, cheaper platforms that work better in coastal waters and harbours.

The problem with smaller systems is that their operational scope, functions and range are limited, which translates into a low return on investment. Larger platforms that perform a wider variety of tasks for longer, tend to cost more. While a small vessel can be purchased for around \$350,000, a bigger one could cost \$2-million to \$5-million.

Despite the higher costs, several factors make larger vessels better suited for maritime security at a comparable operational cost to their smaller counterparts. These include their ability to operate in the open ocean, carry high-bandwidth communication systems, and deploy powerful and stable payload sensors.

Timmouth says the cost-benefit of larger unmanned systems becomes apparent over time compared to traditional naval platforms. It provides a scalable way to achieve the



A Thales Watchkeeper WK450 drone on display at the Paris Air Show. (Photo: Wiki Commons)

geographic and temporal coverage that is increasingly required in today's maritime environment.

The second drawback is that drones, and the data they collect, could be hacked. Modern drones and floating platforms operating at sea rely on satellite navigation and data, which is susceptible to disruptions. This makes GPS spoofing, in particular, a significant concern.

Hostile state and non-state actors could 'fool' the GPS by altering its location coordinates, neutralising it, or exposing passing vessels to risks that could result in collisions and sinkings. The mis-deployment or spoofing of a drone could even be considered an act of war or result in significant legal ramifications.

Finally, the deployment of unmanned systems is constrained by outdated regulations. Timmouth says the primary obstacle is the disconnect between existing directives and the requirements for using uncrewed systems in African waters.

For instance, cameras or sensors onboard unmanned platforms may detect a ship's presence in restricted waters, but that alone may not be sufficient to arrest and prosecute individuals. Another challenge concerns the delineation of jurisdictions and the related collection of evidence, which may lead to legal

loopholes. Governments should amend regulations to cover drone operations and ensure that data collected can be used for arrests and trials.

Although unmanned systems cannot yet fully supplement law enforcement, they can be used as a force multiplier, supporting operations and deterring illegal activity at sea.

The priority for African governments is to deal with outdated regulations and bureaucratic delays. These will complicate the deployment of new systems, limit the scope of tasks drones can perform, or make deployment outright impossible.

The International Maritime Organization is developing an instrument for regulating the use of maritime autonomous surface ships (Mass), which will come into force in 2028.

Over the next five years, African governments and organisations should draft laws that align with and harmonises these regulations.

With new waves of technology, using drones for maritime patrols, surveillance of illicit maritime activities, and reporting on accidents and pollution could transform the security and development of Africa's coastline and seas.

DM

By Wang Junling

LONDON, Nov. 29 (Xinhua) – The increasing reports of people getting "long COVID" have exposed the challenges in combatting the pandemic.

Experts said that long COVID is likely to result in growing pressure on social and medical resources, a shrinking labor force and economic downturn in the long run.

### UNDERESTIMATED FIGURE

Post COVID-19 condition, also known as long COVID, is defined by the World Health Organization (WHO) as an illness that occurs in individuals with a history of probable or confirmed SARS-CoV-2 infection, with symptoms that last for at least two months and cannot be explained by an alternative diagnosis.

The WHO estimated that 10 to 20 percent of COVID-19 patients have been left with mid- and long-term symptoms such as fatigue, shortness of breath and cognitive dysfunction, as well as others that generally have an impact on everyday functioning. Women are more likely to suffer from the condition.

An estimated 17 million people in the WHO European region met the WHO criteria of a new case of long COVID with symptom duration of at least three months in 2020 and 2021, a recent study conducted by

## 'Long COVID' exposes long-term challenges



Over 1,100 China-manufactured vehicles are loaded onto a roll-on/roll-off ship at a terminal of the Lianyungang Port, east China's Jiangsu province, Nov. 18, 2022. These vehicles will be exported to Malaysia. (Photo by Wang Chun/People's Daily Online)

the Institute for Health Metrics and Evaluation (IHME) at the University of Washington's School of Medicine in the United States showed.

"The IHME's research shows that nearly 145 million people around the world in the first two years of the pandemic suffered from any of the three symptom clusters of long COVID: fatigue with bodily pain and mood swings, cognitive problems, and shortness of breath. Fast-

forward to today and millions of people continue to suffer because of COVID-19's lingering impact on their health and livelihoods," said Christopher Murray, director of the IHME.

The U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention suggested that nearly one in five American adults who have had COVID-19 now have long COVID.

A study published in the top-tier

medical journal JAMA Network Open earlier this month looked at post-COVID-19 symptoms two years after a SARS-CoV-2 infection among hospitalized versus non-hospitalized patients.

"I take a study such as this one from Spain to mean we may have been under-counting long COVID," said Danny Altmann, an immunologist at Imperial College London. He emphasized the gaps in our knowledge regarding long COVID, saying "what we're not good at yet is working out the nuances of long COVID after different variants, such as delta."

### LONG-TERM IMPACT

As WHO Director-General Tedros Adhanom Ghebreyesus has warned, long COVID is "devastating" the lives and livelihoods of tens of millions of people, and wreaking havoc on health systems and economies. He urged countries to launch "immediate" and "sustained" efforts to tackle the "very serious" crisis.

In Britain, around 2.5 million people were economically inactive due to long-term sickness in the summer of 2022, compared to around 2 million people in the spring of 2019, said the Office for National Statistics (ONS) earlier this month.

This was the highest rate of inactivity among the long-term sick since records began in 1993, an ONS spokesperson told Xinhua. "It was generally falling, from shortly before the turn of the millennium, but started to rise again in 2019, and has now gone past its late 90s peak."

"While symptoms of long COVID may not be the only contributor to increased long-term sickness in the working-age population, the pandemic's wider impact on health is still likely to be an important factor in increased long-term sickness," said the ONS report.

A recent survey from Britain's Trades Union Congress found that 20 percent of people with long COVID were not working, and an additional 16 percent were working reduced hours.

In January 2022, Brookings Metro published a report that assessed the impact of long COVID on the labor market. Data on the condition's prevalence was limited, so the report used various studies to make a conservative estimate: around 16 million working-age Americans – those aged 18 to 65 – have long COVID today. Of those, 2 to 4 million are out of work due to long COVID, while the annual cost of those lost wages alone is around 170 billion U.S. dollars a year, and potentially as high as 230 billion dollars.

While the worsening health of the British population is an emergency in its own right, with at least 5.5 million people in Britain waiting for hospital treatment, it has serious repercussions for the economy, the Financial Times reported.

### LINGERING PANDEMIC

"We're in an arms race against the virus, and the virus is now firmly in control of the battleground. Just because we've lost interest, the virus hasn't," Altmann told Xinhua recently.

Despite its name, SARS-CoV-2 not only causes acute respiratory disease but can also lead to acute and post-acute extrapulmonary sequelae in nearly every organ system, including acute and chronic kidney disease, and has affected millions of people around the world.

Given the scale and the chronic nature of several of its sequelae, "long COVID will reverberate with us for decades, and will have broad and deep social, economic, political and global security implications, long after the COVID-19 pandemic abates," said the report.

"I wish we could just raise the awareness levels a bit higher," said Altmann, advising people on public transport, in a theater or at the opera to wear masks, and "take it a tiny bit seriously."

# CAPITAL RADIO

# RATIBA YA VIPINDI JUMATATU - JUMAPILI

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

Tembelea mitandao ya kijamii ya CAPITAL RADIO



CAPITAL RADIO

## WCD: Children push for major concerns infringing their rights

By Guardian Reporter

CHILDREN'S representatives have called on the government to amend the Marriages Act of 1971, getting accurate reports on maternal health and removal of corporal punishment that inflict body injuries.

They were speaking on Tuesday at the climax of the World Children's Day held in Dar es Salaam. Themed 'Re-imagine the future, for every child', the event was organised by United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF) and takes place every November 20th, the anniversary of the adoption of the Convention on the Rights of the Child.

Some children wanted the government to speed up the process of reviewing the Child Act 1971 to protect girls from early marriages.

They also cited child protection as among critical issues that need to be given priority and considered accordingly for them to enjoy their rights.

A 19-year-old Rebecca Muna, a first-year Diploma student at the Center for Foreign Relations (CFR) said child rights are one of the important issues the community needs to look at. She said her desire is to see all girls pursue their dreams to the fullest.

A Form Two student at Memon Academy in Zanzibar, Khadhraa Abubakar Mohamed (15) said they have established a young reporters network in the Isles that is used as a platform for them to raise their voice on child rights issues affecting children in the Indian Ocean Archipelago.

A Form Three student at Sumve girls' primary school in Mwanza, Yvonne Shaban Chona (14) stresses the need to conduct outreach to schools and raise awareness among her peers on child protection issues and how children can protect themselves against gender-based violence (GBV) in the society.

A Standard Three student at Muqadam Academy in Zanzibar, Sahil Saad Mohamed (10) said child protection issues are key in advocating against corporal punishment in schools.

Naomi Kabelege (11), a Standard Six student at Jangwani primary school in Mbeya stressed the importance of advocating the importance of appropriate sexual and reproductive health services and education among young people.

Addressing the gathering, Dr Dorothy Gwajima, Minister for Community Development, Gender, Women and Special Groups called on the Ministry of Education Science and Technology to circulate the 2002 circular on corporal punishment in schools to enable teachers and students to understand it.

Dr Gwajima who represented President Samia Suluhu Hassan said that child abuse goes in tandem with harming their body including beating and excessive corporal punishment.

"Hence excessive corporal punishment is cruelty as we have circular No 24 of 2002 that governs corporal punishment at schools that clearly says who has the authority to administer the punishment and the number of strokes that are allowed, and according to which procedures.

"I know the challenges involved in the administration and implementation of the circular, some teachers do not abide by the guidelines when meting out corporal punishment to students, hence they should change," she said.



Children attend the climax of World Children's Day commemoration in Dar es Salaam on Tuesday.

Dr Dorothy assured children that a government team of stakeholders and members of the community will meet to deliberate on the best way to deal with the issue of corporal punishment by abiding by ethics and customs regarding children's upbringing.

She added: "It pains to see some children leave school running away from corporal punishment while others sustain big body injuries even including permanent disabilities, this is totally unacceptable.

She added that the government will beef up security committees for children and women and security desks at schools in order

to make teachers understand the circular on corporal punishment.

She urged parents to dedicate enough time to holding friendly talks with their children on challenges they are going through, be it at school or in the streets.

Dr Gwajima said that 1,677 girls dropped out of school in 2021 due to pregnancy, noting that the government is ongoing with the review of the Child Act 1971, but parents should play their role in the protection of their children.

"A number of policies are already in place to safeguard children from abuse, discrimination and other sorts of violence such as rape, but the cases are rampant;

It's high time for parents to break the silence by holding family talks with their children on the signs of violence against children and encourage them to report the cases," she said.

Shalini Bahuguna, UNICEF Representative to Tanzania, called upon the government to ensure the availability of age-appropriate sexual and reproductive health and rights information for young people and children to learn.

However, the government should also support education on nutrition and a balanced diet at the community level through various platforms, including school clubs so that children spend plen-

ty of time in school compounds rather than going out for something to eat.

"The government should simplify the constitution so that children can understand their rights and how to protect themselves. It should also improve the budget for police gender and children desk," said Bahuguna.

World Children's Day is UNICEF's global day of action for children, by children, taking place every year on 20 November, the anniversary of the adoption of the Convention on the Rights of the Child. Children will highlight critical issues affecting their lives.

## Be gender sensitive in budget making, planners challenged

By Correspondent Daniel Semberya

PLANNING officers in local government authorities have urged to involve the public in every stage of budget making process from the village to the national level to promote gender-balanced and integrated national economic plans.

They aired their views on the matter in Dar es Salaam recently when speaking at a four-day seminar that involved town planners, town development officers, district community development officers and ward councillors from different district councils in Tanzania Mainland.

Organised by the Tanzania Gender Networking (TGNP), the seminar was meant to discuss how they can be able to come up with a gender responsible budget when preparing their budgets. It also gave the platform for participants to brain storm with the mentioned officials who are the key players in their respective areas on the importance and need of coming up with a GRB that will address the many challenges occurring in the Tanzanian society.

TGNP's Executive Director Lilian Liundi suggested the need for the public to be empowered with ways on how to take part in decision making on budgets related to their priority needs.

Liundi said that public must be involved in all phases of the budget process and cycle. "Government officials and institutions must be provided with adequate GRB knowledge and skills so they can use the available democratic systems and structures

to empower communities to engage in GRB."

She further said that a gender responsive budget is like a tool that makes a follow up to see if the existing policies focusing at ensuring there is gender equality, are reflected in the formulated budgets.

She said that many issues regarding gender if are not reflected in the budget would be difficult to implement them, adding: "When talking about a gender responsive budget, it does not mean that it is for women only, but rather it is a budget that is meant to address all questions facing all people, females and males at all levels."

Ubungo District Commissioner Kheri James commended TGNP for their tireless endeavour to ensure the community is knowledgeable with all matters patterning to gender.

"I am very much pleased to see that this training on gender-responsible budgeting have brought together planning and budgeting officers, community development officers, gender desk coordinators, and ward councillors from Kinondoni, Ubungo District Councils and Ilala City Council, Temeke and representatives from the President's Office, Regional Administration and Local Government," he said.

Other planning and budgeting officers, community development officers, gender desk coordinators, and ward councillors were from Kishapu DC in Shinyanga, Mbeya DC, Morogoro DC, Kasulu DC, Tarime DC, Same DC, Muheza DC and Moshi DC



Ubungo district commissioner Kheri James at a recent four-day seminar in Dar es Salaam organised by TGNP for planning officers. Photo: Courtesy of TGNP.

James told the participants to take seriously the training on gender-responsible budgeting because it was very crucial for the development and progress of one person, community and the entire nation.

He said: "My hope is that after the training you'll be able to allocate a gender responsible budget in your respective district councils. And you will provoke other

district councils that haven't got an opportunity to attend this training. I believe this will make the coming budgets starting with that of the 2023/2024 to have a gender responsible budget outlook."

DC James detailed that by allocating a gender responsible budget they will be implementing the fifth goal of the sustainable development goals (SDGs) that requires us to attain gender equality by

2030. "This is our responsibility as district councils in collaborations with other nongovernmental organisations, especially TGNP to

ensure each one's contribution on this area is realised," he said, adding: "In order to have sustainable development for all groups in our community it is a must all our budgets should indicate equal distribution of resources." Same District

Community Development Officer, Benedict Missani commended TGNP for that resourceful training, describing the training was very important for those who don't have positive mentality on matters related to gender, particularly planning officers.

Kasulu Town Community Development Officer Nur-fus Aziz said that all gender issues are not for women

alone, but rather they touch all People as good gender responsible budget should begin at the family level.

"If we prepare a good gender responsible budget will address all its challenges."

Training facilitator Degratius Temba described GRB as tool that targets at inserting the gender outlook in the process of planning the budget in the distribution of the national resources.

# Africa's processing industry holds promise for broader economic growth

WASHINGTON

**A**S a central pillar of African diets for thousands of years, millet has a prized position as one of the continent's most important crops.

And with the onset of climate change, millet offers valuable security to the continent's smallholder farmers due to the crop's tolerance for dry soils.

Yet, the rise of an increasingly affluent urban middle class across Africa is threatening to shift diets away from traditional staples like millet in favor of higher-value and more convenient processed foods often sourced from outside the continent.

However, Africa's homegrown processing industry can increasingly deliver more sophisticated products, turning unprocessed millet into nutritious ready-to-eat meals such as rice-like products, porridges, and more. This is a win-win for farmers and consumers alike.

Africa's emerging agrifood processing industry clearly offers a major opportunity to capitalize on the growing demand for processed foods which, to date, has been met in large part by imported products.

Growing this sector can provide valuable opportunities for African livelihoods and economies across the region, all the while reducing the continent's food import bill, which stands at roughly USD 35 billion a year.

The recently released Regional Strategic Analysis and Knowledge Support System (RESAKSS) Annual Trends and Outlook Report (ATOR) shows that Africa's agrifood processing sector is the essential link in connecting the continent's smallholder farmers to growing urban markets with changing preferences.

Still, the sector as it exists today is just the tip of the iceberg, and data from across the continent highlights its enormous untapped potential, particularly in terms of the long-cultivated staples.

For instance, the rise of the millet processing sector in Senegal has reversed declining consumption trends due to growing urban populations and their needs for quicker and more convenient staples.

The share of millet has risen to close to 30



Abou Fumarou Mahamadou poses amid millet stalks dried in the sun. She belongs to a co-op of 32 women farmers in the commune of Tibiri in southwest Niger.

percent of the cereal consumption of high-income earners in Senegal, roughly the same as imported rice.

The introduction of more sophisticated millet

products has also opened up new market opportunities for smallholder producers, which, alongside rising demand, is boosting the prices they can expect to receive in markets.

This means not only greater economic growth for national economies, but greater spending power and more resilient livelihoods for Africa's small-scale producers, too.

Another interesting case study is the tomato, the fourth most economically valuable food crop produced in low- and middle-income countries. Fresh tomato is often more accessible to small-scale processors than larger plants, leaving significant potential to develop greater value products.

As a result, the rise of Africa's processing sector is introducing new opportunities for tomato production by helping to add value and reduce post-harvest losses, stabilizing supplies for consumers throughout the year, while ensuring steady revenue streams for producers.

Meanwhile, some African countries are already seizing on the vast opportunities offered by their processing sectors to deliver a double win for economies and livelihoods.

Roughly 68 percent of Tanzania's manufacturing exports, for instance, are agri-processed and resource-intensive goods, such as bottled juices, cooking oils, and packaged flours.

A large majority of these goods are also being shipped to other African countries, demonstrating how greater agri-food processing capacity on the continent can meet African demand with African processed products.

This not only replaces demand for intercontinental imports, but equally ensures the benefits of

processing for producers and consumers remain in Africa to deliver economic growth for future generations.

The growth of Africa's agrifood processing sector clearly offers sustainable income-generating opportunities for the continent's smallholder farmers through higher-value products that appeal to changing urban markets.

It also offers many prospects for jobs creation for the continent's growing youth population - the fastest growing in the world.

With African food tastes and dietary preferences evolving, so too must its agrifood industry if it wishes to stay competitive, successful, and sustainable, delivering growth and improved livelihoods for millions.

Unlocking the potential of the continent's processing sector, in particular, offers a clear path forward to achieving this goal.

**With African food tastes and dietary preferences evolving, so too must its agrifood industry if it wishes to stay competitive, successful, and sustainable**

## THE GUARDIAN SIMPLE WORD FIT // THE GUARDIAN CROSSWORD --00 391 00--

**WORD-FIT**

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

**CROSSWORD**

3 LETTERS: SPY, ARK, ROB  
 4 LETTERS: POOL, TOES, SKIN, GAIN, SUSS, AIDE NOTE (7 WORDS)  
 5 LETTERS: ADOBE, SHARP, HELLO, NOISE, SWALE (5 WORDS)  
 6 LETTERS: BEACON, SPREAD, ASSETS, EMBARK BEACON (5 WORDS)  
 7 LETTERS: MOROCCO  
 8 LETTERS: SCRABBLE  
 10 LETTERS: SUGAR CANES

**CROSSWORD**

1 2 3 4  
 5 6 7 8 9 10  
 11 12  
 13 14 15 16  
 17 18  
 19 20

**CLUES: Across**

1 Selling of black African's  
 5 to develop  
 7 intelligent, bright  
 8 to put together with something else  
 10 useless  
 11 luck, fate  
 13 Largest continent in the World  
 15 cure  
 17 Church of England  
 19 the percentage charged on the exchange of one currency to another  
 20 ten less than thirty

**Down:**

1 Breath  
 2 Confess  
 3 Capital of Italy  
 4 a large edible fish of warm seas  
 6 admonish, advise  
 7 a public paved road as in a town or city  
 9 division into phases  
 12 Capital of Greece  
 14 glowing  
 16 respond to something in a particular way  
 17 Amateur Athletic Association  
 18 an unpleasant person

**SOLUTIONS**

**WORD-FIT**

ENGINEERONOM  
 AVIATION  
 SAVE DAILY  
 EASEL  
 BSAONE  
 PASTOR  
 RIALA  
 DARE EDIT  
 KVR  
 COLOMBIA  
 RANKVAG

**CROSSWORD**

SPWETCORNS  
 PVERCRONS  
 OVERSEEDGE  
 TNAMESSG  
 TGVSSIN  
 SERENEN  
 AARCS  
 USERETHIC  
 LIEACR  
 UNDERACT  
 ANGED

**RADIO One**

**RATIBA YA VIPINDI**

**JUMATATU - JUMAPILI**

MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY
05:00 AM HALI YA HEWA / KUMEPAMBAZUKA I 06:00 AM AMKA NA BBC 06:30 AM NIPASHE 07:00 AM MATANGAZO 07:10 AM MATANGAZO 07:15 AM TAARIFA ZA BARABARANI 07:25 AM UDONDZOZI WA MAGAZETI 08:00 AM HABARI NYEPESI 08:10 AM KUMEPAMBAZUKA II 09:00 AM HABARI ZA BIASHARA 09:20 AM BRAND TALK 10:00 AM NEWS BRIEF 10:03 AM DEATH ANNOUNCEMENTS 10:10 AM YALIVOMO YAMO 13:00 HRS DEATH ANNOUNCEMENTS 13:10 HRS NEWS BRIEF 13:15 HRS D1 SHOW 16:00 HRS NEWS BRIEF 16:30 HRS HOJIA YA LEO 18:30 HRS DIRA YA DUNIA BBC 19:30 HRS SPOTI LEO 20:00 HRS NEWS BULLETIN 21:00 HRS RADIO ONE DOCTOR 21:00 HRS NEWS BULLETIN (24 HRS) 22:00 HRS AFRO TIZI 23:00 HRS NEWS BRIEF 01:00-05:00HRS MUZIKI (MCHANGANYIKO)	05:00 AM HALI YA HEWA / KUMEPAMBAZUKA I 06:00 AM AMKA NA BBC 06:30 AM NIPASHE 07:00 AM MATANGAZO 07:10 AM MATANGAZO 07:15 AM TAARIFA ZA BARABARANI 07:25 AM UDONDZOZI WA MAGAZETI 08:00 AM HABARI NYEPESI 08:10 AM KUMEPAMBAZUKA II 09:00 AM HABARI ZA BIASHARA 09:10 AM MATANGAZO 09:20 AM BRAND TALK 10:00 AM NEWS BRIEF 10:03 AM DEATH ANNOUNCEMENTS 10:10 AM YALIVOMO YAMO 13:00 HRS DEATH ANNOUNCEMENTS 13:10 HRS NEWS BULLETIN 13:15 HRS D1 SHOW 16:00 HRS NEWS BRIEF 16:30 HRS HOJIA YA LEO 18:30 HRS DIRA YA DUNIA BBC 19:30 HRS SPOTI LEO 20:00 HRS NEWS BULLETIN 21:00 HRS RADIO ONE DOCTOR 21:00 HRS NEWS BULLETIN (24 HRS) 22:00 HRS AFRO TIZI 23:00 HRS NEWS BRIEF 01:00-05:00HRS MUZIKI (MCHANGANYIKO)	05:00 AM HALI YA HEWA / KUMEPAMBAZUKA I 06:00 AM AMKA NA BBC 06:30 AM NIPASHE 07:00 AM MATANGAZO 07:10 AM MATANGAZO 07:15 AM TAARIFA ZA BARABARANI 07:25 AM UDONDZOZI WA MAGAZETI 08:00 AM HABARI NYEPESI 08:10 AM KUMEPAMBAZUKA II 09:00 AM HABARI ZA BIASHARA 09:20 AM BRAND TALK 10:00 AM NEWS BRIEF 10:03 AM DEATH ANNOUNCEMENTS 10:10 AM YALIVOMO YAMO 13:00 HRS DEATH ANNOUNCEMENTS 13:10 HRS NEWS BULLETIN 13:15 HRS D1 SHOW 16:00 HRS NEWS BRIEF 16:30 HRS HOJIA YA LEO 18:30 HRS DIRA YA DUNIA BBC 19:30 HRS SPOTI LEO 20:00 HRS NEWS BULLETIN 21:00 HRS RADIO ONE DOCTOR 21:00 HRS NEWS BULLETIN (24 HRS) 22:00 HRS AFRO TIZI 23:00 HRS NEWS BRIEF 01:00-05:00HRS MUZIKI (MCHANGANYIKO)	05:00 AM HALI YA HEWA / KUMEPAMBAZUKA I 06:00 AM AMKA NA BBC 06:30 AM NIPASHE 07:00 AM MATANGAZO 07:10 AM MATANGAZO 07:15 AM TAARIFA ZA BARABARANI 07:25 AM UDONDZOZI WA MAGAZETI 08:00 AM HABARI NYEPESI 08:10 AM KUMEPAMBAZUKA II 09:00 AM HABARI ZA BIASHARA 09:20 AM BRAND TALK 10:00 AM NEWS BRIEF 10:03 AM DEATH ANNOUNCEMENTS 10:10 AM YALIVOMO YAMO 13:00 HRS DEATH ANNOUNCEMENTS 13:10 HRS NEWS BULLETIN 13:15 HRS D1 SHOW 16:00 HRS NEWS BRIEF 16:30 HRS HOJIA YA LEO 18:30 HRS DIRA YA DUNIA BBC 19:30 HRS SPOTI LEO 20:00 HRS NEWS BULLETIN 21:00 HRS RADIO ONE DOCTOR 21:00 HRS NEWS BULLETIN (24 HRS) 22:00 HRS AFRO TIZI 23:00 HRS NEWS BRIEF 01:00-05:00HRS MUZIKI (MCHANGANYIKO)	05:00 AM HALI YA HEWA / KUMEPAMBAZUKA I 06:00 AM AMKA NA BBC 06:30 AM NIPASHE 07:00 AM MATANGAZO 07:10 AM MATANGAZO 07:15 AM TAARIFA ZA BARABARANI 07:25 AM UDONDZOZI WA MAGAZETI 08:00 AM HABARI NYEPESI 08:10 AM KUMEPAMBAZUKA II 09:00 AM HABARI ZA BIASHARA 09:20 AM BRAND TALK 10:00 AM NEWS BRIEF 10:03 AM DEATH ANNOUNCEMENTS 10:10 AM YALIVOMO YAMO 13:00 HRS DEATH ANNOUNCEMENTS 13:10 HRS NEWS BULLETIN 13:15 HRS D1 SHOW 16:00 HRS NEWS BRIEF 16:30 HRS HOJIA YA LEO 18:30 HRS DIRA YA DUNIA BBC 19:30 HRS SPOTI LEO 20:00 HRS NEWS BULLETIN 21:00 HRS RADIO ONE DOCTOR 21:00 HRS NEWS BULLETIN (24 HRS) 22:00 HRS AFRO TIZI 23:00 HRS NEWS BRIEF 01:00-05:00HRS MUZIKI (MCHANGANYIKO)	05:00 AM HALI YA HEWA / KUMEPAMBAZUKA I 06:00 AM AMKA NA BBC 06:30 AM NIPASHE 07:00 AM MATANGAZO 07:10 AM MATANGAZO 07:15 AM TAARIFA ZA BARABARANI 07:25 AM UDONDZOZI WA MAGAZETI 08:00 AM HABARI NYEPESI 08:10 AM KUMEPAMBAZUKA II 09:00 AM HABARI ZA BIASHARA 09:20 AM BRAND TALK 10:00 AM NEWS BRIEF 10:03 AM DEATH ANNOUNCEMENTS 10:10 AM YALIVOMO YAMO 13:00 HRS DEATH ANNOUNCEMENTS 13:10 HRS NEWS BULLETIN 13:15 HRS D1 SHOW 16:00 HRS NEWS BRIEF 16:30 HRS HOJIA YA LEO 18:30 HRS DIRA YA DUNIA BBC 19:30 HRS SPOTI LEO 20:00 HRS NEWS BULLETIN 21:00 HRS RADIO ONE DOCTOR 21:00 HRS NEWS BULLETIN (24 HRS) 22:00 HRS AFRO TIZI 23:00 HRS NEWS BRIEF 01:00-05:00HRS MUZIKI (MCHANGANYIKO)	05:00 AM HALI YA HEWA / KUMEPAMBAZUKA I 06:00 AM AMKA NA BBC 06:30 AM NIPASHE 07:00 AM MATANGAZO 07:10 AM MATANGAZO 07:15 AM TAARIFA ZA BARABARANI 07:25 AM UDONDZOZI WA MAGAZETI 08:00 AM HABARI NYEPESI 08:10 AM KUMEPAMBAZUKA II 09:00 AM HABARI ZA BIASHARA 09:20 AM BRAND TALK 10:00 AM NEWS BRIEF 10:03 AM DEATH ANNOUNCEMENTS 10:10 AM YALIVOMO YAMO 13:00 HRS DEATH ANNOUNCEMENTS 13:10 HRS NEWS BULLETIN 13:15 HRS D1 SHOW 16:00 HRS NEWS BRIEF 16:30 HRS HOJIA YA LEO 18:30 HRS DIRA YA DUNIA BBC 19:30 HRS SPOTI LEO 20:00 HRS NEWS BULLETIN 21:00 HRS RADIO ONE DOCTOR 21:00 HRS NEWS BULLETIN (24 HRS) 22:00 HRS AFRO TIZI 23:00 HRS NEWS BRIEF 01:00-05:00HRS MUZIKI (MCHANGANYIKO)

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



Thursday 1 December 2022

## Banking sector is liquid, capitalised, profitable, says BoT

By Guardian Reporter

**T**anzania banking sector remains liquid, capitalised and profitable, with deposits and assets increasing, while asset quality is improving, the Monetary Policy Committee (MPC) of Bank of Tanzania (BoT) has said in a statement after its meeting on Tuesday.

"Liquidity in the banking sector was maintained at desirable levels consistent with inflation forecast and monetary policy targets for the quarter ending September 2022 were successfully met," it said.

According to the statement, non-performing loan ratio declined to 7.2 percent in October 2022, down from 8.3

percent in the corresponding period in 2021, which indicates increased customer confidence on the sector.

However, the rate of NPLs is still slightly higher than the regulatory benchmark of 5 percent.

Private sector credit growth was high in September and October 2022, at 22 and 23.7 percent, respectively. In 2022/23, private sector credit growth is projected at 10.7 percent, the statement said.

According to the banks statement for the first half of this year, most of them saw their profits rising to record levels, sending a bullish message that the sector's net profit will cross the a trillion mark this year.

The statement showed a number of the lenders more than doubled their half year

cumulative profits compared to what they registered during a similar period last year.

In its Monetary Policy Statement for 2022/2023 released in June this year, BoT instituted policy measures to reduce NPLs, such as enforcement of risk based prudential requirements and requiring banks to improve credit underwriting standards by using reports from credit reference bureaus in loan application assessment.

In addition, BoT instituted mechanisms of monitoring banks in the implementation of strategies to reduce NPLs, directed banks to submit credit information to the credit reference system and adhere to code of conduct to enhance staff integrity.

BoT also continued to strengthen risk

management practices in the financial sector by implementing various policies and regulatory reforms to safeguard the industry; including directing banks to implement capital restoration plans and adhere to the regulatory requirements.

Credits

Credit extended to the private sector and central government by the banking system grew by 33.7 percent in year ending September 2022, compared with 6.8 percent in corresponding period in 2021.

Much of the increase was due to private sector credit, which grew at 22 percent, compared with 4.5 percent.

The strong appetite for bank lending was partly a reflection of presence of business opportunities, despite faced with global

challenges.

Seasonal purchases of crops also contributed to the outturn. Almost all the major economic activities registered satisfactory performance in growth of credit, with agriculture outpacing the other sectors.

The stock of credit to hotels and restaurants declined following writing-off of non-performing loans to comply with regulatory requirements.

Credit to the private sector, categorized as personal loans, and used for small and medium-size undertakings, continued to account for the largest part of loans outstanding, at 38.6 percent.

This was followed by credit for trade, manufacturing and agriculture activities.

## Banks, financial institutions seeking to empower micro, small businesses

By Correspondent James Kandoya

FINANCIAL institutions supported by Financial Sector Deepening Tanzania (FSDT) have formed an association namely Alliance for Inclusive Finance (AIF) to empower the growth of local Small and medium businesses financially.

FSDT Chief Executive Officer, Pamela Shao said that the development of the alliance was a result of the Inclusive Finance for Growth of Women and Youth MSMEs forum that was held Dar es Salaam recently.

She named the participants who agreed to form the Alliance as CEOs, Directors, Heads of Departments and Managers of SME Banking from Akiba Commercial Bank, Bank of Africa, ASA Microfinance Tanzania, DCB Commercial Bank and FINCA.

Others are Microfinance Bank, Letshego Bank, Mwanga Hakika Bank, People's Bank of Zanzibar, and United Bank for Africa, Access Bank, NCBA Tanzania, TCB Bank, Maendeleo Bank, Vision Fund Tanzania, and BRAC International.

Also, the CEOs from Credit info Tanzania, DOT Tanzania, and Dons from the University of Dar es Salaam-Business School

"Through the Alliance, member institutions will access financial facilities and technical assistance to enable them to strengthen their micro and small businesses financial services provision. Member institutions will also have visibility through media channels to reach more unbanked MSMEs".

According to the Tanzania Chamber of



Mwanga Hakika managing director Jagjit Singh gestures at a meeting with CEOs, directors and senior officials of other banks and financial institutions forming an alliance to support small and medium businesses in Tanzania: Photo by James Kandoya

Commerce, Industry and Agriculture (TCCIA), MSMEs contribute up to 35 percent of Tanzania's GDP, and generate up to 40 percent of total employment.

Yet, access to affordable and relevant financing is among the major factors hindering their business growth.

With the right measures, the financial sector can play an important role in creating an enabling environment for the growth of MSMEs and enable finan-

cial institutions to serve the largely untapped market segment.

Jagjit Singh, Managing Director of Mwanga Hakika Bank said the formation of the Alliance for Inclusive Finance for MSMEs in Tanzania will create a brighter future for MSMEs, as well as financial institutions in Tanzania.

He said the growth of the MSME sector is the growth of the Tanzanian economy. "The Alliance will enable us to find

relevant financing solutions to better serve women and youth MSMEs in Tanzania, who are currently seen as risky due the informal nature of their businesses."

FSDT was established in Tanzania on 1st July 2004 with the objective of supporting the development of the financial sector in Tanzania.

It aimed to contribute to poverty eradication measures in the country.

## Absa writes off Sh1.8bn mobile loans

NAIROBI

Absa Bank Kenya disclosed it has written off Sh1.8 billion worth of digital loans, a move that has seen about 400,000 customers taken off the list of defaulters with credit reference bureaus.

It is the latest bank to reveal debt forgiveness after NCBA Group which cancelled more than Sh11 billion in the initiative by the Central Bank of Kenya (CBK).

The plan, dubbed Credit Repair Framework, seeks to improve the credit standing of mobile digital borrowers whose loans were non-performing and had been listed by CRBs.

"[Following] the recent request coming from the President to delist digital borrowers, today close to about 400,000 customers who were borrowing from our digital platform (Timiza) have been delisted and the written-off figure is Sh1.8 billion," Absa's interim chief executive Yusuf Omari said at an investor briefing.

This indicates that the lender had disbursed loans amounting to Sh3.6 billion.

Banks are required to write off half of the sums defaulted on digital loans.

Absa said it will engage with its customers using its digital platform who defaulted on their short-term borrowings so the lender can recover 50 per cent of the pending amounts.

"The delisting will actually help our collection effort because, for the loans we've written off already, we expect a payment of 50 per cent which is marked as recoveries," said Moses Muthui, Absa's interim chief finance officer. The credit repair will cover more than 4.6 million Kenyans blacklisted by CRBs for defaulting on mobile loans.

The plan addresses loans with a repayment period of 30 days or less and those offered by banks, microfinance banks and mortgage finance companies through mobile phones.

NCBA said it will write off more than Sh11.25 billion of bad loans under its digital platforms, emerging as the hardest-hit lender due to its large market share in the segment.

The lender said it was engaging borrowers under its digital platforms – Fuliza and M-Shwari – who have defaulted on short-term loans to cancel 50 per cent of the amount and repay half within six months.

The CBK said that the total value of the short-term credit facilities is approximately Sh30 billion, equivalent to 0.8 per cent of the gross banking sector loan portfolio of Sh3.6 trillion at the end of October 2022.

Debt forgiveness is an attempt by the government to give borrowers – mostly comprising individuals with low incomes – a chance to rebuild their creditworthiness and regain access to formal financial services.

The value of digital loans is small compared to total bank lending but they have the biggest uptake among the unemployed, the working class and small business owners.

Several studies have shown that many people juggle multiple digital loans which are repaid daily or monthly.

## AfDB launches model for green financing in Africa

By Guardian Correspondent

The African Development Bank (AfDB) is boosting the promotion of resilient, green and sustainable growth, with the launch of the African Green Bank Initiative (link is external), a model for deploying green financing across the continent.

The initiative, which was presented at the just-concluded UN Climate Change Conference (COP27) in Egypt, will support the implementation of African countries' Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs).

Part of the African Financial Alliance on Climate Change (AFAC), the Green Bank Initiative will be supported by the African Green Finance Facility Fund (AG3F).

AG3F will provide technical assistance to governments and financial institutions in creating and capitalising green facilities, co-invest alongside those in green projects and provide de-risking instruments to increase private sector mobilisation.

Launching the initiative, African Development Bank vice president for Energy, Power, Climate and Green Growth, Kevin Kariuki, said the African Green Bank model would help increase the continent's access to global climate finance.



"The Green Bank Initiative is a powerful tool for reducing financing costs and mobilising private sector investments in climate action in Africa," Kariuki said.

He said multilateral development banks and international financial institutions had a crucial role in enabling local financial institutions to develop a green pipeline of projects and ease their access to resources.

The African Green Bank initiative, which will be endowed with a trust fund of \$1.5 billion, was conceived as part of measures to facilitate access to global finance from the current 3%

to 10% annually by 2030.

Kariuki said the initiative was based on an assessment by the African Development Bank and the Climate Investment Funds on the potential of Green Banks in six African countries, namely Benin, Ghana, Mozambique, Tunisia, Uganda, and Zambia.

"The assessment revealed that green banks have significant potential for attracting new sources of catalytic funds when supporting low-carbon, climate-resilient development through blending capital and mobilising local private investment for green investments in

Africa," he said.

Kariuki said the initiative would bolster the capacity of local financial institutions to build a robust pipeline of bankable green projects, while de-risking investments and entrenching long-term investor confidence toward climate-resilient and low-carbon projects in Africa.

"It will do so through investing in sectors such as energy efficiency and renewable energy, climate-smart agriculture, resilient infrastructure, and nature-based solutions," he said.

African countries still face significant challenges in financing their climate transition. While investment needs resulting from NDCs are estimated at \$2.8 trillion by 2030, funds invested on the continent still represent a limited share of global green finance flows, and the share covered by the private sector remains limited.

The launch event featured a panel discussion on the opportunities of setting up an ecosystem of green finance

facilities in Africa. Panellists included climate finance practitioners, asset managers, African commercial banks, and existing Green Banks.

Audrey-Cynthia Yamadjako, co-ordinator of the initiative, said green finance facilities, newly created or hosted in existing financial institutions, were "the solution to bring private finance at scale in climate action through the translation of the \$2.8 trillion NDC implementation needs into well-structured and bankable projects."

European asset management firm Amundi will back the initiative through technical assistance activities, including training green facilities' management and investment teams.

Amundi will also mobilise its investment vehicles dedicated to sustainable development in emerging markets and developing economies to support green facilities' capitalisation and thus participate in the development of green investment across the continent.

# WHY YOU NEED A FINANCIAL ADVISOR

Not everyone needs a financial advisor. But regardless of your financial state, everyone can benefit from having a financial advisor in their life. Let me start by asking a fundamental question: how much can you improve your current financial situation? You might be thinking that since I pay my bills on time, know what my budget is and handle my finances pretty well, then I am good in my current financial situation. Right. Not Really. Many of us think this way but often it is because of a lack of awareness of financial opportunities and best practices. To be aware, and take advantage of all the financial opportunities that are around us, we need someone to hold our hand and show us the way. Whether you are a recent graduate trying to figure out how to handle student loans, or a current professional worker (employee), or a retiree looking to maximize your retirement account, or self-employed, or anything in between, we all want our money to work for us. For example, let's say you want to retire in 10 years or send your child to a private university in 5 years; to accomplish those goals, you may need a knowledgeable and skilled professional to help make these plans a reality, and that's



Kelvin Mkwawa,

where a financial advisor comes in. By a definition, a financial advisor is a person with

knowledge about financial matters who provides expert advice in a way that promotes the well-being of an individual. Researchers have found that people have three big financial priorities in life: they want to be consumer debt-free, they want to have an emergency fund that will cover at least 6 months of their expenses, and lastly, they want to have enough money for their retirement. To achieve those financial priorities, you will probably need a financial advisor. A good financial advisor will help you set a plan to improve your financial health. It might take time to improve your current financial position, as it doesn't happen overnight but trust me, you can improve it. In this article, I will share a few reasons why you should find a financial advisor:

- Keep Your Financial Plan on Track - You might ask yourself these questions: how much money should I save for retirement at my current age? Should I change my financial plan as I get older? These questions may seem like complicated ones to you but to a financial advisor, they are not because

of the financial knowledge he/she possesses. We all know it is not easy to stick to your budget and financial plan so having someone who guides you with a strategy to keep the plan intact is imperative. A study from John Hancock Financial Services Inc showed that 70% of those who work with a financial advisor are on track with their financial plan or ahead in saving for retirement, compared to just 33% of those who don't use an advisor.

- Save You Time and Stress - In today's demanding world, do you think you can put in the hours of research needed to find the right balance for your investments or find the right information to decide which projects you need to invest in? Probably not. Instead of spending your time learning extensively about different sophisticated financial products and strategies, you would rather spend it with your family and friends. This is where a finan-

cial advisor comes in and gives you a 360-degree view of your financial situation, spots weak areas, and gives you educated opinions on making wise money moves decisions. In addition, a financial advisor will undertake research regularly to maximize their knowledge to ensure your investments/money are safe and growing. Furthermore, financial advisors are there to answer any questions and address all your financial concerns.

To summarize, in this article, I shared the reasons why you should hire a financial advisor regardless of your current financial situation. Financial advisors often have a broader and deeper knowledge of money management than a normal regular person. Make a choice today to seek guidance if you are really serious about achieving your financial goals, and take action now!

Written by Kelvin Mkwawa (pictured), MBA  
seasoned banker.  
Email address: Kelvin.e.mkwawa@gmail.com

## China's small lenders bear brunt of risks of slowdown

BEIJING

China's small lenders will bear much of the risk in China's banking industry, as an economic slowdown caused by the country's zero-Covid policy exacerbates their weaker fundamentals, according to credit rating agencies Moody's and CEXI.

"Medium-sized and small banks will be impacted by regional economic fluctuations and the pandemic, and in the future they will face more pressure to control their bad loan ratios and provision coverage ratios," said Wen Yuqi, director of the financial institutions ratings department at CEXI, referring to the amount of capital they must set aside to cover soured loans.

She was speaking at the online CEXI & Moody's China Credit Outlook Conference on Tuesday.

China's town-level and small rural banks are more exposed to risk than their larger peers even though their assets account for less than 1 per cent of the total among all

Chinese banks, according to Nicholas Zhu, vice-president at Moody's.

"We can't say the risk is small," he said. "Small rural financial institutions have potential systemic risks" which could spread to the wider financial sector.

As an example he cited the Henan banking scam in April, in which 40 billion yuan (US\$6 billion) in deposits - gathered via fintech platforms - disappeared. The crisis affected customers nationwide because the deposits were made digitally rather than in a local branch.

"Very small rural financial institutions [can] have the effect of penetrating the whole nation on the liabilities side, the impact is not limited to the local level when the risks burst."

Rural banks have the highest bad loan ratios in the industry, at more than 3 per cent as of the end of September, the analysts said.

Their burden only grew when they were told by Beijing to help companies - par-



ticularly small businesses - which have been hit hard by the pandemic, said Wen at CEXI.

The banks had extended 16 trillion yuan of loans to these companies as of the end of 2021, she said.

"Against the background that the economy still hasn't recovered and amid the pandemic flare-ups, some of these loans' payment at maturity still face uncertainties as these market participants haven't got rid of

the burden of the pandemic."

The lenders' recent increase of aid to property developers under the guidance of the central government could also increase their burden.

The extension of loans to developers for as long as 2.5 years, as stipulated in the official 16-point rescue plan to ease homebuilders' financial pressure may add further uncertainty, said Zhu, as the outlook for the sector remains decid-

edly gloomy.

Additionally, homeowners' efforts to pay back their mortgages earlier in a bid to ease their own debt burdens are forcing banks to reinvest the proceeds in other assets, which makes it hard to ensure big returns in the current market conditions, he added.

On the broader economy, Mao Zhenhua, CEXI's founder and chief economist, predicted that China's growth will reach about 5 per cent in 2023, accelerating from a low base this year, as Beijing loosens Covid-19 restrictions. UBS also forecast 5 per cent, while Goldman Sachs expects 4.5 per cent by Goldman Sachs and Barclays sees a 3.8 per cent growth rate.

Mao said policies aimed at curbing the spread of the coronavirus will be the biggest factor determining China's economic growth next year.

"If next year it can't reach 5 per cent, then it may not reach 5 per cent for a very long time, because next year's target already factored in the low base," he said.

## Stanbic's campaign winners to get up to 5mn/-

By Guardian Reporter

STANBIC Bank Tanzania has announced a new campaign - 'Mchongo ni Kuchanja' which is deliberately designed to encourage customers to use their debit card on Point of Sales (POS) when paying for goods and services.

The campaign will run from December 1st to February 2023 and will see customers who use their visa debit card stand a chance of winning up to 250,000/- bi-weekly and a grand prize of 5,000,000/-.

The bank's Head of Cards and Payments, Mwanahamisi Jumanne said: "Holiday season can be busy and expensive, which is why we want to reward you on your holiday spending by allowing you to win extra cash. All you need to do is pay through your Stanbic visa debit card when shopping or on daily expenditure."

She added: "By launching this promotional campaign during the festive season, we aim to provide our visa debit cardholders the best value when shopping online or at any store throughout the season."

This campaign is not only designed to bring major benefits and excitement to customers during their shopping experience.

It also aims at emphasising and encouraging cash-based (ATM) customers to use Point of Sales and eCommerce, eliminating the need to carry cash for daily transactions allowing customers to have safe and hassle-free purchases at merchants.

Being one of the best banks in Tanzania for the 3rd time consecutively, the bank is committed to maintaining the highest standards of excellence in providing financial services to its customers enabling flexibility and ease while conducting transactions.

## UK to relax ring-fencing rules on some banks

LONDON

Britain is poised to relax one of the biggest restrictions on the banking sector as part of "Big Bang 2.0", the long promised liberalisation of post-Brexit financial services rules.

The "ringfencing" of banks with retail and investment arms was introduced after the 2008 financial crash with the aim of reducing risk and preventing banking collapses.

But critics say the rules are inefficient as they require separate pots of capital to absorb potential losses in each part of the bank.

Andrew Griffith, City minister, told an FT banking summit on Tuesday that change was coming, saying: "We can make the UK a better place to be

a bank, to release some of that trapped capital over time around the ringfence."

The move is part of a broader package of City reforms being drawn up by Griffith that are intended to boost the competitiveness of the financial sector, some of which will take advantage of "Brexit freedoms".

Ringfencing was introduced as a UK initiative in 2015 and implemented in 2019 after the huge state bailouts of the financial crisis. It requires lenders with more than £25bn in deposits to formally separate consumer operations from their investment banking arms to protect ordinary customers.

The ringfence will stay in place for the UK's biggest investment banks, but the reforms mean



Michael Muhoja (C), Tanzania Revenue Authority Deputy Commissioner for Domestic Revenue, RSK Consulting CEO, Raymond Kahumba (R) and RSK Partner Tax and Legal Services, Ezekiel Temu shares a light moment, during a workshop addressing common tax compliance pitfalls for not for profit organisations organised by the tax consulting firm in Dar es Salaam recently. Photo by Guardian Correspondent

several large UK lenders with limited trading activities will be exempt from the requirements.

Santander UK, Virgin Money and TSB Bank have limited trading operations but are required to separate their retail and investment banking arms under current ringfencing rules.

Under the reforms they could reduce the amount of capital they held against potential losses in both entities, as well as being exempt from running dual

boards for the units inside and outside of the firewall.

The reforms follow the recommendations of an expert review led by Keith Skeoch, the former Standard Life Aberdeen chief executive. The review concluded that the ringfencing regime should remain in place, but warned without refinement it could risk stifling smaller retail banks struggling to compete with the biggest high street lenders.

The UK's biggest lenders - Barclays, HSBC, NatWest and Lloyds - would still need to comply with ringfencing rules because of the size of their investment banking arms.

Barclays chief executive CS Venkatarishnan told the FT that his bank had already invested time and money setting up the ringfenced bank and that it "formed a good financial construct for the UK".

"I'm perfectly happy with maintaining the decision not just to keep ringfencing but to continue it," he said.

UK Prime Minister Rishi Sunak wants to release bank capital for investment in infrastructure and the government recently announced changes to the EU's Solvency II rules to release capital held as safety buffers by insurers.

When the Skeoch report was published in April, Santander

UK, Virgin Money and TSB were identified as candidates to be released from the regime, but this is the first confirmation that government is likely to make them exempt.

Two of the banks are foreign owned. Spain's Santander bought and rebranded Abbey National, Bradford & Bingley and Alliance & Leicester from 2004 to 2009, while TSB is owned by its Spanish rival Sabadell.

# Tanga Cement scoops top industrial producer awards

By Guardian Reporter

**T**anga Cement PLC, the company that produces Simba brand cement, has emerged as the overall winner of the Best Producers of the Year 2021 in the 16th Presidential Awards for Best Industrial Producers (PMAYA).

The official guest of the event organized by the Confederation of Tanzania Industries (CTI) in Dar es Salaam, was the Vice President of the United Republic of Tanzania, Dr. Phillip Isdory Mpango, who presented the award to the winners of the President's Awards for the Best Producer of the Year (PMAYA) while emphasizing the importance of local industries to increase the value of raw products.

Dr. Mpango, presented the Executive Director of Tanga Cement PLC, Reinhardt Swart, with two awards for: Overall Best Producer Winner and Best Producer Award Winner.

The Executive Director of Tanga Cement PLC, Reinhardt Swart, has expressed his happiness to win consecutively two PMAYA awards organized by CTI who have won the Overall Winner Award for the Best Producers of the Year 2021 and also the Best Producer Award.

"We are very happy to receive the President's Awards for the Best Producers of the Year (PMAYA) for the fifth time from CTI. The reason why we are proud is that PMAYA recognized us as the Best Producers of the Year in the industrial sector and not only that, but even in other areas when it comes to your people, good performance becomes an



Vice President Dr. Phillip Mpango presents an award to Tanga Cement officials. Photo by Guardian Correspondent

important issue and the best way to run a business, good performance in the area of corporate governance, and have good business ethics. Therefore, we thank CTI for recognizing us as the best of our commercial competitors," Swart says.

In addition, Swart, says that "We are proud to be recognized as the Winner of the Best Producer of the Year and the Best Producer for the fifth time. Being

the best means that you will have to fight more battles out there in the business because things do not always go well in the industrial sector.

Swart, says that previously, the cement industry has been one of the leading sectors for enhance growth of the industries in the country, where there were many gaps in the past, but that time has passed and now business especially in the cement sector for the

third world requires a large level of investment in order to allow business to be.

"First world markets tend to have a low level of need for large investments, but Tanzania still needs many investors to develop large capital in a business like this. Despite this, we see coal as an alternative energy for cement factories, royalties need to be paid, but also for Tanzania, we have to pay royalties on shipping as well," he says.

The director concludes by saying that "Therefore, a factory that is further away from the source of raw materials pays more than a factory that is closer to the raw materials, something that creates unfair competition and thus punishes other factories and other areas of distribution of our products, which are aimed at bringing true competition."

The Marketing and Communications Manager, Mtanga Noor, says that "Tanga Cement PLC has always believed in itself and produces the best products and when you compete, you get something better."

Explaining the secret of their victory at all times, Mtanga, says that Tanga Cement PLC focuses on quality from the place where they take raw materials, and monitors the entire production process step by step until the product leaves the gate to the consumer.

In addition to that, Tanga Cement PLC also has representatives in all markets who monitor the performance of their products and later give feedback.

"Therefore, our participation in these awards has a great meaning for us because we have

seen the importance of these competitions which emphasize the quality of the products that go to our customers and Tanzanians as a whole because if the best products go to the citizens, their lives become better," Mtanga he says.

Speaking before handing over the PMAYA awards, Dr. Mpango asked industries to stop selling their agricultural products and natural resources in raw form abroad, thus causing the country to earn less foreign currency income and transfer jobs to foreign countries.

The first overall industrial winner is the Tanga Cement PLC factory, while Kilimanjaro Cable emerged in second place and Ando Roofing took third place. When I met with him last year, I expressed my displeasure with the increase in the importation of products that can be produced in this country. This challenge is still big because approximately 12 percent of foreign sales funds are used to pay for the import of consumer goods, most of which we can produce ourselves here in the country and for the year ending September 2022 we have spent approximately 346 million US dollars to import fertilizers," Dr.

Mpango says. I would like to use this opportunity to encourage all the industrialists in this country to make more effort and increase the production capacity in your industries to meet the local needs and thus reduce this loss of these natural resources of foreign currency," Dr. Mpango says.

The government has continued to improve the environment for doing business and investment in this country by making more institutional improvements, laws, financial policies and the budget and that so far, more than 230 unproductive taxes and charges have been canceled and about 40 laws and guidelines have been improved and the responsibilities of some institutions have continued to be improved to increase efficiency.

Furthermore, he congratulated CTI for organizing the awards and said that the Government has continued to increase and strengthen infrastructure, including transport, to ensure that all parts of the country are easily accessible and has continued with the construction of electricity projects, in order to have reliable energy, while the construction of a modern railway (SGR) continues at a high speed so that it can

increase the efficiency in the transportation of goods from one place to another.

"Along with this, we also intend to connect our railway with the neighbouring countries such as; Congo DRC, and Burundi to stimulate regional trade and enable the nation to benefit from services (logistics) and transportation of minerals and various products from those countries," he says.

Also Dr. Mpango says that the Government is continuing efforts to expand and increase the efficiency of the main ports of Dar es Salaam, Mtwara, Tanga along with the ports in the Great Lakes and to strengthen the Customs System for the transfer and delivery of cargo quickly.

Apart from that, the Government is continuing with the construction of a dry port in the country, including reducing the density of containers and vehicles from the port of Dar es Salaam.

"Along with these internal efforts, Her Excellence President Samia Suluhu Hassan has continued to promote international relations. For example President Samia agreed to sign a double tax treaty with 10 countries to attract and strengthen business and investment," he says.

## Islamic finance industry to hit \$5.9tn by 2026

KUALA LUMPUR

The global Islamic finance industry is expected to reach \$5.9tn by 2026, from \$4tn in 2021 driven by Islamic banks and Sukuks according to a new report.

The 2022 Islamic Finance Development Indicator (IFDI) was released by Refinitiv, a (LSEG) London Stock Exchange Group Business, and the Islamic Corporation for the Development of the Private Sector (ICD).

The indicator is a composite weighted index that measures the overall development of the Islamic finance industry.

The data is comprehensively gathered from 136 countries and measured across more than 10 key metrics, including knowledge, governance, sustainability, and awareness.

Malaysia led the IFDI list this year with a score of 113, followed by Saudi Arabia (74), Indonesia (61), Bahrain (59), Kuwait (59), UAE (52), Oman (48), Pakistan (43), Qatar (38) and Bangladesh (36).

The GCC has the highest average score while the United States and countries in Europe have the lowest.

According to the indicator, Islamic banking currently holds 70 percent of the global Islamic finance industry while Sukuk's grew by 14% in 2021 to \$713bn.

Islamic funds, the third biggest sector, saw standout growth of 34% to \$238bn worth of assets under management in 2021.

Hani Salem Sonbol, Acting CEO Islamic Corporation of Development of Private Sector, said: "We are optimistic for the continued double-digit growth of the global Islamic finance industry because of the prevailing positive developments we see in new and emerging markets such as in Central Asia and North Africa.

"The developments in these regions especially with regards to regulations and capacity-building have been years in the making, facilitated greatly by organisations such as the ICD."

"The big and more mature Islamic finance markets such as the six countries of the GCC, Malaysia, and Indonesia, continue to strengthen their industries and lead with developments and innovations in segments like Islamic FinTech, regulations and sustainability," Sonbol added.

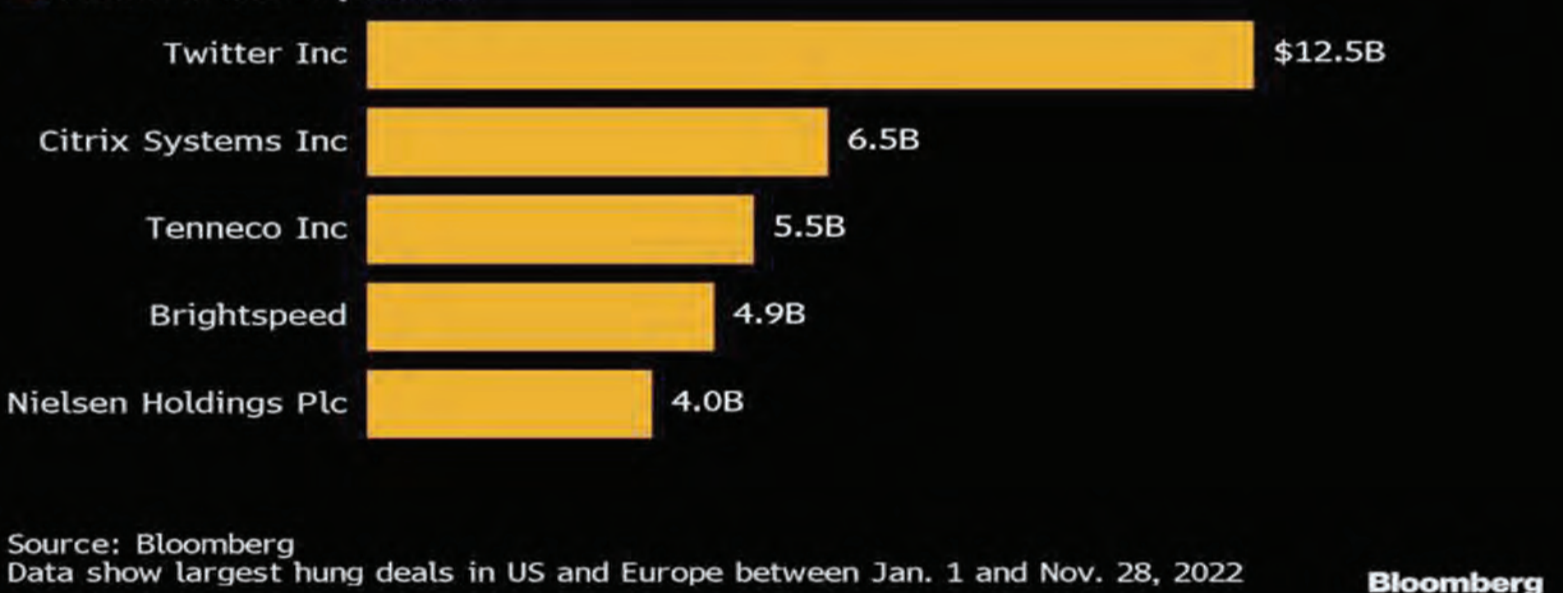
Mustafa Adil, Head of Islamic Finance, LSEG, said: "Islamic finance is not exclusive anymore to Islamic or Muslim majority countries.

"For decades the global industry has benefitted from countries such as the UK's participation across all the sectors.

**BANKING & FINANCE**

### Banks Have About \$42 Billion in Hung Debt Wall Street has one last window to offload buyout deals stuck on books

Amount in USD-equivalent



## US, EU banks stuck with \$42bn debt seize

BRUSSELS

Banks in the US and Europe with around \$42 billion of buyout debt stuck on their balance sheets are making the most of their last chance to get rid of it this year.

Stabilization in the leveraged loan and high yield bond markets has led to an opening for deals -- including for bonds and loans tied to the buyout of TV ratings business Nielsen Holdings Plc -- as banks try to reduce debt on their balance sheets before the holidays.

Offloading the so-called hung debt, even at steep discounts, confines losses to this financial year while also appeasing risk departments and regulators.

There may be more to follow. A group of lenders including Goldman Sachs Group Inc. is nearing an agreement to sell €1.5 billion (\$1.56 billion) of a junk loan backing the buyout of Unilever's tea business, while other deals could also come before the year end.

"If the window is open for these hung deals, you will see the banks jump through it because the window is not open for every deal," said Bill Zox, portfolio manager at Brandywine Global Investment Management. "And it could shut again at any time."

Hung debt has been a big problem for Wall Street this year. Banks have taken huge mark-to-market losses on deals they underwrote before a rapid rise in interest rates crushed funding markets and the threat of recession quashed investor demand for riskier assets.

With that backdrop, stabilization of leveraged loan prices -- which recently recovered to an average of close to 93 cents on the dollar in the US, according to index data -- has created a fertile ground for deals.

Still, while some debt is being offloaded, more recent buyouts are adding to the pile, including about \$13 billion of financing related to Elon Musk's acquisition of Twitter and, more recently, a private equity buyout of a majority stake in Roper Technologies Inc.'s industrial operations business.

That brings the total amount of debt funded by banks for buyouts and acquisitions in the US and Europe to around \$42 billion, according to data compiled by Bloomberg.

Despite a slightly better market window now opening up, some recent deals have come with steep discounts. Nielsen's leveraged loan sale saw strong demand at 89 cents on the dollar, while the Unilever tea

business loan is expected to price in the low-to-mid 80% of face value, according to people close to the matter.

But for many lenders, offloading chunks of hung debt -- even at a discount -- is better than letting it languish on their books, tying up capital that could be deployed elsewhere. The bargain prices also help attract new buyers, such as Apollo Global Management Inc., which raised a \$2.4 billion fund to scoop up such loans.

In Europe, where the pile of hung debt is smaller, leveraged loan prices have risen from their October lows to an average of around 91 cents on the euro, according to S&P's index. Along with the issuance of new collateralized loan obligations -- the biggest buyers of leveraged loans -- that's led to some opportunistic deals.

Americas Amazon.com Inc. is looking to sell investment-grade bonds for general corporate purposes, which may include repayment of debt and acquisitions, in its second dollar offering this year.

El Salvador's government is again offering to repurchase some of its outstanding dollar bonds, a move

that could help soothe investors wary of the nation's ability to stave off a default in the coming years

US junk bonds are poised for a second month of gains this quarter and just the fourth for this year, after easing inflation data earlier in the month and a series of comments by Federal Reserve officials that it was time to consider slowing the pace of interest-rate hikes

EMEA Issuers continued to seize the final window for bond issuance in Europe's primary market this year, with Orsted, Toyota and Vodafone among the borrowers raising new debt.

Vodafone offered the year's longest pound corporate bond as renewed confidence in the UK's management of its finances has spurred a November rebound in debt sales in the country's currency

The check for more than a decade of cheap corporate borrowings is coming due. In less than 24 hours, petrol forecourt business EG Group and German landlord Adler Group SA told investors that they are weighing the sale of assets to cut debt, while gaming company 888 Holdings said it may tap the credit markets to manage its liabilities

## WORLD

## Russia postpones arms talk with US

MOSCOW/KYIV

RUSSIA announced on Monday that it was postponing highly anticipated arms control talks with the United States, scheduled to take place in Egypt despite tensions over the Ukraine conflict.

"The session of the bilateral coordinating committee on the Russian-American START Treaty, previously scheduled to take place in Cairo between Nov 29 and Dec 6, will not take place on the dates indicated," a Foreign Ministry spokesperson told state-run news agency TASS. "The event is postponed to a later date."

The United States had said this month that it expected to meet with Russia soon to discuss the possible resumption of inspections under New START, a key nuclear disarmament treaty between the two countries.

Moscow announced in August that it was suspending US inspections of its military sites under the treaty, in re-

sponse to US obstruction of inspections by Russia.

Signed in 2010, New START limited the arsenals of the two countries to a maximum of 1,550 deployed strategic nuclear warheads each.

Before the announcement, a US envoy stressed that Moscow and Washington have ways to manage nuclear risks at the level of intelligence agencies.

Elizabeth Rood, charge d'affaires of the US embassy in Moscow, said in a video on RIA's Telegram channel: "The United States has channels for managing risk with the Russian Federation, particularly nuclear risks and that was the purpose of CIA director Burns' meeting with his Russian counterpart."

CIA director William Burns this month met with Sergey Naryshkin, head of Russian foreign intelligence.

## Dealing a blow

On the energy front, European Union governments were dealt another blow as they failed to agree on Monday on a



Ukrainians charge their devices, use the internet and warm up inside a mobile heating point set up in a town outside Kyiv on Monday. AFP

price cap on Russian seaborne crude oil amid deep divisions within the bloc.

"There is no deal. The legal texts have now been agreed, but Poland still can't agree to the price," one diplomat said. No new date for talks has been set yet, diplomats said, even though the price cap mechanism is to enter into force on Dec 5.

Before the EU meeting, the Kremlin had emphasized that Moscow would not trade oil or gas with those countries that introduce the price cap.

As the energy crisis bites, Ukrainian energy company Naftogaz has asked the United States Agency for International Development to help with additional natural gas volumes for the heating season, Oleksiy Chernyshov, the company's chief executive, said on

Monday.

Snow has been falling for several days in the Ukrainian capital Kyiv, a city that had 2.8 million residents before the conflict, as people struggle with disruptions to electricity supply and central heating.

According to a Reuters report, the US was expected to announce new aid on Tuesday to help Ukraine restore electricity.

More supplies for Kyiv are also coming from some Baltic and Nordic nations, after seven foreign ministers traveled to Kyiv on Monday to show support for Ukraine.

The visit by the officials from Estonia, Finland, Iceland, Latvia, Lithuania, Norway and Sweden precedes a meeting of NATO military alliance foreign ministers in Bucharest on Tues-

## Jiang Zemin passes away

BEIJING

JIANG Zemin passed away due to leukemia and multiple organ failure in Shanghai at the age of 96, it was announced yesterday.

The announcement was made by the Central Committee of the Communist Party of China (CPC), the Standing Committee of the National People's Congress of the People's Republic of China (PRC), the State Council of the PRC, the National Committee of the Chinese People's Political Consultative Conference, and the Central Military Commissions of the CPC and the PRC.

It was announced in a letter addressing the whole Party, the entire military and the Chinese people of all ethnic groups.

They proclaim with profound grief to the whole Party, the entire military and the Chinese people of all ethnic groups that our beloved Comrade Jiang Zemin died of leukemia and multiple organ failure after all medical treatments had failed, according to the letter.

It added that Comrade Jiang Zemin was an outstanding leader enjoying high prestige acknowledged by the whole Party, the entire military and the Chinese people of all ethnic groups, a great Marxist, a great proletarian revolutionary, statesman, military strategist and diplomat, a long-tested communist fighter, and an outstanding leader of the great cause of socialism with Chinese characteristics.

He was the core of the CPC's third generation of central collective leadership and the principal founder of the Theory of Three Represents.

Xinhua

## Red Cross warns of deepening humanitarian needs in conflict zones

GENEVA

THE civilian suffering caused by various conflicts across the world combined with a worsening climate emergency and rising food and energy prices will make 2023 a year of vast humanitarian need, the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) warned on Tuesday.

In some regions in Somalia, ICRC teams have seen a more than 170 percent rise in the number of malnourished children admitted for treatment versus 2021, while ICRC-supported hospitals have recorded a 30 percent increase in mass casualty events.

In a press release, the committee said that communities in the Sahel are caught between advancing deserts, erratic weather and violence, and millions of people have been forced from their homes by violence in Mali, Niger, Burkina Faso and Mauritania.

The humanitarian situation in Afghanistan is worsening too. In the ICRC-supported hospitals across the country, child malnutrition cases are already 90 percent higher in 2022 compared to all of 2021, rising from 33,000 cases to over 63,000 so far this year.

The humanitarian crisis in Yemen is also likely to worsen in 2023 in the absence of a de-escalation of the conflict, lack of economic improvements and amplified impact of the climate crises, the ICRC said, adding that 70 percent of the population there are now depending on some form of humanitarian assistance.

In Syria, more than 11 years of conflict have seriously damaged the water network, reducing supply by between 30 percent and 40 percent.

In Haiti, over three million people are facing exacerbated humanitarian needs from protracted armed violence, civil unrest and the resurgence of cholera cases. "There are more than 100 armed conflicts in the world today," ICRC President Mirjana Spoljaric said.

"The global community must ensure that no conflict is left behind, or we risk many crises fading into obscurity at great cost to human life."

## UN warns of food aid cuts for refugees in Chad due to fund shortages

UNITED NATIONS

TWO major UN agencies warn that a lack of funding threatens the cuts in food assistance programs for refugees in Chad, a UN spokesman said on Tuesday.

The World Food Programme (WFP) and the UN Refugee Agency (UNHCR) need 161 million U.S. dollars by year's end to feed crisis-impacted communities. Those threatened include 519,000 Sudanese and Central African refugees in Chad, said Stephane Dujarric, the chief spokesman for UN Secretary-General Antonio Guterres.

"The UN agencies note that refugee communities in Chad already face severe malnutrition levels, with some areas seeing acute malnutrition rates of over 19 percent and chronic malnutrition rates of over 42 percent, a situation expected to worsen without additional funding that could stem the food aid cuts," he told a daily press briefing.

## UK's accusing of China 'assaulting' BBC journalist a serious distortion of the facts - FM spokesperson

IN response to UK prime minister Rishi Sunak's accusation of a BBC journalist "being assaulted" in China, a spokesperson from China's Ministry of Foreign Affairs rebuked that remarks from the UK as a serious distortion of the facts and said the remarks constitute grave interference in China's internal affairs, and that China is firmly against this.

In his first foreign policy speech on Monday, Sunak criticized China's handling of the zero-COVID policy - including "assaulting" BBC journalist Ed Lawrence - and said China posed "a systemic challenge to our values and interests."

In response, ministry spokesperson Zhao Lijian said during a Tuesday briefing that on the night of November 27, to maintain public order, local police in Shanghai asked people who had gathered at a crossroads to leave. One of those at the scene is a resident journalist from the BBC.

Though the police made it clear to the journalist and others that they needed to leave, the journalist refused to leave and during the entire time did not identify himself as a journalist.

The police then took him away from the scene. After verifying his identity and informing him of pertinent laws and regulations, the police let go of him.

Everything was conducted within legal procedures. This BBC journalist refused to cooperate with the police's law enforcement efforts and then acted as if he were a victim.

The BBC immediately twisted the story and massively propagated the narrative that its journalist had been "arrested" and "beaten" by police while he was working, simply to try to paint China as the guilty party.

This deliberate distortion of truth is all too familiar as part of the BBC's distasteful playbook, said Zhao.

Zhao said that while having the right to report news in accordance with the law in China, foreign journalists need to consciously follow Chinese laws and regulations.

When conducting reporting and interviews, journalists need to present their press credentials first, and they should not engage in activities incompatible with their capacity as journalists.

This applies to all media organizations and is not about freedom of the press. Many foreign media organizations have presence in China. How come the BBC is always involved in troubles at the scene? This is a question that requires some serious thinking, he asked.

Zhao also raised some questions for the UK.

First, how does the British government handle domestic protesters, Zhao asked, saying that in 2020, the UK police arrested more than 150 people when Londoners took to the street to protest against COVID lockdown.

In 2021, the UK police arrested more than 200 people in large-scale demonstrations triggered by the government's public expenditure cuts. Pub-



Zhao Lijian, spokesperson for the Chinese Foreign Ministry

licly available videos show that UK police officers ruthlessly kicked and beat one unarmed protester and did not stop even when the protester was left exposed in little clothing and was crying and begging for mercy.

Second, how does the British government treat journalists? Zhao pointed out that a few years ago, a Chinese journalist was repeatedly hampered and even physically assaulted and eventually convicted by a British court, only because she had exercised her legitimate right as a journalist and raised a question to express her opinions at a fringe event of the Conservative Party's conference.

Graham Phillips, a UK journalist, became the first British citizen placed on the country's sanctions list, only because he had created media content not to the liking of the West.

Third, how does the BBC report China, he asked? From applying a gloomy filter to painting China in a negative light to distorted reports on Xinjiang and Hong Kong,

many people still remember well the BBC's disreputable history of smearing and attacking China. Since 2019, the BBC has been ignoring the Hong Kong rioters' violent behavior and accusing Hong Kong police of brutality.

On Xinjiang, based only on several non-photorealistic satellite images and reports written by anti-China elements, BBC journalists stationed in Beijing propagated "lies of the century" to slander Xinjiang.

On the COVID pandemic, the BBC even used a counter-terrorism drill video as "proof" of the so-called China's violence in epidemic prevention. Why did the BBC always show up on those scenes? Is the job of BBC journalists to report news or fabricate news?

The UK must respect facts, act prudently, and end its hypocritical practice of double standards, said Zhao.

China's ambassador to the UK has been summoned to the Foreign Office amid a diplomatic row over the incident involving the BBC journalist, Bloomberg reported on Tuesday, citing a UK government source.

Chinese Ambassador to Britain Zheng Zeguang said that the UK side is now falsely claiming that the journalist had been "arrested" and "beaten" by Chinese police. Such a groundless accusation is a distortion of the truth and malicious slander and is totally unacceptable to the Chinese side.

Foreign journalists have the right to report news in China, but they need to follow Chinese laws and regulations while doing their work. When reporting and interviewing, journalists need to present their press credentials first and not engage in activities incompatible with their capacity as journalists, said Zheng.

This applies to all media organizations and has nothing to do with the question of freedom of the press. The UK should enhance its education of journalists sent to China by UK media outlets, require them to follow local laws and regulations and journalism ethics and not engage in activities incompatible with their capacity as journalists.

The UK side must respect facts, be prudent in what it says or does and stop its practice of double standards, said the ambassador.

Global Times

## Salvage of shipwreck in Yangtze River offers new evidentiary materials for ancient Maritime Silk Road

THE Yangtze No. 2 Ancient Shipwreck, the largest wooden shipwreck discovered underwater in China to date, was recently lifted out of the waters off Hengsha island in Shanghai's Chongming district.

The 150-year-old "time capsule" carries rich historical information. It marks another milestone achievement in China's underwater archaeology and provides valuable evidentiary materials for the studies of China's maritime civilization and for the mutual exchanges among civilizations in ancient times.

The Yangtze No. 2 Ancient Shipwreck is one of the largest and best-preserved wooden shipwrecks discovered underwater in China and even the world at large and carrying the richest

cultural relics.

Based on its age and size, the shipwreck is presumably a large junk, a kind of ancient Chinese sailing ship. It was the first time that this specific type of ship was discovered in the waters in the coastal areas of China.

The shipwreck was detected in 2015 during a key underwater survey carried out by the Shanghai Research and Protection Center of Cultural Relics and other relevant departments with the sonar technology.

After seven years of underwater archaeological survey, it has been confirmed that this shipwreck dates back to the reign of Emperor Tongzhi (1862-1875) in the Qing Dynasty (1644-1911). It is 38.1 meters in length and 9.9 meters in width,

and has 31 cabins.

A number of unbroken or repairable cultural relics of different types in the Yangtze No. 2 Ancient Shipwreck have been lifted out of water.

In the cabins, archaeologists found porcelains produced in China's Jingdezhen, and many other cultural relics were discovered around the shipwreck, including clayware, hookahs made in Vietnam and wood buckets.

Besides, porcelains produced in the Yuan Dynasty (1271-1368), a complete 60-centimeter-high green porcelain vase, and porcelains made in Yixing, east China's Jiangsu province were also found. Sitting underwater, the shipwreck was severely washed against by the water. It was exposed on the river bed and needed to be sal-

vaged for protection.

In March this year, a salvage project was officially launched. It was China's largest ancient wooden ship archaeological and cultural relic protection project.

The project adopted the world's first technology using arc beams for non-contact migration of cultural relics to salvage the ancient ship.

A workboat named Fenli was made for the project, which was equipped with lifts and had a "moon pool" in the center that was 56 meters long and 20 meters wide.

With this vessel, the shipwreck could be lifted through the "moon pool" and then transferred to a dockyard. On Sept. 6, the salvage

project officially started, and after 77 days, the shipwreck was successfully lifted out of the water.

Twenty-two giant arc-shaped beams were laid down around the ancient ship to form a huge semi-cylindrical caisson which was 48 meters long, 19 meters wide, and 9 meters tall. The shipwreck, with sediment and seawater, weighed around 8,800 tons.

The cultural relics discovered on the shipwreck show the life and activities on merchant ships in the late Qing Dynasty, and offer important information for the studies of the history of navigation on the Yangtze River. *People's Daily*



# UN envoy warns of dangerous escalation in Syria

## UNITED NATIONS

UN Special Envoy for Syria Geir Pedersen on Tuesday warned of a dangerous escalation in Syria.

"In repeated briefings, I have warned of the dangers of military escalation in Syria. I am here in person today to tell you that escalatory dynamics are indeed taking place, and this is worrying and dangerous," he told the Security Council in a briefing.

For many months there has been a slow increase in mutual strikes between the Syrian Democratic Forces (SDF) on one side, and Turkish and armed opposition groups on the other, across northern Syria and with violence spilling over into Turkish territory, he said.

On Nov 20, a week after the terrible bombing in Istanbul, which Turkey attributed to the Kurdish People's Protection Units (YPG) in northern Syria and the Kurdistan Workers Party (PKK) -- a claim that the SDF denied -- Turkey launched what it called the "Claw-Sword Air Operation." There were also reports of SDF strikes on Turkish forces and armed opposition-controlled areas and inside of Turkish territory, said Pedersen.

"The trend lines are deeply worrying, and carry real dangers of further escalation. Let me warn the Security Council of the scenario where large-scale military operations by one actor then have knock-on effects across all other theaters, unraveling the strategic stalemate that has brought a measure of relative calm for almost three years," he said.

Such an escalation would not only compound the devastating harm already meted out to Syrian civilians. It would also further endanger regional stability. Listed terrorist groups that are subdued but not defeated would immediately take advantage of any fresh instability, he warned.

UN Secretary-General Antonio Guterres has called for all parties to exercise maximum restraint and avoid escalation, whether in the air or on the ground, he said. "Let me stress that Turkey, the armed opposition and the SDF should de-escalate now."

Pedersen called "loudly and clearly" on all actors to restrain themselves and engage in serious efforts



UN Special Envoy for Syria Geir Pedersen speaks at a Security Council meeting at the UN headquarters in New York, on Nov 29, 2022. XINHUA

to reinstate the calm, move toward a nationwide cease-fire and a cooperative approach to counter-terrorism in line with international humanitarian law.

He said the protection of civilians and civilian infrastructure is absolutely essential and that Syria needs less military activity and more focus on the political process and implementation of Security Council Resolution 2254.

"I feel we are at something of a fork in the road. I am troubled by the thought of a major military operation resuming after three years of relative calm. I fear

what this would mean for Syrian civilians, and also for wider regional security. And I equally fear a scenario where the situation escalates in part because there is today no serious effort to resolve the conflict politically," said Pedersen.

There is a clear way forward: step back from escalation and restore relative calm on the ground; renew the framework in the Security Council on the humanitarian front; resume and make more substantive the Constitutional Committee meetings in Geneva; prioritize work on the detained, the disappeared, and the

missing; deepen work toward identifying and implementing initial step-for-step confidence-building measures, he said.

Through this approach, incremental progress would be achievable. And this would help create a dynamic and pave the way for a more ambitious goal -- a comprehensive political solution that meets the legitimate aspirations of all Syrians and restores Syria's sovereignty, independence, unity and territorial integrity, he said, warning that the alternative is deeper suffering and more violence and instability.

Xinhua

## Stop arming Kiev otherwise no talks: Diplomat warns US on arms control dialogue

### MOSCOW

RUSSIA is not going to discuss the New START Treaty with the United States as long as Washington keeps arming Ukraine, Russian Foreign Ministry Spokeswoman Maria Zakharova told Sputnik radio yesterday.

"The United States is planning to send more weapons to the region of the conflict in which Russia has been involved.

So, they will keep supplying all those arms and goad the Kiev regime into committing more bloodshed, while allocating funds for extremist activities conducted under the authority of individuals on Bankovaya Street (where the Ukrainian presidential office is located - TASS) who are far from being rational people, while we sit down to discuss mutual security issues with them, including those in their interests?" she mused.

According to the Russian diplomat, Moscow highly appreciates the New START Treaty which she said meets the mutual interests of Russia and the US, but appropriate conditions must be in place to discuss it, she insisted.

On Monday, the Russian Foreign Ministry announced its decision to postpone a meeting of the Bilateral Consultative Commission under the Russia-US New START Treaty originally scheduled to take place in Cairo on November 29 - December 6. **Agencies**

# Uganda sees fewer Ebola cases amid strict control measures

## KAMPALA

UGANDA'S tough stance on Ebola control measures, including a strict lockdown in the epicenter of the outbreak, is yielding results as fewer cases are being reported, Ugandan President Yoweri Museveni has said.

Museveni said in a statement, read by Vice President Jessica Alupo on Saturday, that a 42-day lockdown imposed in Mubende and Kassanda districts, the epicenter of the Sudan strain of Ebola, has limited

the spread of the deadly disease to other parts of the country, especially in densely populated areas.

Museveni said he acknowledged the pain and the inconvenience caused by the restrictions but insisted that had they allowed the escalation of the outbreak into the Ugandan capital of Kampala, the consequences would have been bad, including possible exportation of the virus to neighboring countries. Since the outbreak of the virus was reported on Sept. 20, it has moved to seven districts, ac-

ording to the Ugandan Ministry of Health.

Museveni said the ministry responded with swiftness in districts where cases were reported. He cited the case of Jinja city, in the eastern part of the country, where 300 people who had contact with an Ebola patient were put under institutional quarantine.

As of Nov. 26, 141 people have been confirmed positive for Ebola virus disease, 79 have recovered, and 55 have succumbed to the disease, according to figures from the

government. In order to consolidate the gains made, Museveni extended the lockdown in Mubende and Kassanda for another 21 days up to Dec. 17.

He said if the 21 days elapse with no new cases recorded in the two districts, then the lockdown would be lifted.

"I would like to assure the public that we have established a fully-fledged response to contain the disease spread. We are very optimistic that the outbreak will come to an end in the coming months,"

the president said.

Kassanda Resident District Commissioner Phoebe Namulindwa told Xinhua on Monday that the lockdown is part of a "sacrifice" to ensure that people in the country are safe from Ebola.

"My fellow youths, especially those in Kassanda and Mubende, are affected a lot because some deal in various business ventures. But my plea is that they have to be a bit patient as we fight the Ebola strain," Namulindwa said.

Xinhua



## CPC has strong organising and mobilizing capability - head of Myanmar's National Unity Party

By Li Bingxin, People's Daily

"The Communist Party of China (CPC) always puts people in the first place and is currently leading the Chinese people on a new journey toward realizing the second centenary goal," said U Han Shwe, Chairman of Executive of the National Unity Party of Myanmar, during an exclusive interview with People's Daily.

"We highly agree with China's people-centered development philosophy, which is reflected in every aspect of China's development," he added.

U Han Shwe said China has lifted over 700 million people out of poverty over the past four decades and made contributions to global poverty alleviation, which is admirable.

The 81-year-old politician has his own opinions on the development achievements made by China.

"I once visited Kunming, southwest China's Yunnan province, where I was deeply impressed by the rapid development there. After landing in the city, I saw a modern airport, wide and flat roads as well as flourishing flowers on the sides of them, and modern buildings. The city was more beautiful and prosperous than what I had seen in books," U Han Shwe noted.

U Han Shwe gradually realized that the development direction and plans made by the CPC based on local conditions were key to China's economic and social progress.

Poverty alleviation is a common task faced by developing countries. U Han Shwe said some regions in Myanmar are still bothered by poverty, and there's an urgent need to improve people's living standards.



A freight train carrying photovoltaic (PV) parts for a PV project in central Myanmar carried out by the Power Construction Corporation of China departs from Yiwu, east China's Zhejiang province, July 7, 2022. (Photo by Gong Xianming/People's Daily Online)

He said Myanmar can learn from China's experience to drive common prosperity with coordinated regional development.

The National Unity Party of Myanmar is the successor to the Burma Socialist Programme Party. It has maintained frequent exchanges with the CPC since a delegation paid its first visit to China in 2013 at the invitation of the International Department of the CPC Central Committee.

"The CPC values inter-party communication very much. We cherish our exchanges and friendship with the CPC and hope to learn from its governance experience," U Han Shwe noted.

He said the book "Xi Jinping: The Governance of China" has inspired him a lot.

"The CPC always puts people and their lives first, and the National Unity Party also pays close attention to the interests of workers and farmers," he said, adding that China's COVID-19 response exactly mirrors

the CPC placing the Chinese people and their lives in the first place.

"The CPC has a strong organizing and mobilizing capability. China, being the first country to put COVID-19 under control, has provided large numbers of anti-pandemic supplies to other countries and made its COVID-19 vaccines a global public good, which reflects the sense of responsibility of the major country," U Han Shwe told People's Daily.

He noted China's assistance for Myanmar amid the pandemic is very important, and the two countries have offered each other support since the pandemic broke out.

"When China was troubled by the sudden outbreak, Myanmar donated rice and other materials to Wuhan, China. At the critical moment of Myanmar's fight against COVID-19, China offered us large batches of medical supplies and dispatched medical experts to Myanmar," U Han

Shwe said.

According to him, a China-Myanmar joint factory in Myanmar officially started producing COVID-19 vaccines in late March this year. Since May, the first batch of one million doses of vaccines has been administered to local people.

"Xi Jinping, general secretary of the CPC Central Committee, pointed out that development is meaningful only when it is for the people's interest, and can sustain only when it is motivated by the people. Both domestic and global governance shall be participated by the people and benefit the people. The CPC has set a great example for other political parties around the world in this regard," U Han Shwe said.

He told People's Daily that he agrees with Xi's remarks on diplomacy. People in all countries have the right to democracy, which is not a patent held by a few countries. There are many ways to realize democracy. It is impossible to apply one single script to all scenarios.

"This has inspired us. A country, when promoting democracy, must start from its reality," U Han Shwe noted.

He commended China's active participation in global governance, saying China's Global Development Initiative (GDI) helps developing countries achieve prosperity and is an effective solution to improving global governance.

Taking Myanmar as an example, he said the China-Myanmar Economic Corridor has brought huge opportunities to Myanmar's comprehensive development. The country will share the dividends of China's development.

"We hope that by participating in the Belt and Road Initiative and implementing the GDI, we can

## China's six astronauts make historic gathering in space

THE Shenzhou XV mission crew entered the Tiangong space station on Wednesday morning. They were given warm hugs from their Shenzhou XIV peers already orbiting for nearly six months.

After about two hours of preparatory work following the docking of the Shenzhou XV spacecraft with the Tiangong station in a low-Earth orbit about 400 kilometers above Earth, Major General Fei Junlong, the Shenzhou XV mission commander, opened a hatch on his spaceship and floated into the station's connection cabin at 7:34 am.

He was welcomed by Senior Colonel Chen Dong, leader of the Shenzhou XIV crew, who had been waiting inside the cabin for a while. The two commanders hugged each other with Chen saying: "Welcome! Let's hug."

And then Chen told Fei that "there are two more waiting for you", referring to Senior Colonel Liu Yang and Senior Colonel Cai Xuzhe who were waiting inside the station's Wentian lab module.

In the following minutes, Senior Colonel Deng Qingming and Senior Colonel Zhang Lu moved into the connection cabin one by one and they were also greeted by Chen.

The Shenzhou XV trio then entered the Wentian lab module and hugged Liu and Cai waiting there.

The two crew members chatted for a while and then took a group selfie to the applause from ground controllers.

Their meeting marked the first time that as many as six Chinese astronauts are traveling in space at the same time. Previously, there had

been at most three Chinese astronauts in space at a time.

The entire process was broadcast live on the China Central Television.

The Shenzhou XV crew set out on their journey to the Tiangong station late on Tuesday night from the Jiuquan Satellite Launch Center in northwestern China's Gobi Desert.

According to the China Manned Space Agency, the two crews are scheduled to stay together for about five days and then the Shenzhou XIV will fly back.

The Shenzhou XV astronauts are tasked with staying in orbit for six months to carry out a number of assignments such as conducting spacewalks to mount equipment outside the station, installing and testing scientific cabinets, as well as conducting scientific experiments and technological demonstrations, mission officials have said.

Following the arrival of the Shenzhou XV spaceship, the Tiangong space station has developed into its largest size. As one of the largest space-based assets mankind has ever deployed in outer space, the station now consists of the Tianhe core module, the Wentian and Mengtian lab modules, the Shenzhou XIV and Shenzhou XV spacecraft as well as the Tianzhou 5 cargo ship.

Xinhua



This image captured at the Jiuquan Satellite Launch Center in northwest China shows the Shenzhou XV and Shenzhou XIV crew taking a group picture with their thumbs up after a historic gathering in space yesterday. (PHOTO / XINHUA)



Some children making the Adventurers Club of the Seventh-Day Adventist Church located at Mbezi Luis in Dar es Salaam, put their singing skill to show during a special program held in the church recently. PHOTO: CORRESPONDENT

## 2022's Uhuru Squash Open tournament set for next week

By Correspondent Joseph Mchekadona

TANZANIA Squash Racket Association (TSRA) has said the 2022 Uhuru Squash Open tournament will be held at Colosseum Gym and Fitness Center in Dar es Salaam next week.

Marwa Busigara, the TSRA official, said in a recent interview the tournament will be held for three days from December 9-11 and more than 60 players are expected to compete in the showdown.

Busigara said the closing date for registration is December 7 and there will be women's and men's categories.

The opening day will witness players lock horns in the group stage and on the final day there will be semi-finals and finals.

The Uhuru Squash Open tournament is held as part of celebrations of Tanzania's independence.

He said invitations have been extended to players in all parts of the country including Zanzibar.

Busigara thanked Colosseum Hotel and Fitness Center, and Lorenzo for sponsoring the tournament. The official revealed there will be trophies and medals to be handed over to winners in each category.

The official revealed: "We will have Uhuru Squash Open tournament at Colosseum Hotel and Fitness Center, we expect more than 60 players to compete in it."

"We have extended invitations to all parts of the country and players from neighbouring countries will also compete," he said.

Recently TSRA hosted the National Championships in Dar es Salaam and the Squash Open tournament at Arusha International Conference Center (AICC).

Last year, TSRA leaders disclosed that they have lined up several activities which will help to relaunch the game in the country.

The association said the events aimed at welcoming players back to the game and helping to attract a new generation of players to courts.

# African teams made some history, but close in on sliding to 2022 World Cup finals exit

By Correspondent John Kimbute

**A**FRICAN teams were nearing exit in the 2022 World Cup finals in Qatar as the second tour of group matches ended by Saturday, has won respect from fans all over the continent with a brilliant show of soccer, despite clear drawbacks.

While the real change in soccer abilities proceeds slowly, one takes relief from the fact that no team was a pushover, even lowly host side Qatar, getting out in the group stage as South Africa also exited early as hosts in 2010, put up a respectable appearance as well.

The days of 8-0 losses were over for African sides, but a slight reminder of those days was pummeling 6-2 by England on Iran, a score no African side neared.

With two matches played or near being finished, Senegal had made a second piece of history by eliminating host side Qatar with a 2-0 win but was still on the verge of exit after a loss to the Netherlands in the first match.

Senegal wound up with a tie against Ecuador, which held out against the Netherlands, and thus has at least a chance to draw against the 'Lions of Teranga', and exit the latter.

Reversing that outcome would take a colossal amount of motivation and energy from the Senegalese side.

Usually, the fame during World Cup finals early matches is when minnows outfit giants, and in these finals, Saudi Arabia took a Golden Palm for incredibly reversing all predictions on its game against Argentina.

Senegal also made at least one piece of news that doesn't go down really as history, in defeating the host side, since by all standards Qatar is known for its cash more than its soccer. Again Qatar lost both its first two matches, and its final with the Netherlands was to them a formality.

What Senegal did that in a sense goes into history books was that it won a World Cup finals encounter, which has been a little scarce in the recent finals, despite that in an earlier epoch Cameroon and at another stage, Ghana had reached the quarterfinals.

Nothing excessively big was expected of Senegal, the African Nations Cup reigning champions in the World Cup arena, even before



Ghana's national football side's skipper Andre Dede Ayew (L) attempts to outfox Portugal's player as the squads took on each other in a 2022 World Cup duel in Qatar last week. AGENCIES

losing the vital services of team captain and legend, Sadio Mane.

In a sense that was the icing on the matter, sealing as it were the team's inability to scale the hurdle, that some had predicted.

While the Senegalese side won a match and thus made World Cup news, Ghana was the only team to lose its opening group match against Portugal, as South Korea and Uruguay draw in the other group match on the first tour of matches.

The match between Ghana and Portugal was epic in terms of personal qualities, especially as Portugal was fielding their legendary striker, veteran captain Cristiano Ronaldo.

He is currently in a more precarious position in club football as an unsellable star, and a good show in the

finals could uplift his career, but Ghana denied him the chance.

Despite winning 3-2 and Ronaldo reaching a career epic as a national team player and prolific scorer, it wasn't lost on fans in Africa that as a key striker for Portugal, Ronaldo wasn't a terror before the Ghana goal line.

Even better for fans in Africa, on a man-to-man contest in terms of showing ability and class, perhaps also force, Ghana center forward Andre Abedi Ayew towered above everyone with a classic header with a unique positioning in front of the goal.

Portugal won the match but it wasn't positioned to humiliate Ghana. Tunisia and Morocco forced draws in their respective first ties.

By contrast, there will be little for Cameroon to

remember in these finals except it was not humiliated, losing narrowly by one goal against Switzerland, and miracles apart stood little chance of reversing the tables against Brazil.

It has an outside chance of a draw against Serbia and even a win if luck is stretched further, though by their play against Brazil, losing 2-0, Serbia was not going to be a soft side for Cameroon.

The group where Morocco plays looked somewhat open-ended after Canada lost its opening match against Belgium, as Morocco held back Croatia.

What may have also been noticeable for African fans is that the presence of African players in Europe tended to be diminished in these finals compared to the 2018 finals.

A few names of that generation, chiefly for Belgium and France are still around, others are gone or were on the sidelines, and newcomers were quite noticeable.

What was surprising is what some local commentators were trying to put up, that the players were born in Africa, raised here, and then found their way to Europe where they received good training, etc. It was all far-fetched, to be realistic.

Teaching football as an art right from the start, not organizing village and street sides without a well-marked pitch or the semblance of a coach isn't how the likes of Kylian Mbappe or Bukayo Saka were raised before energetic diets and stamina are taken into account.

It is like wishing to rely on local coaches because Senegal relies on Aliou Cisse, whose entire playing career was in France.

The adage said 'tell no lies, claim no easy victories' like Tanzania raising world-class players.

## Rage praises Yanga's fine form after years of trophy drought

By Correspondent Nassir Nchimbi

**F**ORMER Simba SC chairman Ismail Rage has congratulated the outfit's age-old rival Yanga for being successful for over a year in domestic football, after going through a difficult period for about four years.

Yanga won the Mainland Premier League, now NBC Premier League, last season, wrestling silverware from their rivals Simba SC who had dominated the league for four consecutive seasons.

Rage noted that self-awareness, love, and solidarity have become crucial reasons for change at Yanga, which continues to dominate Tanzanian football following the side's qualification for the 2022/23 CAF Confederation Cup group stage.

"They deserve what is happening because they have good football leaders and unity, something that is not easy to see in other clubs at the moment," the veteran soccer administrator noted.

Rage pointed out: "When you make a mistake, it is the right way to correct yourself, Yanga went through turmoil but they took it as an opportunity to build themselves up and deal with mistakes, that's why we see



Former Simba SC chairman, Ismail Rage.

today that they have succeeded."

Regarding the title race in NBC Premier League, Rage said that despite Yanga's pace it is still too early to talk about it, as Azam FC and Simba SC also show that they are ready to fight for silverware this season.

The former soccer leader pointed out: "If you look at Yanga

and the other competitors, you will find that they are calm and fighting for the title this season, I believe it is still too early to say who will be champion."

"Yanga is mentioned a lot because it is at the top right now, but the truth is that football has a very bad habit of changing, to who will be the champion this

season, I ask you to be quiet and ask me later."

Yanga leads the 2022/23 NBC Premier League standings with 32 points from 12 matches, staying level with second-placed Azam FC who have though played two more games than the leaders. Simba SC is positioned third having collected 31 points.

## Boko Beach Veterans outfit to conduct youths football clinic

By Correspondent Joseph Mchekadona

**M**ORE than 100 youngsters are expected to attend a soccer development and training clinic conducted by Boko Beach Veteran (BBV) Sports Club in Dar es Salaam.

Juma Maswanya, the Technical Director and head coach for BBV Youth Soccer Development Program, said the clinic will be held from December 12 to 16 and is open to kids aged six to 16.

He said the football clinic aims to train kids on the basics of football to become top players in the future.

Maswanya who is also a football consultant and Tanzania Football Federation (TFF) Coast Region's Technical Manager said he is of the view that the clinic will also help to inspire upcoming players.

"We will have a training clinic for kids, whereby we expect more than 100 kids attending, it will take place for five days from December 12-16 from 7 am to 12 pm, we aim to impart football basics to young people," he said.

He said BBV Youth Soccer Development Program is inspired by the success of the main team which rose to the top from a humble start.

Maswanya noted: "Everyone knows

the Boko Beach Veterans team, its success inspires many and we want to do the same with our youth team."

"We want the BBV Youth Soccer Development initiative to be an epitome of youth football in the country," Maswanya who is also Dar es Salaam's Baobab Schools' coach noted.

The coach is further coaching Bagamoyo District football squads which compete in the National Inter-Primary Schools Games (Umitashumta) and National Inter-Secondary Schools Games (Umisseta), boasting more than 15 years of coaching football.

The coach who is a Tanzania Director for USA-based ASM Sports Academy said in the past 15 years he has facilitated foreign studies for many young Tanzanian players to train in football abroad.

Maswanya revealed: "I'm the Tanzania Director of ASM Sports Academy of USA, we arrange foreign training for outstanding young players."

"Early this year, I went to Spain with some young players, and hopefully next year another group of players will also travel to Europe for training at some top clubs," he said.

## Iran fans divided in World Cup match against US

DOHA, Qatar

WHILE Iran's national team faced the U.S. on the pitch, Iran's politically divided fans faced each other in the stands.

The World Cup match between Iran and the United States on Tuesday was charged with emotion among Iranian fans, some of whom had come to Qatar not only to support their team, but the protest movement back home.

Like in Iran's previous World Cup matches, government supporters tried to drown out protesters at Al Thumama Stadium in Doha. Some fans backing the protest movement said government supporters sought to intimidate them by shoving camera phones in their faces.

Shortly after the match, which the U.S. won 1-0, eliminating Iran from the tournament, scuffles erupted between Iranian protesters holding up portraits of outspoken former soccer player Ali Karimi, an icon of the protest movement, and a journalist from Iranian state-run media who was trying to film them. Security officials ultimately managed to separate them.

Two London-based Iranians, wearing T-shirts with the slogan of protests, were repeatedly harassed while talking to an Associated Press journalist before the match. One of them, who identified herself as Maryam, received a grazing slap to the face by an Iranian man following her. Security guards got between them, but did not detain the man who slapped her.

Other men blew vuvuzelas at the two or filmed them. One man shouted at them in Farsi "why don't you think Iran is good?"

Maryam, who like other Iran fans declined to give her last name for fear of government reprisals, said her friends were similarly harassed at Iran-Wales match on Friday.

"They can't stop us. People are getting killed and I'm not going to get stopped by some random guy. I'm not afraid of them," she said.

Dalia, an 18-year-old Iranian from the southern city of Ahvaz who attended the game with her parents, said Tuesday's match had exposed divisions within her family between those still committed to supporting Iran's national team and others who reject the players as tools of the government.

The Iranian players in Qatar have declined to comment or made vague statements about the protests in Iran, which were sparked by the death of a 22-year-old woman, Mahsa Amini, while in the custody of Iran's morality police.

"It's so sad for me because I want to support them so badly but I just can't," Dalia said.

The Iranian players sang along to their national anthem before kickoff, which they also did against Wales. The players remained silent when the anthem played during Iran's World Cup opener against England in what some interpreted as a show of support for the protest movement.

Mehrdad and Eli from Arizona brought pictures of the young women killed in Iran's protests to the match. But holding them up invited harassment, they said, so Eli kept them in her purse. They described a deep sense of unease at the stadium.

"I feel like I am surrounded by IRGC agents," said Mehrdad, using an acronym for the country's powerful Revolutionary Guard. "Everybody's watching you."

Late in the match, a group of young women wearing bright-colored balaclavas chanted "woman, life, freedom," the slogan of the protest movement in Iran. The women, who identified themselves as members of the Russian Pussy Riot collective, wore shirts with the names and ages of some of the young protesters killed in the demonstrations.

"There are a lot of protests in Iran and a lot of women killed there. So we just wanted to show our support and show that it's not a funny game. It's a bloody hell that's going on everywhere right now," said Mika Nikulshina, one of the protesters.

The tensions between the Iranian fans contrasted with their friendly interactions with U.S. supporters. Smiling U.S. and Iranian fans posed together for photos before the game started. The two teams had met in a World Cup once before, in 1998 in France, when Iran beat the U.S. 2-1.

"It has been amazing to see Americans. They are so friendly," said Yas, a 14-year-old Iran fan from the city of Shiraz. "I hope this is a chance for people to connect and share their cultures peacefully."

Her older sister had an X written with a black marker over her lips.

"She's doing that to show we all can't talk about the politics in our country," Yas said.

At least 455 protesters have been killed and more than 18,000 detained since the start of the unrest in Iran, according to Human Rights Activists in Iran, a group that has been monitoring the protests.

Iranian authorities announced just before the match that former Iran players Parviz Boroumand and Voria Ghafouri, who were arrested this month in connection with the protests, have been released.

Gianni Infantino, the head of world soccer body FIFA, said in a statement he was "delighted" that Ghafouri was released.

"In taking this decision, I appreciate the support of the Iranian authorities, and in particular that of Hamid Sajjadi, the Iranian Minister of Sport and Youths, who I met around Iran's match versus Wales," Infantino said. "FIFA maintains that dialogue and engagement should remain as the prime channel to resolving problems of any kind."

AP

## Morocco looks to advance in World Cup, Canada hopes for win

DOHA, Qatar

MOROCCO is seeking to reach the World Cup's knockout stage for the first time since 1986. Canada, already eliminated, is hoping to leave Qatar with its first win.

Morocco would advance with a victory or a draw tonight, and also could reach the round of 16 with a defeat depending on the result of Belgium's match with Croatia.

The Atlas Lions opened with a 0-0 tie against Croatia before upsetting second-ranked Belgium 2-0 on goals by Romain Saïss and Zakaria Aboukhlal.

"We are a very difficult team to beat," said coach Walid Regragui, who replaced Wahid Halilhodzic in August. "We've matched two of the best teams in the world. That's what we need to continue."

Morocco would play Spain, Germany, Japan or Costa Rica in the start of the knockout stage. The North African team advanced in 1986 with 0-0 draws against Poland and England, followed by a 3-1 win over Portugal. West Germany won the round of 16 match 1-0 when Lothar Matthäus scored on a 30-yard free kick in the 88th minute.

Morocco and Canada have met once previously, a 4-0 victory by the Atlas Lions in a 2016 friendly as Hakim Ziyech scored twice.



Morocco's Yahya Jabrane, top, celebrates with Abdelhamid Sabiri (11) after Sabiri scored a goal during the World Cup group F soccer match between Belgium and Morocco, at the Al Thumama Stadium in Doha, Qatar, Sunday, Nov. 27, 2022. (AP Photo)

Ziyech, a 29-year-old Chelsea midfielder, was dropped by Halilhodzic but returned to the national team in September under Regragui after a 15-month absence.

"A lot of people talk about him, about he is a crazy guy, he is a difficult guy to manage, he can't help the team," Regragui said. "For me, what I say, when you give him the love, the confidence, he can die for you. And it's what I give him. ... He is a big player, playing on a big team in Europe and you see he is a different player with the national team. All of the coaches give him the confidence, the same with the staff."

Canada is 0-5 in World Cup play, failing to score in its only other appearance in 1986. After outplaying Belgium for most of their opener this year, but losing 1-0, they took an early lead against

Croatia but lost 4-1.

Alphonso Davies scored Canada's first World Cup goal, putting it ahead 68 seconds in with the fastest goal of this year's tournament.

"There's a lot for us to play for," Canada coach John Herdman said. "We came here to make history. The first game, they said they wanted to show fearless(ness) and entertain. They did that. The second game, they said they wanted to score goals, and if those goals were enough to win a match, then that would have been us with three points, but it wasn't. So this last game is about getting a result and winning for Canada and really making this country believe we're in the right direction for 2026."

Canada will co-host the next World Cup with the U.S. and Mexico.

Canadian midfielder

Stephen Eustáquio left at halftime against Croatia because of a hamstring injury.

Meanwhile, after conceding late to miss out on a victory against Germany, Spain finds itself with some work left to do against Japan to guarantee its spot in the round of 16 at the World Cup.

It doesn't need much, though, as a draw today will be enough, and even a loss may allow La Roja to advance depending on the other Group E result between Germany and Costa Rica.

Japan doesn't have it as easy, but a win will guarantee the Japanese a place in the knockout stage for a second straight time. It would be the first time Japan advances past the group stage in back-to-back tournaments. If Japan loses, though, it will head

home no matter what. The Japanese opened their campaign with a surprising win over four-time champions Germany before losing to Costa Rica. They were eliminated by Belgium in the last 16 in Russia.

Spain, which conceded an 83rd-minute equalizer against Germany, may also go home with a loss if Costa Rica beats Germany or if the Germans win big to overcome Spain's goal difference after La Roja's 7-0 opening win over Costa Rica.

A victory at Khalifa International Stadium will guarantee Spain first place in the group, and keep it on track for a possible matchup with five-time champions Brazil in the quarterfinals. Spain enters the final round with four points, one more than both Japan and Costa Rica. Germany has one point.

"We are not thinking about our opponents in the knockout rounds," Spain midfielder Koke Resurrección said. "We need to beat Japan first and then we'll see which team we'll have to play against. If it's Brazil in the quarterfinals, so be it, and we'll try to prepare for it as best as possible."

Germany's chances of staying alive in Qatar will largely depend on Spain winning its match against Japan. Then a victory over Costa Rica would be enough for the Germans.

What may not help Germany is the fact that

Spain coach Luis Enrique is expected to rotate some of his players after making only one change from the first to the second game – Dani Carvajal coming in for César Azpilicueta in the right back position.

Teenager Gavi, who started in the first two matches, trained separately from the group after the 1-1 draw with Germany because of a knock on a knee. He was expected to be available for Thursday's match but was not likely to start.

Another midfielder expected to be rested is 34-year-old Sergio Busquets, the only remaining player from Spain's World Cup-winning squad in 2010. Striker Álvaro Morata, who scored a goal in each of the first two matches after coming off the bench, could get a spot in the starting lineup against Japan.

Japan could see Ayase Ueda and Junya Ito playing together in attack from the start for the first time.

The under-23 squads of Spain and Japan met in the semifinals of the Tokyo Olympics last year, when Spain advanced before eventually losing to Brazil in the final. Several players from those squads made their senior teams in Qatar, including Marco Asensio, who scored Spain's winner in extra time in the semifinal against Japan, and Japan's Takefusa Kubo, who plays for Real Sociedad in the Spanish league.

AP

## Germany needs a win and help to avoid World Cup early exit

DOHA, Qatar

AFTER getting a favor from Costa Rica, Germany needs a win against the Central American team on Thursday to have any chance of reaching the knockout stages at the World Cup.

Costa Rica's surprise win over Japan on Sunday ensured Germany did not face the prospect of immediate elimination with a loss to Spain later that day. With the pressure off, Germany fought back from a goal down and drew 1-1 thanks to Niclas Füllkrug's late equalizer to postpone its fate to its final game in Group E.

Germany will advance to the round of 16 with a win if Spain also beats Japan in the other group game. Costa Rica controls its fate and will advance with a win.

"We didn't come to sit around and take pictures of Qatar," Costa Rica coach Luis Fernando Suárez said before the tournament.

Even a draw would be enough for Costa Rica to reach the knockout stages if Spain beats Japan in the group's other game being played at the same time.

Spain leads Group E with four points after two games, followed by Japan and Costa Rica both on three, while Germany has just one.

"We have a lot of humility," said Germany midfielder Thomas Müller, who pointed to the team's position in the table. "There isn't much reason to be really eu-



Germany's goalkeeper Manuel Neuer reacts at the end of the World Cup group E soccer match between Spain and Germany, at the Al Bayt Stadium in Al Khor, Qatar, Sunday, Nov. 27, 2022. The match ended in a 1-1 draw. (AP Photo)

phoric."

Müller said Germany's late draw against Spain provided a morale boost for the team, as well as the chance to get to the knockout stages and "show the football world what we're really made of."

Germany was in a similar situation at the last World Cup in Russia, where Joachim Löw's team lost its opening game 1-0 to Mexico before beating Sweden 2-1. A win against South Korea in the final group game would have ensured the defending champions progressed, but it slipped to a 2-0 loss and crashed out.

"Now we have to do it differently," Müller said. "When the football world looks at Ger-

many vs. Costa Rica, I think we're the favorite for those looking from the outside. It's clear we have to win. Naturally we have respect."

If Japan wins or draws it could go down to goal difference between Germany and Japan or Spain, depending on the result.

Costa Rica will go through with a win, while a draw will be enough if Japan loses.

"Costa Rica has shown two faces at this World Cup," Füllkrug said. "The game against Spain is difficult to evaluate. Then they made a nuisance of themselves in the second game against Japan. They had better positional play and let the ball run. We're prepared for them playing like they did against Japan."

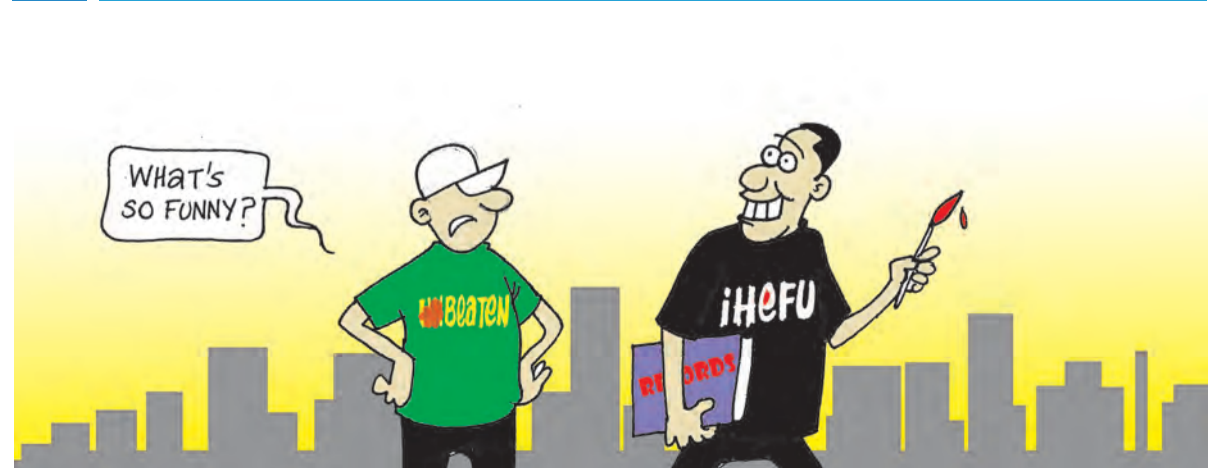
Meanwhile, French referee Stéphanie Frappart will become the first woman to take charge of a men's World Cup game when she handles Germany vs. Costa Rica today in Qatar.

FIFA also picked two women as assistants to Frappart – Neuza Back of Brazil and Mexico's Karen Diaz Medina – to complete an all-female refereeing team on the field.

A fourth woman match

AP

Gwiji by David Chikoko



# SPORT

Morocco looks to advance in World Cup, Canada hopes for win

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Tanzania Olympic Committee (TOC) vice-president Henry Tandau.

## TOC says set to organize high-performance event

By Correspondent Joseph Mchekadona

TANZANIA Olympic Committee (TOC) has revealed it will use the coming high-performance event to select athletes who will start preparations for the 2024 Paris Olympics.

Henry Tandau, TOC vice president, yesterday said the committee has a project funded by the International Olympic Committee (IOC) through Olympic Solidarity (OS)'s project known as Continental Athlete Support Grand.

The TOC official said the high-performance event is strictly for prospects for the 2024 Paris Olympics, not any other athlete.

The official advised national sports associations to select athletes with the potential to qualify for the Paris Olympic Games.

He said the high-performance event has been slated to take place from December 16-17 at Benjamin Mkapa Stadium in Dar es Salaam involving athletes from disciplines namely athletics, boxing, and judo.

The high-performance event was initially scheduled for today to Monday next week at the same venue but Tandau said it has been pushed forward due to some logistical challenges.

He said the athletics event will constitute field events while boxing will have bouts in seven weight divisions as is the case with judo.

The TOC official disclosed that although the Open Boxing Federation Of Tanzania (OBFT) has some unsolved issues with TOC, the committee opted to include OBFT and the federation will be under a special task force.

Tandau revealed: "The IOC who are providing funding for the project advised us that for boxing to benefit from this project it should be under a special task force."

"This advice was made because OBFT has some issues with TOC and the federation's international mother body (AIBA) has issues with IOC, so soon the task force will be announced," he explained.

Tandau said the essence of the high-performance event is that athletes who will attain qualification will be in the project to prepare for the Paris Olympics, noting that TOC will take care of the athletes up to the 2024 Paris Olympics.

The official revealed: "We aim to ensure that the country is represented by many qualified athletes in the 2024 Paris Olympics."

"We wrote the IOC for support and the good news is that they accepted our request, we will select the boxers in the tournament which will be held mid this month," he said.

The committee has mid this year announced that OS has offered five scholarships to Tanzania's athletes.

The scholarships worth \$1,500 a month were handed over to athletes Gabriel Geay, Alphonse Simbu, and Failuna Matanga, as well as judo player Andrew Mlungu and swimmer Hilal Hemed.

However, Tandau yesterday explained that there is a difference between scholarships and high-performance events, saying the five athletes on a \$1,500-a-month scholarship are not allowed to make the high-performance event.

"We have now widened out the net, we aim to have more qualified athletes in the 2024 Paris Olympics, we have the five athletes on OS scholarship and we will have others on TOC scholarship," he said.

He asked the beneficiaries to make use of the opportunity to prepare well for the Paris Olympics.

# Kaze admits Yanga were overrun by Ihefu SC



Yanga's midfielder Salum Abubakar (R) gets the better of Ihefu SC midfielder Joseph Mahundi (2nd L) as the squads faced each other in the 2022/23 NBC Premier League tie in Mbarali, Mbeya on Tuesday. PHOTO: COURTESY OF YANGA

By Correspondent Michael Mwebe

YANGA assistant coach Cedric Kaze has admitted the side was overrun by Ihefu SC in Tuesday's shocking 2-1 defeat in a 2022/23 NBC Premier League tie which took place at Highland Estate Stadium, Mbarali.

The form book and logic went out of the window as hosts Ihefu SC recorded only their third win of the season to move out of bottom place in the 2022/23 NBC Premier League.

Goals either side of the break netted by Zimbabwean midfielder Never Tigere and defender Lenny Kissu, signed

from relegated Biashara United, ended Yanga's amazing 49-match unbeaten run in the league.

Kaze's side came into the afternoon clash on the back of six successive victories, and they were ahead inside 10 minutes courtesy of Yannick Bangala's goal before Ihefu SC turned the game around.

With their proud unbeaten NBC Premier League record, which stretched back 20 months gone, taken away by Ihefu SC which started the day rock bottom in the table, Kaze had no com-

plaints about the results admitting they were overrun and outfought.

The gaffer noted: "Almost all players, their performance was not good at all until it got to the point where they could hardly run."

"This schedule is very difficult, no human can handle it. It happened today, but we should also congratulate those we played with, they have put in the effort to earn those three points."

"The league is still difficult and long and there are times when you lose, it gives you a good time to sit down and

evaluate yourself and plan better than when you are winning every day and believing all is well."

"They didn't overwhelm us tactically in any area, I can say they overrun us and won the physical battle, that's all they surpassed us."

The tactician noted: "There is losing, but there are times when losing gives you better feedback than what you think, it allows you to evaluate yourself."

A third victory in 14 league games helped Ihefu SC leapfrog Dodoma Jiji FC, Polisi Tanzania, and Ruvu Shooting into 13th place.

Ihefu SC head coach Juma Mwambusi credited the victory to his team sticking to their game plan even when they were trailing.

The tactician noted: "The crucial thing today is that I know Yanga and I respect them. I told my players, 'I am asking you to go to the pitch and show respect to Yanga, once we respect them, let's go out and play our good brand of football that will help us create a few opportunities that we can use one, two or three.'"

"I approached this game intending to give respect to the Yanga players, they are league leaders, they are historical champions. The players took that seriously."

Mwambusi noted: "We respected them but we did not fear them. We played with confidence and especially in the second half we were able to make tactical plans that ensured we came out with results."

## Aziz, Butt star as Aruti Aces Club beats Annadil Burhani

By Guardian Reporter

EJAZ Aziz and Asif Butt showcased resoluteness at the crease to guide the Aruti Aces outfit to a comprehensive six-wicket victory over Annadil Burhani Club in this season's Cello/Ruby's Magic Gymkhana Shield game which took place in Dar es Salaam last weekend.

The duo's batting heroics were instrumental in the Aruti Aces squad's victory, consequently turning the squad into an outfit tipped to make the solid pursuit of the top honour.

Having been put in to bat first, Annadil Burhani Club managed to score 96/8 in reduced 15 overs of the duel, which turned out to be the day's third.

Opening batsman Mufaddal Seifuddin notched 36 runs from 24 balls and middle-order cricketer Adnan Zariwala chipped in with 17 runs off eight balls, winding up as cricketers with two-digit scores.

They could not get over the frustrating start following the early dismissal of experienced opener Abbas Adamji that made his way back after executing three knocks.

The opener's innings were ended by Aruti Aces' Kibwana Salum that caught him from medium pacer Salum Jumbe's delivery after eight balls.

Brief stints by other top-order batsmen Alaqmar Shakir, Adnan Karimjee, and Khuzeima Janoowala made matters worse for Annadil Burhani Club.

The other veteran cricketer Abdulkadir Dossajee returned with the bat in hand, as he was two runs short of a two-digit score.

Aruti Aces' promising cricketer Hamza Ally had a stellar showing with the ball, notching three wickets whilst



Aruti Aces' cricketers are pictured before participating in a 2022 Cello/Ruby's Magic Gymkhana Shield showdown's tie against Aga Khan SC which took place in Dar es Salaam recently. PHOTO: COURTESY OF GYMKHANA CRICKET CLUB

giving away 16 runs.

The youngster was efficiently supported by the medium pacer Jumbe who recorded two wickets conceding 17 runs.

In response, Aruti Aces managed to gallantly chase down the target in 11.4 overs, with key performances by Butt (37 runs) and Aziz (37 runs) propelling the squad to success.

Skipper Mohammad Ali chipped in with a two-digit score to put the match beyond Annadil Burhani Club's reach.

Aruti Aces' Ally was adjudged the Player of the Match thanks to his bowling heroics which successfully

foiled Annadil Burhani Club's quest for an imposing total.

The day's second game between the other domestic cricket giants, Aga Khan SC and Upanga SC, was washed out due to rain, having managed to play just a few overs.

This year's edition of the annual cricket tournament, which is hosted by the Dar es Salaam Gymkhana Club's Cricket Section, seeks to raise the standard of the game domestically.

The 2022 edition is sponsored by Cello Ruby's Magic and Co, as well as long-time sponsors, General Petroleum (GP). Other sponsors are

Planet Fitness, Gem Point, ETG, and PEPSI.

This year's edition of the tournament was officially launched at Dar es Salaam Gymkhana Club's venue on November 1.

The jerseys for clubs taking part in the showdown were handed out to the outfits' skippers in presence of various supporters and stakeholders.

The showpiece's organizers stated that exciting matchups made up of old and new rivalries are in store for cricket followers in the city that will watch the tournament's ties during weekends.

## Flexibles by David Chikoko

