



**National Pg 4**  
Youth urged to conserve environment

**National Pg 5**  
TALIRI, LITA establish hatching centres

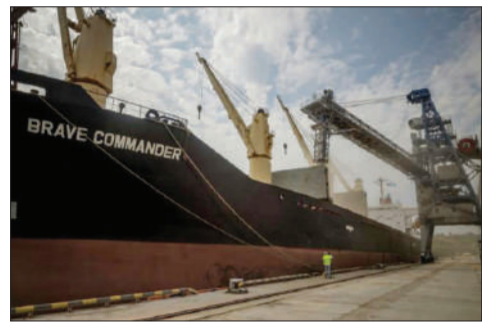
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## UN-chartered ship in Ukraine is all ready for journey to Africa

ODESA, Ukraine

THE United Nations-chartered ship MV Brave Commander will depart Ukraine for Africa in coming days after it finishes loading more than 23,000 tonnes of wheat in the Ukrainian port of Pivdennyi, UN official has said.

The ship, which arrived in the port near Odesa, will sail to Ethiopia via a grain corridor through the Black Sea brokered by the United Nations and Turkey in late July.

It will be the first humanitarian food aid cargo bound for Africa since Russia's invasion of Ukraine on Feb. 24, under the framework of the Black Sea Grain Initiative.

The cargo was funded with donations from the United Nations World Food Programme, US Agency for International Development and several private donors.

A total 16 ships have now departed from Ukraine following the deal with Russia to allow a resumption of grain exports from Ukraine's Black Sea ports, after they were stalled for five months due to the war.

The agreement was reached last month amid fears that the loss of Ukrainian grain supplies would lead to severe food shortages and even outbreaks of famine in parts of the world.

Ukraine has some 20 million tonnes of grain left over from last year's crop, while this year's wheat harvest is also estimated at 20 million tonnes.

So far most of the cargoes under the deal have carried grain for animal feed or for fuel.

As part of the UN deal, all ships are inspected in Istanbul by the Joint Coordination Centre, where Russia, Ukrainian, Turkish and UN personnel work.

# Samia to Tarura: Ensure local contractors diligent



By Polycarp Machira, Dodoma

PRESIDENT Samia Suluhu Hassan has directed the Tanzania Rural and Urban Roads Authority (TARURA) to report poorly performing contractors to the registration board for revocation of their certificates or licences.

Witnessing the signing of 696 contracts between TARURA and local contractors to be implemented in the current financial year, she said the government cannot tolerate local contractors who perform dismally even after the government has secured work for them and payment has been made.

She recalled that in the past local contractors did not get government tenders, causing periodic uproars but when the government received COVID-19 relief funds, it opted to provide them with contracts to build classrooms, hospitals, dispensaries and health centres, but then some are performing poorly.

Those who signed the contract should not play with government money, she stated, affirming that the government has done its part in giving the jobs.

"You are now required to play your part diligently," she emphasized, cautioning against adverse reports of underperformance or misappropriation of funds.

It is high time that TARURA closely monitored contractors in their projects, identifying the shoddy ones and reporting them to the Contractors Registration Board (CRB) for their certificates or licences to be revoked, she elaborated.

This will make them ineligible to work anywhere, she affirmed, casting doubt as to whether some of them are real contractors as they do not understand the nature of the projects and lack the necessary equipment.

She acknowledged the good work done by TARURA in improving road networks all over the country, noting that is why the government has increased its budget allocations.

In the past financial challenges slowed road

Tanzania Rural and Urban Roads Agency (Tarura) CEO Victor Seff (L) pictured in Dodoma city yesterday signing an agreement with Estem Construction Ltd contractor Murad Abdulrahim (R) on the construction of the Chanika-Homboza road in Coast Region. The pact involves the construction, renovation and maintenance of the infrastructure concerned across financial year 2022/2023. President Samia Suluhu Hassan witnessed the event. Photo: Correspondent Ibrahim Joseph

## Rural electrification cuts rural to urban migrations

By Guardian Reporter

NEARLY three trillion shillings has been spent for rural electrification projects in the

country since 2007, which the Rural Energy Agency (REA) sees as unparalleled in sub-Saharan Africa.

Hassan Saidy, the REA director general said

in an interview at the weekend

REA was close to achieving the objective of its being set up, taking electricity to the

TURN TO PAGE 2

## 'Body exercises lessen NCD risks, care costs'

By Guardian Reporter

VICE President Dr Philip Mpango has called on Tanzanians to take frequent physical exercises to remain healthy and reduce medical costs for diseases that can be avoided.

He issued this appeal at a CRDB Bank marathon event held in Dar es Salaam yesterday to assist children with heart diseases and mothers with in a perilous state of pregnancy.

Many people, especially those in urban areas, are faced with complications arising from being overweight, along with non-communicable diseases like diabetes and high blood pressure, he said.

Praising CRDB Bank for being at the forefront in financial and social services provision, he said that the marathon event CRDB organized was raising 1bn/- to assist low-income Tanzanians to obtain advanced treatment at the Jakaya Kikwete Cardiac Institute (JKCI).

Financial institutions and stakeholders need to support government efforts, empower the community in environmental preservation, he said, noting sustained efforts of the government to make the country green and beautify urban areas by reinforcing the vegetation.

Institutional support will assist the fight against the effects of climate change in line with the 2005 Kyoto Protocol and the 2015 Paris Agreement, he stated.

Business stakeholders and civic institutions need to put up resources to assist mothers and infants, he said, noting that even with government efforts to improve the care of unborn babies, many health centres lack the relevant medical equipment for diagnosing, treating children.

For his part managing director Abdulmajid

TURN TO PAGE 2



Vice President Dr Philip Mpango (3rd-R) pictured in Dar es Salaam yesterday waving to thank the 6,200-plus people who had just taken part in an international charity race dubbed CRDB Bank Marathon. The VP was presenting a dummy cheque for 200m/- to CCBRT (Comprehensive Community Based Rehabilitation in Tanzania) Hospital CEO General Brenda Msangi (4th-L), shortly after the completion of the race. Others (from-L): National Assembly Deputy Speaker Mussa Hassan Zungu, former president Jakaya Kikwete, CRDB CEO and managing director Abdulmajid Nsekela, Sanlam Life Assurance director general Julius Magabe, and CRDB board chairman Dr Ally Hussein Laay. Organised by CRDB Bank Plc, it has hit the target of collecting a total of 1 billion/- all to go into community service. Photo: Guardian Correspondent





President Samia Suluhu Hassan delivers an address in Dodoma city yesterday during the signing of an agreement involving the construction of Chanika-Homboza road in Coast Region. Photo: Correspondent Ibrahim Joseph

## Samia to Tarura: Ensure local contractors diligent

FROM PAGE 1

projects but they no longer exist, she said, asserting all the same that all is not well within TARURA. Not all staff in the agency work enough to push government initiatives, she stated, tasking CEO Victor Seff to sweep the yard around his house.

The CEO ought to oversee the project without fear, and value for money should be realized in every project, she specified, demanding that TARURA remain vigilant in the projects.

Unreliable contractors should not be given tenders and procurement requirements must always be observed, she said, reminding officials that the law allows for women to be given 30 percent of work in such contracts.

In about ten contracts signed yesterday only one contract involving women was signed, far below the legal provision of 30 percent allocation for women contractors with merit.

TARURA must conduct periodical assessment of staff at local government authorities and where needed conduct capacity building activities, she instructed.

Innocent Bashungwa, holder of the Local Governments cabinet portfolio, praised the president for financing current projects to help improve services with their implementation.

TARURA plans to spend 3.6trn/- in the next five years to widen the road network countrywide, where the distance of roads raised to tarmac level move from the current 2,404.90kms to about 3,855.65 km, the CEO added.

## 'Body exercises lessen NCD risks, care costs'

FROM PAGE 1

Nsekela said the bank understands its responsibility in addressing various challenges facing the community, underlining the bank's readiness to partner with the government to invest in health, education, environment, as well as youth and women.

Achievements in the 2020 CRDB Bank marathon made it recognized by the International Association of

Athletics Federations (IAAF), giving the earned respect to the country.

The marathon involved various leaders including retired President Jakaya Kikwete, the deputy parliamentary speaker Mussa Hassan Zungu, the VP's wife Mbonimpaye Mpango, the Information, Youth, Culture and Sports deputy minister Tabia Mwita Maulid. Regional Commissioner Amos Makalla and other government officials also participated.

## Rural electrification cuts rural to urban migrations

FROM PAGE 1

farthest rural areas.

Ongoing work at the agency was phase three of the rural electrification programme now its second round 2, taking up a total of 1.2trn/-, within sight of connecting all villages countrywide by late 2025, he stated.

The 2020 CCM election manifesto pledged to connect power to all villages by that time, and REA was working to ensure that this goal is realized, he stated.

Elineema Mkumbo, the REA director

for policy, planning and research, said power availability in rural areas had increased to 69.6 per cent by 2020.

So far more than 27,000 homesteads have been connected to electricity, he said, with REA technical director Jones Olotu explained that Tanzania has set a record in rural electrification, leading in the sub-Saharan region in the reduction of rural-urban migration.

The current five-year plan to electrify all villages emphasizes public institutions like dispensaries, schools, water facilities, police offices and

houses of worship, he stated.

Advera Mwijage, the REA director of marketing and technology, said the agency's task is not only to connect villages to electricity but also deliver alternative energy sources to wood fuel, especially natural gas for domestic use.

The work is being conducted with the Tanzania Petroleum Development Corporation (TPDC) and is now being carried out in Lindi, Mtwara and Coast regions.

With islands, REA is focusing

on solar power, where the first phase covers 36 islands, the total being 196 islands, 53 of which do not have permanent inhabitants, he pointed out.

Out of 143 islands regularly inhabited, 72 are connected to electricity sources and 71 are yet to be connected, he specified.

Since its establishment in 2007, REA has charted out for outreach and dialogue with various stakeholders to discuss challenges facing rural electrification projects.



Dr Andrew Kilumbi (R), an ophthalmologist (a specialist in the branch of medicine concerned with the study and treatment of disorders and diseases of the eye), performs a cataract surgery at a medical camp Dar es Salaam Mzizima Lions Club hosted in Bagamoyo at the weekend. Photo: Correspondent Jumanne Juma

By Special Correspondent

## Africa CDC in 'advanced' talks to obtain monkeypox vaccine

AFRICA'S public health agency says the continent of 1.3 billion people still does not have a single dose of monkeypox vaccine, but discussions were underway with at least two partners.

The acting director of the Africa Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, Ahmed Ogwell said that he could not give details, but said the partners are largely multilateral institutions and non-African governments. There are no discussions with the private sector because all available doses have already been

bought by countries, he added.

More monkeypox deaths have been reported on the African continent this year than anywhere in the world.

Since May, nearly 90 countries have reported more than 31,000 cases.

At least 2,947 monkeypox cases have been reported in 11 African countries this year, including 104 deaths, but

most of the cases reported are suspect ones because the African continent also lacks enough diagnostic resources for thorough testing, the Africa CDC director said.

The lack of vaccine doses and shortage of diagnostics is an echo of the challenges that Africa's 54 countries faced for months during the

COVID-19 pandemic as richer countries elsewhere raced to secure supplies.

Experts have it that monkeypox, a viral disease was confirmed in May 2022. The initial cluster of cases was found in the United Kingdom, where the first case was detected on 6 May

2022 in an individual with travel links to Nigeria.

## Drought displacements top 1 million

Mogadishu

The number of people displaced by the record-breaking drought in Somalia has topped one million, with the United Nations warning of widespread famine if emergency needs are not soon met.

The United Nations Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs, OCHA, said that during the month of July another 83,000 people were forced to flee their homes because of the drought, with the worst displacement coming in the Bay, Banadir and Gedo regions.

Ishaku Mshelia, deputy emergency coordinator for the U.N. Food and Agriculture Organisation, told VOA via telephone Wednesday that people are migrating in search of food and other assistance.

He said the FAO is trying to help.

"Our ability as [a] humanitarian community is to be able to reach the affected people in their communities and provide the services that they need so that they ... don't feel pushed to migrate," Mshelia said. "Unfortunately, previous droughts, what we have seen is that a lot of mortalities have been reported where people that, unfortunately, died on their way to open areas in search of assistance."

FAO Somalia said it needs \$130 million to fully fund its famine prevention plan, designed to help about a million people in rural areas.

A statement issued by the FAO on Wednesday said that if the funding gap is not addressed, widespread famine may be inevitable.

Drought-related malnutrition has killed 500 children, according to the U.N. Children's Fund, UNICEF.

Authorities in Somalia's Gedo region also confirmed to VOA more than 50 deaths of children due to suspected drought-related illnesses. The deaths were reported in the towns of Bardere and Beledhawo, which border Kenya.

Ali Yusuf Abdullahi, the Gedo regional administration spokesman, said that the region is witnessing a "catastrophic" situation due to drought.

He said that people are fleeing in search of a better life and have gathered in major towns including Dolow, near the Ethiopian border.

As of today, Abdullahi said, Dolow has received more than 50,000 displaced people and there are people who are coming from the Ethiopian side who were affected by the drought there and settling in IDP camps in Dolow. He said the town administrators are doing their best to provide relief, but that is not enough.

Somalia's federal government declared the three-year drought a national emergency last year. The

drought, Somalia's worst in more than 40 years, has affected more than 7 million people.

According to the Somali prime minister's office, the drought has also killed more than two million livestock.

Meanwhile, Uganda's President Museveni has pledged to support Somalia in its bid to join the East African Community (EAC) and exploit trade opportunities that exist in the region.

Museveni said Somalia has all qualifications to join EAC, which include; sharing a border with one of the member countries, having a private sector-led economy, and being a democratic country.

He was speaking during the closing ceremony of a two-day inaugural Uganda-Somalia business and investment summit held in Kampala yesterday.

The summit attended by Somalia President Hassan Sheikh Mohamud, among other dignitaries, aimed at providing a platform for the private sector, the business community, and the government to discuss ways of reducing the cost of doing business between the two countries.

ECA currently comprises Uganda, Kenya, Tanzania, Rwanda, Burundi, South Sudan, and DR Congo. Abdirashid Duale, the chief executive officer of Dahabshiil, a money transfer company, said the summit not only presents opportunities but also helps the business community understand the challenges that people in the region face.

Duale said while Dahabshiil operates in Uganda, there are more opportunities for the company to expand due to a conducive investment environment.

Other companies, including Somtel, one of Somalia's largest telecom companies, exhibited their products and services at the summit.

According to SomInvest, an investment promotional agency in the horn of Africa, Somalia is striving to attract investors in renewable energy and expand on its power generation capacity.

Renewable energy is a viable and immediate way to increase affordable energy, according to the African Development Bank (ADB).

Somalia has one of the highest potentials for onshore wind power in Africa and one of the highest rates of daily total solar radiation in the world.

Amina Hersi, a Kampala-based woman of Somali origin, who runs a number of businesses in Uganda, including Atiak Sugar Factory, said EAC provides a huge market that all member states should exploit.

AGENCIES



Sospeter Magesse, NMB Bank Plc's West zone manager, outlines to members of the business community in Kasulu and Kibondo districts at the weekend on the use of mobile phones and electronic cards in accessing financial services rendered by the bank. Photo: Guardian Correspondent

# PHC's preparations almost ready - NBS

By Guardian Correspondent, Dodoma

PREPARATIONS for the National Housing and Population Census (PHC) scheduled for August 23rd has reached 95 per cent, an exercise which is expected to spend 400bn/- in budget, the National Bureau of Statistics (NBS) has said.

Dr Alibina Chuwa, NBS Chief Statistician General said all key preparations have been done and what is going was final touches to ensure that the exercise is conducted properly.

Briefing reporters here on the on-going training to census clerks, Dr Chuwa said the total budget will be used in training and other preparation as well as paying 205,000 census clerks and supervisors.

He said NBS in collaboration with stakeholders have invested heavily in public awareness strategy and intensively educated, encouraged and promoted the participation of all people in the census.

"We are progressing well with the preparation and I am sure that the remaining five percent will be

completed very soon so as to have a successful census exercise which has invested in digital tools," she said.

Dr Chuwa insisted that the public funds will be well spent by adhering to the rules and regulations set by the government.

She directed census coordinators at regional and district level to fast-track the payment process so as to ensure that everything is cleared timely for smooth implementation of the census exercise.

She wanted district executive directors (DEDs) to supervise this and provide closer cooperation to the supervisors for timely payment release.

The government works to ensure no one is left behind this important exercise, calling on Tanzanians to also support the exercise by participating well.

She further said that having correct statistics will help the government plan well for its people and implement the national strategies that work to support promotion of long-term social and economic growth.



**We are progressing well with the preparation and I am sure that the remaining five percent will be completed very soon so as to have a successful census exercise which has invested in digital tools**

By Guardian Correspondent, Dodoma

## Teamwork essential component of investigations - IGP Wambura

INSPECTOR General of Police (IGP) Camilius Wambura has said that the strengthened systems and teamwork within the force and other authorities has helped improve investigations in various cases.

He said this yesterday when opening the two-day meeting for regional heads of prosecution, heads of criminal investigation and heads of Prevention and Combating of Corruption Bureau (PCCB).

According to him, many cases which were previously delayed due to various

reasons including police investigations have greatly reduced.

He assured Tanzanians and the general public that the Police Force was fulfilling its duties which include fast-tracking investigation in cases so as to promote justice delivery.

"We have been working closely

with the PCCB and the prosecution unit to ensure that things go well, strengthened communication among the institutions helps in timely completion of investigation in cases for people to access justice," he said.

He added that backlogs of investigative cases have been

completed and something has helped reduce burden and facilitate access to justice.

"We have remained with few cases, we are working hard to ensure that we completely address this challenge, so Tanzanians should expect big things due to the strategies that we are implementing," he asserted.

## Femina Hip Announces the Appointment of five new Board Members



**Anna-Theresa Mwashia**  
Senior Manager Investor Relations  
CRDB Plc



**Ella Naiman**  
Partner  
Empower



**Emmanuel Mushi**  
Chief Accountant  
Green Resources



**Hafsa Sasya**  
Partner  
Aloys & Associates



**Nderingo Materu**  
Chief Change Officer  
Bayport

On August 1<sup>st</sup>, 2022, Femina Hip appointed five Tanzanian members to serve on their Board. These appointments were made after a rigorous application and selection process that aimed to select the right caliber of talent who will contribute to the organization's culture, strategic focus, and effectiveness – serving as its ambassadors and advocates.

Each selected member brings an array of experience that will inform Femina Hip's ethical and legal governance, financial management policies and sustainability ensuring the organization has adequate resources to advance its mission.

Their term is effective from August 1<sup>st</sup>, 2022, and each member will serve for a term of 3 years.

Speaking on the appointments, Femina Hip's Executive Director, Ruth Mlay affirmed the following: "We are excited to have a Board that comprises of people who are extremely passionate about youth and are keen to utilize their skills and experiences to help the organisation to thrive through this next strategic phase."

**Femina Hip is an award-winning youth focused civil society organisation working with communities and strategic partners across the country.**

## More Slovak tourists set to visit Tanzania - consul

By Correspondent Felix Andrew

THE number of Slovak tourists visiting Tanzania will soon increase, thanks to the new initiatives by stakeholders and the consulate office in Dar.

Speaking in Dar es Salaam over the weekend, the honorary consul of Slovak Republic in Tanzania Moustafa Khataw, said that the Consulate office is entrusted with the task of cementing businesses and cultural ties in the immediate future.

He said they have established talks with different tour operators in the Slovak Republic to make sure that the number of visitors in Tanzania increases.

"We have started engaging with tour operators in the Slovak Republic as well as other European countries", he said.

In order to raise the number of tourists visiting Tanzania, the Consul urged the government and Tanzania Tourists Board (TTB) to focus on the Middle East countries which have shown more interest in visiting Zanzibar and safaris.

"TTB, Ministry of Natural Resources and Tourism should enhance the public private sector partnership (PPP) avenues and participate fully in the World Travel Market in London slated for November, 2022", he said.

He also said the royal tour documentary has given impetus to tourists arrival in recent time and he believes hotels in Zanzibar and northern circuit are running at enhanced occupancy levels.

According to him, there exists a great opportunity for tourism into Tanzania and figures for 2019 indicate that about 3,200 Slovaks visited Tanzania, especially Zanzibar.

"We envisage to grow this to double figure from 2022 onwards. The Slovak Republic is renowned for its agricultural / dairy farming as well as pharmaceuticals / technology industries" he stated.

Asked on the number of Slovak companies or businesses operating in Tanzania since he was appointed last year, he said at present they do not have such firms doing business in the country.

"You will recall that I was appointed as Honorary Consul at the time when the pandemic had started. As a result, there has not been any headway in getting new business opportunities / investments from the Slovak Republic he said, adding that at present, we do not have companies from the Slovak Republic operating in Tanzania".

Khataw, who was appointed last year also promised to enhance bilateral relations between the two countries.

He said he wants to make sure that the economic cooperation between the two countries is improved.

"We have opened an honorary consulate office in Dar es Salaam which would act as a link between Tanzania and the Slovak Republic to enable the two countries meet their economic goals," he said.

More importantly, the Slovak Republic stands ready to work together with all of our partners to enhance the economic well being through collaboration in trade and investment.

He said the two countries' relations have always been positive and it is his sincere belief that it will remain positive forever.

"This positive atmosphere also reflects on the promising outlook that Slovak Republic and Tanzania will enjoy from our cordial relations", he said.

The envoy said Slovak and Tanzania with all its potential would surely be able to develop stronger economic relations that benefit people.



**We have opened an honorary consulate office in Dar es Salaam which would act as a link between Tanzania and the Slovak Republic to enable the two countries meet their economic goals**

## Z'bar politicians unite in urging Pemba women to grow seaweed

By Guardian Correspondent, Pemba

LEADERS of all political parties in Pemba are reported to be united in mobilizing people to grow crops and enhance blue economy activities, putting aside their political linings.

A Uhuru stalwart Shame Khatib Hamani, speaking on behalf of fellow CCM leaders, said Pemba residents are united behind President Hussein Mwinyi's government of national unity and that leaders of all political parties are equally united in mobilising and organising residents grow crops, especially seaweed that is empowering women.

In recent years the seaweed industry has suffered because of climate change effects. However, Mzee Hamani said the effects have not dampened farmers' vigour in growing the crop because, he said, the government is working hard to mitigate the challenge. Mr Hamani is the vice-chairman of Pemba CCM elders.

"President Mwinyi was here the other day (Julai 25-26 tour). We told him that we shall do our utmost to grow seaweed because it is providing employment us, especially women who are the main growers. Our job, CCM leaders and those of other political parties is to encourage people to continue growing seaweed because the government is doing the same thing. God will positively take care of the climate problems. People are busy growing seaweed," he assured.

CCM National Executive Committee Member for North Pemba Region, Mr. Omar Zubery Mbwana said Pemba residents need and are united on the question promoting economic growth. "We have to use wisely opportunities found in maritime activities, agriculture, tourism and building industries. In relation to Pemba these are very important areas to pay attention to. In Chamanangwe

area, a seaweed factory is being built. This will liberate growers of that crop (seaweed), who are mainly women," he said.

He said Pemba residents are determined to sustain unity and solidarity and put aside political inclinations, explaining that the government of national unity was formed to promote tranquillity so that people can concentrate on economic development and uplift their welfare.

"All political parties have been cooperating to promote development in Pemba. We have said enough is enough. We can't go on like this. Let us unite to make lives of Zanzibar is better. We want to promote tourism. In Makangale Konde there is a beautiful forest. It is earning us foreign currency, improving our national economy. Those are the things we want all us in Pemba," he said.

Available statistics show that the seaweed industry accounted for 21 percent of Zanzibar's exports. It is said in 2019, 98 percent of the volume of foreign trade in Zanzibar was maritime-based and tourism accounted for 30 percent of Zanzibar's GDP.



**We want to promote tourism. In Makangale Konde there is a beautiful forest. It is earning us foreign currency, improving our national economy. Those are the things we want all us in Pemba**



An officer with the Tarime-Rorya special police zone pictured at the weekend guards 68 sacks of bhang said to have been impounded while being transported to Dar es Salaam. Photo: Correspondent Samson Chacha

## Bishop Dr Alex Malasusa calls on youth to take lead in conserving environment

By Getrude Mbugo

THE Evangelical Lutheran Church of Tanzania (ELCT) Bishop for the Eastern and Coastal Diocese, Dr Alex Malasusa has urged youth to take lead in conserving and protecting the environment to enable the country attain sustainable development goals.

Speaking during the 9th Youth Concert popularly known as "Twen'zetu Kwa Yesu" held at Uhuru Stadium in Dar es Salaam on Saturday, Malasusa said youth was a great asset in the country's development, so fulfilling their responsibility in protecting local environment, should be emphasised.

He wanted Tanzanian youth to be in the forefront to promote massive tree planting as well as fight pollution.

He said as the youth population is growing rapidly, investments should be strengthened to enable them

to adopt sustainable methods for environmental protection.

"We should all together also promote and maintain the country's peace, we should also pray for our neighbor Kenya for them to pass well in the ongoing election period, let us also pray for Russian and Ukraine," he said.

Dr Malasusa said; "This is a big Day where God speaks to his people by bringing them together. It is a concert of God's children regardless of religion, it gathers all people from all backgrounds," he said.

He commended Upendo Media and the church's youth department for the job well done in organizing this big concert which also attracted viewers from across the globe.

He thanked the government and security bodies for supervising and strengthening security in the stadium.

Bishop Malasusa further emphasized

on the public to participate in the forthcoming national Housing and Population Census slated for August 23, saying that the exercise was important because it will help the government to have correct statistics so as to plan well for its people and implement the national strategies that support and promote long-term social and economic growth.

The Glory Pre and Primary School management from Mafinga-Iringa who were among the sponsors, expressed happiness for the huge turnout of youth who are all eager to walk in God's path.

Elizabeth Kusiluka, the school's administrator said the school has invested heavily in supervising proper growth of children both in spiritual and academically and has continued to grow while also performing well in regional and national exams.

"In providing education, we raise the children to have good morals, we live to make sure that they graduate having all the requirements needed to achieve their future goals," she said.

Temeke District Commissioner, Jokate Mwegelo hailed the organisers for bringing the youth together citing it as one of its kind event to make young people live well while having fear of God.

"We are happy to see this huge crowd of youth here, this shows how young people love God, let us continue working hard, promoting peace and being in the forefront to preach for the good things that God does to its people," she said.

The concert brought together over 20,000 young people from inside and outside Tanzania with over 20 gospel singers, amazing the crowd with the God's flavor songs.



Morogoro district commissioner Albert Msando (2nd-R) in a group photo at the weekend with Vodacom central zone head of sales Joseph Sayi (R) and winners of Vodacom's 'M-Pesa Imetika' raffle winners presented with motorcycles. Photo: Guardian Correspondent



Dar es Salaam Water and Sanitation Authority (Dawasa) CEO Cyprian Luhemeja briefs journalists in Dodoma city at the weekend on the strategy the agency is determined to engage in fulfilling its obligations in financial year 2022/2023. Photo: Correspondent Ibrahim Joseph

By Polycarp Machira, Dodoma

## 'Dar water blues to end by 2023'

WATER problems in Dar es Salaam city and its environs to end by 2023, the Dar es Salaam Water and Sewerage Authority (DAWASA) has said.

DAWASA's Chief Executive Officer, Eng Cyprian Luhemeja said here at the weekend that in effort to ensure a sustainable provision of water services in the city, DAWASA is implementing some 13 projects to that course at the total cost of 1.029 trl/-.

He clarified that currently in the Dar es Salaam region, the water supply has reached 96%. The production capacity is 520 million liters per day, but the demand is 544 million liters per day.

Speaking while briefing journalists on the activities of the water authority, performance in the 2021/2022 and

plan for the 2022/2023, he said most parts of Dar es Salaam city now have access to water by up to 95 percent.

He named the projects as improvement of water system from Ardhi University to Bagamoyo, projects at Mshikamano, Kigamboni and Chalinze phase three.

Others are Kidunda dam project, safe water project along the road, project to reduce non-tariff water, PIP project, establishment of sewerage water plant at Mbezi beach, Buguruni sanitation plant and public sanitary service points. "Upon completion of the projects, all areas served by DUWASA shall get water by 100 percent" he said, calling on city residents to remain call

as soon water woes will be history.

He said as at now, DAWASA has managed to increase availability of water to people within its network by up to 96 percent through implementation of big strategic projects aimed at bringing services closed to people.

He added that by implementing its three years Business Plan 2021/22-2023/24, the authority targets to reach 100 percent water availability and 60 percent of sanitary service.

According to the CEO, most of the areas served by DAWASA have reliable access of water after completion of some strategic projects such as Upper and Lower Ruvu watr projects and laying of both big and small as well as

construction of water tanks.

"This has increased the number of customers from 217,766 in 2018 to 370,982 in 2022" said Luhemeja.

He said other such projects that have also started serving people include that that distribute water from Makongo to Bagamoyo, Jeti-Buza, Mkuranga project, Pugu - Gongo la mboto project, Kibamba - Kisarawe, Mlandizi - Chalinze - Mboga and Mbwawa projects.

Others are, Soga, Tan-choice, Zegereni and other projects undertaken in improvement of information, communication technology in order to improve services to customers and reduce operation costs.

## Govt reaffirms commitment to collaborate with political parties

By Correspondent James Kandoya

THE government has reaffirmed its commitment to continue collaborating with political parties and democracy stakeholders in the country to improve the existing laws in order to practice justice. Stakeholder democracy refers to 'stakeholder participation in processes of organizing, decision-making, and governance in corporations'

Deputy Minister for Constitutional and Legal Affairs, Geoffrey Pinda made the assurance over the weekend in Dar es Salaam in the to mark 30 years since the multiparty system was introduced in the country.

The symposium brought together stakeholders from the government departments, civil society organization (CSO) religious leaders and faith based and political parties.

Others were university college, higher learning institutions and the business community, advocates, politicians, academicians, legal experts, religious leaders, Civil Society Organisations (CSOs) media experts.

"I'm profoundly honored to be part of the participants in the symposium. Let me assure you that the government is ready to work out all recommendations that aim to cover the gaps in the existing laws submitted to the ministry," he said.

He said the government was ready to ensure all gaps in the laws are covered by amending laws that cope with changes taking place in the country.

Pinda commended TLS for organising the symposium that according to him was an important platform bring together different stakeholders to discuss and chart way forward

TLS President Prof Edward Hosea said the aim of the symposium was to share lessons and experience related to enabling legal framework for the promotion of political and civil space in Tanzanian in the span of 30 years of multiparty democracy in Tanzania.

"The symposium is a good platform to give an opportunity to discuss

changes, success and the way forward on the state of democracy, rule of law and public participation in Tanzania," he said.

He said TLS used the symposium to reflect on the state of the nation 30 years after the introduction of multiparty democracy in the country.

According to him, stakeholders try and reflect together on what actually transpired during the 30 years of multiparty democracy in Tanzania that actually has a direct bearing on democracy and rule of law.

John Mnyika, Secretary General of the opposition Chadema said the existing laws infringe the right of gathering, banning of political campaign, unfair elections among political parties leaders.

Tanzania Episcopal Conference (TEC) Dr Charles Kitima said it was time for stakeholders to demand the elimination of the forty oppressive laws as recommended by the retired Justice Francis Nyalali Commission.

"Since the government has shown its readiness to receive opinions from the stakeholders, we need to ask the government to nullify the forty oppressive laws," he said.



**I'm profoundly honored to be part of the participants in the symposium. Let me assure you that the government is ready to work out all recommendations that aim to cover the gaps in the existing laws submitted to the ministry**

## TALIRI, LITA establish eight hatching centres

By Guardian Reporter, Dodoma

LIVESTOCK and Fisheries ministry, through its research institution - Tanzania Livestock Research Institute (TALIRI) and Livestock Training Agency (LITA) has established eight hatching centres that will involve 240 youth who graduated in livestock fattening at the centres to be located in Tanga, Kagera, Songwe and Mwanza regions.

The step follows the implementation of President Samia Suluhu Hassan's directives at the Nananene Agricultural Exhibition held in Mbeya on August 8 that called the Ministry to collaborate with SUA to enable the youth to employ themselves in the livestock sector as well as initiating great improvements to the National Ranching Company (NARCO).

In his public statement issued here at the weekend, the Livestock and fisheries Minister, Mashimba Ndaki said they have already started implementing the directives beginning this Financial year 2022/23.

"I have instructed these institutions to at once start the construction of infrastructures for livestock fattening as well as the process of procuring the youth therefor," the Minister said.

He said in order to implement the project, the Ministry will work together with various stakeholders including Sokoine University of Agriculture Graduate Entrepreneurs Cooperative (SUGECO), TADB, CRDB, COSTECH, and NARCO.

He added that after reviewing agreements and business plans of every investor in NARCO blocks, they will allocate livestock fattening blocks

for renting to the graduate youth.

In regard to renting of the livestock fattening blocks, Ndaki said the Ministry has formed a team of experts from the government and other public sector institutions to make in-depth assessment on the performance and challenges confronting NARCO in order to advise the government.

He added that in order to have profitable investment in NARCO, the Company has identified and allocated five blocks of 32,500 hectares in area to attract serious investors with capital from both within and outside the country.

Meanwhile, Minister Ndaki called on livestock keepers and fishermen in the country to participate in the Population and Housing Census slated for August 23 this year.



Julius Tweneshe (R), Youth Development Director in the Prime Minister's Office (Labour, Youth, Employment and Persons with Disabilities), pictured in Dar es Salaam at the weekend making remarks at meeting on challenges young people in Tanzania commonly face. It was organised by UNFPA, the lead UN agency for delivering a world where every pregnancy is wanted, every childbirth is safe and every young person's potential is fulfilled. Photo: Correspondent Sabato Kasika

### Social Media Marketer Dar Es Salaam, Tanzania



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## YST unveils plans to run science programmes, science exhibitions

By Correspondent James Kandoya

YOUNG Scientist of Tanzania (YST) has unveiled plans to run science mentoring programmes and science exhibitions in every district in the country.

YST Co-founder Dr Gosbert Kamugisha briefed reporters yesterday in Dar es Salaam Region that the plan follows a success achieved in science mentoring programmes in the past twelve years.

He said the number of science projects submitted in this year's young scientist competition has doubled to 1,143 science projects applications from 408 projects submitted in the last competition which is equivalent to 92.4 per cent.

Co-founder said that was an indication that the YST program had been well received and embedded in the region where regional authorities were fully involved in the running of the program.

"The science mentoring program implemented in our secondary schools across the country has been successful since the level of student's interest and eagerness in science has increased significantly," he said.

"Following a significant increase in the number of science projects applications submitted, YST is looking forward to running science programmes exhibitions in every district countrywide," he added.

He said this year's regional exhibitions scheduled to take place October 22, will be organized in every region noting that so far, more than 336 science projects will be showcased at the regional exhibition across the country.

Dr Kamugisha said during the exhibition six good quality projects will be selected from each region to participate in the national science exhibition scheduled for December 8 this year and involves 160 science projects.

According to him, the event will be

an exhibition and awards ceremony involving top six winners of the six science categories (physical, chemical and mathematical sciences; technology and computer; social sciences; climate changes and environment sciences) from all regions.

The innovative programme involving science outreach and mentoring for up-skilling regional coordinators, science teachers and students is supplementing government efforts to improve the level of sciences in the country and eventually building a strong economy.

Caren Rowland, Karimjee Jivanjee Foundation (KJF) executive officer said that for over twelve years, the foundation has been supporting YST competition and offering university scholarships.

She said so far, KJF has offered scholarships to 37 students adding that more four students will receive their scholarship in this year's competition to make it to 41 students.

YST is a unique and innovative programme in Africa, delivering two integrated and complementary events in the Tanzanian secondary school academic year.

In Tanzania the Annual YST Exhibition is used to showcase the success of the students involved in the Science Outreach Programme



**The science mentoring program implemented in our secondary schools across the country has been successful since the level of student's interest and eagerness in science has increased significantly**



Young Scientists Tanzania co-founder Dr Gozibert Kamugisha briefs journalists in Dar es Salaam yesterday on the progress the agency has made in motivating young secondary students to have a passion for science subjects. Right is Caren Rowland, an executive officer with the Karimjee Jivanjee Foundation. Photo courtesy of YST

## Mwanza residents face strict water shortage

By Guardian Correspondent, Mwanza

THE pace of global environmental destruction continues to affect the humankind and currently Mwanza residents face strict water rationing.

One of its areas where residents are hard hit is Kanyerere Ward in Butimba, Nyamagana District, nine kilometres from the centre of Mwanza City.

In the circumstances, some residents are forced to dig holes under rocks in search of water for domestic use.

This paper visited the Ward in Nyamagana district and talked with the residents.

They said they are forced to wake up at 2:00 AM to be in the queue to draw water else there would be without water for the day.

Adelaida Thobias, one of the residents said for the past two months they have been experiencing a hard hitting water rationing, with the water they get has not been sufficient for domestic use.

She said they have all the infrastructures for water in place and in the past they used to get water normally but as days went by the quantity of water diminished, hence they had to look for other sources.

"We have to abandon our families very early mornings to get the little water from the caves and sometimes our husbands never believe that we go out so early to search for water," she added.

For her part, Venata Venastus said they experience untold hardship to

get water even though they have the pipes that no drop of water come out of them.

She said the problem do not affect women alone, but also men who are also forced to fetch the water before they go to their daily chores.

"We spend a lot of time searching for this essential commodity," she said.

Kanyerere ward Chairman, Kansola Kamboli told this paper at the weekend that they were told there would be strict water rationing by MWAUWASA.

Recently, addressing religious leaders, government officials and political leader, the Minister for water Jumaa Aweso admitted to having the problem and called for calm.

"Existing water pumps are supposed to pump 90 million litres of water per

hour but now it was only pumping 80 million, creating 10 million litres shortfall, we call on you to remain calm as the matter was being addressed," he said.

The minister further said various areas of Mwanza will be more hit by water scarcity including Kangale A, Bulola, Mhandu, Kanyerere, Kakebe, Fumagila, Whanima, PPF Kiseke, Green View, Buguku, Igombe, Isamillo Juu, Nghwashi and Luchebele Shadi.

He instructed MWAUWASA to ration the water available using a friendly

Many areas of Mwanza City hit by strict water rationing owing to the burning of one pumping machine with MWAUWASA saying they have order a new machine.

## EAC, EAYN commensurable international youth day

By Guardian Reporter

THE East African Community (EAC) in collaboration with East African Youth Network (EAYN), and with support from German Development Cooperation (GIZ) and Plan International (Plan MEESA), have commemorated the International Youth Day 2022 in Arusha.

The 2022 International Youth Day held under the theme "Intergenerational Solidarity: Strengthening Youth Engagement in the EAC Integration Process" brought together EAYN members, representatives of the Arusha City Council, apex bodies of the regional dialogue committee and youth associations in the region among others.

Addressing the youth, the EAC Deputy Secretary General in charge of the productive and social sectors, Christophe Bazivamo said that within the EAC, the youth form a critical part of the population as they constitute over 68 per cent of the total population or approximately 140 million people.

"It is therefore important for young people to be involved and to participate in the issues that will form an integral part of the future of this region," Bazivamo said, noting that youth participation in EAC integration is provided for under Article I20 (c) of the EAC Treaty which envisages the adoption of a common approach for the participation of youth in the integration process through education, training and mainstreaming across EAC policies, programmes and projects as one of the strategic interventions towards the realization of a fully integrated Community.

"I am glad to report that that we now have the East African Youth Network, an umbrella body for Youth led and youth focused organisations, which has seven active chapters in all the Partner States," said the DSG.

Deputy Secretary General challenged the youth to explore the opportunities beyond borders and develop businesses that will tap the growing regional markets especially in the Information and Communication Technology (ICT) sector.

Speaking on behalf of Godje Bialluch, the coordinator of the GIZ support to the EAC integration process, Joyce Kevin Abalo Kimaro, noted that without embracing the youth, inclusive regional integration, economic empowerment, productivity and bridging the digital divide in the region could not be achieved.

"As GIZ, we focus our support on responding to youth unemployment especially through digital skills training, upskilling and capacity building around entrepreneurship and innovation transfer for young people in East Africa," said Kimaro.

She urged the EAC Partner States to develop stronger link of the education sector with the private sector to promote youth employability.

Jarc Tusiime, the regional coordinator of EAYN, said that Community's population was among the youngest in the world with over 60% below the age of 35 years.

Tusiime defined youth as the greatest resource in the region and urged Partner States to step up and utilize the immense opportunities that are readily available in the region in the fields of tourism, energy, agriculture and ICT, amongst other sectors.

Tusiime urged youth in the EAC to boldly step forward and take charge of their future by investing in strategic, constructive and participatory leadership, adding that this would enable them to be the drivers of integration in the region.



**I am glad to report that that we now have the East African Youth Network, an umbrella body for Youth led and youth focused organisations, which has seven active chapters in all the Partner States**



Shinyanga mayor Elias Masumbuko (L) pictured in the municipality at the weekend presenting a 40.7m/- tractor issued to farmer Bujiku Fumbuka (R) as an NBC Bank loan. Looking on is the bank's Shinyanga Branch manager, Joyce Chagonja. Photo: Correspondent Marco Maduhu

By Guardian Reporter, Zanzibar

WORKERS of the Zanzibar Electric Corporation (ZECO) will be fired if the ongoing investigations will prove that they participated in connecting power to people who have been using power illegally in Chukwani area in Unguja.

The remarks were made here at the weekend by the Permanent Secretary in the Ministry of Water, Energy and Minerals, Joseph Kilangi when speaking to ZECO officials.

He said a normal person without any knowledge on electricity cannot tamper with electric wires, he must have colluded with an expert on electricity from within ZECO or elsewhere, hence if the investigation report shows a ZECO official was involved, he will be fired at once.

## ZECO workers conspiring in illegal power connection will be fired - PS

"As far as I understand, a power pole is never inside a fence of a private premises, there must be a person from ZECO or elsewhere who colluded in the crime," he said and added that the ongoing Kaduara crackdown has nabbed two people using power after connecting their homes to a power pole outside.

The Permanent Secretary called on ZECO Legal Officer to refer to court the case on the people arrested using power illegally as it is an offence under economic sabotage law.

He also called on ZECO officials

to work hard in serving the people including connecting power to them as soon as they apply and paid for the service.

He also said ZECO workers at its various offices in both Unguja and Pemba should be reorganized, and added that each window should serve customers, and not leaving only one window to do so while other workers sit on mats on pretext that he has no internet service.

Lastly he appealed to ZECO workers to continue with cooperation, saying only in doing so the corporation will

attain achievements in distributing power to urban and rural areas according to the Zanzibar government goals.

For their part the workers called on the PS to inspire officials in the Finance ministry in regard to the purchase of two vehicles as all the procedures thereon have been finalised.

People found to be using power illegally in the Chukwani area in Unguja were nabbed during a special operation dubbed "Kaduara Operation" on August 3 this year and were placed under police custody.



Lions Club Moshi-Kibo secretary general Inderjeet Rehal alias Nitu (R, in red turban) briefs stakeholders in Moshi late last week on a 700m/- special vocational training centre he said the club has built at Msandaka Deaf School in the municipality in collaboration with Belgium's Lions Club International. He is with Moshi-Kibo Lions Club chairperson Sarah Makindara-Jones (2nd-L) and the chairman of Belgium's Close the Gap organisation, Prof Wim Blonk, one of the centre's sponsors. Photo: Correspondent James Lanka

## Samia expected to grace closure of national prayer for peace and harmony

By Guardian Reporter

PRESIDENT Samia Suluhu Hassan is this week expected to grace the closure of the three-day national prayer organised for the country's peace and harmony.

The special prayer which has been organized by the Jicho la Mama Samia Foundation in collaboration with the Calvary Assemblies of God Tanzania, will be held at national level in Dar es Salaam at the Diamond Jubilee hall.

Religious leaders will also lead the prayer in various regions of the country.

Addressing reporters on the occasion, chairman of the foundation Abdallah Mangalla said former President Jakaya Kikwete will officiate at the first day of the prayer which will be conducted on August 19.

"Vice President Dr Phillip Mpango will attend the prayer on the second day of August 21 in Mwanza before being closed by President Samia on August 24," he said.

Bishop Dastan Maboya of Calvary Assemblies of God said prayers in all the three regions of Dar es Salaam, Dodoma and Mwanza will be led by religious leaders from all faiths including the Mufti and bishops from various churches.

Denise Bucumi Nkurunziza, wife of the late President of Burundi will also attend the prayer as a special guest in all three regions.

"Vice President Dr Phillip Mpango will attend the prayer on the second day of August 21 in Mwanza before being closed by President Samia on August 24"

## Lions Club Moshi Kibo pumps in 700m/- for building Msandaka deaf school VTC

By Correspondent James Lanka, Moshi

MORE than 700m/- has been given by the Lions Club Moshi Kibo for the construction of a special Vocational Training Centre (VTC), which is for Msandaka deaf school in Kilimanjaro Region.

Lions Club of Moshi-Kibo teamed up with the Lions Club International through the stakeholders from the Belgium-based charitable organization - 'Close the Gap' in sourcing the funds.

Lions Club of Moshi Kibo chairperson, Sarah Mandara-Jones said recently that the construction of the college which has been completed aims to improve special training and education for the special needy children particularly the deaf kids and youth to become autonomous.

"The construction of this special VTC at Msandaka deaf school located in Moshi Municipality has cost more than 700m/- whereby all funds has been donated by the Lions Club International who funded us a total of USD 95,000, and the other percent has been contributed by our Belgian partners including the Belgium-based charitable organization, Close the Gap," explained Sarah.

She explained that the project aims at producing professionals in carpentry, tailoring, Information and Technologies (IT), Arts and handcrafts, among many others to the normal and people with disabilities, particularly deaf, recommending the role played by their partners and friends including Charter Chairman of the Belgium-

based charitable organization, Close the Gap Prof. Wim Blonk, and the past president of Lions Club of Ijseval Tervuren in Belgium Jerome Sheridan.

"As you all witnessed today, the laying of the foundation stone of our exceptional Vocational Training for the students with disabilities particularly deaf, Lions Club of Moshi-Kibo thanked all our partners from Belgium who make this possible for sustainable income generation and development of people with disabilities, particularly the deaf who faces many challenges in education after completing their primary education," she said.

Sarah stated that the special modern VTC for the deaf and other people with disabilities was planned to be constructed in 2001 at Msandaka Deaf school that has been sponsored by the club since its inception.

Sarah advised the community members not to stigmatize and hide children and youth with special needs.

"Children who are born with disabilities must not be ashamed, let us know that God has purposes with every creature. It is better to take them out and bring them to school, to take them to various stages where they can be taught," she emphasized.

*"We have discovered that when children, especially girls, finish the seventh grade, others are thrown away, they get pregnant, to avoid these things, we thought we should enable them to get an education so that they can develop themselves without relying on people and not be ashamed"*

Inderjeet Rehan the Secretary of the Lions Club Moshi Kibo said: "The college was established to enable our children who finish primary school level to live a good life after completing college training."

"We have discovered that when children, especially girls, finish the seventh grade, others are thrown away, they get pregnant, to avoid these things, we thought we should enable them to get an education so that they can develop themselves without relying on people and not be ashamed," Inderjeet said

Close the Gap chairperson Prof. Wim Blonk said that he has been visiting Msandaka School for the deaf two or three times a year, and they had a friendship with the school for more than 20 years ago.

According to him, the VTC will be unique for the deaf and other youth with disabilities where they will be trained with various vocational training so that they can produce different items and products, and sell them, thus becoming self-reliant.

Msandaka Deaf School headmistress Rosada Shao explained that her school started in 2001 with only 22 pupils, and in 2020 they have a total of 86 pupils who are spending ten years in class, and it takes 10 to 12 years for them in class instead of seven years due to their disabilities.

She requested the government to improve the environment including by providing teaching and learning aids and constructing teaching centres for such children, saying the school has no administration block, and store.

By Correspondent Felix Andrew

## ASEAN day marked in Dar for first time

THE Indonesian Embassy in Dar es Salaam in collaboration with the Vietnamese Embassy and the Filipino community in Tanzania have conducted various activities to celebrate ASEAN's 55th anniversary.

Taking place at the Indonesian ambassador's Residence in Dar es Salaam yesterday, the celebration is the first to be held in Dar es Salaam not only to instill a sense of ownership and belonging among Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN) community in Tanzania, but also to introduce organisation's missions, achievements and relevance to the wider public in Tanzania.

Speaking during the event, Vietnamese ambassador to Tanzania, Nguyen Nam Tien explained that it aims to increase public awareness about ASEAN community in Tanzania.

"Throughout the month of August, we are organising art performances and sport competitions highlighting ASEAN cultures to promote understanding about each other for the benefits of our peoples and friendship in the region and the world," he said.

This year's anniversary carried the theme "Stronger Together", calling for the people of ASEAN to remain united and lend their collective strength as the region recovers from COVID-19 pandemic.

For his part, the Indonesian Ambassador to Tanzania Tri Yogo Jatmiko pointed out that celebrating ASEAN's anniversary means celebrating its relevance to the people,

the region and the world at large.

"ASEAN must retain its relevance by consolidating the region's unity, reinforcing centrality and strengthening its reliability", he noted, underlining that the organisation matters not only for what it is, but more for what it does.

Ambassador Jatmiko further emphasized that member states will continue to uphold the ASEAN spirit of togetherness to consolidate efforts to achieving the goals of building a resilient ASEAN Community Vision 2025 driven by ASEAN's core spirit of "one vision, one identity, one community".

Director of the Middle East Department of Tanzania's Ministry of Foreign Affairs and East Africa Cooperation, Hemed Mgaza drew a comparison between ASEAN and EAC as both regional organizations were established in the same year. "Both two organisations unite communities and people socially, economically and politically," he said. "Fifty-five years are a long time, so this event is timely to celebrate and reflect on the many achievements made in that period."

Speaking earlier, Director of Institute of Development Studies University of Dar es Salaam Dr. Colman Msoka said ASEAN Day celebration allows

the Tanzanian academic community to learn from ASEAN's experience in progressing Southeast Asia.

"ASEAN countries and Tanzania are actually not that very much different in terms of development and culture," he noted, "So we can learn from each other."

Dr. Msoka explained that historically ASEAN member countries and Tanzania have had much interaction, so it is wonderful to see the ASEAN community in Tanzania coming together and celebrating the partnership towards its common goals.

The celebration featured ASEAN flag ceremony presented by color guards from the Philippines, Indonesia, and Vietnam, followed by cultural performances and traditional sports competitions from the three ASEAN member states.

ASEAN is a political and economic union of 10 member states, including Indonesia, Malaysia, Philippines, Singapore, Thailand, Brunei Darussalam, Viet Nam, Lao PDR, Myanmar, and Cambodia.

Established on 8 August 1967 in Bangkok, it aims to promote intergovernmental cooperation and facilitate multi sectoral integration to accelerate economic growth, social progress, and cultural development through regional peace and stability.

IITA

Transforming African Agriculture

ILRI

### POSITION ANNOUNCEMENT RANGELAND ECOLOGIST IITA-TZ-2022 - R4D-009 -NRS-DSM

The International Institute of Tropical Agriculture (IITA) on behalf of the International Livestock Research Institute (ILRI) invites applications for the position of Rangeland Ecologist. The Rangeland Ecologist will provide support to local Scientists, Government including the Ministry of Livestock and Fisheries, NGO and communities in implementing participatory rangeland management plans and rangeland restoration in central Tanzania.

The successful applicant will join the Sustainable Livestock Systems program of ILRI and will contribute to the One CGIAR initiative Livestock, Climate and System Resilience (LCSR) which seeks to improve understanding on how to develop and strengthen resilient, low-emission livestock agri-food systems.

**Duty Station:** This is a Nationally Recruited Position, and the incumbent will be based in in Kabaya town, Kiteto district, Manyara region- Tanzania, with anticipated occasional travel to other pastoral areas.

**Roles and Responsibilities:**

- Coordinating the undertaking of a physical baseline in action-research intervention areas using LAND PKS and participatory community data collection tools,
- Ongoing monitoring of ecological changes,
- Establishment of action-research trials on rangelands restoration with communities, trainings of stakeholders as required, and liaison with government, NGOs and other researchers
- Facilitating visits and research being undertaken by ILRI scientists and partners.

This work will be embedded in a participatory rangeland management (PRM) approach, that ILRI and partners have developed and which is in the process of being scaled-up. It is also anticipated that the ecologist will play a role in influencing a more enabling policy environment for PRM and engage with the private sector to develop partnerships for investment in rangeland restoration and/or payments for ecosystem services.

**Qualifications and Experience:**

- Master degree in rangeland ecology, dryland ecology, agriculture or related subject.
- At least two years working as a rangeland ecologist in pastoral areas of Tanzania including in rangeland restoration.
- Proven training and community facilitation skills.
- Experience in participatory or community-based rangeland management and monitoring.
- Experience in participatory land use planning an advantage.
- Knowledge of remote sensing an advantage.
- Fluent in written and spoken English and Swahili, and knowledge of Maa an advantage.

**General information:**

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

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

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

Female applicants are strongly encouraged to apply.

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

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## Yes, protecting Ruaha River streams is of utmost urgency

WIDESPREAD efforts are going on around the country to protect river sources from drying up on account of cultivating crops close to the banks. There was a time bylaws were passed in various districts to let a stretch of land of river bank to a nearby farm remain fallow and where possible plant durable vegetation in such area. The response and diligence was visible, so greening came up in such areas, but as President Samia Suluhu Hassan noted lately, problems still persist.

Visiting Iringa region, the president tasked relevant authorities in the Southern Highlands zone to set up strategies to conserve water sources environment endangered by farming activities.

This was especially so for unmonitored farming activities along the Ruaha River that threatens streams building up the river. The river and its ecological impact is vital for economic activities all the way from the highlands it starts to its emptying into Rufiji River, a long and winding journey from Iringa to Morogoro Region, Coast Region and to the sea.

It is easy to imagine the breadth of water requiring activities in the length of this route, with President Samia pointing to the fact that the river constitutes 15 percent of the water relied upon for power generation at the Julius Nyerere hydropower plant, now under construction. There are plenty of other activities and a vast portion of conserved land that is the Ruaha National Park, Selous Game Reserve and the Julius Nyerere National Park that houses the power project, excised from the Selous. All these are potentially vast powerhouses.

Efforts area already underway to make the Southern Highlands and the southern circuit as a whole a

more visible tourism destination, as 'Destination Tanzania' is for decades identified with the northern circuit. Beaches and historical sites are chiefly identified with Zanzibar, while the southern circuit scarcely has an identity of its own. Part of the problem is the lack of acknowledged stakeholders for southern circuit tourism specifically, like camping safaris with vast portions of land allocated on a rented basis, given the pristine wildlife scenes in the zone.

The president similarly pointed out that the river is also a major source of water for residents of the city of Dar es Salaam and several regions, thus failure to conserve it would jeopardize the wellbeing of millions of people. Many of the region's residents may definitely appreciate that point, but it is different from actually doing something in that regard. In the latter context it is an individual farmer, hopefully watched by local authorities, who must act in a positive way.

As the president noted, Iringa region has certainly been at the forefront in environmental conservation but there are elements of environmental degradation as well. The more comfortable part of her remarks was the fact that Iringa is among the leading regions in food production, where extension officers need to provide guidance to farmers on better methods of agriculture to avoid environmental degradation. But when it comes to farm size strictly, assuming that the village chairman or other local official also wants his farm stretching to the limit, not enough conserved area will be left next to river sources, definitely. That is another reason the government should think of actually encouraging farm sales to investors; with an expanding population the safeguards will fail.

## Checking river pollution by miners was one thing, but dust pollution is different

VICE President Dr Philip Mpango remains very much glued to the environment in his day to day activities, and at times there are environment scenes that befitted the presence not of the minister responsible for Environment but the VP himself. This was illustrated in Kilimanjaro Region visit where Dr Mpango a specialised facility for tuberculosis and related diseases, and was put to a shock. What he was told isn't something that we know on a day to day basis, but a few.

When visiting Kibongoto Hospital, he was told that 25 youths working in the mines especially at Mirerani on the southern hinterland of the hospital as it were, report at the hospital on a daily basis suffering from silicosis. It is disease arising from silica granules, the fine dust of mineral that is likely to have a better than average inclination or capacity to attach itself to the body, in like manner as a near cousin of the mineral. It is asbestos, a roofing material later banned first in the West and the ban took effect around the world as well.

There are scores of industries where workers are exposed to occupational hazards, with dust in mining areas an often understated problem, until the VP was asked to pay a visit to the hospital and help push that agenda to the forefront.

Evidently definite controls can be set up but there was a problem of targeting, as it appeared that large numbers were being focused upon, whereas occupational hazards are more likely to engulf small miners, with poor tools or aeration controls,

etc. And they are less manageable to environmental controls.

Taking an illustration of occupational hazards in the mining industry, one only has to think of the use of mercury to wash the ore and find bits of gold inside the sand. Whether it is for inability to use mercury or there is also the need to harvest remnants of other metals in the 'gold sand,' large firms export the sand outside for processing. It is unclear if this is a tender or a sale of the sand itself.

That is why the picture arising from the VP's visit to the tuberculosis facility isn't one of vibrant readiness to tackle the problem but potentially facing issues of approach in tackling the issue upfront. When one says mining firms need to control polluting the environment especially through dust, by coming up with immediate measures to control the dust, that seems to relate to large firm. If indeed the problem is bigger with artisan miners, regulatory moves will falter.

Controlling occupational hazards among artisan miners can be likened to checking the quality goods among hawkers and movable street stall operators. In advanced countries such trades don't exist as they are just a substitute for traditional farming by the hoe, as at times there are promises of a minimal fortune, or better. The VP's appeal to large miners can definitely be put to work as occupational safety there can be audited and fines imposed if clear lags are visible, hardly with artisan miners. It is a 'poor man's burden' that will endure, as only technology can diminish exposure, which small miners may often lack.



By Aissatou Diallo

## Boosting intra-African trade will power post-COVID-19 recovery and foster food security

INTERNATIONAL Trade Centre's 'One Trade Africa' is helping African MSMEs leverage market opportunities

The COVID-19 pandemic is disrupting Africa's development trajectory. It is exacting a substantial socio-economic toll and putting the survival of half of the continent's micro, small and medium-sized enterprises (MSMEs) at risk. Four in five African businesses are witnessing a dramatic reduction in sales.

As African countries restart their economies and phase out COVID-19 restrictions, the ripple effects of the Ukraine crisis increase daily. The effects are particularly acute in terms of food security, given the continent's reliance on food imports from the region of conflict.

In addition, the rising cost of fertilizers and the impact of climate change are exacerbating food shortages.

These shocks have slowed progress towards achieving SDG2, which is zero hunger by 2030.

A 2021 joint publication by FAO, the United Nations Economic Commission for Africa (UNECA), and the African Union titled Africa: Regional Overview of Food Security and Nutrition indicated that over one-fifth of the continent's population faced hunger in 2020. That is about 281.6 million people—46.3 million more than the figure for 2019.

Due to current harsh economic realities in countries, the International Monetary Fund is encouraging

By Eugene Enahoro

GIVEN past records it was only to be expected that as 2023 elections campaigns begin in earnest, mudslinging and bending the truth will become the order of the day. Truth telling in politics is vital in enhancing trust in government and nobody should be treated as if they are not worthy of being told the truth. These days, paid agent-provocateurs disgracefully defame their paymaster's opponents both on TV and in the press, leaving voters with a deficit of trust in all the candidates. According to Psychology Today, trust is based on a belief that someone or something can be relied upon to do what they say they will. It's the main ingredient in politics which encourages people to support and cooperate effectively with government.

It's an essential component of any successful democracy and once it's broken, it's hard to rebuild. A nation like Nigeria without trust in leadership is chaotic and dysfunctional. There is no disputing the breakdown of trust in all spheres of life in Nigeria. Citizens have learnt not to trust politicians because of their predilection for going back on their word, breaking promises, withholding or keeping many things back, and lying or manipulating facts and figures. In other spheres, Nigerians have lost trust in military operations against insurgents; police respect for human rights; voter

governments worldwide to subsidize the cost of food and energy for their poor. Such a social intervention presents a huge fiscal challenge for many African countries.

### What then is the solution?

An effective solution is to boost intra-African trade, which has the potential to pave the way to food security.

Africa has enough food to ensure its citizens do not face hunger; however, the challenge is how to ensure that trade contributes significantly to food security.

According to the UNECA, the AfCFTA is expected to boost intra-African trade in goods and services by up to 25 per cent by 2040, in part through increased activities of MSMEs, help from business-support organisations and sturdy policy frameworks.

To ensure food availability and tackle price volatility, a need exists to connect agricultural markets, maintain producer incentives in surplus zones and boost cross-border trade.

African countries must welcome the opportunity to strengthen intra-regional trade and firm up measures for a seamless exchange of goods and services and for food sufficiency. To help achieve these goals, the International Trade Centre (ITC) launched the One Trade Africa (OTA) in 2020.

## The importance of trusting government

registration exercises; census figures; security agencies abidance with the constitution, and National Assembly oversight functions. Trust is a choice people have to make which is difficult to build yet easy to break. It is difficult to repair once broken and there are many who would agree that trust once lost is lost forever! Trusting government means feeling committed to your relationship with them, and feeling safe that your physical and emotional barriers will be respected.

Political leaders cannot force people to trust them, they can only earn trust when they show they are worthy of it. Deciding which politician to trust and which not to trust can be a long process because it may take years for their true intentions to unfold. Fortunately, the decision is made easier because trustworthy people share common traits of putting other people's interests before their own, being transparent in their dealings with others and demonstrating transparency in their motivation and decision making.

Also, they don't dismiss contrary opinions but rather value other people's feedback. The outgoing administration has exhibited none of the traits of trustworthiness; it has disappointed Nigerians with its calamitous leadership and lack of political will to transform the nation in any meaningful manner, yet the

### One Trade Africa

The OTA is a five-year programme designed to help African MSMEs leverage market opportunities generated by the African Continental Free Trade Area (AfCFTA).

UNECA, the AfCFTA is expected to boost intra-African trade in goods and services by up to 25 per cent by 2040, in part through increased activities of MSMEs, help from business-support organisations and sturdy policy frameworks.

The trade pact eliminates at least 90 per cent of tariff lines on goods produced within Africa over the next 5 to 15 years. That will be a boon for businesses, including those engaged in intra-African agricultural trade.

Currently, the average tariff on agricultural products traded between African countries is 17.1 per cent, whereas exports to Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD) countries are at 15 per cent.

With the AfCFTA, intra-African exports in agriculture and food products are projected to increase between 20 and 35 per cent by 2040.

At its core, the OTA promotes policies that facilitate trade and boost the competitiveness of MSMEs through enhanced digitization. And a focus on the cross-cutting dimensions of green and sustainable trade as well as gender

and youth is the right approach. We must help women and youth take advantage of available regional and global trade opportunities.

The OTA is supporting MSMEs in many ways. For example, in partnership with the Africa Export and Import Bank (Afreximbank), a "How to Export" training programme is being implemented.

The programme was piloted in Côte d'Ivoire, Nigeria and Rwanda, and has since benefited more than 5,000 MSME operators in at least 30 countries. Beneficiaries have access to an OTA online resource centre on the AfCFTA.

To expand its reach to all 55 countries in Africa, the online training, initially conducted in English and French, is being expanded to include Arabic and Portuguese.

In addition, the OTA partnered with the UNECA to design many national and regional AfCFTA strategies, while the design of an AfCFTA Youth in Business Platform is in the pipeline.

By facilitating about 100 business connections—and counting—the OTA is bringing entrepreneurs to engage and discuss business partnerships, opportunities and best practices. At the 2021 Intra-African Trade Fair in Durban, South Africa, for example, the OTA sponsored the participation of entrepreneurs from Sierra Leone, Senegal, and Guinea.

ruling All Progressives Party (APC), feels they are entitled to win elections because the main opposition Peoples Democratic Party (PDP) didn't excel in governance for 16 years.

Apparently, they need reminding that citizen's votes are not entitlements. While they keep living in blissful denial, being clearly insensitive to the plight of ordinary people and out of touch with the people, the truth is that the past seven years has witnessed an explosion of the vilest tendencies ever witnessed in Nigeria. Citizens are fully aware that promises have not been kept and they have been lied to. Government officials tend to lie when they simply don't know what else to do, but sometimes they may even have good motives like in trying to protect the public from bad news. However, citizens don't really care for the reasons behind lies. Learning to trust politicians again may seem unfeasible given past experiences, but it's important to trust that the nation will get through all their betrayal and incompetence because it has survived such adversity in the past.

What is important going forward is that whoever wins the election must attend to the pressing issue of re-establishing trust in Nigeria's democracy. As it stands, there is the not too simple matter of trusting the Independent National Electoral Commission (INEC) to conduct

elections that reflect the true vote and will of the electorate. They have released some perplexing results of the new voter registration exercise which have been derided as illogical and inexplicable. While viral social media videos showed evidence of massive voter registration in the South-East and South-West, videos and newspapers reported registration centres in the North where nobody registered for days. This is only to be expected with all the terrorist activities going on.

Yet at the end of the exercise the North-West and North-East where Boko Haram and bandits have been operating freely and even the army is afraid to venture out of their barracks, supposedly registered the highest number of voters! It continues to remain an unexplained geographical phenomenon as to how Nigeria is the only country in the world where arid semi-desert hinterland is supposedly more densely populated than fertile coastal areas. One of the many reasons why distrust in politics runs deep is the not too small matter of whether it is indeed possible for the nation to prosper under the current constitutional arrangement which encourages so much distrust. There is an overriding consensus of opinion that far too much finance and authority is vested in the federal government with far too little accountability.



By: Paul-Simon Handy and Felicité Djilo

**A** lack of principled consistency in solving conflicts makes Africa's non-aligned position look like short-sighted opportunism.

Since Russia invaded Ukraine in February, the United States (US) and European governments have been scrutinising Africa's reactions. Views from the continent vary from country to country, with many states taking a 'non-aligned' position. How should this stance be understood in a multipolar and highly interdependent world?

African votes in the United Nations (UN) on the war revealed sharp divisions between countries. Djibouti endorsed the UN resolution for Russia to end its offensive, while Algeria, Tanzania and South Africa underscored the importance of diplomacy without condemning Russia's actions. The high number of abstentions was widely interpreted as a sign of Russian influence or evidence of the growing anti-Westernism of African governments and citizens.

This view wrongly assumes that Africa is a political monolith. It also suggests an underlying expectation by the West that states on the continent should align with them because of the West's pre-eminence in development and humanitarian aid, and their shared historical past.

Does Africa's tentative stance on the war show a rejection of key African Union (AU) principles, such as respect for territorial integrity, the inviolability of borders and the peaceful settlement of disputes?

The joint visit of Senegalese president Macky Sall and AU Commission Chairperson Moussa Faki Mahamat to Russia in June increased Western perceptions of a Russia-leaning 'neutrality'. Sall said his trip aimed to minimise the conflict's impact on Africa's supply of agricultural products and fertilisers, but Western diplomats weren't convinced.

The lukewarm reception received by president Volodymyr Zelensky when he addressed the AU's Bureau of Heads of States fueled perceptions that African countries were indifferent to Ukraine's occupation.

In recent years, Russia has used various means to disseminate anti-Western propaganda that aligns with African people's deep anti-colonial and anti-Western resentment.

The legacy of 1960s and 1970s Third-Worldism still shapes the views of Africa's governments and citizens. Russia's colonial past didn't extend to Africa, and its backing of some liberation movements means that Russia elicits more support than Ukraine from Africans. Ukraine is often seen as a pawn of the West.

Western surprise at most African countries' limited emotion towards Russia's invasion, and Africa's neutral

## War in Ukraine: All the news, opinions and analysis in one place



Russian President Vladimir Putin waves during a photo session with heads of countries taking part in the 2019 Russia-Africa Summit at the Sirius Park of Science and Art in Sochi, Russia, 24 October 2019. File photo

stance, point to a self-centredness on both sides. The West wants its African partners to share its condemnation of Russia. African states meanwhile cling to their monopoly on victimhood and historical resentment of Western domination in world affairs.

To justify their indifference towards the Ukraine conflict, some African authorities compare it to the 2003 US invasion of Iraq or Libyan leader Muammar Gaddafi's ousting by the North Atlantic Treaty Organization in 2011. An infringement of international law (Iraq) or a generous interpretation of a UN Security Council resolution (Libya), is considered similar to Russia's war of occupation in Ukraine – an infringement of the international order.

How do African states benefit from proclaiming non-alignment? Although the conflict reveals the extent of the continent's dependence on grain and fertiliser from Ukraine and Russia, it doesn't compare with the Western aid that enables African countries to function.

The increasing price of hydrocarbons is affecting Africa's most fragile states. While European countries imposed sanctions against Russia despite the costs to their energy supplies, many African countries feel less able to adopt a principled and values-based foreign policy.

The divide, however, runs deeper – extending to perceptions about the international order itself. Western states

defend a rules-based system in which they are pre-eminent. African states have a more cynical view of a global order whose rules seem to be determined by the West. This difference in outlook may explain Africa's leniency towards Russia, even though the latter has violated a cardinal AU principle on territorial integrity.

African states' position is not without contradictions – which isn't surprising given the many norms and values on a continent of 54 states. They aspire to an international order based on rules, not force, while at the same time sympathising with Russia and China, which challenge this order for different reasons.

These contradictions illustrate the

crisis of African multilateralism. While some countries propose a rules-based international order that favours consistency and predictability, others prefer coercion and force. This suggests a dividing line in the AU, but that line is blurred. For example, while some states pushed for Chad's suspension from the AU following the unconstitutional transition in April 2021, the same countries pushed back against Zimbabwe's suspension following the 2018 coup that overthrew late president Robert Mugabe.

Divisions on peace and security were already visible in responses to the 2011 Libyan uprising and the cancellation of the Peace and Security

Council (PSC) decision calling for military intervention to stop the 2015 conflict in Burundi.

What would the AU's reaction be if a powerful African country invaded another? The precedent of the Organization of African Unity's resounding silence during the military escalation between Cameroon and Nigeria regarding the Bakassi Peninsula in the late 1990s doesn't foster optimism. Neither does the PSC's ambiguous position on the maritime dispute between Somalia and Kenya.

Rather than schadenfreude, or the vengeful anti-imperialism that seems to guide many Africans, the Ukraine war should inspire a self-assessment of Africa's ability to agree on how to solve conflicts. In the absence of principled consistency, non-alignment may look like short-sighted opportunism. DM

## Salman Rushdie, novelist who drew death threats, is stabbed at New York lecture

NEW YORK

**S**ALMAN Rushdie, the Indian-born novelist who spent years in hiding under death threats from Iran because of his writing, was stabbed in the neck onstage at a lecture in New York state on Friday and airlifted to a hospital, police said.

He was alive and "getting the care he needs," New York Governor Kathy Hochul said.

A man rushed to the stage at the Chautauqua Institution and attacked Rushdie, 75, as he was being introduced to give a talk on artistic freedom to an audience of hundreds, an eyewitness said.

A New York State Police trooper present at the event took the attacker into custody, police said.

State police said the condition of Rushdie, who wrote the novel "The Satanic Verses," was not known and did not give a motive for the attack and it was not clear what kind of weapon was used.

Andrew Wylie, a spokesperson for Rushdie, said in an emailed statement that "Salman is in surgery," but did not have further details to share.

The author fell to the floor when the man attacked him, and was then surrounded by a small group of people who held up his legs, seemingly to send more blood to his upper body, as the attacker was restrained, according to a witness attending the lecture who asked not to be named.



Salman Rushdie attends the National Geographic Channel "MARS" Premiere NYC on October 26, 2016 in New York City. File photo

Rushdie, who was born into a Muslim Kashmiri family in Bombay, now known as Mumbai, before moving to the United Kingdom, has faced death threats for his fourth novel, "The Satanic Verses," which some Muslims said contained blasphemous passages. The novel was banned in many countries with large Muslim populations upon its 1988 publication.

A year later, Ayatollah Ruhollah Khomeini, then Iran's supreme

leader, pronounced a fatwa, or religious edict, calling upon Muslims to kill the novelist and anyone involved in its publication for blasphemy.

Rushdie, who called his novel "pretty mild," went into hiding for many years. Hitoshi Igarashi, the Japanese translator of the novel, was murdered in 1991. The Iranian government said in 1998 it would no longer back the fatwa, and Rushdie has lived relatively openly in recent years.

Iranian organizations, some affiliated with the government, have raised a bounty worth millions of dollars for Rushdie's murder. And Khomeini's successor as supreme leader, Ayatollah Ali Khamenei, said as late as 2017 that the fatwa was still valid.

Rushdie published a memoir about his life under the fatwa called "Joseph Anton," the pseudonym he used while under British police protection. His second novel, "Midnight Children," is a magical realism allegory set during the 1947 partition of India, and won the Booker Prize. His new novel "Victory City" is due to be published in February.

British Prime Minister Boris Johnson said in a statement he was appalled that Rushdie was "stabbed while exercising a right we should never cease to defend."

Rushdie was at the Chautauqua Institution to take part in a discussion about the United States serving as asylum for writers and artists in exile and "as a home for freedom of creative expression," according to the institution's website.

There were no obvious security checks at the venue, with staff simply checking people's tickets for admission, the eyewitness who was in the audience said. The Chautauqua Institution declined to comment when asked about security measures.

Rushdie became an American citizen in 2016 and lives in New York City.

He has been a fierce critic of religion across the spectrum. He has been critical of oppression and violence in his native India, including under the Hindu-nationalist government of Prime Minister Narendra Modi, a member of the Bharatiya Janata Party.

Iran's mission to the United Nations in New York did not immediately respond to a request for comment.

PEN America, an advocacy group for freedom of expression of which Rushdie is a former president, said it was "reeling from shock and horror" on what it called an unprecedented attack on a writer in the United States.

"Salman Rushdie has been targeted for his words for decades but has never flinched nor faltered," Suzanne Nossel, PEN's chief executive, said in the statement. Earlier in the morning, Rushdie had emailed her to help with relocating Ukrainian writers seeking refuge, she said.

U.S. Senator Chuck Schumer of New York called it "an attack on freedom of speech and thought." DM

UNITED NATIONS

# Safe haven for ousted political leaders escaping executions and hangings

WHEN world political leaders, mostly presidents and prime ministers, are ousted from power following military coups or street demonstrations, they flee to "safe havens" to avoid being jailed, executed by firing squads or hanged in public.

Perhaps one of the secure "safe havens"—and a popular "political retirement home"—is Saudi Arabia, a traditionally authoritarian regime, which has provided sanctuary for leaders from Uganda, Tunisia, Pakistan, Yemen and Qatar.

A cartoon in a British newspaper summed it up when it jokingly depicted the "ARRIVALS" terminal in a Saudi airport with a fast-checkout line for visitors—supermarket-style—with a sign that read: "FOR OUSTED WORLD LEADERS ONLY"

Stephen Zunes, professor of politics and coordinator of Middle Eastern Studies at the University of San Francisco, told IPS "It is not surprising that one of the most authoritarian countries in the world would provide a refuge for other authoritarian leaders."

And, given that the Saudis have such strong backing from the United States, they have even less to worry about—in terms of pressure for extradition (of asylum seekers), he declared.

In recent memory, some of the political leaders who sought asylum in Saudi Arabia include Idi Amin of Uganda (2003), Zine El Abidine Ben Ali of Tunisia (2019), Abd Rabbuh Mansur Hadi of Yemen (2015), Nawaz Sharif of Pakistan (2007) and Khalifa bin Hamad Al-Thani, the Emir of Qatar (2004).

Sri Lankan President Gotabaya Rajapaksa, who was ousted from power by an angry mob last month, and whose government—and extended family—were accused of large-scale corruption and maladministration, is probably a potential candidate for Saudi asylum, after his stops in the Maldives, Singapore and Thailand. As he travels round Asia, Rajapaksa has been contemptu-



A Liberian execution squad fires a volley of shots, killing cabinet ministers of Liberia. April 1980. File photo

ously dubbed as a former president in search of a country.

But still there were ousted leaders from Iran, Afghanistan and Liberia who were either jailed, hanged or executed.

Singling out the political exiles in Saudi Arabia, the Middle East Eye, a London-based online news outlet, quoted Andrew Hammond, historian at Oxford University and author of a book on Saudi Arabia, as saying: "On the one hand, that means there can be no political parties, protests, petitions and other modern phenomena related

to representative electoral politics.

"But on the other, it means the country can be open and welcoming to people of many stripes and origins, as long as they steer clear of politics or act within lines approved by the government."

As William Dobson, a politics and foreign affairs editor for Slate, points out in his book "The Dictator's Learning Curve": "What dictators and authoritarians fear most is their own people"

Erica Frantz, Assistant Professor in the Political Science Department at Michigan State University, writes in her

book titled "Authoritarianism" that "around 40% of the world's people live under some form of authoritarian rule, and authoritarian regimes govern about a third of the world's countries."

In the 1960s, Iranian Prime Minister Mohammad Mossadegh, who was ousted from office following a coup engineered by the Central Intelligence Agency (CIA) and British intelligence, was sentenced to death and confined to a military prison for three years

According to the Brits and the Americans, he made the supreme

mistake of nationalizing huge British oil holdings in Iran. Mossadegh died in March 1967 when he was under house arrest, and he was succeeded by one of America's staunchest allies: the Shah of Iran.

Meanwhile, the saga of ousted political leaders continued.

When the Taliban captured power back in 1996, one of its first political acts was to hang the Afghan President Mohammed Najibullah in Ariana Square in Kabul.

On August 15 last year, the Taliban, assumed power once again, this

time ousting the US-backed government of Ashraf Ghani, a former World Bank official, armed with a doctorate in anthropology from one of the most prestigious Ivy League educational institutions in the US: Columbia University.

In a Facebook posting, Ghani said he fled to the United Arab Emirates (UAE) seeking safe haven because he "was going to be hanged" by the Taliban.

If that did happen, the Taliban would have earned the dubious distinction of being the only government in the world to hang two presidents. But mercifully, it did not.

Ghani, however, denied that he had bolted from the presidential palace lugging several suitcases with millions of dollars pilfered from the country's treasury.

In another high-profile case, the government of President Ferdinand Marcos Sr of the Philippines, was toppled by a popular uprising in 1986. Described as a lawyer, dictator, kleptocrat and a strong American ally, Marcos died in exile in Honolulu, Hawaii, in September 1989, after seeking asylum in the US.

But Liberian political leaders, however, were not that lucky.

On April 12, 1980, Samuel Doe led a military coup, killing President William R. Tolbert, Jr., in the Executive Mansion in Liberia, a West African country founded by then-emancipated African-American slaves, with its capital named after the fifth US President James Monroe.

The entire Cabinet, was publicly paraded in the nude, lined up on a beach in the capital of Monrovia - and shot to death.

According to an April 1980 BBC report, "13 leading officials of the ousted government in Liberia were publicly executed on the orders of the new military regime."

The dead men included several former cabinet ministers and the elder brother of William Tolbert, the assassinated president of the west African state. They were tied to stakes on a beach next to the army barracks in the capital, Monrovia, and shot, said BBC.

"Journalists who had been taken to the barracks to watch the executions said they were cruel and messy."

IPS

# Foreign band sings song of Belt and Road to the world

NANCHANG

I want to bring high-speed railways, express delivery, lunar exploration projects, the BeiDou Navigation Satellite System, and 5G technology back to my hometown. The Belt and Road Initiative connects you and me."

These are the lyrics of a song performed by a band of foreign students from Nanchang Hangkong University, east China's Jiangxi Province.

The band currently has four main members, all are foreign students from countries and regions along the Belt and Road. They are Mnyaga Daniel Rukiko on the keyboard from Tanzania, Abel Jacob Chulu on the bass from Zambia, Isaiiah Nyasha Chikomo on drums and Audrey Tanaka Murungweni on vocals from Zimbabwe.

Rukiko currently studies aeronautical engineering at the university. He got his first impression of China from the China-aided Tanzania-Zambia Railway, which has made a significant contribution to the social and economic development of Tanzania and Zambia since its opening in 1976.

"Moreover, a series of Belt and Road projects have brought tangible benefits to my home country," he said.

Chulu, Rukiko's classmate, said that the new terminal of Kenneth Kaunda International Airport, built by a Chinese company, was put into operation in Zambia's capital city Lusaka last

year. In their country, there are many similar Chinese-aided infrastructure projects.

Murungweni, the lead singer, mentioned the newly-completed parliament building in Zimbabwe that was built with the help of Chinese enterprises. "The new parliament building is magnificent and very impressive, and that is one of the reasons why I want to come to China to study civil engineering," said Murungweni.

To them, forming a band is not only a hobby but also a bridge to let more people have a deeper understanding of China.

Ever since Chulu came to China in 2012, he has been obsessed with traditional Chinese culture and began learning Chinese and Chinese songs. Later he tried to fuse Zambian music into Chinese songs.

Drummer Chikomo also adapted a well-known Chinese folksong Jasmine by adding some Zimbabwian-style drumbeats. "I didn't expect it to be so popular with young people," Chikomo said.

They have put everything they have experienced in China into their music. Videos of their performance won wide attention on social media platforms.

"We hope to show our real life in China through these videos so that more people can learn about Chinese culture and the rapid development of China," said Rukiko.

Xie Hua, director of the international office of Nanchang Hangkong University, said that the



band was founded in 2013. Former members included students from India, Bangladesh, South Africa and other countries and regions.

Xinhua

We hope to show our real life in China through these videos so that more people can learn about Chinese culture and the rapid development of China

## CAPITAL RADIO

# RATIBA YA VIPINDI JUMATATU - JUMAPILI

MONDAY TIME PROGRAMME	TUESDAY TIME PROGRAMME	WEDNESDAY TIME PROGRAMME	THURSDAY TIME PROGRAMME	FRIDAY TIME PROGRAMME	SATURDAY TIME PROGRAMME	SUNDAY TIME PROGRAMME
05:00-09:00HRS MORNING JAM 09:00-13:00HRS LETE RAHA 13:00-14:00HRS DW-RADIO 14:00-16:00HRS CLUB 101 16:00-18:00HRS DALA DALA 18:00-18:10HRS HABARI 18:10-20:00HRS BOZOUK TIME 20:00-21:00HRS HALI HALISI 21:00-22:00HRS SPORTS  22:00-05:00HRS MUZIKI MCHAGANGANYIKO)	05:00-09:00HRS MORNING JAM 09:00-13:00HRS LETE RAHA 13:00-14:00HRS DW-RADIO 14:00-16:00HRS CLUB 101 16:00-18:00HRS DALA DALA 18:00-18:10HRS HABARI 18:10-21:00HRS BOZOUK TIME 21:00-22:00HRS SPORTS  22:00-05:00HRS MUZIKI MCHAGANGANYIKO)	05:00-09:00HRS MORNING JAM 09:00-13:00HRS LETE RAHA 13:00-14:00HRS DW-RADIO 14:00-16:00HRS CLUB 101 16:00-18:00HRS DALA DALA 18:00-18:10HRS HABARI 18:10-21:00HRS BOZOUK TIME 21:00-22:00HRS SPORTS  22:00-05:00HRS MUZIKI MCHAGANGANYIKO)	05:00-09:00HRS MORNING JAM 09:00-13:00HRS LETE RAHA 13:00-14:00HRS DW-RADIO 14:00-16:00HRS CLUB 101 16:00-18:00HRS DALA DALA 18:00-18:10HRS HABARI 18:10-20:00HRS BOZOUK TIME 20:00-21:00HRS SPORTS  21:00-23:00HRS MALUMBANO YA HOJA  22:00-05:00HRS MUZIKI MCHAGANGANYIKO)	05:00-09:00HRS MORNING JAM 09:00-13:00HRS LETE RAHA 13:00-14:00HRS DW-RADIO 14:00-16:00HRS CLUB 101 16:00-18:00HRS DALA DALA 18:00-18:10HRS HABARI 18:10-20:00HRS BOZOUK TIME 20:00-21:00HRS SPORTS 21:00-23:00HRS KIPIMA JOTO  22:00-05:00HRS MUZIKI MCHAGANGANYIKO)	07:30-10:00HRS DK 90 DUNIANI 10:00-11:00HRS KADOGOO 11:00-13:00HRS BONGO HITS 13:00-14:00HRS DW RADIO 14:00-16:00HRS ZAIDI YA UMJAVYO 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

## 'Over 500 Bagamoyo residents benefited from three-day free-eye screening camp'

By Guardian Correspondent, Bagamoyo

MORE than 500 Bagamoyo residents with eye problems benefited from a three-day free-eye camp conducted by Lions Club of Dar es Salaam-Mzizima at Bagamoyo District Hospital over the weekend.

"This is a huge support from the Lions Club Mzizima to the people of Bagamoyo, with eye problems but can hardly afford treatment costs," Bagamoyo District Executive Director (DED) Shauri Selenda said yesterday at the official launch of the three-day free eye camp in the district.

Hundreds of residents turned up at the camp for eye check-up, treatment of general eye ailments and cataract surgery, according to district director, noting that "all these people will be checked freely and given free medication—special thanks to the Lions Club -Mzizima for the help."

Around 50 per cent of Bagamoyo residents are facing cataract-related problems, according to district director, appealing to the residents to come forward in large number in order to get checked and treated at the free-eye camp.

Selenda urged other charity organizations (both local and international) to emulate Lions Club example, and provide similar support to the wider Tanzanian community with eye and other health problems countrywide.

Instead of being confined to the adults, director proposed that "next time, such eye-camps needs expanded and cover secondary and primary schools—in a quest to reach out to thousands of pupils and students with various eye problems."

Bagamoyo District Hospital Medical Doctor, Kandi Lusingu showered huge praises on Lions Club Mzizima for the free eye camp, which she said would relieve thousands of residents from eye and related problems.

"I, however, request that in the next phase, eye-check-up exercise should go hand in hand with giving spectacles to those detected to have sight-problems...I believe our friends would be in a better position to assist us on that," said district medical officer.



Bagamoyo district executive director has a word with Shauri Selenda speaks with Bagamoyo residents who were checked and treated at a three-day free eye camp conducted by the Lions Club of Dar es Salaam-Mzizima at Bagamoyo district hospital. Photo: Guardian Correspondent.

On his part, Lions Club Mzizima President, Baruani Muslim said the organization is more than committed to cooperation with government agencies and organs to get millions of Tanzanians out of eye and other health problems.

Besides eye camps, which are regularly conducted throughout the country, he said the Lions Club Mzizima had been supporting needy communities in various-access to free diabetes screening, cataract surgery, environment protection etc.

"Basically, our goal is complement government efforts aimed at improving the welfare of its citizens, fast-track economic growth and development and subsequently lift the nation to the industrial economy," said Muslim.

Omary Shabani, one of the beneficiaries of Lions Club-sponsored free eye camp, hailed the idea of extending the exercise to the secondary and primary schools, saying the move "would significantly improve the pupils' performance and finally lift up the education standard in our country."

## African wildlife parks face climate, infrastructure threats

By Special Correspondent

AFRICA'S national parks, home to thousands of wildlife species such as lions, elephants and buffaloes, are increasingly threatened by below-average rainfall and new infrastructure projects, stressing habitats and the species that rely on them.

A prolonged drought in much of the continent's east, exacerbated by climate change, and large-scale developments, including oil drilling and livestock grazing, are hampering conservation efforts in protected areas, several environmental experts say.

The parks at risk stretch all the way from Kenya in the east home to Tsavo and Nairobi national parks south to the Mkomazi and Serengeti parks in Tanzania, the Quirimbas and Gorongosa parks in Mozambique and the famous Kruger National Park in South Africa, and west to the Kahuzi

Biega, Salonga and Virunga reserves in Congo.

The parks not only protect flora and fauna but also act as natural carbon sinks – storing carbon dioxide emitted into the air and reducing the effects of global warming.

An estimated 38% of Africa's biodiversity areas are under severe threat from climate change and infrastructure development, said Ken Mwathe of BirdLife International.

"Key biodiversity areas over the years, especially in Africa, have been regarded by investors as idle and ready for development," said Mwathe. "Governments allocate land in these areas for infrastructural development."

He added that the "powerlines and other energy infrastructure cause collisions with birds, due to low visibility. The numbers killed this way are not few."

In their quest to bolster living



standards and achieve sustainable development goals, such as access to clean water and food, boosting jobs and economic growth and improving the quality of education, African governments have set their sights on large building projects, many of them funded by foreign investments, especially by China.

The proposed East African Oil Pipeline, for example, which the Ugandan government says can help lift millions out of poverty, runs through Uganda's Kidepo

valley, Murchison Falls and Bwindi Impenetrable Forest, threatening species and drawing criticism from climate campaigners.

The growth of urban populations and the building that goes with it, like new roads, electricity grids, gas pipes, ports and railways, have also added to the pressure on parks, conservationists said.

But they add that replacing wildlife with infrastructure is the wrong approach for economic growth.

"We have to have a future where wildlife is not separated from people," said Sam Shaba, the program manager at the Honeyguide Foundation in Tanzania, an environmental non-profit organization.

When "people start to see that living with wildlife provides the answer to sustainable development ... that's the game-changer," said Shaba.

Most of Africa's wildlife parks were created in the late 19th and early 20th centuries by colonial regimes that fenced off the areas and ordered local people to stay out.

However, now conservationists are finding that a more inclusive approach to running the parks and seeking the expertise of Indigenous communities that live around the parks can help protect them, said Ademola Ajagbe, Africa regional managing director of The Nature Conservancy.

"The inhabitants of these areas are forcefully evicted or prevented from living there such as the Maasai (in Tanzania and Kenya), Twa and Mbutis (in central Africa) who for generations have lived with wildlife," said Simon Counsell, an advisor with Survival International.

"Africa is depicted as a place of wildlife without people living there and this narrative needs to change," he said.

"If we don't pay attention to communities' social needs, health, education and where they are getting water, we miss the key thing," said John Kasoona the executive director of the Integrated Rural Development in Nature Conservation in Namibia.

The effects of worsening weather conditions in national parks due to climate change should also not be ignored, experts said.

A recent study conducted in Kruger National Park linked extreme weather events to the loss of plants and animals, unable cope with the drastic conditions and lack of water due to longer dry spells and hotter temperatures.

Drought has seriously threatened species like rhinos, elephants and lions as it reduces the amount of food available, said Philip Wandera, a former warden with the Kenya Wildlife Service who's now range management lecturer at the Catholic University of East Africa.

More intensive management of parks and removing fences that prevent species from migrating to less drought-prone areas are important first steps to protecting wildlife, Wandera said.

He added that financial help to "support communities in and around national parks" would also help preserve them.

## TGNP equips 100 Morogoro women with skills to identify their potential

By Correspondent Daniel Sembereya

THE Tanzania Gender Networking (TGNP) has been working tirelessly in order to complement the government's efforts of empowering women economically, especially those living in the rural areas.

TGNP's senior programme officer research and analyst Zainab Mmary said that the network carried out a pilot economic empowerment project on research and learning to three Knowledge Centres (KCs) in Morogoro District Council with the intention of ensuring women and other marginalised groups participate fully in decision making and development processes at their localities through activism and movement building.

According to Mmary, the long term goal of the project is "to strengthen women's movement based at grassroots level capable of engaging and collaborating with government structures and demand accountability for improvement of equitable and sustainable social services and livelihoods."

She further noted that the project was initiated in three KCs—Bwakira Chini, Kisaki and Mngazi and meant to support KCs to acquire knowledge on how to introduce and strengthen economic empowerment initiatives at those three wards.

According to her, the pilot project also had aimed at empowering women at the grassroots with skills to demand for equitable allocation of resources through gender responsive budget

(GRB) and hold accountable officials embezzling public resources.

She said that TGNP has been working and supporting these established KCs so as to ensure they have projects that will generate financial income to them that in turn would be used to address the challenges facing them without waiting for support from their husbands...

Expected outcomes of the project include: Ensuring these KCs have major improvement in as far as economic empowerment is concerned.

Recently TGNP organized a follow up visit to assess how the economic empowerment-activities/programmes are being implemented by these Knowledge Centres and how they have been influencing and shaping women's movements at the grassroots and collectively they organize and demand for social justice.

She said that Knowledge Centres (KCs) have been playing key roles, such as supporting and mobilizing communities to raise their voices and hence take action against any existing social injustice amongst them.

According to her, TGNP's long term goal is to strengthen women's movement based at the grassroots level to be able to engage with government machinery and demand for the improvement of social equality, sustainable social services and livelihoods.

She said that in order to strengthen the economic status of these KCs, TGNP has undertaken a number of activities such as training these women how to make value addition to products they



TGNP board member drills Morogoro women on importance of economic empowerment. Photo courtesy of TGNP

produce. These include: Packaging, value addition, access to microfinance credits, among others.

Speaking to this paper, the secretary of Kisaki KC, and an entrepreneur, who is also one of the beneficiaries of the project offered by TGNP, Asma Kilonga said that after she attended the training by TGNP she decided to grow orange fleshed potatoes.

She said her business was prospering well after she was linked to the markets after meeting a lot of obstacles on the way.

Again, she said that through TGNP's leadership training she became confi-

dent and vied for ward executive position though she did not win. However, she is currently one of the members that form the village council in her locality.

Rukia Jambalaga, from Bwakirachini KC at Bwakirachini Ward in Morogoro DC, said that she became a poultry keeper after she underwent training that was offered by the Sokoine University Graduate Entrepreneurs Cooperative (SUGECO) in collaboration with TGNP through their KC.

She said through poultry rearing she has been able to construct a decent house. "I thank TGNP and SUGECO for coming up with this entrepreneurial

training, through which our lives have drastically improved," she noted.

Severine Henry Msohela, one of the Kisaki KC at Kisaki ward, also concurred with her fellows by thanking TGNP for empowering them with skills that have been a benefit not only to his family but the entire community.

"Things have positively, rapidly changed and improved after the training that was offered by TGNP in 2013," she noted.

She said through KC through resources mobilisation the citizens have been able to know many things which were not known to them before; some of

them being that of women to own land, challenges in the education, health sectors and leadership.

So, she said that through training they were taught on how they could address those challenges.

A World Bank report shows that addressing constraints hinder the ability of Tanzanian women to realize their full economic potential could greatly accelerate the country's economic development and poverty reduction, with potentially a boost of 0.86% to its annual GDP from bridging the gap in agricultural productivity alone.

"Our analysis shows there are enormous benefits to be gained from bridging the gender gap in agricultural productivity, eliminating the gender wage gap, and strengthening women's land tenure security and Tanzania needs to consider these urgently," said Mara Warwick, World Bank Country Director.

"In addition, enhancing financial inclusion is critical - it is associated with significantly lower rates of poverty and income inequality, as well as faster rates of economic growth and employment creation."

According to that report, about 25 per cent of men are sole owners of land, versus just 8 per cent of women; while about 7 per cent of women are sole homeowners, compared to 26 per cent of men. Tanzania's rates of both land ownership and home ownership are below the average for Sub-Saharan Africa.

Women's economic empowerment is defined as women's ability to participate equally in existing markets; their access to and control over productive resources, access to decent work, control over their own time, lives and bodies; and increased voice, agency and meaningful participation in economic decision-making at all levels.

YAOUNDE

# Cameroon looks to bright future in film productions

"STAND by!" shouts the director as actors take their marks. The lighting blinks on. The film crew snaps into action after the order to hurry up.

It's a sunny day in Tiko, a locality in southwestern Cameroon and a local film crew is gathered to shoot for an action series.

The series which spotlights the ills of drugs and human trafficking is called "Boss Daughters" and it's expected to be premiered in November.

"We have been filming for like four days now and truly this one is a wonderful experience because I love the story line," said 32-year-old Jackson Stephanor, director of the show.

Stephanor hopes that "Boss Daughters" will provide new impetus to Collywood, the affectionate nickname for Cameroon's film industry.

Cameroon's cultural diversity, tree-lined suburbs and sweeping landscapes, deserts and lakes have increasingly dotted the silver screen in recent years, serving as the backdrop for several popular movies in the country.

"For the last four years, the Cameroon film industry has really evolved. We have moved from the sales of DVDs and CDs to online," said 31-year-old Montana Peters who has produced and acted in several movies.

The Central African nation has seen considerable growth in its film production with over 300 movies produced



File photo taken on May 26, 2022 shows the scene of film shooting of Boss Daughters in the Southwest region, Cameroon. (Xinhua/Kepseu)



File photo taken on May 25, 2022 shows Jackson Stephanor(R), director of Boss Daughters, giving instructions to his cameraman while shooting the film in the Southwest region, Cameroon. (Xinhua/Kepseu)



File photo taken on May 26, 2022 shows the scene of film shooting of Boss Daughters in the Southwest region, Cameroon. (Xinhua/Kepseu)

since 2008, said Coach Obi who joined the industry as an actor in 2006.

In recent months, a number of Cameroonian productions have been attracting attention from streaming company Netflix, which has so far purchased four Cameroonian movies.

"We are making some strides," Obi told Xinhua while shooting an advert in a studio in Buea, chief town of Southwest region which has become the center of film productions in the country.

The growth and popularity of the industry has won the admiration and attention of young Cameroonians like Josiane Shengang, 21, Angel Ntube, 21 and Elyon-Bright Ayuk, 22 who raised funds to produce "Boss Daughters".

"We are just students who are working so hard to bring themselves up there. I will like to take my career as far as above the sky, as far as I can go," said Ntube.

"We are trying to hit the limelight. We are all young ladies and we have the talents," added Ayuk.

There are no official statistics on how much the industry has contributed to the Cameroonian economy, but it has undoubtedly created jobs in a country with an economy that relies mainly on oil and agriculture, said Obi.

"Some persons are cashing out. It might not be that much but really producers are making that effort," Obi said.

Still, Peters said the industry has a long way to go before its actors and directors have a chance to make millions of dollars.

"We don't actually have platforms where we can sell our movies. That is where the big problem is. That is where Nigeria is ahead of us," Peters said, add-

ing that a team was working on a platform that will soon air Cameroonian movies online for Cameroonians to stream.

Fueled by low budgets, whirlwind production schedules and little professional collaboration, the industry is still young but has great potentials, said film editor and producer, Musi Gakehmi.

"As it's growing, as people are trusting production, more money is going to come in and we are going to have better equipment. Our equipment is not the Hollywood kind of equipment as of now, so whatever we have we make sure that we maximize its use," Gakehmi said.

"In the next ten years, I see Cameroon film industry like one of the biggest film industries in Africa. It is going to be really big because they are working and achieving a lot," said Shengang.

Xinhua



**We are just students who are working so hard to bring themselves up there. I will like to take my career as far as above the sky, as far as I can go**

# RADIO One

# RATIBA YA VIPINDI JUMATATU - JUMAPILI

MONDAY TIME PROGRAMME	TUESDAY TIME PROGRAMME	WEDNESDAY TIME PROGRAMME	THURSDAY TIME PROGRAMME	FRIDAY TIME PROGRAMME	SATURDAY TIME PROGRAMME	SUNDAY TIME PROGRAMME
05.00 AM HALI YA HEWA / KUMEPAMBAZUKA I 06.00 AM AMKA NA BBC 06.30 AM NIPASHE 06.50 AM MATANGAZO 07.00 AM NEWS BULLETIN 07.10 AM MATANGAZO 07.15 AM TAARIFA ZA BARABARANI 07.25 AM UDONDOZI WA MAGAZETI 07.40 AM KUMEPAMBAZUKA II 08.00 AM HABARI NYEPESI 08.10 AM HABARI ZA BIASHARA 08.10 AM HABARI ZA BIASHARA 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 NEWS BULLETIN 13.10 HRS DEATH ANNOUNCEMENTS 13.30 HRS DJ SHOW 16.00 HRS NEWS BRIEF 16.03 HRS DEATH ANNOUNCEMENTS 16.30 HRS HOJA YA LEO 18.30 HRS DIRA YA DUNIA BBC 19.30 HRS SPOTTI LEO 20.00 HRS NEWS BULLETIN 20.10 HRS RADIO ONE DOCTOR 21.00 HRS NEWS BRIEF 21.05 HRS HOJA YA LEO 21.30 HRS DIRA YA DUNIA BBC 21.30 HRS SPOTTI LEO 22.15 HRS NEWS BULLETIN (24 HRS) 22.15 HRS NEWS BRIEF 23.03 HRS AFRO TIZI 01:00-05:00HRS MUZIKI (MCHANGANYIKO)	05.00 AM HALI YA HEWA / KUMEPAMBAZUKA I 06.00 AM AMKA NA BBC 06.30 AM NIPASHE 06.50 AM MATANGAZO 07.00 AM NEWS BULLETIN 07.10 AM MATANGAZO 07.15 AM TAARIFA ZA BARABARANI 07.25 AM UDONDOZI WA MAGAZETI 07.40 AM KUMEPAMBAZUKA II 08.00 AM HABARI NYEPESI 08.10 AM HABARI ZA BIASHARA 08.10 AM HABARI ZA BIASHARA 09.00 AM HABARI ZA BIASHARA 09.10 AM MATANGAZO 09.20 AM BRAND TALK 09.30 AM KUMEPAMBAZUKA SHERIA 10.00 AM NEWS BRIEF 10.03 AM DEATH ANNOUNCEMENTS 10.10 AM YALIVOMO YAMO 13.00 HRS NEWS BULLETIN 13.10 HRS DEATH ANNOUNCEMENTS 13.30 HRS DJ SHOW 16.00 HRS NEWS BRIEF 16.03 HRS DEATH ANNOUNCEMENTS 16.30 HRS HOJA YA LEO 18.30 HRS DIRA YA DUNIA BBC 19.30 HRS SPOTTI LEO 20.00 HRS NEWS BULLETIN 20.10 HRS MATANGAZO / MUZIKI 21.00 HRS NEWS BRIEF 21.05 HRS CHAGUO LA DJ 22.00 HRS NEWS BULLETIN (24 HRS) 22.15 HRS AFRO TIZI 22.15 HRS AFRO TIZI 23.03 HRS NEWS BRIEF 23.03 HRS AFRO TIZI 01:00-05:00HRS MUZIKI (MCHANGANYIKO)	05.00 AM HALI YA HEWA / KUMEPAMBAZUKA I 06.00 AM AMKA NA BBC 06.30 AM NIPASHE 06.50 AM MATANGAZO 07.00 AM NEWS BULLETIN 07.10 AM MATANGAZO 07.15 AM TAARIFA ZA BARABARANI 07.25 AM UDONDOZI WA MAGAZETI 07.40 AM KUMEPAMBAZUKA II 08.00 AM HABARI NYEPESI 08.10 AM HABARI ZA BIASHARA 08.10 AM HABARI ZA BIASHARA 09.00 AM HABARI ZA BIASHARA 09.10 AM MATANGAZO 09.20 AM BRAND TALK 09.30 AM KUMEPAMBAZUKA MICHEZO 10.00 AM NEWS BRIEF 10.03 AM DEATH ANNOUNCEMENTS 10.10 AM YALIVOMO YAMO 13.00 HRS NEWS BULLETIN 13.10 HRS DEATH ANNOUNCEMENTS 13.30 HRS DJ SHOW 16.00 HRS NEWS BRIEF 16.03 HRS DEATH ANNOUNCEMENTS 16.30 HRS HOJA YA LEO 18.30 HRS DIRA YA DUNIA BBC 19.30 HRS SPOTTI LEO 20.00 HRS NEWS BULLETIN 20.10 HRS MATANGAZO / MUZIKI 21.00 HRS NEWS BRIEF 21.05 HRS CHAGUO LA DJ 22.00 HRS NEWS BULLETIN (24 HRS) 22.15 HRS AFRO TIZI 22.15 HRS AFRO TIZI 23.03 HRS NEWS BRIEF 23.03 HRS AFRO TIZI 01:00-05:00HRS MUZIKI (MCHANGANYIKO)	05.00 AM HALI YA HEWA / KUMEPAMBAZUKA I 06.00 AM AMKA NA BBC 06.30 AM NIPASHE 06.50 AM MATANGAZO 07.00 AM NEWS BULLETIN 07.10 AM MATANGAZO 07.15 AM TAARIFA ZA BARABARANI 07.25 AM UDONDOZI WA MAGAZETI 07.40 AM KUMEPAMBAZUKA II 08.00 AM HABARI NYEPESI 08.10 AM HABARI ZA BIASHARA 08.10 AM HABARI ZA BIASHARA 09.00 AM HABARI ZA BIASHARA 09.10 AM MATANGAZO 09.20 AM BRAND TALK 09.30 AM KUMEPAMBAZUKA UKIWI 10.00 AM NEWS BRIEF 10.03 AM DEATH ANNOUNCEMENTS 10.10 AM YALIVOMO YAMO 13.00 HRS NEWS BULLETIN 13.10 HRS DEATH ANNOUNCEMENTS 13.30 HRS DJ SHOW 16.00 HRS NEWS BRIEF 16.03 HRS DEATH ANNOUNCEMENTS 16.30 HRS HOJA YA LEO 18.30 HRS DIRA YA DUNIA BBC 19.30 HRS SPOTTI LEO 20.00 HRS NEWS BULLETIN 20.10 HRS MATANGAZO / MUZIKI 21.00 HRS NEWS BRIEF 21.05 HRS MALUMBANO YA HOJA 22.00 HRS NEWS BRIEF 23.03 HRS AFRO TIZI 01:00-05:00HRS MUZIKI (MCHANGANYIKO)	05.00 AM HALI YA HEWA / KUMEPAMBAZUKA I 06.00 AM AMKA NA BBC 06.30 AM NIPASHE 06.50 AM MATANGAZO 07.00 AM NEWS BULLETIN 07.10 AM MATANGAZO 07.15 AM TAARIFA ZA BARABARANI 07.25 AM UDONDOZI WA MAGAZETI 07.40 AM KUMEPAMBAZUKA II 08.00 AM HABARI NYEPESI 08.10 AM HABARI ZA BIASHARA 08.10 AM HABARI ZA BIASHARA 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 NEWS BULLETIN 13.10 HRS DEATH ANNOUNCEMENTS 13.30 HRS DJ SHOW 16.00 HRS NEWS BRIEF 16.03 HRS DEATH ANNOUNCEMENTS 16.30 HRS HOJA YA LEO 18.30 HRS DIRA YA DUNIA BBC 19.30 HRS SPOTTI LEO 20.00 HRS NEWS BULLETIN 20.10 HRS MATANGAZO / MUZIKI 21.00 HRS NEWS BRIEF 21.05 HRS NEWS BRIEF 22.00 HRS NEWS BULLETIN (24 HRS) 22.15 HRS WEEK END SHOW I 01:00 - 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05:00 MUZIKI (MCHANGANYIKO)

Tembelea mitandao ya kijamii ya Radio One



Radio One

## Reason horticulture pulling thousands of fortune seekers

By Guardian Reporter, Mbeya

HORTICULTURE is slowly, but surely becoming popular amongst Tanzanians, fresh data from the industry champion has shown.

For young people and women, horticulture holds more promise as it could generate quick, but clean money than other occupations, according to the latest observation by Tanzania Horticultural Association (TAHA)

Indeed, experts say, horticulture crops can take as little as three months to bear fruit, a key-driving factor attracting youth to venture into the industry.

TAHA says the eight days of the just ended Farmers' Exhibitions has seen thousands of people flocking into its stalls, all seeking support to make foray into green-gold industry.

Official data shows that TAHA had trained nearly 7,000 farmers and non-farmers, all targeting horticulture farming, on good agricultural practices during the 88 agricultural fair alone.

It is understood that TAHA participated

in 88 agricultural exhibitions in Arusha, Mbeya, Mwanza, Morogoro, and Unguja in Zanzibar.

"Traditionally, agriculture has been a hard sell, a phenomenon that extends well beyond the borders of Tanzania, but now things are changing as we are seeing many youth and women seek to venture into horticulture farming," said TAHA CEO, Dr. Jacqueline Mkindi.

She said that this year her team was extremely busy during the show, training on average 200 farmers and prospective ones on good agricultural practices on daily basis, displaying cutting-edge agricultural and climate smart technologies, imparting techniques to access finance and markets.

"Our experts offered them nutrition education, highlighted investment opportunities for SMEs in the fruits and vegetable value chain and displayed the newly TAHA's invented mobile kiosk" Dr. Mkindi noted. No wonder, TAHA has been awarded the highest prize in agriculture in 2022 for its work on expanding the scope for horticulture industry in the country.



At the climax of national Nane-nane agricultural show at John Mwakangale in Mbeya, TAHA was crowned as the winner at the NGOs category, overtaking all non-state actors who participated in this year's race.

"Our climate resilient agriculture approach to help farmers mitigate risks of climate change, reduce the cost of cultivation, increase productivity and enhance their adaptive capacities are the secrets behind our success" said Dr. Mkindi shortly after TAHA being declared winner before the President Samia Suluhu Hassan who graced

the climax of the Nane-nane fairs.

She explained that TAHA enhances farm productivity and profitability; makes farming practices climate resilient and nature friendly; and works with the government, development partners to link horticulture communities with reliable markets.

"Our efforts to reach out thousands of farmers in eight days stint, leading to scoop the prestigious award wouldn't be possible without the great support from our development partners like USAID, SIDA and EU" TAHA boss said.

Indeed, TAHA is currently enjoying support from USAID to implement the Commercial Horticulture for Transformed Economy (CHOTE) project, SIDA through Swedish Embassy on the Growing Wealth Through Horticulture (GROWTH), and Make it Grow (MIG) an EU funded project under AGRI-CONNECT for horticulture sustainability and economic development in Zanzibar.

Established in 2004, TAHA's key focus areas has been to improve the business-enabling environment, access to markets,

boost productivity and create competitiveness, promote Public-Private Partnerships (PPPs) and coordinate horticulture investments.

The organization also establishes market support infrastructures, provides technical support services, promote nutrition and gender equity as well as engage youth and women in horticulture.

As a result, TAHA has successfully managed to nurture the nascent horticulture into a multi-million dollar industry at the moment, winning a significant recognition as a key industry of the economy by the Government.

Official data speaks volumes on growth of industry in the past decade. Way back in 2006, there were less than 50 horticultural farmers in the country with insignificant production volumes for export markets.

Now, TAHA had brought together over 4.5 million both large-scale and smallholders farmers into a single bloc fortified by a common set of business oriented interests.

With an annual growth rate of 11 per cent, the horticultural industry has turned into the growth driver of the entire Tanzania's agricultural sector, which grows by 4 percent.

Horticulture's input to overall agrarian exports value has grown tremendously and is poised for leaps and bounds. As it stands now the sub-sector earns the economy nearly \$800 million annually, up from around \$100 million in 2006, making the industry a nascent undertaking to watch.

## NBC hands over two tractors to support farmers in Shinyanga

By Guardian Correspondent, Shinyanga

THE National Bank of Commerce (NBC) - Shinyanga branch has handed over two tractors on loan to farmers so as to boost farming and transform their economy.

Speaking during the handing over event here Joyce Chagonja, NBC-Shinyanga said the move is part of the bank's efforts to support the government achieve its goals in

transforming the agriculture sector through empowering farmers with modern equipment.

"These tractors will help enhance the agricultural sector as agriculture is the principal source of livelihood and with these machines it will certainly boost crop production," she said. She said NBC has a number of loan opportunities which farmers' can benefit including tractors, crop

insurance and other farming inputs. Joyce said that there are no hard conditions for getting the tractors, but the major thing is for the farmer to have his/her own farm.

"A farmer will first pay 25 percent of the total cost with the remaining 75 percent being contributed by the bank, the farmer will later pay the loan little by little and the repayments are cheap, not burdening the

farmer," she explained.

She said the handed over tractors cost 40.7m/- each where the farmers have contributed 25 percent of the total cost and 75 percent covered by the bank where the farmer will pay it slowly. The bank's branch manager further said they will continue supporting the residents by providing them innovative services to enable them improve their incomes.

"NBC recognized that agriculture is

the backbone of the country's economy as it hires the majority of people, this is why the bank is coming with more services to support growth of the sector," she added.

Elias Masumbuko, Shinyanga municipal mayor commended NBC for supporting the government's efforts in the agriculture sector.

He said the farming equipment which the bank offers in loan will greatly help

transform the economy by improving people's livelihoods.

He called on the beneficiary farmers to utilize the tractors well by increasing production.

Bujiku Fumbuka, one of the beneficiary farmers said the new tractors will help them a lot to improve their farming, expand fields and thus transport individual income and the country's economy.

## Bashe warns tobacco buying companies against corruption

By Guardian Correspondent, Mbeya

MINISTER for Agriculture Hussein Bashe has warned tobacco buyers against bribing cooperative society's officials to influence them to betray farmers over pricing.

Bashe issued the warning in Chunya recently during his tour in Mbeya and Njombe regions.

"There are companies that bribes cooperative society officials with 20/- per kilogram to silence them over payment of low prices to tobacco farmers," Bashe said.

Speaking in front of President Samia Suluhu Hassan, the minister said the government will not hesitate to terminate trading licences of the firms that would be proved to engage in corruption.

"Let me sound a warning to tobacco buyers and



others who want to cheat farmers, I will not hesitate to terminate your licences," he said, warning corrupt cooperative society officials who compromise farmers' interests by

colluding with the companies to offer farmers lower prices.

He advised farmers to resist exploitative prices being paid by some tobacco companies by reporting di-

rectly to him or his assistants about such malpractices.

"In my tenure of office as minister of agriculture, I will never allow seven people, who are the usual

combination of the leaders of primary cooperative societies, to continue to betray majority farmers," he noted.

Bashe said for the past three years tobacco farmers have been struggling for a market to sell their crop, but the good news is that a large tobacco processing company in Morogoro-Army Holdings has started operations.

"Farmers will now have a reliable market for the first time. Chunya farmers are getting \$2 per kg which is the highest price in recent years," the minister noted.

He emphasized that the future of tobacco farming is bright, because the government will start subsidizing all tobacco farmers to get inputs and increase quality and quantity of the commodity.

"President Samia is giving subsidy to

farmers so that they can increase production, we will not allow anyone to frustrate such efforts," said Bashe.

He noted that subsidized fertiliser will cover all crops including tobacco adding that it is already been imported, awaiting distribution to farmers.

He added: "As a result of the arrival of the subsidized fertiliser, farmers will pay less and therefore we will definitely increase production of the crop next season."

The minister urged farmers countrywide to register themselves so that they can be identified and be accorded the required agronomy services.

"The tobacco board executive director is here, please ensure that all farmers are registered accordingly for the government to easily identify them," he stressed.

## KEC out to offer free vocational training short courses online

By Henry Mwangonde

THE Kibaha Education Centre (KEC) has launched a programme to offer free vocational training short courses online to promote the expansion and quality of labour market driven skills development opportunities to enhance self-employment.

Speaking when announcing the programme, Director General of the KEC, Robert Shilingi said the programme which will be implemented through the Kibaha Folk Development College (KFDC) is in line with the government plan to eradicate poverty.

Shilingi said the courses to be offered include tailoring, plumbing, driving, mechanics, welding, electrical wiring, computers and entrepreneurship.

"The aim of offering the online training is to reach out to a number of people in need of the training wherever they are," he said.

He said those who need to get training will be required to register in the KFDC portal and will later after the training receive certificates.

Principal for the KFDC Joseph Nchimbi said the college has already established the system for offering the training online which will be available via a link.

more girls into the programme saying by the end of the training, participants will be given certificates.

"The courses will run for three months, and will begin on August, 29 this year," he said.

The programme is implemented through the Skills Development Fund (SDF) under the Tanzania Education Authority (TEA) with funding from the World Bank.

The SDF was established by the government through National Skills Development Strategy (NSDS) 2016-2027 to ensure development of a skilled workforce in key economic sectors in the country.

The overall goal of the SDF is to minimize skills gaps by rapidly increasing the supply of graduates with skills relevant to the labour market.

To achieve this objective, the SDF will aim to expand the number of individuals with the relevant skills in key occupations and sectors as stipulated in NSDS.

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



Tanzania Revenue Authority's electronic tax stamps (R) project officer Ruekaza Rwegoshora (L), give explanations to journalists on how the ETS verification system works. This was the just-ended Farmers' Exhibition at John Mwakangale grounds in Mbeya region, last week. Photo: Courtesy of TRA

# Chunya DC allots 20,000 acres to cashew farming

By Guardian Correspondent, Chunya

CHUNYA District Council in Mbeya Region has set aside 20,000 acres of land for cashew farming with youth being the major target in the investment.

Francis Alfred, director of Cashew Board of Tanzania (CBT) the move is aimed to facilitate the country implement and achieve the Agenda 10/30 to attain a 10 percent annual growth rate for the agriculture sector by 2030.

In an interview with this paper over the weekend, Francis said one of the board's major strategies is to invest and ensure that cashew becomes among the most important grown crops in Mbeya.

"We have currently secured a big plot in Chunya for farming, our focus is to help young people focus on agriculture to get rid of poverty," he said.

He added, the board plans to invest in promoting collective farming strategy so as to get high yields and be able to achieve the agenda 10/30 by improving the lives of farmers and the economy.

Francis noted that agenda 10/30 focuses on improving the productivity of different crops based on the value to meet the lucrative markets, particularly the external markets.

"We are promoting collective farmers so as to ensure that all the acres are cultivated, we will provide quality seedlings to the farmers which in turn produces high yields for local market and export," he said.

He added that in the last season, the board produced 15 million of cashew seedlings and in this season, they are planning to harvest over 700,000 tonnes of cashew nuts while reaching about 300,000 farmers.

Gerald Kusaya, Commissioner General of the Drugs Control and Enforcement Authority (DCEA), urged the board to increase the pace of supplying quality seedlings to farmers while supporting them on proper farming.

He said the board should also invest heavily in research so as to achieve its goals.



## TALIRI embarks on pasture, forage production programme

By Correspondent Valentine Oforo, Mpwapwa

THE Tanzania Livestock Research Institute (TALIRI) Mpwapwa center has embarked on a project aimed to boost pasture and forage production.

The project is geared towards empowering livestock keepers in the central zone corridor to practice zero grazing—a recommended type of farming method that involves keeping cows inside and bringing

them cut grass, rather than letting them feed in the fields.

Center's Pasture and Forage Senior Researcher, Erick Kimaro said the vital program was based on thorough research and production of *cenchrus ciliaris* (buffel grass).

"This kind of grass (*cenchrus ciliaris*) has great potential in terms of milk production as well as in growth promotion, however, the grass has proved to grow well in semi-arid regions," he said.

Together with that, Kimaro unveiled that throughout the robust program, the centre was producing the seeds for the said pasture, purposeful to market them to the dairy farmers at affordable prices.

"At the centre, we have so far established a 240 acre farm for the production of the *cenchrus ciliaris* seeds in order to ensure the dairy farmers within the country are getting the seeds and growing them on their own," he stated, noting that the centre was also offering free training to the

livestock keeper on key areas over how to prepare their farms, plant the buffel grass as well as how to store the grass in a recommended professional manner.

"Currently we're marketing the seeds for the buffel grass at price of at least 20,000/- per 1kg and principally, one acre consume 5kg," he detailed, challenged the dairy farmers to turn out in multitude to procure the seeds as well getting relevant knowledge at the Mpwapwa-based centre.

## Brewer for Mount Kilimanjaro climb to honour the Royal Tour

By Guardian Reporter, Moshi

SERENGETI Breweries Limited (SBL) has paid tribute to the Royal Tour campaign championed by the President Samia Suluhu Hassan by setting off to climb Mount Kilimanjaro—the Africa's highest mountain.

The campaign is also part of their internal programs to promote physical health and a safe and healthy workplace.

The audacious 5,895-meter trek began on August 14th at the Machame gate by 28 SBL staff from SBL breweries in Mwanza, Moshi, and Dar es Salaam, with a planned descent on August 20th.

Before flagging off the climb on Mount Kilimanjaro, the SBL Managing Director, Mark Ocitti, said, "Tanzania is endowed with a lot of tourism-related natural resources." Therefore, it gives us satisfaction to extend our support to the President's Royal Tour campaign. Moreover, this exercise is a deliberate move to position one of our most celebrated flagship products, Serengeti Trademark at the top of Mount Kilimanjaro."

Ocitti said: "This will be an ongoing campaign that will be exploring other key honeypots in Tanzania, which we believe will also be supporting the development agenda of this beautiful country. Therefore, we will be carrying out a number of health routines to help our staff enjoy life every day and everywhere through a life-work balance schedule."

One of the staff members, Rispa Hatibu, before she took off, acclaimed, "as hard and high as it may seem to climb the mountain, I am already excited to reach the peak." It will be painful, exhilarating, and frustrating at times, but step by step, we will reach the roof of Africa."

The SBL Mt. Kilimanjaro challenge campaign comes just in time while the government's ambition is to collect \$6 billion in revenue from tourism by 2025—with a goal to attain five million tourists per year. However, some reports suggest that the number of tourists will cross the one million mark by the end of this year after dropping to 600,000 in 2020 from 1.5 million in 2019.



## TPA vows to improve services at its ports to make Tanzania a regional business hub

By Polycarp Machira, Dodoma

TANZANIA Ports Authority (TPA) has expressed its commitment to improve of services at all its ports in line with the government's vision to make Tanzania a business hub in the region.

Dr Boniphase Nobeji, TPA's director, corporate planning, quality and risk management made the statement here at the weekend, adding a lot of technological changes and expansion work are taking place.

He said TPA oversee operations in some 86 official ports in the country with 23 being in Indian Ocean, other 29 in Lake Vic-

toria, 22 in Lake Tanganyika and 12 others in Lake Nyasa.

Speaking on behalf of the director general, he said TPA is implementing its four priority areas as indicated in the 4th Corporate Strategic Plan 2021/22-2025/26).

He named them as improving the ports infrastructure and having in place modern equipment needed for ship and cargo services.

It is also working on having sustainable human and financial resources as well as adopting modern information and communications technology (ICT), required for different types of ships, cargo and national sys-

tems.

Others are to increase cargo services to the neighbouring countries served by Tanzanian ports and strengthening security, and environmental safety during service delivery as well as working in accordance with international guidelines.

Dr Nobeji made the explanations while briefing journalists on the activities of TPA, achievements in the 2021/2022 and plan for the 2022/2023 financial year.

He said Between July 2021 and June, 2022, TPA handled 20.665 million tonnes of cargo, being an increase of 16 percent from the 17.775 million tonnes of cargo in

the period between July, 2020 and July 2021.

It also handled 823,404 twenty foot equivalent unit (TEUs) in the same period, being 12 percent increase from 735,442 TEUs in the previous year.

He said car cargoes handled at the Dar es Salaam port in the period between July 2021 and July 2022 was 203,932, equivalent to an increase of 38 percent from 147,566 cargo in the previous year.

On the other hand cargo on transit to neighbouring countries through Dar es Salaam port reached 7.801 million tonnes in between July 2021 and July 2022,

being an increase by 39.9 percent from 5,580 million tonnes in the previous year.

Dar es Salaam port, he said serves neighbouring countries of DR-Congo, Zambia, Malawi, Rwanda, Burundi, Uganda, Zimbabwe, Comoro and South Sudan.

In terms of revenue, the manager nited that TPA managed to collect 1.095 trl/- between July, 2021 and July 2022, being 97.5 percent of the target and increase of 20.3 percent from 910.4 bn/- collected in the same period in the previous year.

On the 2022/2023 plan, he noted that TPA targets a revenue of

1,224.405 bn/- whereby expenditure is 866.6051 bn/- and excess of 358.354 bn/- before tax.

Out of this, budget allocated to projects and investments, including purchase of equipment is 762.606 bn/-, whereby 662.493 bn/- is revenue from own sources and 100.112 bn/- is from the government.

He said the budget will go in equipping Dar es Salaam port with new equipment like Rubber Ryred Rantry crane (RTG), Ship to Shore Gantry Crane (SSG), Tug Boat, Reach Stalkers, All Terrain Mobile Crane and Fork Lifts with different container handling capacities.

In terms of successes, he said the port hosted and served the .MV. Gland Duke Panama that towed 4,041 vehicles, being the first of its kind in the history of Tanzania.

It also received and served MV Pope John that had 41,000 tonnes shipment cargo. He said Tanga port served some big ships with petroleum cargo like MTUACC Sila that offloaded 39,811.762 tonnes, Mv.Nod Joy that offloaded 36,448 tonnes and MV.Silver Zoe which offloaded 38,446, all having a total capacity of 114,707 tonnes.

Ends

# Illicit financial flows a major challenge for African nations

By Mikatekiso Kubayi and Odillie Ayodele

AFRICAN leaders and their US counterparts will be deliberating on issues of concern to both and either sides. Illicit financial flows (IFFs) have not ceased to be one of the major challenges facing developing economies, particularly in mineral-rich Africa.

Considering the already difficult conditions African economies faced prior to the Covid-19 pandemic, IFFs do not seem to enjoy enough attention and priority.

The UN Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD) has conducted a study on illicit financial flows. When reading this 2020 report titled "Tackling Illicit Financial Flows for Sustainable Development in Africa", themes such as African agency and the AU's seven priority areas spring to mind.

While the report recognises that tax evasion is a common global challenge, as the title of the report correctly suggests, supported by research, Africa's development is heavily impeded by this. African development and integration and the reinforcement of the African voice in global matters are two of the seven AU priority areas of action.

One of the greatest hindrances to Africa's stability and long-term development prospects are IFFs. Africa loses about 3.7% of its gross domestic product, which is approximately \$88.6 billion (about R1.4 trillion) annually. This money could easily have been used to finance at least half of what is necessary to meet the Sustainable Development Goals. But Africa cannot deal with these challenges alone as corruption does not operate in a vacuum. Politically connected enablers, practically impenetrable trust accounts are all part of the global ecosystem that allows for the outflow of money from vulnerable states.

The UNCTAD report begins by acknowledging an effort in African agency by arguing that 2020 is a milestone for Africa and multilateralism and



identifying the African Continental Free Trade Area, a priority area for the AU, as an example.

This report is important in the context of African agency because among the recommendations is the encouragement for strengthened multilateralism: a strength in collective action.

It quotes the UN resolution on the "promotion of international co-operation to combat illicit financial flows and strengthen good practice in assets return to foster sustainable development".

Frameworks such as the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development's Base Erosion Profit Shifting, World Bank and UN's Stolen Asset Re-

covery Initiative are instrumental in this work.

The two instruments are aimed at capacity development, information sharing and joint actions on combating IFFs in its various manifestations.

These include corporate tax evasion, which according to the High Level Panel on Illicit Financial Flows from Africa accounts for 65% of IFFs. In addition, the AU, African Tax Administration Forum based in South Africa, partner entities and donor governments organised and ran the Africa Initiative, in which 32 of the 54 AU member countries partici-

pate. This is yet another significant effort at strengthen-

ing tax administration capacity, information sharing and the promotion of tax transparency. The 27th AU Summit of 2016, which appointed President Paul Kagame of Rwanda to lead the AU reforms also identified and resolved, among other declarations, that a 0.2% levy on qualifying imports must be charged effective from 2017 to fund the AU and its operations to help bring to an end a dependence on donor funding.

Beyond the various multilateral and bilateral agreements that are signed, it is critical that wealthier countries also commit to fiscal transparency. During his visit to South Africa, US Secretary of State Antony Blinken released details of the new US-

Africa strategy.

The first strategic pillar of the strategy, Foster Openness and Open Societies, aims to work with African governments and civil society to address corruption and promote fiscal transparency.

It refers to the US Strategy on countering corruption which, alongside the US Foreign Corrupt Practices Act, creates a framework to deal with all members involved in corrupt dealings, including lawyers, investment advisers and accountants. What this means is that the US will be closely working with law enforcement counterparts globally to counter IFFs and other forms of corruption. Hopefully, this change of tack, alongside the myriad anti-corruption tools, would mean that all those involved in the illegal outflow of funds would be held to account.

More importantly, African citizens need to hold their political and business leaders to account - they need to vote at the ballot box and with their wallets. Combating IFFs is a fundamental step toward addressing the domestic and global governance challenges.

The subversion of State resources, including development assistance, and the crippling of state institutions cannot continue unabated, particularly as the world teeters towards a possible global recession.

Reform of the global financial architecture would make it harder for individuals and corporations to benefit from porous frameworks and apparent indifference to corruption. African countries need to tighten internal controls and leverage external partnerships to curb IFFs and ensure stable and sustainable economies.

## Ecobank gets strong performance in 1st half of 2022, boost PBT by 24 pct

LOMÉ

ECOBANK Group has reported strong performance during the first half of 2022, with unaudited Profit before Tax (PBT) increasing by 24percent to \$261million.

The group also announced a record return on tangible equity of 19.5% and increased earnings per share for shareholders by 24% year-on-year.

Despite the challenging operating environment of high inflation, weakening African currencies, and slower economic growth, the Group's net revenues increased by 10% to \$910million.

These results demonstrate the sustained success of our revenue expansion goals under our 'Execution Momentum' strategy. They also show the effectiveness of the Bank's diversified operating model, which impacts our customers and clients positively, as we benefit from our 'Manufacturing centrally, Distributing locally' strategic approach. Our business lines, Corporate and Investment Banking (CIB), Consumer Banking (CSB) and Commercial Banking (CMB), grew their PBT by 33%, 43% and 15%, respectively. The performance of each of our regions also demonstrates the strength of our diversified pan-African presence. Nigeria, French-Speaking West Africa countries (UEMOA), Central, East, Southern African countries (CESA) and Anglophone West Africa markets (AWA) grew their PBT by 74%, 42%, 37% and 8%, respectively.

During the first half of this year, clients' economic activities continued their post-pandemic recovery trajectories. Higher spreads on buying and selling currencies for clients and higher payment volumes increased our revenue. The payments business grew 23%, or \$22million, to \$119million (13% of Group revenues). The acquisition of more merchants and the increased usage of our cards by customers through sales and promotional marketing campaigns drove this growth. In addition, customers continue to trust us and adopt our digital platforms (Omni Plus, Omni Lite, Ecobank Online, Xpress Points) across our businesses. As a result, customer deposits increased by 3% year-on-year, with the value of digital transactions rising by \$10.5billion to \$39.1billion.

Ade Ayeyemi, Group Chief Executive Officer, commenting on this solid half-year performance, said: "Our results for the first six months of 2022 reflect the benefits of our diversified business and geographies. It also shows our resilience and execution capabilities in the service of clients and customers in a challenging environment while generating adequate returns for our shareholders."

Ayeyemi continued: "Our investments in technology and digital capabilities are scalable and have reduced our cost-to-serve. Coupled with revenue growth, we achieved a record cost-to-income ratio of 56.0%. We increased impairment charges to reflect heightened credit risks. More importantly, we have proactively built-up central impairment reserves of \$206 million, which we can deploy if needed in a stressed credit environment. At the same time, our balance sheet remains liquid and adequately capitalised, providing us the capacity to serve our customers better."

During the first half of this year, Ecobank Group, across its pan-African footprint, won nearly 20 Awards from highly respected industry media and corporations. These reflect the beneficial impact on our services to our customers and communities, anchored in our vision to contribute to Africa's economic development and financial integration. Indeed, a few days ago, Euromoney named Ecobank as Africa's Best Bank, Africa's Best Digital Bank and Africa's Best Bank for SMEs at its 2022 awards ceremony.



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## WORLD

## UN-chartered ship in Ukraine readying for journey to Africa

ODESA

THE United Nations-chartered ship MV Brave Commander will depart Ukraine for Africa in coming days after it finishes loading more than 23,000 tons of wheat in the Ukrainian port of Pivdennyi, a UN official said.

The ship, which arrived in the port near Odesa, will sail to Ethiopia via a grain corridor through the Black Sea brokered by the United Nations and Türkiye in late July.

It will be the first humanitarian food aid cargo bound for Africa since the Ukraine crisis began in February under the framework of the Black Sea Grain Initiative.

The cargo was funded with donations from the United Nations World Food Programme, US Agency for International Development and several private donors. A total 16 ships have now departed from Ukraine following the deal with Russia to allow a resumption of grain exports from Ukraine's Black Sea ports, after they were stalled for five months due to the conflict.

The agreement was reached last month amid fears that the loss of Ukrainian grain supplies would lead to severe food shortages and even outbreaks of famine in parts of the world.

Ukraine has some 20 million tons of grain left over from last year's crop, while this year's wheat harvest is also estimated at 20 million



In this file photo taken on Aug 7, 2022, a man takes a picture as the Glory bulk carrier makes its way from the port in Odesa, Ukraine. According to Ukraine's Ministry of Infrastructure, the ship under the Marshall Islands' flag is carrying 66 thousand tons of Ukrainian corn. AP

tons. So far most of the cargoes under the deal have carried grain for animal feed or for fuel.

As part of the UN deal, all ships

are inspected in Istanbul by the Joint Coordination Centre, where Russia, Ukrainian, Turkish and UN personnel work.

Agencies

## Salman Rushdie still hospitalised as attack suspect pleads not guilty

ACCLAIMED author Salman Rushdie remained hospitalized on Saturday with serious injuries a day after he was repeatedly stabbed at a public appearance in New York state, while police sought to determine the motive behind an attack that drew international condemnation.

The accused attacker, 24-year-old Hadi Matar of Fairview, New Jersey, pleaded not guilty to charges of attempted murder and assault at a court appearance on Saturday, his court-appointed lawyer, Nathaniel Barone, told Reuters.

Rushdie, 75, was set to deliver a lecture on artistic freedom at Chautauqua Institution in western New York when police say Matar rushed the stage and stabbed the Indian-born writer, who has lived with a bounty on his head since his 1988 novel "The Satanic Verses" prompted Iran to urge Muslims to kill him.

Following hours of surgery, Rushdie was on a ventilator and unable to speak as of Friday evening, according to his agent, Andrew Wylie. The novelist was likely to lose an eye and had nerve damage in his arm and wounds to his liver, Wylie said in an email.

Wylie did not respond to messages requesting updates on Rushdie's condition on Saturday, though the New York Times reported that Rushdie had started to talk, citing Wylie.

The stabbing was condemned by writers and politicians around the world as an assault on freedom of expression. In a statement on Saturday, President Joe Biden commended the "universal ideals" that Rushdie and his work embody.

"Truth. Courage. Resilience. The ability to share ideas without fear," Biden said. "These are the building blocks of any free and open society."

Neither local nor federal authorities offered any additional details on the investigation on Saturday. Police said on Friday they had not established a motive for the attack.

An initial law enforcement review of Matar's social media accounts showed he was sympathetic to Shi'ite extremism and Iran's Islamic Revolutionary Guard Corps (IRGC), although no definitive links had been found, according to NBC New York.

Asked to comment on the case, Matar's lawyer Barone said,



Hadi Matar, 24, center, listens to his public defense attorney Nathaniel Barone, left, addresses the judge while being arraigned in the Chautauqua County Courthouse in Mayville, NY, yesterday. AP

"We're kind of in the early stages and, quite frankly, in cases like this, I think the important thing to remember is people need to keep an open mind. They need to look at everything. They can't just assume something happened for why they think something happened."

A preliminary hearing in the case is scheduled for Friday, he said.

Matar was born in California and recently moved to New Jer-

sey, the NBC New York report said, adding that he had a fake driver's license on him. He was arrested at the scene by a state trooper after being wrestled to the ground by audience members.

Witnesses said he did not speak as he attacked the author. Rushdie was stabbed 10 times, prosecutors said during Matar's arraignment, according to the Times.

The assault was premeditated; prosecutors said in court that Matar traveled by bus to Chautauqua

Institution, an educational retreat about 12 miles (19 km) from the shores of Lake Erie, and bought a pass that admitted him to Rushdie's talk, the Times reported. Attendees said there were no obvious security checks.

The county district attorney's office did not respond to requests for comment on Saturday.

FBI investigators went to Matar's last listed address, in Fairview, a Bergen County borough just across the Hudson River from Manhattan, on Friday evening, NBC New York reported.

There was no visible police presence on Saturday at the house, a two-story brick-and-mortar home in a largely Spanish-speaking neighborhood. A woman who entered the house declined to speak to reporters gathered outside.

Rushdie, who was born into a Muslim Kashmiri family in Bombay, now Mumbai, before moving to Britain, has long faced death threats for "The Satanic Verses," viewed by some Muslims as containing blasphemous passages. The book was banned in many countries with large Muslim populations.

Agencies

## Iranian nuclear deal agreements to be reached as early as next week, says Russian diplomat

MOSCOW

THE final agreement on restoration of the Joint Comprehensive Plan of Action (JCPOA) on the Iranian nuclear program may be reached as early as next week in the event of favorable development of events, Russian Permanent Representative to International Organizations in Vienna Mikhail Ulyanov told TASS in an interview.

"In the event of favorable development of events the final agreement may be reached as early as next week," he said when asked a respective question.

"However, it is possible if all countries participating in the Vienna talks agree with the version of the text provided by EU coordinators on August 8. If amendments, objections appear it is difficult to project further developments now. We have to wait for the beginning of next week," the diplomat said.



EU coordinators have made several amendments to the text that is on the table now, Ulyanov added.

"This is not an EU text, but the one de-

veloped by all participants of the talks that have been underway since last April. As coordinators the EU's representatives may offer compromise options, which they

did. Indeed, the US has apparently agreed, whereas Iran has not yet defined its position on the text, which is why I will not speculate on what issues Teheran may still have," he explained.

In 2015, the five permanent members of the UN Security Council and Germany reached a nuclear deal with Iran in order to address the crisis around its nuclear program.

In 2018, then-US President Donald Trump decided to pull out of the agreement, with Washington slapping its most sweeping sanctions ever on Tehran. The current occupant of the Oval Office, Joe Biden, has repeatedly indicated his support for reentering the nuclear deal.

Since last April, Russia, the UK, Germany, China, the US and France have been conducting discussions with Iran in Vienna on reviving the JCPOA in its original form.

Agencies

## Zimbabwe's central bank to release smaller gold coins for affordability by ordinary

HARARE

THE Reserve Bank of Zimbabwe (RBZ), the central bank, has said it would release smaller units of gold coins into the market in November this year in response to public demand and to allow ordinary Zimbabweans to buy them.

The RBZ introduced gold coins into the market in July this year as a store of value amid rising inflation and rapid depreciation of the local currency.

The coins entered the market at 1,823.83 U.S. dollars apiece, a figure which is far much higher to be afforded by many Zimbabweans.

"Following the successful launch of the gold coins on 25 July 2022 and in response to public demand, the Bank shall introduce and release into the market gold coins in units of a tenth ounce, quarter ounce and half an ounce for sale with effect from mid-November 2022," RBZ Governor John Mangudya said in his mid-term monetary policy statement released on Thursday.

Mangudya said the features, characteristics and sale terms and conditions shall remain the same as the current trading arrangements of the gold coins in circulation.

Among other characteristics, the gold coins have liquid asset status, prescribed asset status, can be tradable and be used as collateral, and can be bought back at the instance of the holder. Individuals, domestic corporates including institutional investors are allowed to buy the gold coins in both local and foreign currency while international buyers can only buy the coins in foreign currencies that include the U.S. dollar, South African Rand and the British Pound.

The smallest coin, containing just over 3.11 grams of gold, will cost 188.48 U.S. dollars or local currency equivalent at the interbank rate, at one-tenth of the price of the first gold coin released in July, also known as the "Mosi-Oa-Tunya," which weighs one troy ounce with a purity of 22 carats.

Mosi-oa Tunya, which means the "Smoke that thunders" in the local language, refers to the Victoria Falls on the border between Zimbabwe and Zambia.

The actual price when it is introduced will be the world price of gold for one-tenth of a troy ounce plus a 5 percent minting and distribution fee. The introduction of the gold coins is part of the central bank's measures to tackle the country's currency crisis through exchange rate stabilisation.

Xinhua

## Cash-strapped Britons give up pets as living costs soar

LONDON

STOOD on her hind legs to greet any prospective owner who might approach her glass-doored kennel, Harriet is a black English cocker spaniel abandoned as a deepening cost-of-living crisis pushes growing numbers of Britons to part with their pets.

She was found running along a busy road in London after witnesses saw her pushed out of a car and is one of 206 dogs and 164 cats currently being looked after at rehoming centers run by the Battersea animal charity.

It is a similar story at other centers across the country - with some seeing record inquiries for dog and cat returns - as the tightest squeeze on living standards since at least the 1960s forces many owners to decide the additional cost of food plus hundreds of pounds in vet bills is no longer manageable.

"We are concerned that's going to be an increasing reason for people bringing their dogs in to Battersea," Steve Craddock, who manages the center in southwest London, told Reuters.

Exotic pets such as snakes and lizards are also proving too expensive due to their need for specialist heating and lighting. Three snakes, including an 2.4-meter boa constrictor, were recently dumped in pillow cases outside a reptile shop, the Royal Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals told Reuters.

The trend, which follows a surge in demand for pets during COVID-19 pandemic lockdowns in a country known for its love of animals, comes as households brace for energy bills to more than triple in January on last year, hammering people's incomes.

The Bank of England has warned Britain faces a long recession

Dogs Trust, which currently has 692 dogs needing homes in 21 centers across the country, said the last time it had seen anything like this was in the wake of the 2008 financial crash.

"This cost-of-living crisis has crept up on us a lot more quickly than people ever expected," said the Trust's operations director Adam Clowes.

Such is the pressure that the charity is considering whether it should expand an emergency support fund, normally reserved for people on welfare benefits who need short-term financial support to keep their pets, to more middle income earners.

Animal charities say they are also worried the squeeze on living standards will have an impact on donations, though they are not seeing this yet.

People's Daily

## The will of the people cannot be defied and those who play with fire will end up getting burnt

IN response to U.S. House of Representatives Speaker Nancy Pelosi's visit to China's Taiwan region, an egregious act of provocation against China, China decided to adopt sanctions on Pelosi and her immediate family members and take eight countermeasures against the U.S., China's Ministry of Foreign Affairs announced on Aug. 5.

Meanwhile, in order to sternly deter the U.S. and Taiwan from continuing to make negative moves to further their collusion, the Chinese People's Liberation Army (PLA) has conducted live-fire joint combat exercises and training on an unprecedented scale in the waters and airspace off the Taiwan Island over the past few days.

These powerful actions have fully demonstrated that China has the determination, means, and capability to safeguard its national unity, national sovereignty, and territorial integrity.

The effective countermeasures taken by the Chinese government and the PLA's proven ability to launch precision strikes and perform area-denial tasks have helped external forces attempting to interfere in China's internal affairs and the "Taiwan independence" separatist forces better understand what did China mean by "The will of the people cannot be defied and those who play with fire will perish by it," "Let's see what happens if she actually goes," and "What needs to be done will be done".

When China said that it firmly opposes secession aimed at "Taiwan independence" and external interference, and never allows any room for "Taiwan independence" in whatever form, it meant what it said.

Attempting to use Taiwan to contain China, the U.S. made a malicious provocation first, and China has been compelled to act in self-defense. No one is qualified to make irresponsible remarks on China's countermeasures.

During the past few days, people from all walks of life in Taiwan have staged protests against Pelosi's visit to the island. They exposed Pelosi's despicable trick to stir up tensions across the Taiwan Strait, fool the people in Taiwan

and bring scourge to the island for her own political gains, and denounced the Democratic Progressive Party (DPP) authorities' colluding with external forces, deliberately escalating cross-strait confrontation, and constantly making provocations in pursuit of "Taiwan independence".

Widely circulated remarks by protestors in Taiwan include "Pelosi has brought a time bomb to Taiwan" and "People in Taiwan cannot allow politicians to make a mess in Taiwan without cleaning it up".

Such voices have reflected the shared opinions of people in Taiwan who reject manipulation by external forces and refuse to be held hostage by the DPP au-

thorities. China must be and will surely be reunified, which will not change regardless of the will of some die-hard anti-China forces from the U.S. side or the illusion of separatist forces seeking "Taiwan independence".

The plot to incite separatist activities seeking "Taiwan independence" represents a total misjudgment and miscalculation of the situation. The U.S.-Taiwan collusion will only expedite the destruction of the "Taiwan independence" forces. Pelosi's visit to Taiwan constituted a gross violation of the one-China principle and a malicious infringement of China's national sovereignty. It has not only triggered strong indignation among the Chinese people, but aroused

widespread opposition from the international community.

So far, more than 160 countries have spoken up for justice, reiterating their commitment to the one-China principle and support for China's efforts to safeguard national sovereignty and territorial integrity, while pointing out that the provocative visit made by the U.S. side was a breach of its commitment to China and a violation of the basic norms governing international relations.

As Pelosi's Taiwan visit has created tensions, UN Secretary-General Antonio Guterres affirmed the international organization's commitment to the one-China principle at a recent press conference.

People's Daily



## Ethiopia urged to harness tourism sector potential

ADDIS ABABA

EXPERTS and policymakers attending an event on tourism and technology have called for concerted efforts to harness Ethiopia's untapped potential in the tourism sector.

They made the call Wednesday during the opening of the Tourism and Technology Week that aims to create a policy discussion platform for tourism-related issues, enhance networking opportunities for tourism digital champions and innovators, as well as bring together partners in the tourism sector.

Ethiopian Minister of Tourism Naisse Chali said that Ethiopia is working to add value to its natural and historical tourist attraction sites so as to fully tap the tourism sector.

As part of the event, panel discussions will be held focusing on tourism in the Ethiopian macroeconomic policy framework, the nexus between tourism and technology, as well as job creation, among others.

Shimelis Abdisa, president of Ethiopia's Oromia regional state, said that the East African country, despite be-

ing naturally endowed with potential tourist attraction sites, is yet to tap into its huge potential due to various hurdles.

Abdisa said the challenges include lack of adequate funding, insufficient travel marketing, and infrastructure deficits along the tourist attraction areas.

He said concerted efforts are currently underway at the national and regional levels to harness the country's untapped tourism endowments.

According to the organizers, with the advent of technological advancements and rapid digitalization, all travel companies have shunned geographical barriers and are adopting online methods to approach their clients.

Lack of finance, high training costs, the rapid pace of technological change, and the cost of high-speed broadband, however, are some major obstacles to further the implementation of digital technology in tourism.

Ethiopia's tourism sector has suffered from recurrent conflicts, which were exacerbated by the socioeconomic

## Filipino 'Lolas' struggle for apology from Japan for 'comfort woman' crime

MANILA

AS one of the Philippine women forced into sexual slavery by Japanese troops during World War II, Isabelita Vinuya, from Pampanga province, lived in the hope that she would get justice from the Japanese government for their mass violence nearly eight decades ago.

The hope to live long enough to receive the apology compensation for her ordeal as a "comfort woman" died on Nov. 23, 2021, when Vinuya succumbed to pneumonia at age 89.

Like many victims of Japanese wartime atrocities, Vinuya passed away without seeing justice. "Lola," a Tagalog word that means grandmother, refers to the aging Filipino "comfort women" victims as a group. What happened to Vinuya could also happen to other Lolas.

According to Sharon Silva, coordinator of non-profit organization "Lila Pilipina" (League of Filipino Grandmother), which helps Lolas seek justice, more than 1,000 Filipino women were forced to serve as sex slaves for the Japanese aggressors when Japan occupied the Philippines from December 1941 until its defeat in August 1945.

In 2012, the day of Aug. 14 was designated the International Memorial Day for "Comfort Women" by the 11th Asian Alliance Conference for "Comfort Women."

Among the Filipino victims, 174 became members of Lila Pilipina, while around 90 others grouped themselves as Malaya Lolas when they all made public their experiences in the 1990s.

The Lolas are now in their 90s, and many of them are sickly and poor. Silva refused to tell the number of alive victims, fearing that the fading group might be flagrantly ignored by the Japanese government.

The "Lila Pilipina" office in Quezon City, a suburb of the Philippine capital, is a small memorial hall for Lolas. An entire wall is covered with photos of Lolas, silently complaining about the heinous crimes committed by the Japanese troops.

Silva told Xinhua that the atrocities the Lolas suffered were horrible.

"In the case of Lola Estelita, she was a 13-year-old girl when she was caught by a Japanese militarist and brought to a house, where she became a 'comfort



Former Filipino "comfort woman" Estelita Dy (L), presenting flowers to a historical marker titled "In Memory of the Victims of Military Sexual Slavery and Violence During the Second World War" in Paranaque City in Metro Manila, the Philippines. File photo

woman' for about three weeks," said Silva, adding that another victim even witnessed the massacre of her family right in front of her eyes, before she and two other sisters were taken to a garrison.

The horrific sexual violence left the Lolas with nightmare memories, lifelong disabilities, and severe trauma, both mentally and physically. "They never got jobs. Some of them never got legally married. Most of them never traveled. Some of them never had kids," said Silva. "Many of them never really got out of poverty," she added.

For Silva, a dwindling number of Lolas means they may not be able to wait for a formal and sincere apology from the Japanese government even till their deaths.

"They demand justice. First and foremost, an apology from the Japanese government. Also, this history must be reflected in the history textbooks for young people to learn and remember it," said Silva.

In December 2017, a memorial statue of "comfort women" was inaugurated on the banks of Manila Bay, drawing strong protests from the Japanese government.

Four months later, the statue was removed under Tokyo's constant diplomatic pressure, and the artist who built it was even threatened.

According to Silva, another "comfort

women" memorial statue in Laguna Province was also ordered to be removed just three days after its installation due to pressure from the Japanese government.

In recent years, some forces in Japan continue to deny the forced recruitment of "comfort women," apparently in an attempt to whitewash Japan's history of aggression. Silva worries that Japan has been instilling twisted history into the heads of the young generation by adopting history-distorting textbooks, leaving them with incorrect historical views of Japan's role in WWII.

"I think it has long been trying to circumvent the peace clause in Japan's pacifist constitution, which forbade them to send soldiers abroad for war purposes," said Silva.

"There should be no more war," she added, saying some Lolas always tried to talk to young people, especially young women, to be vigilant against all kinds of colonial wars so that their tragedy will no longer happen again.

Estelita Dy, 92, is continuing the fight. Nearly eight decades have passed, and the traumatic ordeal that she suffered continues to haunt her like a recurring nightmare. In 1944, 14-year-old Dy was kidnapped by Japanese soldiers while selling vegetables, eggs, and chickens at a market in Bacolod City in the central Philippines.

"I just cried and covered my eyes with my hands every time they raped me," Dy recalled in an interview with Xinhua, with her voice cracked. "Once, the soldiers hit my head so hard that I was knocked out for about three days."

In 1945, Dy decided to leave her hometown for Manila, fearing that people would know about her ordeal if she stayed in the village. In the Philippine capital, Dy worked and tried to forget her bitter experience.

While in Manila, Dy was married and had six children but kept silent about her past trauma until she heard testimony from other victims of Japanese sexual violence.

Like the other victims, Dy kept her wartime ordeal secret because of fear of rejection. "I never told my husband about what happened to me because I was ashamed of being raped," she said.

It was not until 1993 that she finally took the courage to come out in the open to tell her wartime ordeal.

Despite her poverty and frail health, Dy has tirelessly joined fora and protest rallies with other Lolas to demand a formal apology and compensation from the Japanese government.

She now lives with his daughters in a tiny house in Manila's Malabon district, and depends on her children for daily food and medical expenses.

"I will not stop. If I die, my children and grandchildren will continue the fight. We will continue to renounce war because we do not want the next generation to experience what we went through," Dy said.

Xinhua

## Pegasus: NSO had sealed contracts with 12 EU countries, European investigation reveals

RABAT

A EUROPEAN Parliament's fact-finding mission on the Pegasus spyware case revealed after investigations in Israel and contacts with NSO Company which developed the spyware, that the company had sealed contracts with 22 customers in 12 countries of the 27-member European Union.

These findings show that the Pegasus affair relayed in 2021 by several international NGOs and media, like Human Rights Watch, Amnesty International and Forbidden Stories consortium (grouping 17 Western media), which pointed the finger primarily on the software's users in non-Western countries, including Morocco and other states in the Middle East, Africa, and Asia, suggesting that Western countries respected the rules, privacy and did not engage in espionage, was in fact an orchestrated campaign, dictated by political motivations.

The campaign by international but especially French media group and NGOs had accused Morocco of using the Israeli spyware Pegasus. Morocco then filed defamation suits with the Paris Court, demanding that evidence to corroborate these accusations be revealed.

According to the Israeli media Haaretz, the European commission of enquiry was set up after European commissioners denounced having been spied on, which suggested that it was European state-to-European state espionage.

The European commission members were "surprised" to discover during their investigation in Israel that NSO had European customers, and that out of 14 European countries that had signed contracts with the company in the past, 12 are still using the Pegasus program at a state level, reveals the Israeli media.

"The Israeli firm's responses to questions from the European Commission reveal that the company works with many security bodies in the EU," reports the Israeli

daily Haaretz, debunking the allegations by Forbidden Stories consortium and NGOs that had targeted Morocco.

Many EU countries had signed contracts with the Israeli company in the past, and 12 still use Pegasus for lawful interception of cell phones calls, according to NSO's response to questions from the European Commission, explains Haaretz.

Part of these revelations, the Israeli company explained that it currently works with 22 European "end users" - security agencies, intelligence departments and law enforcement agencies in 12 European countries. In some of these countries, NSO has more than one customer under contracts signed not with the country but with the operating agencies, according to the revelations of the investigation.

In Spain, the hacking operations were carried out legally, according to the revelations of Haaretz, confirming that several European countries carry out wiretapping of civilians according to the law and under judicial control.

The commission members also met during their visit to Israel with Defense Ministry officials and local experts. Upon their return to Europe, they also discovered that there was a highly developed cyberwar and espionage industry whose main customers were European countries.

"If a single company has 14 Member States for customers, you can imagine the overall size of the industry. There seems to be a huge market for commercial spyware, and EU governments are very keen buyers. But they are very quiet about it, keeping it out of public view," said a member of the Pegasus Inquiry commission.

These shocking revelations and others that are surely still in store shed light on the real goals of the orchestrated campaign against specific countries, including Morocco, in the Pegasus case.

## Russia slams diplomat's expulsion from Montenegro as episode of West's hybrid campaign

MOSCOW

MOSCOW views the expulsion of a Russian diplomat from Montenegro as a new episode of the hybrid campaign unleashed by the West against Russia, Foreign Ministry Spokeswoman Maria Zakharova said on Saturday.

"We view the act by the Montenegrin authorities as yet another episode of the hybrid campaign unleashed by the West and its minions against Russia. We perceive this move as the unwillingness and the inability of official Podgorica to get away from the policy of mechanically following this destructive line - to the detriment of international security and, likewise, its own national interests," the diplomat said.

The attempt to substantiate this step in a corresponding public commentary laid bare the absence of the reasons and logic of this demarche, Zakharova stressed.

"We reserve the right to take measures in kind in accordance with the generally accepted practice," the spokeswoman said.

On August 12, Montenegro declared a Russian diplomat persona non grata. On April 7, the Montenegrin Foreign Ministry declared personae non grata four Russian diplomats who were ordered to leave the country within seven days. On May 31, Russia retaliated by declaring an employee of the Montenegrin Embassy in Moscow persona non grata. **Agencies**



## The 'forest chief' scheme leads to lush mountains in central China's Hunan province

CHANGSHA, the capital of central China's Hunan province, is a "furnace" in midsummer, whose temperature may rise to 40 degrees Celsius. For Changsha citizens, the Dawei Mountain, some 130 km east of the metropolis, is an ideal place to escape the summer heat.

The winding mountain looks like a green belt interspersed with wetlands and valleys. This gorgeous scenery couldn't have been shaped without the meticulous efforts made by "forest rangers and chiefs."

Changsha introduced a "forest chief" scheme in 2021, which includes 11 forest chiefs at the municipal level, 83 at the county level, 1,068 at the township level and 2,390 at the village level. Together, they guard more than 600,000 hectares of forests.

The "forest chief" scheme is what maintains a sound and safe natural environment for Changsha.

Being a forest chief involves heavy responsibilities, said Liu Xiaopei, a forest chief from Longfu Xincun village, Xiaduo township, Ningxiang, a county-level city administered by the municipal government of Changsha.

Liu goes on a patrol mission in the forest early in the morning every day. "Clearing cigarette butts and other garbage, discovering plant diseases and insect pests, and rescuing injured animals..." Liu told People's Daily.

Last December, he found some pines withering on a patrol mission and immediately reported it to relevant township authorities via a management app. The local forestry department launched quick check-ups



Photo shows a bamboo forest in Qianmaping village, Jinling township, Xintian county, Yongzhou, central China's Hunan province. Hunan province has launched a "forest chief" scheme to develop rural tourism and promote rural vitalization with ecological resources. File photo

and spotted pine wood nematode. Then it disposed of the infected trees, which prevented further expansion of the pest.

Changsha has 1,160 full-time forest chiefs like Liu. The city divides its forests into a number of management grids, and each grid comes with a forest chief, a supervisor and a law enforcement officer.

Each of the forest chiefs takes care of an area of no more than 10,000 mu (about 667 hectares). They wear uniforms and take with them standard tools and a manual. Besides, they are put under centralized management and performance evaluation.

The forest chiefs prevent such practices as firing, illegal lumbering and occupation of forests; they also monitor pests and protect wildlife. To make the "forest chief" scheme more effective, Changsha has enhanced its input on technologies.

"Drones make our patrolling areas wider and make our job easier," said Tang Ming, a

forest chief in Gejia township, Liuyang, Hunan province.

A total of 42 drones are employed by the forestry department of Liuyang, which are able to cover all forests administered by the city. Changsha is the first city in Hunan province to have established a smart forestry management platform, which integrates a forestry big data base, a dynamic monitoring system, a comprehensive law enforcement system and a demonstration system.

Lumbering was once the major source of income for forest farms. "Now, we make money from 'watching' the trees," said Liu Junjie, head of a state-owned forest farm in Liuyang. "We have vigorously planted high value-added woods to expand the country's commercial forest," Liu said. According to him, more than 120 workers of the farm are engaged in planting Phoebe zhennan and Zelkova serrata.

Changsha is also developing husbandry,

fungi, herbal medicine, fruit and healthcare industries in the forests, making the "under-forest economy" a major driver for rural vitalization. The city is seeing annual revenue of more than 10 billion yuan from the "under-forest economy."

"The 'forest chief' scheme stresses the responsibility and leading role of local party committees and governments, and involves efforts from government departments and social forces. It makes a concerted contribution to ecological progress," said Deng Yangfeng, head of the forestry bureau of Changsha.

People's Daily

# SPORT



Some Simba SC supporters cheer at 'Simba Day', an event hosted by the club to open the new season, which took place at Benjamin Mkapa Stadium in Dar es Salaam last week. Simba SC locked horns with Ethiopia's St. George in a friendly tie which took place at the stadium later in the day, with the hosts cruising to a 2-0 victory. PHOTO: CORRESPONDENT JUMANNE JUMA

## Zanzibar entertainment culture now drifting to Dar es Salaam

By Correspondent Michael Eneza

POPULAR street shows are becoming something of a norm in the city of Dar es Salaam, a situation that we used to hear more about concerning Zanzibar, with its routine of the international film festival in the lead.

The other event is 'Voices of Wisdom' seemingly summarizing what traditional Taarab is all about, as continued instructions on how to live that maidens, chiefly are sermonized, they are given in marriage to someone. Traditionally those were family arrangements, not personal.

That is one reason for festivals, as what appears in a rather Westernised culture as family matters where other people are at best invited, often with cards for mister and missus, in the coastal culture they are essentially community matters.

So each event in the life of an individual, especially when they are either children or mature and getting married, scores of events come up which involve a community, implying virtually all nearby residents. It isn't something costing millions but it is joyful.

With a more engaged brand competition scene in Dar es Salaam and other urban centers, the festival culture is picking up by seeking to convert community members who do not have the same sort of affinity as in either marriage or 'Ngoma' festivals, into ad hoc fraternities.

The situation arises out of the need to advertise all sorts of things based on competition, and some like mobile phone service providers must do it routinely to remind subscribers and potential subscribers of the advantages of staying hooked. There is no end to an activity that has to be repeated.

Still, one just cannot advertise what he or she wants, namely saying exactly what is being put across to be purchased, but must at times be inserted in a 'sandwich' fashion inside a more routine or regular kind of activity.

It is like ongoing singing and dancing all over the country to mobilize people for the census, in the fact that in watching or even participating in the cultural activity, there is a considerable chance that its object or message will sink, being counted. It applies in other areas.

So with enough advertisers targeting substantial portions of the population for their goods or services, there is likely to be a greater frequency of community feasting or celebrating (as feasting is tied up with plenty of food while celebrating is just merry-making, even slim meal schedules).

Another avenue of such feasts is rising, in the way, soccer clubs at the premier league level, in particular, are holding days of celebration.

Earlier it was the city rivals and is now spreading - even like wildfire.

This scenario is an indication that considerable surplus funds are being invested in community activities to boost the 'arc of sensitivity to this or that product, and in more recent days, to build a significant fan base for gate entrance, selling tickets or jerseys.

There is complicated arithmetic in such activity, of a fine interaction between direct sponsorship and business projections, as at times they do not quite tally, but sometimes they later make sense.

Some individuals started private club sides early last decade and exited, unable to grow such outfits.

The same was true of sports academies, as they struggled earlier since the market demand was that of education and sports was a marginal increment, despite raising some good players.

Now the market is deeper and broader, with soccer increasingly a business owing to more intense integration within the soccer scene countrywide, regionally, and globally.

With not just global digital television but national and even community channels on mobile phone live streaming, the sky is the limit in the symbiosis between culture, sports, advertising, and speculation.

In that context we have a Kanumba festival devoted to the memory of the arch-artiste in the film industry, billed to take several days.

Why it is taking several days can be explained in a variety of ways, the first of which is obvious, that there is a big number of artists who would wish to play some role, and perhaps the bigger artists do not want to go on stage for ten minutes but a lot more.

To finish all of them, one needs elaborate 'choreography,' to know exactly what is acted, and the right sequence to reach the desired impact - a salutary memory of the film artiste.

Additionally, these festivals of a professional and commercial sort further amplify the changing scene of the city of Dar es Salaam, shifting from its traditional habit of periodic 'ngomas' of the ancient Zaramo people joined by their next of kin, the Ndengereko of the Rufiji delta zone.

Their festivals still underline the basic cultural enthusiasm with these events, namely the two or three-day 'ngoma' festival for any substantial cause, whether it is marriage or young women coming out of their enclosure as part of adult rites of transition, etc.

This tradition is underlined in the popularity of 'Singeli' and kindred beats that now rule city celebrations, and with no doubt whatsoever this situation shall endure, as a quasi-permanent cultural trait.

## Ihefu SC ready for 2022/23 Premier League

By Correspondent Cheji Bakari, Tanga

MBEYA-based Premier League club Ihefu SC has asked its fanatics to be ready to witness the club register good results in the 2022/23 top flight which begins today.

The club's head coach Zubeir Katwila made that assurance in an interview with The Guardian yesterday.

According to NBC Premier League fixtures announced by Tanzania Football Federation, Ihefu SC will open the season with a home match against Coast Region's Ruvu Shooting at Sokoine Memorial Stadium in Mbeya today.

Katwila noted his squad's registration of prominent players that have experience in the Premier League and other continental events will challenge other clubs including local football giants Simba SC and Yanga.

The gaffer revealed: "Due to our side's depth

that comprises a mixture of new footballers and their experienced counterparts, everything will go smoothly."

"We are going to be competitors against other Premier League teams."

"Ahead to our first match against Ruvu Shooting, I want to assure you that all players are healthy and physically fit for that game," Katwila insisted.

Ihefu SC's new footballers include experienced professional players who played for prominent Premier League teams like Yanga, Simba SC, Azam FC, Namungo FC, Geita Gold FC, and Kagera Sugar.

Some newly recruited performers include Papy Tshishimbi, Obrey Chirwa, Juma Nyoso, Said Juma, Peter Mwalyanzi, and Jaffary Salum.

Others are Nicholas Wadada, James Ssetuba, Lenny Kissu, Never Tigere, Shabani Kado, and Ally Ramadhan.

## SPORTS

# NBC Bank reaffirms commitment to backing sports development

By Guardian Correspondent

THE National Bank of Commerce (NBC) has reiterated its stance to continually contribute to the development of sports in Tanzania by supporting various efforts made by the government and other stakeholders in the rapidly growing sector.

The institution backed an evening event held in Dar es Salaam last weekend aimed at congratulating and welcoming Tanzania's athletes after their scintillating performance in the 2022 Birmingham Commonwealth Games held in England recently.

Theobald Sabi, NBC Bank Managing Director, said the sector has got an important contribution in creating employment opportunities as well as increasing the income of individuals and the nation.

"As a home-grown bank that champions growth, NBC Bank takes a keen interest in the development of sports in the country and remains a dedicated partner to the sports fraternity," Sabi revealed.

The function was organized under the sponsorship of the bank and was attended by various stakeholders in the sector including senior government officials led by the Minister for Culture, Arts, and Sports, Mohamed Mchengerwa.

According to Sabi, the institution has a sincere commitment to cooperate with stakeholders in the sports, arts, and culture sectors, adding that the commitment was measured by the way it sponsors and organizes various sporting events.

Such initiatives are the recently held NBC Dodoma Marathon, the bank's sponsorship in the Mainland Tanzania Premier League (NBC



NBC Bank Managing Director Theobald Sabi (R) shares a light moment with Minister for Culture, Arts and Sports, Mohamed Mchengerwa (2nd R) during an evening event aimed at congratulating and welcoming Tanzania's athletes after their scintillating performance in the 2022 Birmingham Commonwealth Games held in England recently. The event organized under the sponsorship of the bank was held in Dar es Salaam last weekend. Others include the Chief Operating Officer of NBC Bank, Alelio Lowassa (2nd L), and the bank Head of Corporate Affairs, Godwin Semuny. PHOTO: CORRESPONDENT

Premier League), golf tournaments sponsorships as well as supporting efforts to build sports infrastructure in various areas of the country.

NBC Bank's boss said: "We are resolute in our commitment to the ideals of promoting development in all areas of human endeavours as much as we can accommodate, which explains why our CSR philosophy is hinged on health, sports, and the community to mention a few... and these to us, are all-encompassing."

"Therefore, our involvement in this event is a further indication of the bank's affirmed commitment to the development of sports in the country," he said.

He added that the bank supports sports at all levels starting from the top and spreading down to

numerous local grassroots events.

"This in-depth work is carried out in close collaboration with sports federations. We sponsor local competitions and we are widely involved in organizing them, while NBC staff teams run and participate in events...for us, the doors are open to various stakeholders in the sports, arts, and entertainment sector so that we can collaborate in promoting this important sector," he added.

The event also involved handing the government a special report on the best way to manage copyright and the issuing of royalties to the respective owners of artworks in the country.



Tanzania's Simba SC winger, Pape Ousmane Sakho (L), dribbles past Ethiopia's St. George defender when the squads locked horns in an international friendly clash that took place in Dar es Salaam last week. Simba SC won 2-0. PHOTO: CORRESPONDENT

## Why will Simba SC participate in 2022/23 CAF Champions League preliminary round

By Correspondent Nassir Nchimbi

THE draw for the 2022/23 CAF Champions League and CAF Confederation Cup was held in Cairo earlier last week, with Tanzania's envoys in the inter-club tournaments, Simba SC, Yanga, Azam FC, and Geita Gold FC recognizing their opponents.

Yanga and Simba SC will represent the country in the CAF Champions League while Azam FC and Geita Gold FC will battle it out in the CAF Confederation Cup.

The big question for many stakeholders in the country has been why Simba SC is starting from the preliminary stage of the premier club tournament despite doing well in the showpiece last season which saw the squad crash out of the quarterfinals.

After that, the Confederation of African Football (CAF) issued a guide for the CAF Champions League and the CAF Confederation Cup for the 2022/23 season.

Due to the guide, Simba SC and Yanga will start in the preliminary round of the Champions League while Azam FC will start in the first round of the CAF Confederation Cup, as opposed to Geita Gold FC which will start in the

preliminary round of the showpiece.

In the CAF Champions League made up of 58 sides, there are so far six teams, namely Al Ahly (Egypt), Raja Club Athletic, Wydad Athletic Club (Morocco), TP Mazembe (DR Congo), Espérance Sportive de Tunis (Tunisia) and Mamelodi Sundowns FC (South Africa) which will start in the first round, the rest will start in the preliminary round.

In CAF Confederation Cup there are so far 13 clubs, RS Berkane (Morocco), USM Alger, JS Saoura (Algeria), G.D Sagrada Esperança (Angola), Pyramid FC (Egypt), Motema Pembe (DR Congo) set to start in the first round which is made up of 51 teams.

Accra Hearts of Oak (Ghana), Marumo Gallants FC (South Africa), CS Sfaxien, Club Africain (Tunisia), CS Constantine (Algeria), Azam FC (Tanzania), and Zesco United FC of Zambia are also on the list of first-round contenders.

This season, the CAF Champions League will feature 58 teams, in which 32 teams are required to participate in the first round and the other 32 will begin the preliminary round.

Simba SC will not start the first round because

it is positioned within 10 places among the 58 teams participating in the showpiece.

Last season, CAF Champions League involved 54 teams, with Simba SC ranked 10th out of 64 teams that participated in it.

Fifty-two of the 58 teams will start from the preliminary round of the CAF Champions League and 26 will qualify for the first round and join the six that start from the first round to make a total of 32.

This has come about due to CAF adding four clubs to take part this season, unlike last season. Azam FC starts the first round due to nailing a position in the best 13 clubs out of 51 participating in the CAF Confederation Cup this season. This means that 32 sides are required to battle it out in the first round, if an individual multiplies it twice he will get 64 clubs.

If one takes that number and subtracts it from 51, he/she gets 13, and that is why the 13 clubs participating in the showpiece start from the first round.

Thus, 38 clubs will start from the preliminary round in the CAF Confederation Cup and 19 will qualify for the first round and join 13 teams to become 32 clubs.

## Ten Hag given baptism of fire to Man Utd's new reality

LONDON

ERIK ten Hag expressed his surprise at seeing Manchester United capitulate to a 4-0 defeat at Brentford that leaves the Red Devils bottom of the Premier League for the first time in 30 years.

But after just two games in charge, the Dutchman is getting a crash course in United's new reality.

The 20-time English champions have now lost seven consecutive away league games for the first time since 1936.

That run included similar thrashings at Manchester City, Liverpool and Brighton. Indeed United have conceded four or more goals seven times in the Premier League since the start of last season.

Any hope of a new dawn under the former Ajax boss has been blown apart by the same failings on and off the pitch that have persisted during a decade of decline at Old Trafford.

Ten Hag's predecessor Ralf Rangnick signed off from his miserable caretaker spell last season by stating the United squad needed "open heart surgery" and up to 10 new players after labouring to a sixth-placed finish in the Premier League.

Two games into the new season, only three new faces have arrived in the form of Lisandro Martínez, Tyrell Malacia and Christian Eriksen.

The United squad is arguably even weaker than last season with Paul Pogba, Edinson Cavani, Jesse Lingard, Nemanja Matic and Juan Mata having left for free, while goalkeeper Dean Henderson has joined Nottingham Forest on loan.

United's transfer window has instead been dominated by two moves that have not happened.

Despite Barcelona's desperation to sell, Frenkie de Jong has resisted the chance to reunite with his former Ajax boss.

Cristiano Ronaldo, meanwhile, is keen to cut short his second spell at Old Trafford but cannot find a Champions League con-

tender willing to pay up for the five-time Ballon d'Or winner.

The club's owners, the American Glazer family, are again at the forefront of the fans' fury.

Protests ahead of the 2-1 home defeat to Brighton last weekend forced the club shop to be closed before kick-off.

More demonstrations are planned for United's next match at home to Liverpool, a fixture that was postponed in May 2021 when supporters stormed the Old Trafford pitch in protest at plans for a European Super League.

"The time has come for the Glazer family to sell the football club," said former United captain Gary Neville.

"The people above him should have known that was an unacceptable situation to hand Erik ten Hag that squad."

The lack of a coordinated transfer strategy at the club was exposed this week as United reportedly pulled out of a move for 33-year-old Bologna forward Marko Arnautovic due to a fan backlash.

Interest in another target, Adrien Rabiot, was heavily criticised by former United midfielder Lou Macari on the club's own in-house television channel.

All the while Ten Hag is left to turn around a sinking ship with the squad he largely inherited.

"I asked them to play with belief and take responsibility for your performance and that is what we didn't do," he said.

"It seems like what happened in the past, last season, comes into this season and we have to change that quickly."

United have needed change for the past nine years since legendary former boss Alex Ferguson retired.

Ten Hag is the sixth manager to take the United job since then.

But unless there is a more fundamental restructure in the running of the club, United seem doomed to repeating the same mistakes as they hit new lows.

AFP

## Jesus can take Arteta's Arsenal to next level after Leicester

LONDON

ARSENAL coach Mikel Arteta urged his side to keep following the example of Gabriel Jesus after the Brazil striker opened his Gunners account with two goals in a 4-2 win over Leicester on Saturday.

A pre-season arrival from champions Manchester City, Jesus proved an immediate hit with the Arsenal faithful in what was the north London club's first home game of the campaign.

He delighted the bulk of a crowd of more than 60,000 at the Emirates Stadium by opening the scoring with an excellent shot in the 23rd minute before heading in to make it 2-0 before half-time.

But it was the fact that the 25-year-old Jesus was far from happy with his own performance that made the biggest impression on his boss.

"We know what Gaby can do," said Arteta.

"He scored two assists too and he is feeling disappointed in that dressing room because he said he could have scored four.

"That's the standard, that's the mentality you want. To go to a different level, you need that mentality."

Former Arsenal midfielder Arteta added: "I wouldn't like to play against him... He's so mobile, so intuitive and he's always sharp and pro-active to play in any moment at any phase of the game, and he's a real threat."

Leicester fought back in the second half, initially through an own-goal from William Saliba, before Granit Xhaka restored Arsenal's two-goal lead.

James Maddison narrowed the gap again for Leicester in the 74th minute but, barely 60 seconds later, the Gunners then made it 4-2 thanks to a goal from Gabriel Martinelli.

Arteta said Jesus was already having an impact on the rest of his squad.

"He lifts the standards," said the 40-year-old Spaniard.

"The way every day he's training, the way he's talking today, the way they are connecting, I think it's very natural, but at the same time it's pretty impressive to do it that quickly."

AFP

## Ten Hag: I wanted to sub whole team at half-time

LONDON

ERIK ten Hag said he wanted to substitute his entire Manchester United team at half-time after a humiliating 4-0 defeat to Brentford.

Manchester United conceded four times in the first 35 minutes at the Gtech Community Stadium and ended the day bottom of the Premier League table.

Ten Hag replaced Luke Shaw, Lisandro Martínez and Fred after a dismal first-half performance but the Dutchman, who is the first United manager to lose his first two competitive games since John Chapman in 1921, said he wished he could have axed his whole starting XI.

"I subbed three but I could've changed them all," said Ten Hag.

"We want to bring some fresh energy in the game, so not specific to the ones we sub because I don't think that's honest to them.

"I think we all have seen the game and I think Brentford was more hungry. We have to question that and we will do in the coming hours. You can have a good plan but we had to put the plan into the bin."

Afterward Ten Hag faced questions about his tactical approach after his team were caught in possession trying to pass out from the back for Brentford's second goal.

The United boss suggested he would not change his style after a second successive defeat but admitted his team had been "na-

ive."

"I don't want to play from the back when it's not possible," he added.

"It was naive how we played today. You have to play more direct.

"We attracted them, the space was high up the pitch, you have to do that option but that is what we didn't do. We will learn, we will have to learn, it's not good enough and it's not the level and the standard of how we want to act."

It was a day to forget for David de Gea, who first let Josh Dasilva's shot squirm under his body and then played a part in a shambolic attempt to play out which ended with Mathias Jensen making it 2-0.

"I think I cost three points to my team today to be honest," De Gea told Sky Sports.

"After the first mistake and the second it was very tough for the team to get playing. It was a horrible day.

"We should react better but in the moment we are living now it's tough every time we concede a goal. I should have saved the shot and probably the result will be different.

"We are not like other teams that concede one goal and they win 5-1 or 6-1. It doesn't matter if they make a mistake. This is why I think today I cost three points. Because it was an easy save and it was 1-0 for them and I feel already the team was going down, down, down."

(Agencies)

## Why is Barcelona still spending, signing players and selling off parts of itself?

By Ryan O'Hanlon, ESPN.com writer

A MONTH ago, Bayern Munich manager Julian Nagelsmann said what everyone who doesn't own a vintage Seydou Keita jersey was thinking: "The only club that has no money, but buys every player they want. I do not know how. It's kind of crazy."

This was after Barcelona acquired 33-year-old Robert Lewandowski, scorer of 35 goals for Nagelsmann in the Bundesliga last season, for \$49.5 million. Raphinha had already arrived from Leeds for \$63.8m. It seemed "crazy" then ... and then they spent another \$55m on Sevilla defender Jules Kounde.

They've also signed free agents Andreas Christensen from Chelsea and Franck Kessie from AC Milan, as well as resigning both Sergi Roberto and Ousmane Dembele once their previous contracts expired at the end of June. Chelsea's Marcos Alonso is expected to join soon, and the club is reportedly still interested in Manchester City's Bernardo Silva. The latter seems like a fantasy too far, but well, so did everything else until it all happened.

The how of all this -- a club with over a billion dollars in debt and described as "clinically dead" by president Joan Laporta last season suddenly spending more on transfer fees than anyone else in the world -- has been hashed out by many of our writers already this summer. In a word, which you must be sick of by now: levers.

They've sold off a quarter of their future domestic broadcast revenue and a quarter of their in-house production company for a short-term cash infusion north of \$600 million. More levers are being pulled, too, with news early on Friday -- just 30 hours or so before their season opener, a home date with Rayo Vallecano -- that the club was selling more in order to be able to register its signings.

Instead, I want to focus on a different question: why? Why is this once-great club selling off its future for a still-uncertain present? Can this really be as obviously shortsighted as it seems?

Laporta will make you think that they had to do this, that there was no choice but to totally revamp the squad with hundreds of millions of dollars of loans put toward a massive transfer outlay. However, that's just not true.

"Barcelona were better than you think

Focus on a single game or a single season, and results will drive you mad. The outcome of a match has only a vague connection to who the better team is. Favorites win less often in European soccer than they do in any of the major American sports; luck plays an outsized role in a sport with so few shot attempts and even fewer goals.

Countless studies have found that results don't tell you all that much other than the obvious: who won, lost or drew. Instead, plenty of other metrics -- goal differential, shot differential, expected-goal differential -- provide way more predictive power than point totals do.

When you chase results, you're chasing the past: something that happened, but that doesn't tell you all that much about what's going to happen.

Last season, Barcelona's results weren't great, but they really weren't that bad, either. They finished second in LaLiga, 13 points behind Real Madrid. That's an unforgivable gap to some; it's also the 11th-best points-per-game rate in Europe last year behind only Madrid, the Premier League's top three, Serie A's top three, the Bundesliga's top two and Paris Saint-Germain. In short, this was still a top-15 team in Europe.

In continental competition, it was worse. Barcelona finished third in a relatively easy Champions League group, behind Bayern Munich and Benfica. Then, after dropping down to the Europa League -- a tournament they expected to win -- they beat Napoli and Galatasaray before losing to eventual champions Eintracht Frankfurt in the quarterfinals.



Laporta is playing the part of politician at Barcelona because they're less of a club and more of a government in how they function. (Agencies)

The second leg of the Frankfurt tie -- a 3-2 home loss in which more than 20,000 away fans took over the Camp Nou -- was perhaps the low point of the season. After the match, Xavi came about as close as he possibly could to using the strange allocation of match tickets as an excuse for the result.

"The atmosphere did not help at all, that's clear," he said, "but that should not serve as an excuse, we also have to congratulate Frankfurt. They were better across the tie. It was like a final, with the stadium split. It was disappointing. Even our players commented on it. The dressing room wants to know what has happened. We will seek an explanation. This cannot happen when you are playing at home. It hasn't helped, that's clear. It's an error in planning and calculations. The club is going to find out what happened."

Despite the distant second-place finish in LaLiga and an "enemy invasion" in the Europa, Barcelona were a good deal better than their record suggested, both at home and abroad. In LaLiga, per Stats Perform, their non-penalty xG differential was plus-24.96, nearly even with Real Madrid's league-best mark of plus-26.76. Although there was a 13-point gap come the end of the season, there really wasn't a huge difference in performance between the two teams.

Then, in the Champions League, Barca couldn't buy a goal. They scored just two non-penalty goals in six games despite creating 6.26 expected goals. It was a bad run of finishing; play those six games again and they're more likely to score eight times than only twice.

In addition to those reasons for positive regression, there was the matter of having a new coach. Under Ronald Koeman in LaLiga last season, Barcelona's per-game non-penalty xG differential was plus-0.56. After Xavi took over in early November, they stopped crossing the ball so much and that number rose up to plus-0.74, which would have been the best mark in the league over a full season. The second El Clasico of the season, a 4-0 romp at the Bernabeu in late March, seemed to serve as proof of concept.

Even with what seemed likely to be massive financial constraints for the upcoming summer, it sure looked like Barcelona's squad at the end of the season was already good enough to challenge Madrid atop LaLiga. They might even improve, too: weighted by minutes played, this was the third-young-

est team in competition last year. Plus, barring another outlier-poor finishing run, they'd also likely make it back to the knockouts of the Champions League. Once you're there, anything can happen.

But instead of riding with roughly the same crew as last year, they've pulled all the levers and sold off a chunk of the future -- to what end? Even with all of the new arrivals in Catalunya, the betting markets still see Madrid as ever-so-slight favorites in LaLiga.

As for the Champions League, their odds are more than twice as long as Manchester City's, Liverpool's and PSG's, while they trail behind Bayern Munich and Madrid, too. All told, the bookies give them about a 7% chance of winning it all.

"So ... why did they do it?"

I've talked to a number of people who work with, work for or own European clubs in the course of this story, and not a single one could come up with a feasible defense for what Barcelona is doing. There is, after all, a reason "person sacrifices part of their future for short-term gain, loses in the end" is a story humans have been telling one another forever. The characters -- Spotify! Economic levers! Socios.com! -- might be new, but the pattern is not. This type of decision-making rarely works out.

To be clear, it could work out in the short term. Barcelona could win LaLiga this season, and they have an outside shot at the Champions League -- both of which should be true the following season, too. Flags fly forever, and the point of all this, in the end, is to win as many soccer games as possible -- not to have the nicest-looking balance sheet.

But it bears spelling out: the club really still did have a chance at winning trophies without selling off future income. With a club legend as manager and a bunch of talented youngsters coming up through the ranks, couldn't Barcelona have sold supporters on a kind of homegrown rebuild? Tell the fans that the club had lost its way with a decade of profligate, misguided purchases that didn't make a competitive difference, that it was time to get back to its collectivist, greater-than-the-sum-of-your-parts roots. Hell, there's even a Johan Cruyff quote they could've used: "Why couldn't you beat a richer club? I've never seen a bag of money score a goal."

Maybe you win some now, but if you don't, you're still not really

in danger of falling out of the Champions League, so you still come back financially stronger in a few years and have hopefully developed some of your young talent via high-level playing time along the way.

Perhaps, though, the structure of the club no longer allows for that kind of thinking. One source in Europe suggested to me that thinking about member-owned Barcelona as a "soccer club" was the wrong way to go about all this. "Mes Que Un Club," perhaps, but in a different way: Barcelona are functioning more like a government.

Joan Laporta was elected as club president in March of last year, and he'll be up for reelection in 2027. If it wants to, an actual government (like, say, the United States) can attempt to spend its way out of immediate financial trouble because it can easily borrow money and also because it can print its own money. While austerity rarely achieves the intended economic result, it's even more rare that it achieves the intended political outcome. Governments that push austerity just don't get reelected.

Maybe the same would have been true for Laporta. In order to register all of their new signings and fit the current roster within LaLiga's salary-cap rules, Barcelona now have to sell the contracts of a number of players, moves that would both clear salary and bring in transfer revenue.

One of those players, Martin Braithwaite, was booed by fans during the Joan Gamper Trophy friendly at the Camp Nou last weekend. Another, Samuel Umtiti, reportedly didn't appear at the match in order to avoid a similar reception. When Frenkie de Jong, whose contract was restructured to pay him more at the tail end of the deal, arrived at training the other day, he was greeted by fans yelling at him to take lower wages. What a sentiment from supporters: Even though we offered you the contracts that you signed, you must leave our club or take less money so we can replace you with all the expensive new players we just signed!

Plus, all of these "economic levers" had to be approved by Barcelona's voting members back in June. When it came to selling off the future broadcast revenue, only 62 of the 569 votes were against it. Laporta could have pushed for a different way forward, but he also couldn't have pushed things in the current direction without the approval of the member base.

As Laporta has not-so-subtly alluded to, the hated European Super League is still alive in his mind. "We are in the Super League, we are pushing forward with the Super League," he said back in April. "That is still going ahead."

While Laporta has claimed that it is "a way of saving European football" from "states that don't belong to the European Union," it would, more pertinently, be a way of saving Barcelona. Member clubs were promised a "welcome bonus" in the \$300 million range along with the massive, guaranteed annual payments from revenues generated by a competition that would siphon off 20 of the most popular clubs in the world. Were that proposal to be revived and actually enacted this time, that would likely solve a lot of Barcelona's pending issues.

If not, well, then does Laporta really care? It's not his money. If Barcelona win in the short term, he'll be able to claim that it was all worth it -- a great, modern revival of something once clinically dead. If not, he won't get reelected. And all of those future financial issues? Well, those will be someone else's problem.

Gwiji by David Chikoko



# SPORT

## Why is Barcelona still spending, signing players and selling off parts of itself?

COMPREHENSIVE REPORT, PAGE 19



Vice-President, Philip Mpango.

## Mpango lauds 2022 CRDB Bank Marathon for raising 1.5 bn/-

By Guardian Correspondent

VICE-President Philip Mpango has congratulated the international charity race organized by CRDB Bank, known as 'CRDB Bank Marathon' for reaching the goal of collecting 1bn/- to help the community.

Mpango issued the compliments while handing over a check to the Jakaya Kikwete Heart Institute and Comprehensive Community Based Rehabilitation in Tanzania (CCBRT) Hospital shortly after the completion of the race which involved more than 6,200 runners and took place in Dar es Salaam last weekend.

He praised the decision by the CRDB Bank to continue supporting surgery for children with heart diseases, as well as coming up with a new idea to support access to safe reproductive services for mothers with high-risk pregnancies.

"Mother and child health is one of the areas that is given great priority in the Health Policy, I am relieved to see that this race is helping to strengthen this area by achieving access to medical care for children and mothers," he

## Geita Gold FC set to use CCM Kirumba Stadium as home venue

By Correspondent Joseph Mchekadona

NBC Premier League side Geita Gold FC has earmarked Mwanza's CCM Kirumba Stadium as an alternative home venue for the club's top-flight encounters in case the renovations at Geita's Nyanumbu Girls Secondary School venue would not end in time.

Nyanumbu Girls Secondary School's ground hosted Geita Gold FC's home matches in the 2021/22 Premier League season.

Geita Gold FC's Information Officer, Hemed Kivuyo, revealed in an interview that renovations at the venue started some time back but they are taking place in phases.

He said they expect phase two renovation to be completed by the end of this month while completion of the whole stadium is expected to be November this year.

The leader noted: "The good thing is that we will play our two NBC Premier League games away, we will start with a tie against Simba SC, then face Azam FC, after that we will play in the CAF Confederation Cup tournament."

"We hope that by the time we return to our home ground, our facility will be ready but, in case it is not ready, we will use CCM Kirumba Stadium as our home ground," he said.

Tanzania Football Federation (TFF) through the federation's Club Licensing Committee recently said the Nyanumbu Girls Secondary School ground is not in good condition to host NBC Premier League games.

Other stadiums which were listed as not being in good condition are Mkwakwani Stadium of Tanga, Ushirika Stadium of Moshi, Mabatini ground of Coast Region, and Dodoma's Jamhuri Stadium.

The Club Licensing Committee also recommended renovations for Majaliwa Stadium of Ruangwa, Lindi, as well as Sokoine Stadium of Mbeya and Kaitaba Stadium of Kagera.

The stadia recommended by the committee to host the Premier League games are Benjamin Mkapa Stadium, Uhuru Stadium and Azam Complex Stadium of Dar es Salaam, Highland Estate Stadium of Mbarali, Karatu's Black Rhino Stadium and Sheikh Amri Abeid Stadium both of Arusha, Liti Stadium of Singida and Manungu Stadium of Morogoro.

Meanwhile, Kivuyo said his club is still active on the transfer market as the club aims to sign players who will propel the team to success in both domestic assignments and CAF Confederation Cup.

"We are not yet done, soon we will announce other new signings, there are some players we are still in negotiation with, and once we have reached an agreement we will inform the public," he said.

## Ihefu SC gunning for maximum points against Ruvu Shooting



Ihefu SC footballers warm up ahead of the club's participation in a past Premier League match in Mbeya

By Correspondent Michael Mwebe

THE NBC Premier League 2022/23 kicks off today when newly promoted Ihefu SC welcomes Ruvu Shooting to the Highland Estate Stadium. The season opener is expected to be a closely fought battle.

The visiting club needs to get off to a good start and ensure that any momentum generated is positive, but there are difficult games against Namungo FC and Young Africans, alias Yanga, in their opening five fixtures.

The host Ihefu SC has big ambitions, especially after shelling out heavily on players over the summer, but the reality is that the Premier League is a huge jump for any club, regardless of investment levels.

The club appears to be intent on ensuring their return is not a brief

one, if these transfer dealings are anything to go by, and one can guarantee that every game played at the Highland Estate Stadium will be contested in front of a passionate crowd.

The club has made huge strides in an attempt to bolster its squad for top-flight football, bringing in no less than 13 players to date.

Nicholas Wadada, Never Tigere, Papy Tshishimbi, and Obrey Chirwa are the most high-profile arrivals.

With the kind of signings made, it is easy for a soccer enthusiast to agree that the quality is with the hosts.

Both head coach Zubeir Katwila and the fans will be confident after doing excellent work in the transfer market.

Ruvu Shooting had to go through some serious relegation scare last season and only confirmed their Premier League status on the final day.

They will have a serious challenge in their hands this week as they lock horns with their ambitious hosts.

Domestic football fans are about to witness a fierce encounter today, as the two teams take on each other.

In head-to-head stats, this will be the third top-flight encounter between Ihefu SC and Ruvu Shooting, whereas the former has won the two previous games.

The other opening match of the 2022/23 NBC Premier League campaign will see Mtwara Sugar travel to Lindi to face Namungo FC at Majaliwa stadium. Both teams have made wholesale changes to their squads.

Mtwara Sugar escaped relegation through playoffs last season and would be looking to avoid another tough start that has seen them struggle in the last three campaigns.

added.

The Vice-President said that the funds collected will help reduce the cost of heart surgery and maternity services for women with high-risk pregnancies that many people cannot afford and the government will provide an 80 per cent subsidy.

Mpango said the government supports and is very happy with the creativity shown by patriotic institutions like CRDB Bank to support social sectors such as health, education, environment, and empowerment for youth and women.

Various leaders accompanied the Vice-President to participate in the race, including the retired President Jakaya Kikwete, Deputy Speaker of the National Assembly Mussa Azan, Deputy Minister for Culture, Arts, and Sports Pauline Gekul, and Minister for Sports in Zanzibar Tabia Maulid.

CRDB Bank's Chief Executive Officer Abdulmajid Nsekela noted that this year's race has exceeded the goal of collecting 1bn/-.

The official thanked the companies and institutions that came out to cooperate with the bank, as well as the runners who came from inside and outside the country.

Nsekela revealed: "Of all the 1.05bn/- funds raised in this third season of the CRDB Bank Marathon, 250m/- has been directed to JKCI, and 220m/- has gone to the CCBRT Hospital."

"The remaining funds have been directed to support the environmental campaign known as 'Pendeza Tanzania', and the Ngalawa race in Zanzibar to promote culture," Nsekela noted.

Nsekela thanked the Executive Director of JKCI Mohammed Janabi and the General Director of CCBRT Hospital Brenda Msangi for their cooperation while stressing that the CRDB Bank's slogan known as 'Kasi Isambazayo Tabasamu' has been successful due to their sincere contribution.

In the race, about 60 participants who performed well laid their hands on cash prizes totaling 100m/-.

The prizes make the CRDB Bank Marathon the most lucrative event in the country, with winners of men's 42km having raked in 10m/- as is the case with women's winners.

CRDB Bank's Communications Director Tully Mwambapa said that in the men's 42km, Kenyan Joseph Munywoki was champion having posted 02:14:56, while fellow Kenyan Sharon Kosgei triumphed in the women's race, registering 02:33:56.

The 21km race had Tanzanian Samwel Mailu winning the men's category, clocking 01:02:04, the women's showdown saw fellow Tanzanian Agnes Ngolo beat the rest to the top prize having clocked 01:09:16.

In the 10km event, Tanzanian Gabriel Geay ended as the men's winner, posting 00:28:16, while fellow Tanzanian Maysellina Issa won the women's race having clocked 00:33:52.

In the 65km cycling race, Tanzanian Richard Laizer emerged as the men's race's champion after clocking 01:39:24, fellow Tanzanian Julia Miringu won the women's event at 01:45:11.

Out of the 6,200 competitors who participated in the 2022 CRDB Bank Marathon, 79 per cent are Tanzanians, whereas foreign runners totaled 1,300.

5

TONIGHT @ 9:00

EATV Sports MONDAY

11:00 DADAZ  
12:00 Movie  
13:30 Kali Za Wana  
13:55 Dondoo Za Michzo  
14:00 SKONGA (r)  
14:30 Planet Bongo (r)  
15:00 Funguka  
15:30 Akili & Me  
15:55 Dondoo Za Michzo  
16:00 Zote Kuntu  
16:30 #HASHTAG  
17:00 SSELEKT  
17:55 Kurasa  
18:00 eNewz  
18:30 Bongo Hit  
19:00 EATV SAA 1  
20:00 DADAZ (r)  
21:00 5SPORTS  
22:00 Zote Kuntu  
23:00 Kurasa  
23:05 EATV SAA 1

5Sports

The week's local and international sporting events as well as indepth analysis of the biggest sporting highlights of the week are covered on 5sports.

eastafrika RADIO

06:00 Supa Breakfast  
10:00 MAMAMIA  
12:00 Kipenga Xtra  
13:00 Planet Bongo  
16:00 EA Drive  
20:00 Kipenga  
21:00 The Cruise

88.1FM

DAR ES SALAAM

## Flexibles by David Chikoko

