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'Education exemplifies feats under Samia govt'

By Correspondent Joseph Mwendapole

ACHIEVEMENTS in Tanzania's education sector are some of the most noticeable successes of the Samia Suluhu Hassan presidency, a top official has declared.

Government spokesman Mobhare Matinyi made this observation in Dar es Salaam yesterday at a press briefing on what has been achieved during the three-years of leadership by President, Samia Suluhu Hassan.

He said the government has increased education sector allocations from 4.72trn/- to 5.98trn/- during the intervening period, where loans for higher learning students increased from 464bn/- in 2020/2021 to 786bn/- in 2023/24, with beneficiaries rising from 142,170 three years ago to 220,278 this financial year.

The government has similarly broadened for higher education options and opportunities, especially with science subjects through the Higher Education for Economic Reform Project (HEET), with the government obtaining a \$425m (972bn/-) low interest loan from the World Bank for the purpose, he said.

Various universities are building campuses in peripheral regions to deliver higher education throughout the country, he said, noting that

the government was making improvements in the provision of primary and secondary education. Within two years, a total of 1.29trn/- was provided for infrastructure repairs and widening of facilities, mainly the construction of new schools or adding classes.

Nursery and primary education was boosted with 302 new primary schools, apart from adding classrooms and dormitories chiefly in strengthening secondary education. A total of 37,473 teachers have been recruited during the period, he stated

The government has provided to local government authorities with 837.8bn/- funding sourced in different ways, for the construction and repair of secondary schools.

He said the tours the president has made with neighbouring countries, also visiting a range of friendly countries such as the United States, China, Egypt, Oman, Qatar, India and Indonesia made a difference in the country's diplomatic status abroad, opening up foreign markets and delivering foreign direct investments

President Samia's efforts have led to a preference for hosting international meetings and forums in the country, including the Women in Business Conference within the African Free Trade Area last December, and slightly earlier the Interna-

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Christian faithful come together in a procession at a Muheza town Catholic church yesterday brandishing palm leaves in marking Palm Sunday, the Christian moveable feast falling on the Sunday before Easter. In most Christian rites, the day is celebrated by the blessing and distribution of palm branches or the branches of other - native - trees. It is during Palm Sunday prayers that many churches of Christian denominations, including the Orthodox, Catholic, Lutheran, Methodist, Anglican and Moravian, distribute palm branches to their congregations. Easter (Sunday) this year falls on February 31, preceded by Good Friday on February 29. Photo: Correspondent Steven Willima

Hundred-plus top travel agents for May arrivals

By Guardian Correspondent, Arusha

AN exclusive group of over 100 top travel agents are expected to arrive in May to explore the country's tourism landscape as part of an inaugural Tourism Summit 2024 slated here at that time..

Alice Manupa, the CEO for African Queen Adventures and co-host of the summit, said at a press conference here at the weekend that the travel agents will visit the wildlife scenes of the Serengeti, the shores of Zanzibar and various spots of the cultural ecosys-

tem. "As they traverse this remarkable destination, they will undoubtedly gain insights to curate valuable experiences for discerning travellers," she said, noting that the summit occasion coincides with the three-year anniversary of 'Tanzania: The Royal Tour' epic tourism documentary.

Remarkably starring President Samia Suluhu Hassan who has emerging as creative patron for the tourism industry, the documentary has become a pivotal marketing device in the post-Covid-19 pandemic environment.

The upcoming summit

runs from May 20th to 23rd, an interactive and networking event serving as a beacon for global collaboration and synergies in the tourism industry.

The co-host cited for gratitude Murtaza Kalender, the founder and CEO of TravelShop Turkey, doubling up as the International Ecotourism Society vice president, for accepting to bring the summit in Africa, and to Tanzania in particular

"We would like to thank nearly 400 tourism companies from about 100 countries who participated in our Zoom meeting at the end of February to promote

the International Africa Tourism Summit," being organized for the first time in May, she said.

In his remarks, Murtaza said the summit is meant to introduce Destination Tanzania and all what it has to offer as a relatively unexplored destination in Africa, to tourism professionals worldwide.

"We want to contribute to the promotion of this destination by showcasing the areas where numerous wildlife species inhabit national parks," he said, citing the need to bolster the tour-

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PIC nods to PSSSF city tower progress

By Guardian Reporter

MEMBERS of the Public Investments Committee (PIC) of the National Assembly have expressed satisfaction with the building of the new commercial complex for the Public Service Social Security Fund (PSSSF) along Sam Nujoma Road in Dar es Salaam.

Billed at 232bn/-, the 35-storey building has been formally completed, on the basis of remarks by Deus Sangu (Kwela), the committee chairman, on a visit at the project site over the weekend.

He said the committee has reviewed the project and is satisfied that its implementation has met all required standards, thus with this huge investment, PSSSF has to ensure that this building is well managed to achieve projected productivity goals.

He reflected on efforts by President Samia Suluhu Hassan to uplift development efforts with 4Rs paradigm, namely reconciliation, resilience, reform and rebuilding, promoting socio-economic prosperity and multiparty democracy.

Dr Pius Chaya (Manyoni East), advised that the Treasury Registrar's Office to ask public firms renting private places in Dar es Salaam to take up occupancy in the building.

So far, a number of private institu-

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Mongella handed lifetime gender achievement prize

Edda Sanga soothes many with media prominence award

By Guardian Reporter

FORMER cabinet minister and global women's leader Gertrude Mongella has been bestowed with a Women's Achievement Award for her outstanding contributions to women empowerment and equality.

Prof Kitila Mkumbo, the Planning and Investment state minister in the President's Office, handed the award in Dar es Salaam at the weekend, at an event

organised by Clouds Media Group for the eighth year running, with nine categories including health, education, innovation and social welfare.

Notable recipients included veteran broadcaster Edda Sanga, handed the Keys Award for contributions in the media industry, including her solid participation in setting up and running the Tanzania Media Women's Association (TAMWA).

Receiving the award on behalf

of the veteran screen and audio personality, Clouds Media managing editor and TAMWA chairperson, Joyce Shebe said the award comforts women journalists, those she worked with and those she helped to train.

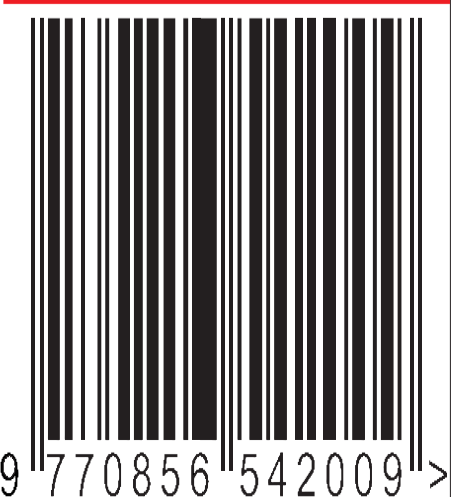
The veteran state broadcaster and activist contributed to the career formation of many journalists, especially women, to reach up in their profession by looking at her example, and are thus proud of her presence and recog-

nition, she said.

The awards recognise exceptional women and involve hundreds of Tanzanian women who have excelled in various spheres of professional and community activities.

In her remarks, Mongella expressed appreciation for the organisers for the award, urging women to work hard and

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Hundred-plus top travel agents for May arrivals

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ism business volume and secure a higher position in the global tourism market.

"We aim to enhance our business volume by organizing the inaugural International Tourism Summit in unforgettable Tanzania" he said, affirming that this event will bring together some of the world's most experienced travel and tourism agents, providing B2B meetings with local tourism professionals.

The summit will orchestrate an extraordinary familiarization trip to the region renowned for hosting the world's most exquisite natural national parks and diverse wildlife, he stated.

This initiative aims to provide tourism professionals with an unforgettable educational journey for marketing the destination, he stated.

Sirili Akko, the Tanzania Association of Tour Operators (TATO) CEO, said that as the world converges on Arusha, delegates would be treated to the breadth of natural wonders and cultural tenor that define the region.

The summit is geared at the northern tourism circuit often eclipsed in tourism attraction vis a vis its extension to the northern border, where the Serengeti plains reach their horizon in the Maasai Mara national park, observers noted.

It is all about the backdrop of majestic safaris and the iconic Mount Kilimanjaro, which are adequate for an enriching safari experience, without a similar focus on the vastly explored reaches of the southern circuit.

It is easier to blend business and pleasure in a harmonious symphony of exploration and collaboration for the northern circuit as it has a wider echo, but networking could be initiated in the southern circuit direction as well, they said.

The organisation of the summit is entirely located in the private sector, between local and international travel agents, wishing to promote sustainable practices, foster cross-cultural exchange, as tourism is a catalyst for economic empowerment, they said.

Akko said that the convergence of the international tourism community in the country represents a transformative moment, saluting the visionary leadership of President Samia as uniquely contributing selecting Arusha as the setting for the inaugural tourism summit.



China's Ambassador to Tanzania, Chen Mingjian (L), pictured on Saturday exchanging greetings with one of the commanders leading a Chinese naval fleet now docked at the Dar es Salaam Port. Photo: Correspondent Mary Kadoke

Mongella handed lifetime gender achievement prize

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stand for their dreams, urging the media gathering to take out the message further said in the next general election, there is no need to place another candidate in the presidential race, apart from President Samia Sulu

luhu Hassan, evidently referring to the ruling party.

"If anyone is interested in vying for the position, it is better he/she waits until 2030 when President Samia's second tenure will come to an end," she emphasized.

The minister backed up the

veteran activist's position, expressing the view that the candidacy of the president wasn't at issue, and what has remained in the coming general elections is to pick those wishing to vie for the legislature and as ward councillors.

He made an effort to beef up

the role of women in leadership, asserting that if half of the world's leaders were women, it would be better than it is now. It is vital to keep on raising women for a better world, he declared.

The big secret that contributes to men being in top lead-

ership positions and surpassing women is the confidence they exude which is difficult for women to surmount, he said.

Raising women to high offices is not only important but necessary for the world to become a better place, he reiterated.



Zanzibar Second Vice President Hemed Suleiman Abdullah (C) presents iftar to children living in difficult circumstances. It was at an event NMB Bank hosted in Zanzibar at the weekend. Accompanying him were the bank's Zanzibar Cluster manager, Naima Said Shaame (L), CEO Ruth Zaipuna (2nd-L) and Board chairman Dr Edwin Mhedu (R). Photo: Guardian Correspondent

PIC nods to PSSSF city tower progress

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tions have rented space there while there is plenty of space remaining, where public institutions could also take some initiative, he said.

Abdulrazak Badru, the PSSSF director general, said that the commercial complex is at the moment the tallest building in the East and Southern Africa region, marking the skyline of the city of Dar es Salaam.

The building has three towers; first a commercial complex holding 35 floors, an executive tower with 14 floors and a parking area with six floors.

The executive tower is preferable for offices while the commercial complex a good option for banks, mixed offices, conference halls and other social activities, he said.

The building was attracting

more tenants with time and expectations are that by the end of the year the occupancy rate will have risen to 70 percent, from 48 percent at present, he said.

Tenants in the building include the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), as well as TiGo (T), several public institutions, banks and businesses.

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PAC members impressed by big water project in Mwanza

By Guardian Correspondent

THE Public Accounts Committee (PAC) has commended Mwanza Urban Water Supply and Sanitation Authority (MWAUWASA) for successful implementation of Butimba water project in Mwanza Region.

Japhet Hasunga, Deputy Chairman of the committee gave the statement at the weekend during a tour to inspect the progress of the project where he said that they

witnessed major investment in the project.

"What we have witnessed is satisfactory. We started with the area where water is drawn from Lake Victoria and the last step was a section of clean and safe water to be supplied to the public," he said.

Ellen Bogohe who spoke on behalf of the Chairman of the Board of Directors of MWAUWASA, thanked the committee for their visit, saying that the project is a unique one to ever be implemented in the

country.

She said there were many challenges but the government released funds which enabled it implementation, adding that residents will start getting water services by June this year.

Nelly Msuya, MWAUWASA executive director said the project is 100 percent complete but what is being done is to build supply system to ensure that water from the project reaches as many people as possible.

She said that there is a plan to improve water services including construction of key infrastructure for supplying water by adding a network of pipes, building water storage tanks to cater for people in the mountainous areas.

"The areas that will get water from Butimba include Kisesa (5 million litres), Nyamazobe (5 million litres), Buhongwa (10 million litres), Fumagila Juu (10 million litres) and Usagara (1 million litres)," she said.

'Education exemplifies feats under Samia govt'

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tional Conference on Food Systems in Africa, in September.

The African Union summit on population growth as human capital resources in July.

African ministers in gender activities financing responsibilities also convened in Dar es Salaam regarding investment for the development of women and girls in November, he stated.

Attending the major international conferences of COP 27 in Egypt and COP 28 in the United Arab Emirates (UAE) and pursuing the transition to clean energy initiative for African women in the last conference raised the country's diplomatic presence, he asserted.

Consolidating regional cooperation has also been pursued with vigour in the Southern Africa Development Community (SADC) and the East African Community (EAC) helping to boost security cooperation in the region especially via SADC.

The government was finalising the purchase of a fleet of aircraft for higher regional standing for Air Tanzania, with two final aircraft—Boeing 737 Max 9 and Boeing 787-8 expected to arrive in the country next month, he added.



Parliamentary Public Investment Committee chairman Deus Sangu (C) exchanges greetings with Public Service Social Security Fund (PSSSF) director general Abdul-Razak Badru when members of the committee made an inspection tour of the 35-storey PSSSF Commercial Complex in Dar es Salaam at the weekend. They are with PSSSF investment committee chairman Rashid Mtima. Photo: Guardian Correspondent

\$1.5m project set to empower 5000 women in fishing sector

By Guardian Reporter

ABOUT 5,000 women working in fisheries value chain along Lake Victoria from Tanzania, Kenya and Uganda are set to benefit from a \$1.5 million project designed to enable them to improve their businesses.

Speaking during the opening of a training for women in Dar es Salaam at the weekend, director of the project implemented by the African Women Fish Processors and Traders Network (AWFISHNET), Susan Njeri said the pilot project will be implemented for two and half years in the three East African countries where 1,667 women from each country will participate.

She said the project will involve various segments to empower women increase production in areas where they operate in the fisheries sector.

Jovice Mkuchu, fisheries officer from the Ministry of Livestock and Fisheries said the project is meant to address losses that women encounter during their operations.

"The government hopes that the project will not only address challenges but also transform lives of women traders through Tanzania Women Fishers Association (TAWFA)," she said.

Editrudith Lukanga, a consulting expert said the project which is funded by the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation involves as many stakeholders as possible.

She said various studies have shown that women involved in fishing activities face many challenges, including lack of capital and post-harvest losses which derail efforts to develop the sector.

She added that the aim of the project is to address the challenges by empowering women with resources and knowledge on how to manage losses and practice new fishing methods to guarantee profits and transform their lives.

The project is being implemented along Lake Victoria and the plan is to expand it to other countries which have water bodies and operating fishing associations for women.



The government hopes that the project will not only address challenges but also transform lives of women traders

TPA employees have five days to join DP World or be redeployed

By Guardian Reporter

TANZANIA Ports Authority (TPA) has given its employees stationed at the Port of Dar es Salaam five days to voluntarily join DP World or remain with the parastatal.

"Employees who opt to remain with TPA will be reallocated to other ports across the country," TPA Director of Human Resources and Administration, Mbarikiwa Masinga, said in an interview at the weekend.

TPA operates six major ports in the country namely three coastal harbours of Dar es Salaam, Tanga and Mtwara as well as three ports in

Lake Victoria, Lake Tanganyika and Lake Nyasa. The authority is also undertaking various port modernization projects including Mwanza South port and Bukoba port.

"Plans are also underway to construct new ports in Bagamoyo along the Indian Ocean and Mbamba Bay in Lake Nyasa and as such we are still in need of a strong workforce for our operations," he said.

He noted that the employees have until March 29 to decide whether to join the new investor or remain with TPA.

He added that those who choose to join DP World will be remuner-

ated in accordance with Collective Bargaining Agreement (CBA) which was agreed upon in January this year between TPA and the employees through Dock Workers' Union of Tanzania (DOWUTA).

"The agreement was aimed at creating harmony between TPA and the employees by putting in place better terms for all parties," he said.

He said all employees at the Port of Dar es Salaam were fully informed of the choices before them through a seminar which was conducted for two weeks.

"We conducted the seminar to

ensure that the employees understand the choice before them; their participation in the CBA was important to ensure win-win situation," he said.

National Chairman of DOWUTA Muharami Manyara confirmed that TPA employees at the Port of Dar es Salaam were aware of the agreement and its content.

"We were involved in all the processes since TPA and DP World signed their agreement last year. All employees at the Port of Dar es Salaam fully aware and it is up to each of them to make a decision," he said.

"This means that no one will lose their job at the port. The choice is either to remain with TPA or join DP World which I believe will have better terms for the employees," he said. Apart from handling a huge chunk of Tanzania's imports and exports, the Port of Dar es Salaam is also a major gateway of its landlocked neighbours such as Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC), Zambia, Uganda, Burundi and Malawi.

TPA and DP World signed a 30-year concession agreement for operations of berth zero (RoRo) to berth 7 on October 22, last year, in

order to improve efficiency at the port.

President Samia Suluhu Hassan witnessed the signing of the agreement between the Director General of TPA, Plasduce Mbossa, and Group Chairman and CEO of DP World, Sultan Ahmed Bin Sulayem.

Given the terms of the agreement between TPA and DP World, the current employees at the Port of Dar es Salaam have been given a choice to either terminate their contracts with TPA and join DP World or remain with the former but be reallocated to other ports.

Big Announcement

Sneak Peek inside...

Are You Ready?



Police training uncovers rampant child abuse in Dar

By Guardian Reporter

GENDER desk officers at Kawe Police Station in Kinondoni District, Dar es Salaam Region, have conducted a public training in various areas to enable people identify gender-based violence (GBV) incidents and provide support.

Supported by Barrick

Gold Corporation, the eight-day training reached various groups, including food vendors, bar attendants, drug addicts, pupils, motorcycle riders and markets vendors.

Wrapping up the training the weekend, officer in charge of Gender Desk at the station ASP Elizabeth Msabila said that during the

training, facilitators realised that many young people engages in the acts of homosexuality and drug use, something which threatens the nation's workforce.

She said that the officers found that many children have been subjected to sexual violence especially by close relatives, affecting development of many chil-

dren.

ASP Msabila urged parents to protect their children by checking them regularly because children who are subjected to such acts are threatened by the culprits not to reveal the truth.

"Children who have been defiled always become weak and distance themselves from their fellow children;

they don't like to socialise. It is important for parents and guardians to closely watch their children's behaviours," she said.

She thanked the residents of Kawe Ward for responding well to the training which also covered how the gender desk works.

Inspector of Police Ambike Kibangu, supervisor of

gender and children's desks in Kawe Ward, said they sensitized residents on how the force works to fight gender and children violence.

"We have trained groups of people in the on how to take good care of children which include protecting them from harm both physically and mentally," Kibangu said.

Some bodaboda riders at

Africana area said that there were some riders who have been ruining the business by engaging in unlawful acts, including rape.

They blamed some parents for leaving their children in the hands of bodaboda riders who to take them to and from school without asking the children about the behaviours of the riders.



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VACANCIES ANNOUNCEMENT

The Johns Hopkins Center for Communication Programs is soliciting applicants for multiple positions for an upcoming proposal providing support to vector control in Tanzania. This potential contract will be awarded under the United States Government financed by the United States Agency for International Development (USAID). This position is subject to all applicable USAID and US Federal Government hiring regulations. The expected period of performance of this contract is January 2025 - December 2029.

Specifically, the Johns Hopkins Center for Communication Programs is seeking the following positions:

1. Chief of Party
2. Entomological Advisor
3. Finance and Administration Director
4. Logistics Advisor
5. Monitoring, Evaluation, and Learning Director
6. Social and Behavior Change and Innovation Advisor

Applications will be reviewed on a rolling basis and must be received no later than 11:59 pm Tanzania local time on **April 5, 2024** at the ccptz-hr@jh.edu Late submissions will not be considered.

Interested parties are encouraged to see the full version of the job descriptions at bit.ly/ccpmalariajobopportunities or by scanning the QR code below.





Frank Mnojela, an officer with the Police Gender and Children Desk for Kawe in Dar es Salaam, conducts a sexual violence education and sensitisation session for students of the city's Mtakuja Secondary School yesterday. The event was sponsored by Barrick Gold Corporation. Photo: Guardian Correspondent

Food processors get training on quality control, marketing

By Getrude Mbago

A TOTAL of 51 small and medium-scale food processors in the coun-

try have received essential skills on quality control and marketing strategies meant to improve quality of their products.

Dubbed 'Alliance for Inclusive and Nutritious Food Processing (AINFP)', the six-year programme (2018-2024) is implemented by TechnoServe-an international non-profit organisation in partnership with the United States Agency for International Development (USAID) and other partners in food solutions.

Speaking at a stakeholders' forum in Dar es Salaam at the weekend, country programme manager Getrude Kawau said food processors who turn raw ingredients into products like fortified flours, edible oils, dairy products and therapeutic foods, are a critical link in agriculture value chains.

She said the programme which is also implemented in Ethiopia, Kenya, Malawi and Zambia has produced positive outcomes to the processing companies while also improving food systems and livelihoods.

"Out of the supported food processing firms, 66 percent of them are owned or led by women, resulting in over \$30 million

in value of sales. The programme focused on processors who mill flour, pasteurized dairy products, cooking oils and other food products," she said.

She said since its commencement, AINFP has facilitated the establishment and strengthened linkages between food processors and smallholder farmers to sources of raw materials.

The programme has also developed a sector-wide training programme focusing on food safety and trained 711 individuals drawn from over 250 food processing companies and institutions.

"The programme has helped provide a stable market for smallholder farmers selling maize, milk and other products, create employment opportunities for more workers and increase the supply of safe, affordable and nutritious food to consumers, especially those living in vulnerable communities hence boosting food security," she said.

Angela Mulaisho, AINFP deputy chief of party at TechnoServe said that food processing sector in Africa is essential for

driving economic growth, rural development, gender equity and improving diets, making it a crucial element in strategies to transform food systems.

She said as of the end of 2023, AINFP was working with 225 food processors and over 1,000 other public and private sector actors in Ethiopia, Kenya, Malawi, Tanzania and Zambia.

"Increasing procurement of raw materials from smallholder farmers can boost farmers' incomes through access to a reliable market that pays premium prices and by reducing food loss from production not sold to an output market, further contributing to increased incomes," she said.

Shela Nickodemus, quality and safety manager at Shambani Milk, one of the beneficiary processing companies, thanked TechnoServe for the support which has stimulated development of the firm thus contributing to the development of the country.

Shambani Milk is a Tanzanian dairy company manufacturing fresh milk, yoghurt and cheese for consumers across the country.

She said through AINFP programme, the firm received expert advice from General Mills staff and TechnoServe business advisors on how to improve quality control in its supply chain and packaging which enabled it to double the shelf life of its products.

"Limited shelf life has been a constant complaint from our customers, and we hope solving this will give us mileage in our business. We currently produce fresh milk based on actual orders but with this improvement, we will be able to produce fresh milk every day," she said.




Advertisement

REQUEST FOR QUOTATION

BUL-RFQ-24-03-01 - SUPPLY OF PCS - PROGRESSIVE CONTROL SOLUTIONS

Bulyanhulu Gold Mine ("the Company"), a fully owned subsidiary of Twiga Minerals Corporation, which is ultimately owned by Barrick Gold Corporation and the Government of the United Republic of Tanzania requests the submission of Quotes from reputable, experienced, certified, and qualified parties to provide the following:

PROGRESSIVE CONTROL SOLUTIONS Specifications:

- 1x PARC® & AwaRE® grinding without coarse ratio control, PARC® software license part number PARC-SFT, PARC® software license part number AwaRE - SFT, Workstation - AwaRE Optimization computer part number PCS-COM-01, including site commissioning and training.

Key documents

- Clear and detailed Quotation.
- Company registration documents i.e. Certificate of incorporation, business license, TIN, VRN, Tax Clearance Certificate etc.
- BRELA detailed search document indicating Tanzanian ownership percentage, Tanzanian management and below management employment percentage to determine classification as an Indigenous Tanzanian Company as per the Local Content Regulation, 2018.
- Applicable certification, accreditation, affiliated registrations, and letter of dealership as required.
- Approved Local Content Plan or acknowledgement of submission from the Mining Commissioner.

Submission of Quotes

- Please submit your quotes via email to bulytender@barrick.com.
- The reference "BUL-RFQ-24-03-01 - SUPPLY OF PCS - PROGRESSIVE CONTROL SOLUTIONS" must be quoted in the subject line of the email.

NB: The Company reserves the right to invite any other supplier(s) who did not submit a quote through this advertisement.

If you do not hear from us in 21days after the deadline date, please consider your bid/quote unsuccessful.

Key Dates

- Last date to submit quotes: **01st April 2024**

Bulyanhulu Gold Mine Limited



Johns Hopkins Center for Communication Programs (CCP-TZ)
Office Loc: Plot 372 Chole Road - Oysterbay
P. O. Box 105303, Dar es Salaam, Tanzania
Website: <http://www.ccp.jhu.edu/>

REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS (RFPs)

The Johns Hopkins Center for Communication Programs is soliciting proposals for a service provider to transport insecticide-treated nets and other items as described in the scope of work. This potential contract will be awarded under the United States Government financed by the United States Agency for International Development (USAID). This procurement is subject to all applicable USAID and US Federal Government procurement regulations. The expected period of performance of this contract is January 2025 - October 2029.

Quotes must be received no later than 11:59 pm Tanzania local time on **April 5, 2024** at the ccptz-hr@jh.edu Late submissions will not be considered.

Interested parties are encouraged to visit the full version of the request for quotations at <https://bit.ly/ITNTRANSPORT> or by scanning the QR code below.





Vodacom Tanzania investigation manager Joseph Mnyune (L) pictured in Arusha city at the weekend taking the firm's agents and customers through skills of identifying and forestalling cellphone-facilitated frauds and related crimes. Photo: Guardian Correspondent

Spice stakeholders demand action to resolve challenges

By Guardian Correspondent, Morogoro

REPRESENTATIVES of government ministries, public corporations, non-state actors and the private sector yesterday came up with a resolution calling for immediate study and removal of bottlenecks that hinder spice production in Tanzania.

The resolution was made at a meeting jointly organised by Morogoro regional government and the Southern Agricultural Growth Corridor (Sagcot). It called for a comprehensive study of snags and successes in spice crop production, processing and marketing.

The meeting also called a policy that is friendly to production of spices and horticultural crops. The resolution said Tanzania has to produce spices that can be sold in the global market.

"At the moment the spice industry faces snags that explain its stunted growth. There is pressing need to identify and remove the snags," reads the document in part.

The meeting also called for creation of a partnership that promotes openness and takes care of the interests of stakeholders in the spice industry.

"We call for creation of a forum for exchange of ideas on skills, good production methods, innovation and how to identify challenges encountered in production of spice."

Government representatives were drawn from the Cereals and Other Produce Regulatory Authority (COPRA) and district councils. Other representatives were drawn from cooperatives, companies processing and marketing spices and prominent farmers of spices.

Addressing the meeting, Morogoro Regional Administrative Secretary Dr Musa Musa said there is a growing global demand for spices therefore it is important for Tanzania to increase its production capacity.

He also told the meeting that Morogoro Region was doing well in clove production, saying the region produced 2000 tonnes of cloves last year worth 36bn/-.

"Spices that we focus on are cloves, cinnamon, cardamom, lemongrass and pepper," he said.

Earlier, SAGCOT Manager for Kilombero Cluster John Nakei said his centre and Morogoro regional commissioner's office have been working very closely to improve spice production. Nakei said they work in collaboration with all stakeholders, including development partners and farmers have embraced growing of cloves in the region.

"Morogoro is home of many spices and shareholders have agreed to fully exploit opportunities of abundant fertile land in Morogoro Region," he said.

Bank organises iftar for Muslims in Zanzibar

By Guardian Reporter, Zanzibar

NMB Bank hosted two separate Iftar dinner events for Muslims in Unguja and Pemba as part of its tradition to celebrate the holy month of Ramadan.

The events brought together over 1,000 stakeholders, including the bank's customers who observe the holy month of Ramadan, Zanzibar government officials, orphaned and abandoned children among others.

The Iftar event was graced by the

Second Vice President of Zanzibar Hemed Suleiman Abdulla and attended by high-profile NMB Bank staff, including Chief Executive Officer Ruth Zaipuna and board chair Edwin Mhede while the Pemba event was graced by South Pemba Regional Commissioner Mattar Zahoro Masoud.

Speaking during the event, Abdulla lauded the bank for maintaining a positive culture of organizing Iftar events for its customers, adding that the bank has been instrumental in

supporting Zanzibar's development agenda.

He said that integration of the bank's core banking system with that of Zanzibar government has tremendously helped to increase government's revenue collection efforts in recent years.

"I take this opportunity to thank NMB Bank management for sustaining the Iftar culture. This event indeed aligns with your 'close to you' philosophy," he said.

"I assure you that we will continue

to strengthen our systems through NMB because I understand that you have done a lot of work for the Zanzibar government and I must admit that the increase in revenue collections is one of the success stories for NMB Bank's contribution."

Zaipuna said the bank embarked on its long-time tradition of organizing Iftar as a sign of gratitude for its customers' continued trust as the bank of their choice.

"Organizing Iftar is our long-time tradition and aligns with our 'close

to you' philosophy. Such gestures bring us closer. We are glad to organize this Iftar for Muslims in Zanzibar today," she said.

She urged orphaned and abandoned children to continue to grow in faith and increase their efforts in everything they do in life especially in their studies.

Ally Ngingite, the bank's senior manager for personal banking, reaffirmed its commitment to continue with the culture of organising such events for Muslims in Pemba as such

events help build bond with its clients

"This is our long-term culture and as a bank we promise to maintain it as it is one of the five pillars of Islam. I take this moment to urge Muslims in Tanzania to maintain this virtue of observing the Holy Month of Ramadan with worship, charity, and fasting," he said.

Masoud commended the bank for organizing the event that aimed at giving back to the Pemba community.

Photo on page 2



Tanga Water Green Bond

WEKEZA KWA MAENDELEO YA JAMII NZIMA

Pata faida ya **13.5%** kila mwaka huku ukiwezesha upatikanaji wa huduma bora ya maji.

Tembelea tawi lolote la Benki ya NBC au mawakala wa soko la hisa la Dar es Salaam





INVITATION FOR EXPRESSION OF INTEREST FOR ADVANCED MAINTAINANCE PLANNING AND SCHEDULLING TRAINING - GEITA GOLD MINING LIMITED.

I. INTRODUCTION

is in north-western Tanzania, in the Lake Victoria goldfields of the Geita region, about 5 km from Geita town.

The Company is in the process of prequalifying service providers for Advanced Maintenance Planning and scheduling Training and is, therefore, inviting interested eligible applicants to submit Expressions of Interest for this service as detailed below.

NB: THE DOCUMENTS REQUESTED BELOW MUST BE SUBMITTED WHEN EXPRESSING INTEREST ON THIS SUPPLY. SHORTLISTED CANDIDATES WILL BE SUBJECT TO ANGLOGOLD ASHANTI VETTING PROCESS.

Scope of Service:

REFERENCE NUMBER	SERVICE DESCRIPTION
GGME01835	ADVANCED MAINTAINANCE PLANNING AND SCHEDULLING TRAINING

II. INFORMATION REQUIRED

PRE-QUALIFICATION REQUIREMENTS (MANDATORY)	
COMMERCIAL	20%
Company Profile and updated organogram	2%
Company Code of Conduct and Ethics	2%
Copy of Current Business license	2%
Copy of Incorporation Certificate, the most recent BRELA search, and the latest BRELA application of annual return.	3%
Copy of Valid Tax Clearance Certificate (TCC), TIN Certificate and VRN certificate	3%
Copy of Workers' compensation fund certificate	2%
Copy of company memorandum and article of association	3%
Compliance with Mining Act-Approved Local Content Plan.	3%
FINANCIAL POSITION & TERMS OF TRADE	5%
Applicants audited financial statements for the past three consecutive years.	2%
At least 1 reference from the applicant's bankers regarding supplier's credit position. If any.	1%
All bank statements of the Applicants active bank accounts for the past 6 months to date	1%
A guarantee from a reputable financial institution to support any declared alternative source of funds.	1%
SAFETY AND ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT SYSTEMS	5%
OSHA Compliance Certificate	1.5%
Environmental compliance certificate	1.5%
Safety and Environmental policy	2%
OTHER POLICIES	5%
Gifts / Hospitality / Sponsorship Policy / Procedure	1%
Policies / Procedures dealing with Forced and Child Labor	1%
Policies / Procedures dealing with Abuse, Discrimination and Harassment	1%
Grievance Procedure	1%
Human Rights Policy / Procedure / Program	1%
PAST EXPERIENCE	5%
At least 3 names of the applicant's clients, value and duration of the contracts entered with the clients in the past two years (must be listed)	1%
Signed contracts/LPOs (proof of the above)	1%
Acceptance certificates /completion certificates (Prove of a. above where applicable)	1%
Provide at least 3 recommendation letters from different clients	2%
TECHNICAL CRITERIA (GGME01835)	60%
Provide proof of previous Maintenance planning training experience to large scale mining/Construction or Manufacturing industries of at least 3 years and above	20%
Provide CV and Certificates of the facilitators who will conduct Advanced Maintenance Planning Training	20%
Provide accreditation/registration proof from the relevant Registration Board/Agency in Tanzania to offer training service	20%
Total	100%

III. Interested Applicants must quote "GGME01835 - ADVANCED MAINTAINANCE PLANNING AND SCHEDULLING TRAINING" on the subject of the email for submission of Letters of Interest ("LOI"). Letters of Interest must indicate Applicant's full name, contact details and name of the principal contact. The LOI signed by an authorized representative must outline what the Applicant has to offer and how the skills and experience are valuable to the Company.

IV. All LOIs and supporting documentation (in PDF format) must be submitted to the Company's via e-mail at geita.eoi@anglogoldashanti.com without copying any individual from the Company. Submission must not be later than **8.30AM 8 April 2024**. (the "LOI" Submission Deadline). EOI submissions should not exceed 150MB per email. In case the size of the email with attachments exceeds 150MB, applicants must split the submissions into multiple email.

V. Shortlisted Applicants will be notified within forty-five (45) calendar days from the submission deadline. Applicants not contacted within the forty-five (45) calendar days should consider themselves unsuccessful.

=END OF ADVERTISEMENT=

217890501



Advertisement REQUEST FOR QUOTATION

BUL-RFQ-24-03-02 - 20-Ton Humble Hook Assembly

Bulyan Hulu Gold Mine ("the Company"), a fully owned subsidiary of Twiga Minerals Corporation, which is ultimately owned by Barrick Gold Corporation and the Government of the United Republic of Tanzania requests the submission of Quotes from reputable, experienced, certified, and qualified parties to provide the following:

Material types and specifications:

Unit Requested must comply to the following specifications:

- **x6 Complete 20** -Ton Humble hook assembly String sets. Safety Factor of String should be and not less than 10:1.
- **Item 1** - Special type M30 Rope Socket to suit a \varnothing 38 mm winder rope.
 - Sizes of Item 1 should be of an L = 700mm / W = 210mm / T = 210mm
 - Weight of Item 1 should be approximately 100kg.
- **Item 2** - Socket Pin
 - Socket Pin Sizes D = \varnothing 79.4 mm / Grip Length = 211 mm
 - Weight of Item 2 should be approximately 12kg.
- **Item 3, 4, 5, 7, & 8** - Type 20-Ton/ \varnothing 305 RBD Safety Detaching hook complete with Mancane Latches to prevent accidental one side opening.
 - Weight of Item 3, 4, 5, 7, & 8 should be approximately 249kg.
- **Item 9** - Chaseblock Pin
 - Chaseblock Pin Sizes D = \varnothing 79.4 mm / Grip Length = 211 mm
 - Weight of Item 9 should be approximately 12kg.
- **Item 10** - Right Angle and Jaw Chaseblock
 - Right Angle and Jaw Chaseblock should be of an L = 505mm / W = 210mm / T = 175mm
 - Weight of Item 10 should be approximately 70kg.
- **Item 11** - Chaseblock Pin
 - Chaseblock Pin Sizes D = \varnothing 79.4 mm / Grip Length = 176 mm
 - Weight of Item 11 should be approximately 10kg.
- **Item 12** - Right Angle Draw Bar
 - Right Angle Draw Bar Sizes should be of an L = 687.5mm / W = 175mm / T = 160mm
 - Weight of Item 12 should be approximately 35kg.
- **Item 13** - Draw Bar Pin
 - Draw Bar Pin Sizes D = \varnothing 63.5 mm / Grip Length = 127.5 mm
 - Weight of Item 13 should be approximately 8kg.
 - Material of Bin should be of 826M40 - BS2772:1989 - Group 5
 - With a Safe Working Load of 18:1
- See inserted Figure 1 Complete 20 -Ton Humble hook assembly String set as a reference to unit that shall be required.

20-Ton Humble Hook Assembly String:

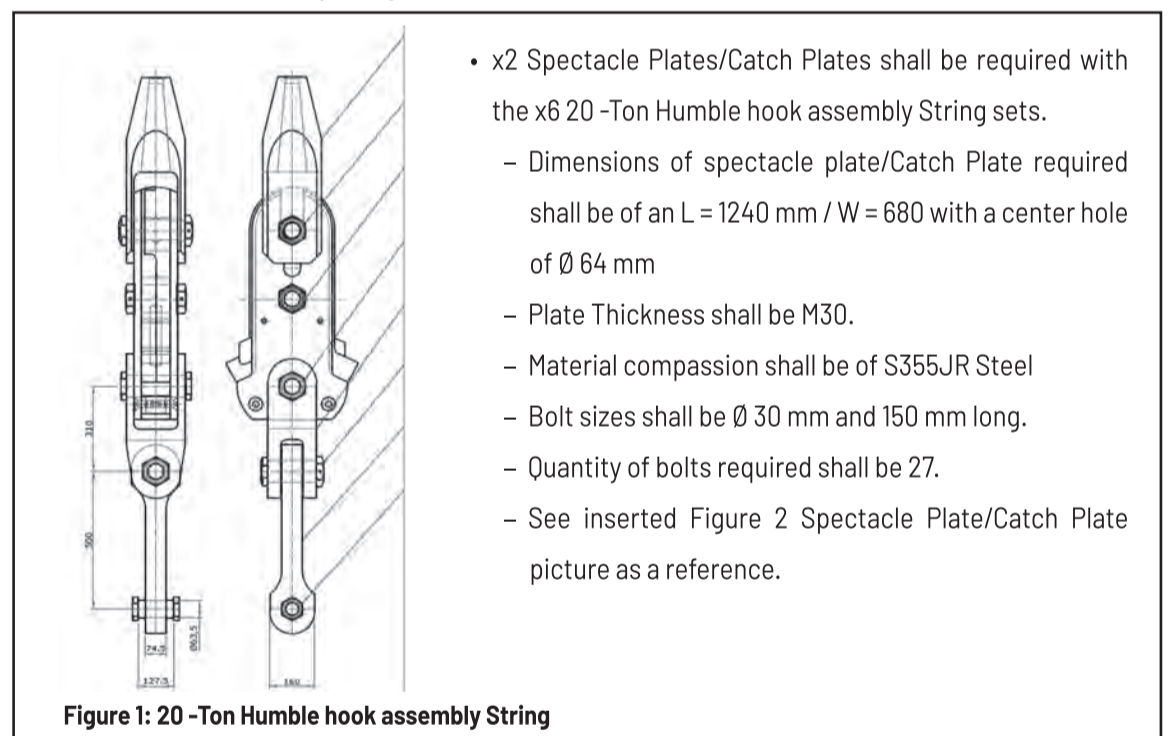


Figure 1: 20 -Ton Humble hook assembly String

- x2 Spectacle Plates/Catch Plates shall be required with the x6 20 -Ton Humble hook assembly String sets.
 - Dimensions of spectacle plate/Catch Plate required shall be of an L = 1240 mm / W = 680 with a center hole of \varnothing 64 mm
 - Plate Thickness shall be M30.
 - Material compassion shall be of S355JR Steel
 - Bolt sizes shall be \varnothing 30 mm and 150 mm long.
 - Quantity of bolts required shall be 27.
 - See inserted Figure 2 Spectacle Plate/Catch Plate picture as a reference.

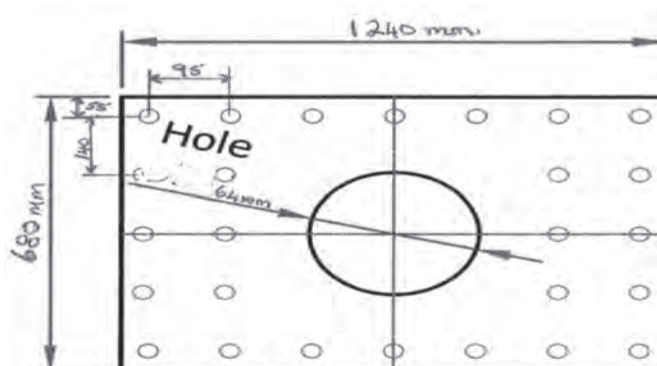


Figure 2: Spectacle Plate/Catch Plate

Key documents

- Clear and detailed Quotation
- Company registration documents i.e. Certificate of incorporation, business license, TIN, VRN, Tax Clearance Certificate etc.
- BRELA detailed search document indicating Tanzanian ownership percentage, Tanzanian management and below management employment percentage to determine classification as an Indigenous Tanzanian Company as per the Local Content Regulation, 2018.
- Applicable certification, accreditation, affiliated registrations, and letter of dealership as required.
- Approved Local Content Plan or acknowledgement of submission from the Mining Commissioner.

Submission of Quotes:

Please submit your quotes via email to bulytender@barrick.com.

The reference "BUL-RFQ-24-03-02 - 20-Ton Humble Hook Assembly" must be quoted in the subject line of the email.

NB: The Company reserves the right to invite any other supplier(s) who did not submit a quote through this advertisement.

Key Dates

- Last date to submit quotes: **01st April 2024**

Bulyan Hulu Gold Mine Limited

217892001

Kruger park reports poisoning, thousands of wild animals die

JOHANNESBURG

SOUTH Africa's Kruger National Park (KNP), a well-known African safari destination, said that there are increasing incidents of animals in the park being poisoned by suspected poachers.

Some unknown people have poisoned water in the park or put poisoned meat, which has resulted in the deaths of various species, Richard Sowry, a ranger with the KNP, said at the weekend.

"Some poisoned water has killed insects, birds, hawks, eagles, vultures, buffaloes, elephants, and other animals. Any animal that feeds on the carcasses dies, and we burn all of them after that," said Sowry, who noted that more than 2,000 vultures have been poisoned at the park.

"People living next to the park should know the value of the animals in the park and benefit from it so that they can protect them. We have engaged the people on many occasions to help us conserve the fauna and wildlife," he said.

Sowry added that they are trying to beef up the security in the KNP by using helicopters and dogs with global positioning systems on their necks to track poachers.

The world-renowned Kruger National Park offers a wildlife experience that ranks with the best in Africa.

NPK provides professional guidance, auditing and specialist conservation management through an integrated and ecologically sustainable approach.



Rotary Club of Dar es Salaam president Nikki Aggarwal (2nd-L, squatting) leads her fellow RCD members in a tree planting initiative in Kazimzumbwi Forest in Kisarawe District at the weekend. The club talked of plans to plant a total 2,500 trees in implementing its environmental conservation drive. It has additionally said it is determined to gift primary schools at least 3,000 desks worth over 400m/-, lifting over 10,000 pupils off the floor. Photo: Guardian Correspondent

Incidence of stroke in 30-50 age group worries MOI

By Correspondent Joseph Mwendapole

THE Muhimbili Orthopaedic Institute (MOI) has said it has been receiving an average of four stroke patients every week, most of them aged between 30 and 50 years.

Dr Alpha Kinghomela, brain and spine neurosurgeon at MOI un-

veiled this at the weekend when speaking at a training session about the advanced stroke medical treatment technology that is used nowadays to treat patients in the world.

The technology involves conducting brain surgery using blood vessels in the thigh.

The training that took place in

Dar es Salaam was moderated by Prof Cagin Senturk from Turkey and involved participants from Muhimbili National Hospital (MNH)-Mloganzila.

"Stroke is the number one problem in the world for causing permanent disability and the second for causing death," he said.

"MOI has plans to become a centre of excellence for stroke treatment in Africa and this is implementation of the government's directive to us to establish stroke treatment units," he said.

He said the main causes of stroke include blood pressure issues, heart disease, diabetes and severe

headache, advising that it is good for a person with these symptoms to go to hospital for a preliminary examination to control the effects.

Prof Senturk said that this is the first stroke treatment training to be given in East and Central African region and that it will enable MOI to become a referral centre for pa-

tients with such problems in the region.

"I have seen that MOI is well prepared by having modern equipment to provide stroke treatment. It is my belief that MOI will be a centre of excellence for stroke treatment and referral in this region," said Prof Senturk.



JOB OPPORTUNITY

SOCIAL WORKER COORDINATOR (1 Position)

Amani Centre for Street Children is a nationally registered NGO with branches in the Arusha and Singida Regions, headquartered in Moshi, Kilimanjaro. In Moshi, Amani is searching for a self-motivated, detail-oriented professional to assume the role of SOCIAL WORK COORDINATOR. This individual will be responsible for supervising a team of professional social workers. The candidate who is chosen will be accountable to the Director of Programmes. Additionally, they will collaborate closely with Programme Coordinators in Arusha and Singida to guarantee that their social work teams operate efficiently.

Position description shall include but not be limited to:

- Oversee all Social work department activities and Projects at Amani Moshi.
- Responsible for coaching and working closely with reunification Officers and Street Outreach Officers in the department to ensure successful reunification and safe rescues for Children and Youth supported by Amani.
- Build positive collaboration with all stakeholders and involved Government departments and, when necessary, organise and conduct meetings with them.
- A member of the Amani Management team representing the Social Work department at Amani Moshi and part of the decision-making team at Amani
- Construct and manage social work budget.

Qualifications:

- Master's or bachelor's degree in social work, Sociology, Counseling, Child Psychology, or other related discipline.
- Ability to build positive working relations with local Government, including the Police and Social Welfare departments.
- Excellent command of English and Swahili, oral and written.
- At least 3 years' experience in a senior position in social work or a related field.
- Proven excellent computer use in Word and Excel programs.
- Experience working with children and youth will be an added advantage.

To apply, please send your detailed cover letter, resume, copies of relevant certificates/diplomas, and contacts of at least 2 professional referees to jobs@amanikids.org not later than 5th April 2024. Please clearly indicate referee's address, email, and day phone numbers.

Please Visit our website www.amanikids.org for more information.

Note: Only short-listed candidates will be contacted.

217892101



PROVISION OF EMPLOYEE WELLNESS PROGRAM 2024-2026

INTRODUCTION:

CRDB Bank Plc would like to invite prospective proponents to submit proposals for the provision of Employee Wellness Program for 2024/2026.

OBJECTIVES:

The objective is to engage a qualified wellness Consultant who will partner with CRDB Bank in fostering a workplace culture of wellness to increase productivity and welfare of the employees.

KEY FOCUS AREAS

- 1. Professional Telephone Counselling in Swahili and English -**
Counselling for psychosocial problems, substance abuse and addiction, relationship problems, financial management, health, personal, or work-related problems and all mental disorders.
- 2. Professional Face to Face Counselling -**
For any psychological, relationship, medical, stress, financial problem, marital & pre-natal counselling, trauma focused counselling, teenage counselling, family therapy, individual and corporate coaching, fitness, nutrition, and lifestyle management.
- 3. Managerial Consultation**
Managerial consultancy for stress management, crisis management, assistance in managing risk cases, cultural diversity, or performance management of employees.
- 4. Psychiatric Care Arrangement**
Outpatient assessment and care through accredited Psychiatrist.
- 5. Emergency Response Critical Incident Stress Debriefing (CISD)**
Worksite Counseling and Stress Management Support such as armed robbery, death, or disaster at a worksite.
- 6. Education Support and Awareness -**
Conduct awareness program across the network to equip employees on key psychological threat / sign periodically.
- 7. Home Based Care Services -**
Support of home health services where needed.
- 8. Physical wellness -**
Support physical wellness that encourages the balance of physical activity, nutrition, good sleep, and mental well-being.
- 9. Wellness Days -**
Support in conducting annual wellness days across the network that helps to keep employees well educated in various health issues etc.

10. Monitoring & Reporting -

Monthly, Quarterly & Annual

11. Submission of Tenders -

All tender submissions must be online.

Emails where tenders should be sent reads as below, any email sent sizes should be 4MB or less.

- procurementdesk@crdbbank.co.tz
- tenders@crdbbank.co.tz

As part of the technical and financial evaluation of proposals, please indicate the following details in your proposal:

- Submit a Company Profile
- Submit a detailed relevant experience with evidence attached, at least three (3) Contracts, LPO, Recommendation letters) including customers served before and type of work undertaken.
- Submit at least three (3) Recommendation letters for customers served before and type of work undertaken.
- Location of regional offices (HQ & Branches if Any)
- Annual reports / audited financial reports for the past three (3) years.
- Current Annual return certificate, for Tanzania companies, this is obtained from BRELA.
- Submit legal and business certificates.
- Submit valid Regulatory, Government Board or Agency certificate required for such goods/services.
- Submit Valid Business license.
- Employees CVs & certificates
- The following forms are available in our website for filling and submitting as part of the requirements, vendor application, Non-disclosure agreement and Bank indemnity form.

12. Deadline of submission to be indicated as

- Tender deadline for submission 05th April 2024
- Tender Closing time 12:00 hrs
- Tender opening time 16:00 hrs (a link will be sent through to the email that submitted the tender)

The Managing Director

CRDB Headquarters,
Plot No.25 & 26 Ally Hassan Mwinji Road &
Plot No.21 Barrack Obama Road
P.O. Box 268, 11101 Dar es Salaam, Tanzania
Tel: +255 (0) 22 211 7441 - 7
Fax: +255 (0) 22 211 6714
Email: info@crdbbank.co.tz
Website: <http://www.crdbbank.co.tz>

217897101

MONDAY 25 MARCH 2024

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

Enhancing of food export standards has link to widening of commercial farming

EFFORTS by the Southern African Development Community (SADC) to foster skills on sanitary requirements demanded when exporting foodstuffs and agricultural products to the European Union market are in the right scheme of things.

As a matter of fact, this challenge ails trade within the eastern and southern parts of Africa even before the more formidable benchmarks needed in trading with the EU are considered.

The EU capacity building effort will likely spill over to regional and continental trading as, if not, sanitary and other drawbacks can impinge on other farm units by contagion or storage mixtures with bad produce.

At the start of the year, police and horticultural officers with the Tanzania Plant Health and Pesticides Authority (TPHPA) intercepted a large cargo of avocados being hauled to collection centres in northern Tanzania.

Horticultural traders trembled, trying to figure out how that would have affected market confidence had the avocados made it to India or China, the new market openings where Tanzanian traders expect to make considerable inroads.

In that case, sanitary issues are standards for the whole of the sub-sector, not specialised skills due to standards demanded in various crop export destinations.

Commercial farming is fast spreading out in many parts of the country as agro-sector exports increasingly rival other subsectors in foreign currency generation.

Thus, it should not be out of bounds for the government to think of making commercial farming the norm rather than a series of exceptions at the local level.

So far, there is low policy sensitivity farming on the issue because

there is still a positive balance between market needs and rural farming needs, even as tensions are rising. When the government permits unimpeded rises in the local prices of grain exports, our farmers are happy while poor urban dwellers become restive, leading to curbs in exports.

One trouble is that this impedes agro-sector investments, especially for staple grains where the country would have seen comparative advantage owing to vast areas to cultivate compared to most of our neighbours.

Limiting farm investments to fruits and vegetables where regulation is less invasive would come to a tactical compromise with investors but it would leave the main food security dimension in a limbo.

With broader mechanised commercial farming, it would be easier to fortify grains and considerably mitigate the stunting of children.

That is just not feasible with traditional agriculture and, with low investments due to curbs in exports, the subsector stands stunted.

What some policy makers do not see is that this reliance on traditional farming to provide the grain needed for food security is itself a time-bomb. This is, in the main, because farmers don't get enough returns, via prices, to improve their lives, while the relatively high food prices make the urban poor too sensitive to any price disturbances.

It is a stagnating scenario where farmers retain land and remain poor what with the low grain prices, and jobs are scarce as food prices impede industry, which relishes low wages to expand its local footprint. So some of our youths run away from the land of their parents and grandparents and get no jobs from the land because their parents hold land that can be converted into capital.

W. Bank booster could help Treasury refocus operations

FURTHER financial sector management uplift is in the works with the World Bank soft loans window, the International Development Agency (IDA), extending to Tanzania US\$50 million (127 billion/-) in new credit.

This is for revenue management strengthening, modernisation of public procurement processes, and improvement of resource allocation and audit effectiveness.

It is helpful to explain the objective of the credit at some length, as it mirrors plenty in what is ailing financial administration.

This could be described as the disconnect between finance and public satisfaction with project implementation, with credit serving as a sort of strategy.

The World Bank country director said in a statement that the project or intended programme was meant to strengthen the capacity of the Union and Zanzibar governments to improve resource mobilisation through the deployment of improved revenue collection modalities, as well as improvements in the management of expenditure.

All this comes under the need to mobilise and manage public resources through strengthening institutional capacity, efficiency, transparency and accountability.

Left as a general statement, not many can make head and tail of what the problem is likely to be, plus the solutions now being lined up.

The WB director noted that it was commendable that the government acknowledged the vital role of robust public financial management and procurement systems in driving Tanzania's development agenda, giving that as the reason for the

initiation of the programme.

One area where observers often find it difficult to grasp World Bank designs is that it is seldom clear what lessons it learns and takes up initiatives over time.

For instance, there is an avowed preference to credit World Bank programmes and those of other development partners in tandem with the government as having facilitated this or that success in a particular field.

Yet when an informed observer looks at the matter closely enough, it will likely become apparent that the issue was a governance initiative or clean-up rather than relating to the need for additional facilities, training or capacity building.

For instance, the WB statement said that there has been noticeable progress in this area over the past few years but it was vital to address persisting weaknesses to enhance the timely delivery of public services.

It qualifies the current credit effort as a programme for results (PforR), linking disbursements with programme outcomes. The question is whether this needs more of traditional procurements, or less of it.

While it is evident that electronic revenue collection modalities or systems have considerably uplifted resource mobilisation, along with an improved business environment, the results are sharply contrasting.

One aspect is considerable capacity for the government to finance public service utilities, while this effort is let down by existing public procurement management formalities.

The Guardian Limited Key Contacts

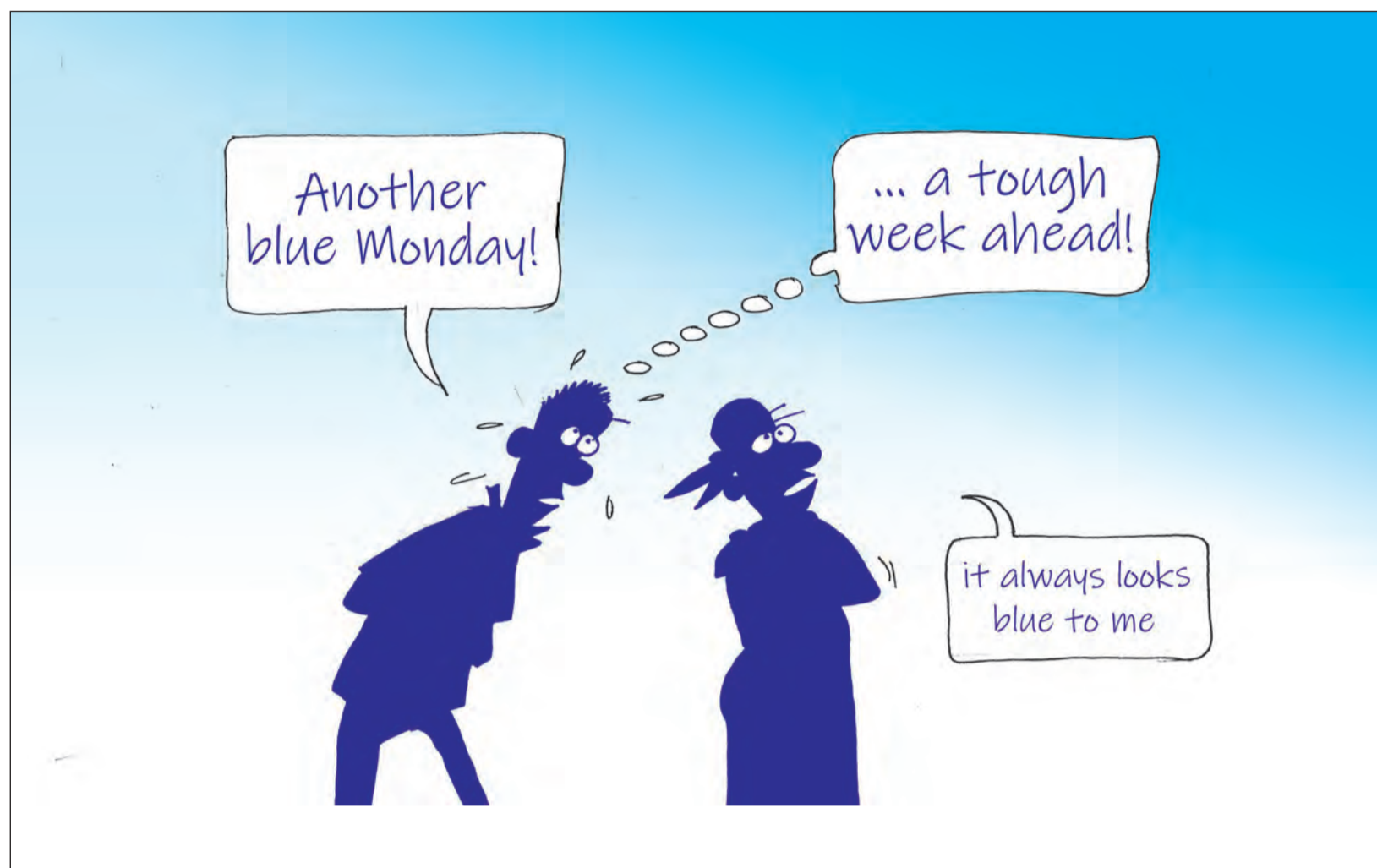
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Africa's youth forced to weather the brunt of rising climate threat to coastal communities

By Dhesigen Naidoo and David Willima

AFRICA is highly dependent on its fishing value chains, with fish providing 30% of animal protein in people's diets. Research from WorldFish indicates that in a business-as-usual scenario, this industry will employ 21.6 million Africans and generate an income of \$3.3-billion by 2050. In the plausible high-growth scenario, the numbers jump to 50.8 million jobs and revenue of \$20.4-billion.

But all of this is under threat as climate change wreaks devastation on Africa's fishing industry and coastal communities. As sea levels rise and climatic conditions such as acidification affect ocean health, the livelihoods of those who live along the shoreline are at stake.

Disaster risk reduction measures are needed fast to mitigate these impacts and their threat to human security. And by focusing on working-age youth to implement these measures, an imminent crisis can become an opportunity to mitigate climate disaster and generate a demographic dividend.

Climate change is forcing coastal communities to deal with hotter oceans and rising sea levels – both of which could have catastrophic consequences if not curbed. Sea temperatures have surged almost 1°C above the 1971-2000 average. The effects of warmer waters are apparent with high-energy storms like Cyclone Freddy, which devastated Southern Africa, and Storm Daniel, which ravaged Derna in Libya.

Water levels have risen globally by 21-24 cm compared to 1880. In the latest scenarios, if the temperature increase is restricted to 1.5°C, the sea level rise in 2100 will be 28-55 cm. Further delays to ending the use of fossil fuels might land us in a +4.4°C world by 2100 – with a sea level rise of 63-101 cm.

Such levels would compromise most of Africa's coastal towns and cities, with devastating effects on island states like Mauritius, the Comoros and Seychelles. Apart from drowning out coastal settlements and developments, saltwater intrusion on freshwater resources would drastically reduce water security and compromise coastal crops and livestock farming. This is already happening on the island of Nyangai off the coast of Sierra Leone. High-value infrastructure would also be threatened in more developed cities, with severe development impacts.

Rapidly growing populations

Africa's population will grow by 27% this decade. It will be higher in coastal cities, with the seven largest – Lagos, Luanda, Dar es Salaam, Alexandria, Abidjan, Cape Town and Casablanca – growing by 40% in the same period. These increases are being fuelled by the economic importance of coastal cities.

At the same time, the continent's blue



Storm surges, fuelled by rising sea levels due to global warming, are set to create havoc in Nelson Mandela Bay in the Eastern Cape by 2040. (Photo: Deon Ferreira)

economy, including ports, fisheries, tourism and other coastal activities, is expected to grow significantly. World Bank estimates suggest an expansion from \$296-billion in 2018 to \$405-billion by 2030. African governments recognise this potential – the continent's Blue Economy Strategy and Great Blue Wall initiative were actively reinforced at an African Union meeting in June last year.

Africa's growing population is young, with 40% aged 15 or less in 2022, and an average age of 20. This demographic trend is crucial in understanding the disproportionate impact of climate change on the youth.

As coastal cities experience rapid population growth, young people's vulnerability to climate change intensifies, especially those dependent on agriculture and fishing. Climate change will severely jeopardise their employment opportunities, with a loss of livelihoods leading to multi-generational poverty.

Crime rates could rise as people search for alternative sources of income, and climate-induced displacement and economic hardship will create fertile ground for radicalisation and violent extremism, adding to insecurity in coastal communities.

Forced mobility is another poten-

tial problem. Rising sea levels and environmental degradation will compel young people to migrate further into and outside the continent, often facing perilous journeys and uncertain futures.

Intersectional factors such as age, gender and socio-economic status exacerbate risks for marginalised youth. Young women in the blue economy often encounter additional obstacles in accessing education or employment, compounding their vulnerability to the impacts of climate change and their ability to adapt. Examining these intersecting challenges is essential to address the unique needs of marginalised youth in coastal Africa and to scale up indigenous, innovative adaptation measures.

Studies show that the emergence of piracy in Somalia was multifaceted, driven not just by poverty and the lure of fast money, but by a resistance to foreign fleets exploiting marine resources. Climate change will exacerbate such pressures. In Somalia's case, the ocean economy is pivotal to the country's stability. However significant reductions in fisheries due to climate change and natural ecosystem variability threaten food security and income generation in a region already facing insecurity.

Africa's coastal resources hold tremendous potential for sustainable development driven by the continent's youthful population. A focus on tackling the climate crisis could present an opportunity for young people to take the lead in building resilient coastal communities for the future.

Dhesigen Naidoo, Senior Research Associate, Climate and David Willima, Research Officer, Maritime, Institute for Security Studies (ISS) Pretoria.



Disaster risk reduction measures are needed fast to mitigate these impacts and their threat to human security. And by focusing on working-age youth to implement these measures, an imminent crisis can become an opportunity to mitigate climate disaster

By Guardian Correspondent

TECHNOLOGICAL INNOVATIONS

Fostering a science culture of learning through hands-on scientific exploration

SCIENCE and technology innovations serve as the bedrock for socio-economic development of any nation. In Tanzania, the recognition of science and technology as catalysts for progress has led to the emergence of organizations like the Young Scientists Tanzania (YST), which is dedicated to nurturing young people and fostering a culture of scientific inquiry and problem-solving technologies.

Established in 2011, YST embarked on a mission to empower Tanzanian youth by equipping them with practical scientific knowledge and skills.

At the heart of YST initiatives lies the science outreach and mentoring program and workshops that enhances scientific literacy among secondary school students and educators. The workshops are organized by 31 regional coordinators and the YST science advisors.

Joseph Clowry is the Co-founder of YST, he emphasizes that the organisation's approach is rooted in the belief that practical science education is pivotal in addressing societal challenges effectively and an important driver for economic development of any nation.

The YST science for development initiative fosters a science culture of learning through hands-on scientific exploration, asserts Clowry, adding the organisation has witnessed a surge in student engagement and enthusiasm for science.

"Since its inception in 2011, the outreach program has positively impacted a substantial number of individuals. More than 14,766 secondary school students have benefited from YST initiatives, while over 2,394 teachers have received training during the outreach sessions," the Co-founder of YST told the Guardian.

He added that YST exhibitions have seen the participation of over 3,085 students and 1,489 teachers from secondary schools across Tanzania. Notably, YST has awarded over 45 university scholarships through its sponsorship by Karimjee Foundation to Overall Winners and Special Education Awardees, further incentivising excellence in scientific exploration and academic achievement.

Aligned with Tanzania's national development agenda and the African Union's Continental Education Strategy Plan (CESA 2015-2025), the science outreach program serves as a strategic intervention to bolster the country's scientific capabilities. It empowers students and science teachers in secondary schools and contributes to the cultivation of a robust scientific culture essential for sustainable development.

YST's efforts align with several Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) outlined by the United Nations, par-



Tabora Boys Secondary School students David Anyano and Carlos Lugusi (in yellow T-shirt) showcase their project alongside students from St Joseph's Cathedral High School. Photo: Guardian Correspondent

ticularly goals No. 4 (Quality Education), No. 9 (Industry, Innovation, and Infrastructure) and No. 17 (Partnerships for the Goals).

By focusing on science education, innovation, and collaboration, YST is playing its part as an NGO in advancing global efforts towards a more equitable and sustainable future.

Clowry added: "The YST program is not just about science education but science for development in Tanzania. By equipping young Tanzanians with the skills and knowledge needed to tackle local challenges, YST is driving progress and development within the country."

Looking ahead to 2024, YST's commitment to advancing science education remains unwavering. The organization

is hosting a comprehensive training sessions for 412 science teachers from across all 31 regions of Tanzania.

The operation has been made possible by a generous support of the Karimjee Foundation (KJ). The foundation's invaluable contribution enables YST to continue running the vital programs that shape the future of science education in Tanzania. KJ has been a supporter of YST since 2012.

The workshops were conducted between March and April to equip educators with the necessary tools and pedagogical approaches to effectively impart scientific principles to their students.

YST anticipates more than 1,000 research and innovation ideas will be submitted to its judging panel. This year

the deadline for submissions is April 12th 2024. Submitted ideas will undergo a thorough selection process before selected projects are further mentored for research and development.

"Application is open to all secondary schools; we encourage students, teachers, and schools to actively participate in such programs. YST places special emphasis on encouraging both female science teachers and female students to take advantage of the opportunity and carve out their space in the STEM (Science,

Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics) fields," insisted Clowry, noting students, teachers, and schools can visit YST's website at www.youngscientists.co.tz to submit their ideas and engage with the scientific community.

Engaging in scientific research and innovation not only enhances academic learning but also fosters critical thinking, problem-solving skills, and creativity. It sets a positive trajectory for students' learning journeys, providing them with invaluable experiences in their early lives that will shape their future endeavours.

Dr Gozibert Kamugisha, another Co-founder of YST, elaborates on the program's multifaceted approach, highlighting its expansion into diverse spheres.

In 2024, the science outreach program will encompass a broader scope, including initiatives aimed at fostering interdisciplinary collaboration and exploring new frontiers in scientific research, thus fostering innovation and advancement within the scientific community.

YST stands at the forefront of science and technology advancement in Tanzania, championing the transformation of the nation's educational landscape.

Through its innovative programs and unwavering commitment, YST not only empowers youth but paves the way for a prosperous and scientifically literate society, contributing to the global efforts to achieve the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).

IWD 2024: Donors urged to invest in women human rights defenders

By Ananilea Nkya

IN celebrating the International Women's Day 2024, dozens of women human rights defenders in the country have called for development partners to invest more in women's human rights organizations because their works contribute effectively in bridging the gender economic gap.

The intergeneration women human rights defenders from both Tanzania Mainland and Zanzibar made the appeal during a round table discussion on this year's International Women's Day (IWD) with a theme 'Invest in Women: Accelerate Progress'.

To make IWD celebrations a worthwhile undertaking, every year the United Nations create a theme which all nations focus on based on individual country's development context.

The 2024 IWD theme 'Invest in Women: Accelerate Progress' suggests that more investment is required to bridge gender equality gap in various aspects so that women can play their development role effectively in their countries' the similar to men.

The round table discussion for the country's women's rights defenders was organized in Dar es Salaam on March 6th 2024 by Coalition for Women Human Rights Defenders Tanzania (CWHDT) in collaboration with Tanzania Human Rights Defenders Coalition (THRDC).

Each March 8 countries across the world mark the day and the whole month of March is considered as women's month. The aim is to enable each country to reflect on progress made in bridging the gender gap and brainstorming strategies that can be adopted to make further progress in the coming year.

Opening the round table discussion, Chairperson of THRDC Pili Mtambalike said it is important to invest on women human rights defenders because they face many difficulties and threats while executing their work.

Mtambalike noted that "human rights defenders organizations get insufficient financial resources to provide adequate and suitable protection to human rights defenders." This challenge was also noted by Racheal Boma who spoke during the round table on behalf of the UN Women Representative in Tanzania. Boma said that UN Women too these days get less and less financial resources from its donors.

It seems funding for women's human rights work is now a growing challenge. A study conducted by Oxfam GB in 70 countries across the world which analysed gender violence laws and policies against women revealed that the works of feminist activists produce big results although they receive small scale funding to pursue their agenda.

Similarly, in Tanzania, a brief desk study by Women Fund Tanzania trust (WFT) entitled 'Shifting power to provoke change for inclusive development through feminist funding' reveals that funding to women's rights organizations has fallen for more than half over the past 11 years today.

Yet, regardless of the scarcity of financial resources, the Oxfam study shows that women's rights activists influence changes because the most crucial and reliable factor driving positive transformation in relation to women's, girls' and children's rights is "feminism activism."

"Activism on women's right agenda is a risky undertaking", said Salma Haji Sadat a woman human rights activist from association of people with disability in Zanzibar.



Pili Mtambalike, Chairperson of the Tanzania Human Rights Defenders Coalition

She added "enemies are not only from state but also from other sources including faith groups."

She cited a case whereby life of four women activists including her were threatened just after a group of Muslim leaders made a press statement calling for the government to arrest the women activists simply because they had demanded that women should be included as Kadhi in the Kadhi court in Zanzibar.

"For several months we lived in fear of being arrested by police or being harmed by religious activists", noted Sadat.

Threats and intimidation on women human rights activists has been a reality in Tanzania for many years.

Mary Rusimbi, a renowned women human right activist and former Executive Director of Tanzania

Gender Networking Program (TGNP) recalled how women activists from her organization were arrested by police just because they had organized a peaceful rally against International Monetary Fund (IMF) officials during the late President Benjamin Mkapa administration.

Rusimbi said when the Tanzanian government officials were meeting IMF official at the then Sheraton hotel in Dar Es Salaam, TGNP women activists went to the hotel and staged a peaceful rally outside with placards bearing different messaged connoting that IMF policies had far reaching negative impacts to the lives of the majority people especially women in the country.

"Police came and arrested the women activists", noted Rusimbi adding; "But the following day President Mkapa ordered the police to release the

activists saying they had the right to air their views".

Many women in Tanzania have shown the courage of defending their rights and the rights of other women or children.

In recognizing the role played by women's rights defenders in bridging gender gap, CWHDT Executive Hilda Stuart Dadu said her organization has started offering awards to women human rights defenders who have done unique contribution to women human rights work in the country

Obviously, to continue giving worthwhile award to recognize and appreciate the best women human right defenders requires a huge financial investment so that many more women human rights activists in Tanzania including those who have engaged in such work throughout their life time get the award.

In steak-mad Argentina, women's work is increasingly butchering the meat

By Lautaro Grinspan

It takes only a brisk walk through Mercado Norte, a nearly century-old food market hall in this city, to discern that in this most carnivorous of countries, meat is the domain of men. Behind the glass counters of the carnicerías, or butcher shops that make up most of the market's food stalls, male butchers hold court, knives in hand, while women, if there are any to be seen are relegated to the cash register.

The gorily stained apron that hangs from her neck identifies Maru Diaz as the exception to the rule.

On a recent Tuesday, Diaz worked alongside two other butchers, both men, to sculpt from goat carcasses recognizable retail cuts: racks of ribs, tenderloins and bone-in legs, whose meat has become a popular filling for empanadas. This is not a task for the faint-hearted. It begins by hoisting the 23kg (50-pound) animal on a hook, chopping off its head and hacking a knife along its backbone to cut the carcass in half.

"I work in a man's world," Diaz said matter-of-factly with goat heads piled up around her feet in what almost appears to be a religious ritual. Some men, after seeing her wield a knife or cleaver, have expressed their surprise in condescending comments that rankle her: "Be careful. You'll hurt yourself," or warnings to beware the "armed woman".

"I like what I do," said the 36-year-old, her black hair tied up in a bun. "But you have to really want it."

And it seems more and more women want it.

The butcher's shop, like 'Disneyland'

Women like Diaz are increasingly making their mark in the industry, raising their profile while working behind meat counters, and a few are even opening carnicerías of their own. At the same time, new training opportunities aim to further democratize the workplace and spread butchering know-how, creating more on-ramps for women and other outsiders.

It's a shift that carries outsized symbolic weight in meat-loving Argentina, where the asado, or barbecue, is king, where carnicerías dot nearly every city block and where locals are defying a crippling economic crisis and triple-digit inflation to retain their title as the world's biggest steak consumers per capita. More even than the tango or Malbec wine or Borges or the legend of Maradona - well, maybe not Maradona - steak is the centrepiece of Argentinians' identity.

Macarena Zarza, 29, understands this all too well. She got her first job at a butcher shop as a teenager, a product of chance and necessity. She had dreamed of a career in law enforcement but dropped out of high school to help support her family after her father died of cancer. She responded to an ad for a cleaner at her neighborhood carnicería in the sprawling Buenos Aires metro area.

Months passed, then years. When a co-worker who was responsible for making milanesas, or breaded cutlets, was out sick, she filled in for him. Later, the bosses tasked her with grinding beef, pressing hamburgers and deboning some cuts of meat. Before long, she was spending her lunch breaks and evening hours shadowing other butchers and learning to carve from her boss.

"It took me two years to get to the counter," Zarza said.

The more Zarza learned, the more her passion grew. She now speaks of the need to "respect" carcasses when butchering and compares her passion for the trade to most Argentinians' fervor for the national football team. She opened her own carnicería, where she singlehandedly butchers 15 head of cattle per week, and travelled to France to refine her skills with master artisans. More satisfyingly, she won over customers who initially told her a butcher shop was no place for women or that they'd rather wait for a male butcher to clock in before they put in their order. Nowadays, Zarza manages a meat processing plant that supplies area carnicerías.

"I never got a degree or a diploma," she said. "But I



Maru Diaz, a butcher, in an Argentinian butcher shop

show people what I can do with my knives."

Victoria Vago's path to becoming a butcher hinged on a career turnaround. A political science graduate, she said she always felt "like at Disneyland" whenever she found herself surrounded by meat at a butcher shop. In 2018, she quit her office job in the Buenos Aires city government to apprentice at a local carnicería.

She never looked back.

Good technique better than sheer strength

Vago and Zarza said people who can't countenance female butchers tend to see muscle and brawn as job prerequisites. But that's a misconception, and a tired one at that. With training and a solid grasp on carving techniques, women can run a carnicería just as well as any male counterpart. In fact, an overreliance on physical strength during the butchering process could be a sign that something is awry, they said. In Vago and Zarza's telling, butchering at its best is a kind of art form with butcher knives closer in spirit to a sculptor's chisel than a miner's pickaxe.

"Strength is just one part of it. If you're working in a place that's properly equipped, if you have good knife technique and you know where to cut, you'll be fine," said Vago, who at 157cm (5ft 2 inches) weighs less than half a typical side of beef.

"Technique is what makes this not ... just a man's job anymore," Zarza added.

While there's no official data tracking the gender gap in Argentina's meat industry, women last year reached their highest level of overall workforce participation in the country's history, according to government

reports. Conversations about the Argentinian meat industry tend to spotlight the word "herencia", or inheritance. That's because, for all the national fervour around meat and despite the ubiquity of carnicerías across the country, becoming a butcher is still a haphazard process with no formal pipeline or vocational training programmes for aspiring butchering talent.

That informality tends to reinforce the male structure of the industry. Male butchers tap their sons, nephews or friends to work at - and one day take over - their businesses, and they also inherit their appreciation for the vocation.

"Butchering knowledge is based around family," Zarza said

Luis Barcos is trying to change that.

Training Argentina's next generation of butchers

A veterinarian by training, Barcos is known for introducing the wagyu breed of beef cattle to Argentina in the late 1990s. He has presided over the national food safety agency and currently serves as the sole Argentinian member of the French Academy of Meat. His most recent venture is the Buenos Aires-based Institute of Meat Sciences and Trades, which will later this year debut a butchering course, a mix of classroom education and hands-on workshops.

"A school to train butchers never existed in Argentina," Barcos said. "Passing on the trade from a father to his son or from a boss to his employee is a type of knowledge transfer that is very valid, and it has created a big labour force, but I thought we could make something more standardised, more professionalised."

A shift towards standardisation "would without a doubt really boost the participation of women in the industry" he said.

The Institute of Meat Sciences and Trades boasts support from heavy hitters like the University of Buenos Aires, multiple federal agencies, a leading meat industry publication and the French embassy in Argentina. (Barcos's dream is for Argentinian butchers to command the same reverence and respect in Argentina as French food artisans do in their country.) But other, more homespun training initiatives are also taking off.

In the sparsely populated province of La Rioja, located in the mountainous Argentinian northeast, Soledad Andreoli co-owns a slaughterhouse and a local chain of carnicerías. This month, she launched a free "school for women butchers" by turning part of the slaughterhouse floor into a training facility.

Andreoli's ambition is to give local working-class women better job prospects because most struggle to find opportunities outside domestic work, a field in which slightly more than 97 percent of workers are female. She also hopes to help accelerate change inside a "machista" industry that she says has systematically excluded women.

"Cultural changes, cultural revolutions don't take place all of a sudden. They're gradual. ... To break down barriers, you need to find that starting point, contribute your grain of sand."

Women working in carnicerías are "a change that is ... here to stay", she said.

"We are in another era now."

CAPITAL RADIO

RATIBA YA VIPINDI JUMATATU - JUMAPILI

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

Tembelea mitandao ya kijamii ya CAPITAL RADIO



CAPITAL RADIO

Organic farms seem to cause rise in pesticide use on conventional farms

By Madeleine Cuff

ORGANIC farmers dedicate their working lives to producing food with minimal help from pesticides, but in curbing the use of chemicals on their own land, they may unwittingly be triggering a spike in pesticide use over their neighbour's fence.

Ashley Larsen at the University of California, Santa Barbara, and her colleagues assessed land-use and pesticide data across 14,000 fields in Kern County, California. This is one of the largest crop-growing counties in the state, with produce including almonds, grapes, carrots and pistachios.

The team found that when organic farmland is surrounded by conventional agriculture, the neighbouring farmers seem to increase their pesticide use, with a 10 per cent rise in organic cropland being linked to a 0.3 per cent increase in total pesticide use on conventional fields. Most of this is driven by increased use of insecticides, the researchers found.

This may be because more insects - pests or otherwise - tend to be present on organic land and "spill over" into neighbouring con-

ventional farmland, prompting these farmers to increase their pesticide use.

"Pests arrive and seed a new outbreak, and they [farmers] increase pesticide use," Larsen told reporters during a press briefing. The effect appears to be strongest when neighbouring fields are within 2.5 kilometres of the organic "focal field".

Conversely, the researchers noted that the presence of organic farmland is linked to a reduction in pesticide use on neighbouring organic fields, with a 10 per cent increase in the area of surrounding organic cropland being associated with a 3 per cent decrease in total pesticide use on organic focal fields.

This may be because the larger area of organic farmland allows for a bigger and more stable community of beneficial insects.

Organic agriculture only covers about 2 per cent of farmland globally, but in Kern County, about 5.5 per cent of the agricultural area is organic.

When organic agriculture makes up a high proportion of farmland - perhaps 20 per cent or more - net pesticide use decreases regardless



Organic farming is the way to go

of where the organic fields are sited, say the researchers.

But when relatively small areas of organic farmland - such as in Kern County - are evenly dispersed through the landscape, net pesticide use may in fact be higher than when no organic farmland is present. "Our simulations suggest that at low levels of organic agriculture in the landscape, we can actually see an increase in net insecticide use," said Larsen.

However, this impact can be entirely mitigated by clustering organic farmland together to minimise potential pest spillover, she said. It might be worth considering, at the policy level, how to incentivise spatial clustering of new organic fields to basically leverage the pest control benefits

of organic and limit any potential costs of organic on conventional growers."

This could include subsidy payments for farmers to convert more of their land in certain areas to organic practices, or even the creation of buffer zones between organic and non-organic land.

Robert Finger at ETH Zurich in Switzerland says the findings demonstrate the need for policy-makers to consider land-use policy at the "landscape scale" to maximise the environmental benefits of organic farming. "Fundamentally, just thinking about single fields or single farms is not enough," he says.

Bamboo farming in Uganda on the rise as govt seeks to increase export

KAMPALA

BAMBOO farming is on the rise in Uganda, where the hardy and fast-growing crop is seen by the government as having real growth potential.

Local authorities say it can be burned for fuel in rural communities, taking pressure off dwindling forest reserves of eucalyptus and other natural resources.

Conservationists say it's a hardy plant that can grow almost anywhere. And businesses see it as a cash crop with uses that range from furniture to toothpicks.

Taga Nuwagaba, a bamboo farmer and businessman, owns a bamboo furniture factory near the Ugandan capital of Kampala.

It is an incredibly versatile material he says: "We are making a few products, not as many as we should. We are making these tables as you have seen, the chairs, we are making pens from the tip of the bamboo that we don't normally use, we have definitely made cups, we have made trophies, we have made sculptures, we have made quite a number of things - quite a number of products."

Some of the bamboo species grown in Uganda are imported from Asia, but many - like one whose shoots are smoked and then boiled to make a popular traditional meal in eastern Uganda - grow wild.

A few kilometers out of Mbarara City in Western Uganda, there is a large commercial farm that includes a seven-acre bamboo lot.

The plants at Kitara Farm are well looked-after, and a stockpile of 10,000 bamboo poles sat waiting to be sold. Caretaker Joseph Katumba said the property has become something of a demonstration farm for people who want to learn more about bamboo.

Bamboo plants are normally ready for harvesting in three to five years, and a well-maintained plantation can be useful for at least 50 years says Katumba.

"After our research on bamboo, we discovered that when you plant bamboo at the age of 12 - because you start harvesting bamboo after 3 years and start earning from it, so when you start harvesting after that 3rd year, your kids, your grandkids and your great grandkids will earn from that same bamboo - that is the reason why we stopped planting eucalyptus and resorted to bamboo." Unlike eucalyptus - a tall flowering plant widely planted here for its timber - there is no bamboo season.

Bamboo grows faster than eucalyptus and regenerates like a weed. It also can thrive in poor soil.

Kitara Farm stopped planting new eucalyptus lots while its bamboo acreage continues to expand.

But Nuwagaba says that the market needs to expand, so more people will be convinced of the benefits of growing bamboo.

"I have a few neighbors who have tried to grow bamboo but up until now people are still struggling with the use people are still struggling with its viability in the market, who

buys it, what does it do and people haven't seen many bamboo products - for example these tables and chairs you see here, it is very difficult to explain to someone what that forest does - if you told them that you get furniture out of it or sculptures as I have put it, people will not even believe, people still need to be sensitized (educated) about bamboo."

A single bamboo pole brings a little less than a dollar, so farmers need to grow a lot of it to earn enough.

Bamboo promoters are urging them to see a bamboo plantation as the same kind of cash crop as coffee or tea estates.

Banks are offering bamboo "plantation capital" to clients, loans that promise ownership of substantial acres of bamboo.

Bamboo seedlings are now more widely available via private nursery beds. Steve Tusiime, a self-described bamboo collector, owns one such nursery in Mbarara.

Tusiime says he's been fascinated by the plant since seeing one as a boy.

"If you come here what you will see mainly bamboo but not only bamboo but several species of bamboo and each bamboo you see here has a story it has where it comes from and it has different use it has different names for example in that corner you see a giant bamboo, that giant bamboo is very specific to Asia and then in this corner you are also seeing another bamboo very specif-

ic to India. This one came from India and that one came from China. They are all bamboo, this one is also from China, but they have different uses, they have different characters so when you come here you look at

bamboo, the story is bamboo."

Still, Uganda's bamboo plantations aren't growing fast enough to build an industry around the plant.

Tusiime's nursery has sold fewer than 10,000 seedlings in the past

two years, confounding his own assessment of bamboo as an important cash crop which also happens to benefit the environment.

However Nuwagaba Taga says he can't keep up with demand.



Taga Nuwagaba, a bamboo farmer and businessman who owns a bamboo furniture factory, holds a piece of furniture in Wakiso, Uganda



Request for Proposals

RFP Title: Provision of Consultancy services for review of the current status of market support facilities in USAID Tuhifadhi Chakula Project regions.
Re-advertising RFP Number: 2024-TCP/03/01
Date of Solicitation: March 25, 2024
Closing Date and Time: April 3, 2024, 11:00 am (Arusha, Tanzania)
Questions and Clarifications: Due by March 27, 2024

Introduction to TAHA and Tuhifadhi Chakula Project
 TAHA is an apex member based private sector organization that advocates for the growth and competitiveness of the horticulture industry in Tanzania. Since its inception in 2004, TAHA has been an effective voicing platform for producers, traders, exporters and processors of horticultural products mainly; flowers, fruits, vegetables, horticultural seeds, and spices. The Association safeguards the interests of industry stakeholders and ensures industry issues are well represented within national and international agendas. Visit us at <https://www.taha.or.tz/taha/about>

USAID Tuhifadhi Chakula Project (USAID - TCP) is a five-year project funded by the United States Agency for International Development (USAID) and implemented by TAHA. The overarching objective of the Project is to reduce food loss and waste and resultant climate effects for improved food security and livelihoods.

The project has been co-created to improve food handling, storage, and value addition, facilitate market access, inform and promote policy and regulatory frameworks that reduce food loss and waste, and strengthen local organizations' capacity to lead in post-harvest management. Overall, the project will contribute to reducing post-harvest losses from 30-40% for horticulture to 15% and from 13% to 7% for cereals by the end of the project.

TAHA through USAID TCP has set aside a budget to solicit and engage eligible and qualified consultant to conduct a review of the current status of the market support facilities in USAID Tuhifadhi Chakula Project regions. The consultancy aims to assess the existing market support facilities in the project regions which are Dodoma, Dar es Salaam, Arusha, Kilimanjaro, Morogoro, Mbeya, Njombe, Tanga, Pwani and Zanzibar; analyzing their current status to inform the needed areas for improvement, determining the capacity in terms of volume and the number of stakeholders they are serving.

A. Submission Instructions

Interested consultants or firms should download the terms of references through the link: <https://shorturl.at/st1NU>

B. Clarification on the Advert

- All correspondence related to the RFP shall be made in English.
- Each consultancy opportunity should be responded to separately.
- Should there be any uncertainty, the Bidder shall seek clarification in writing through e-mail to: procurement@taha.or.tz
- Any clarification sought by the bidder in respect to the RFP shall be titled **CLARIFICATION - CONDUCTING A REVIEW OF THE CURRENT STATUS OF THE MARKET SUPPORT FACILITIES IN USAID TUHIFADHI CHAKULA PROJECT REGIONS.**
- TAHA will only respond to requests for clarification received no later than Wednesday, March 27, 2024.
- Copies of TAHA's response will be forwarded to all registered participants (registration form on Appendix 1), including a description of the inquiry, but without identifying its source.

Quest for a learning society: Need to invest in teaching in early primary school years

By Aidan Eyakuze and Youdi Schipper

BY June 30th, 2025, Tanzania aims to be a 'well-educated and learning society', recognizing that competitive leadership in the 21st century will hinge on the level and quality of education and knowledge. This is one of the five goals of the Tanzania Development Vision 2025.

However, with just over a year left to the conclusion of Vision 2025, is the country on track to be a 'well-educated and learning society' in 16 months from now? And if not, it is important to improve chances for reaching it before 2050 by investing in teaching in the early primary school years.

Early grade learning levels in Tanzania are low. In 2019, only five percent of Standard Two students in Tanzania could read Kiswahili fluently in the Standard Two National Assessment, and just seventeen percent passed addition and subtraction tests. These foundational learning outcomes are vital because they affect the whole of a student's future school career and life outcomes.

In January 2024, the government announced that over 85 percent of the 572,000 students who sat for the Form Four national exams had passed. A deeper dive reveals decent Kiswahili pass rates - almost seven out of ten passed.

But this was accompanied by a worryingly low pass rate for mathematics: just one in eight candidates or 13 percent passed the exam. Lower down the school system, the share of students passing Standard Seven mathematics fell from almost 65 percent in 2019 to 49 percent in 2023.

Admittedly, mathematical reasoning is just one among many skills, but it is an unarguably important one in a knowledge-driven 21st century economy.

Given Tanzania's long-term vision and the current learning trends, it is worth noting that the science of learning interventions has made big strides over the past 20 years. Tanzanians understand better what works - and what doesn't - to improve classroom instruction and student learning, especially foundational learning outcomes.

Much of the scientific evidence emphasizes innovations that improve teachers' ability to teach. Recent work by Twaweza and partners in Tanzania has focused on motivating teachers, under a program known as KiuFunza - a mashup of Kiu ya Kujifunza (Thirst to Learn).

It shows that when teachers are offered cash bonuses linked to their students' performance, it has a big effect on



how well children learn the basics. And the cost per student is relatively low.

Let's see how this works, using the example of Abdallah and Beatrice, two teachers in public primary schools. Their respective schools, Songambele and Mkuranga, are located at opposite ends of Tanzania, separated by 1,300 kilometers.

Mkuranga is located in Mkuranga District, in Coast Region, close to the district office, while Songambele can be found close to the shores of Lake Tanganyika, 100km from the district office in the Uvinza district of Kigoma Region - it takes several hours to travel there.

But the two schools have some things in common. In particular, they both have large numbers of students relative to the teachers assigned to teach them, especially in Standards One, Two and Three.

Songambele recently had 125 students for every teacher assigned to teach reading and numeracy in the three early grades. Mkuranga had 92 students per teacher. Beatrice has 131 students and monitoring each and every one of them individually is especially challenging.

These examples illustrate a fundamental imbalance in education: while reading, addition and subtraction - the foundations of students' learning - are taught in the early grades, the resources provided at this important level are very limited.

More than 83 percent of primary school teachers say that if they could choose, they would prefer to teach children in Standards 4 to 7 rather than the lower classes.

KiuFunza addresses this issue by transforming large student numbers from a problem into an opportunity. Currently, the program incentivizes teachers in 265 schools in 11 regions of Tanzania, focusing on Standards One, Two and Three (to boost foundational learning). These teachers receive a small cash bonus for every student that passes basic skill tests, such as reading or subtraction.

The key feature is that the payment is conditional: without students passing the test (60 percent is the pass mark) there is no payment. The payment goes directly into the bank account of the teacher responsible. In short, KiuFunza rewards teachers with large classes who are successful at making their students learn basic skills.

Both Abdallah and Beatrice are navigating the student learning challenges, boosted by KiuFunza. Abdallah spends extra time helping children who learn slowly. He also finds and lends books suitable for children to read on their own at home.

For Beatrice in Mkuranga, the incentive drove innovation. To address the challenge of individually monitoring over 130 students in her class, she divides them into groups based on ability, and prepares lessons ac-

cordingly. She also spends more time with those children who have less ability. After three months, they catch up to their faster peers.

This motivation effect translates into improved student results. In February this year, Twaweza paid 577m/- in bonuses to KiuFunza teachers in recognition of their performance in 2023.

Compared to others, their students were between 11 percent and 16 percent better in literacy and numeracy. Independent evaluations confirm that students' performance on basic reading and numeracy tests improves significantly and are independent of the starting level of the student. Other evidence shows that teacher classroom attendance improves, and that teachers overwhelmingly support the program.

Learning is key to Tanzania's present and even more so, to its future. All children should be able to read and do the most basic of calculations by age 10.

Of course, we need good schools, good teaching and good books, but we also need teachers who are motivated to put in their best efforts. Learning from initiatives such as KiuFunza will boost our chances of becoming a truly well-educated and learning country by 2050.

THE GUARDIAN CROSSWORDS AND WORD FIT - 85 -

By Felix Magezi: 0787 00 97 94 // felixmagezi@gmail.com

ACROSS:

- Town meaning 'lay down your heart'
- picot
- having no name
- God as Father in the Bible
- member of Somali people living in Djibouti
- Monetary unit of Nigeria

DOWN:

- a long curved fruit
- Banjul is her mother city
- allowing access
- used to give an affirmative response
- a fertile spot in a desert
- plasm
- an edible mollusc of warm seas, with a shallow ear-shaped shell lined with mother-of-pearl
- person earning money
- an assistant to a political leader
- one less than ten
- and others
- songbirds
- Monetary unit of China
- suffix denoting tumours

C

A

N

E

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

MAM CAREER OVERT
CANE NOVEL LIMA
RIVER EVEN GAS
CHANNEL E-REGION
ENEMY STAY SAIL

Yesterday's solution

KAMPALA M S BEASTS
EVER ADDICT ANNOUCEMENTS
YOGA SOLLA OMITAPE
WALST NEON AUDIOA
ES BEARD R ERROR
ADDED L GOA DO FEAST
MEUKASE R A R KEY
N D THEMES STAY S E

RADIO One

RATIBA YA VIPINDI

JUMATATU - JUMAPILI

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Tembelea mitandao ya kijamii ya Radio One

Radio One

BUSINESS

Tourism ministry suggests ways to fight wildlife, forest poaching



Natural Resources and Tourism deputy minister Dunstan Kitandula. PHOTO: Correspondent Valentine Oforo

By Correspondent Valentine Oforo, Katavi

THE government has challenged the Conservation Commissioners (CC) to train a record number of conservation rangers in order to accelerate the fight against poaching of wildlife and forest.

The call was made over the weekend by the Deputy Minister in the Ministry Natural Resources and Tourism, Dastun Kitandula during his remarks to close the initial military training (recruit course) for at least 296 soldiers of the Wildlife and Forestry Conservation Army at the Mele Training Center.

He observed that most of the country's potential wildlife and forest resources are facing a major threat of extinction due to an array of unfriendly human activities.

Apart from hailing the 296 soldiers for completing the training, he challenged them to prioritize patriotism and integrity in carrying out their daily duties in accordance with the laws, regulations and procedures.

"I commend the great efforts made by the Ministry through the Coordination Unit of the Conservation Army, the facilitators of this training from the Tanzania People's Defence Force (JWTF), and trainers from the Police Force," Minister Kitandula expressed.

He asked the qualified conservation soldiers to embrace a spirit of patriotism and high determination in their daily executions, saying the parent ministry was ready to take punitive measure against those who will work in discordant to the set regulations.

"I am aware that there have been some unscrupulous soldiers who are violating the ethics and taboos of their work by getting involved in accepting

bribes and using excessive force, this is not acceptable at all," he warned.

He sounded to have been optimistic that the equipped soldiers will implement their daily duties with great professionalism under the auspices and regulations set by the Conservation Army and the government as a whole.

Some of the important things that the Soldiers have learned during their training include field techniques, administration and leadership, patriotism, the best way to patrol, General Orders, the use of various weapons, various quarters, Ethics of leaders and their followers, respect and military discipline, the philosophy of military salute, first aid delivery, safe capture, search and investigation procedures, dealing with forest and wildlife fire disasters, map reading and other important things.

"I know that this training was not easy, especially considering that it is the first time for many of you to receive this kind of training. I also realize that throughout the training period you have learned many things in theory and practice," the Deputy Minister Kitandula added.

"It is my hope that in the next financial year (2024/25) this center will be built with the best infrastructure environment according to the current needs in strengthening the Conservation of Wildlife and Forest resources in this country," he stressed.

Speaking before welcoming the Deputy Minister of Natural Resources and Tourism, Deputy Secretary General of the Ministry, CP. Benedict Wakulyamba has instructed the soldiers to be careful in the implementation of their duties while stressing that the duty of the soldiers is to provide a service to protect the resources of the country.

Tanzania, Kenya to promote non-stop cross-border trade

By Correspondent Joseph Mwendapole

TANZANIA and Kenya have agreed to continue solving non-tariff trade barriers to enable cross-border trade to be conducted for 24 hours.

The two countries have also agreed to forge a joint plan to harmonize charges, fees, taxes and laws that affect trade and remove other conditions that affect movements of goods and people.

This was said over the weekend by the Deputy Minister of Foreign Affairs and East African Cooperation, Stephen Byabato and the Minister of Investment, Trade and Industry of Kenya, Rebecca Miano after signing and handing over a joint Communiqué during the 8th meeting of the joint trade committee between Tanzania and Kenya at the ministerial level held in Kisumu, Kenya.

In addition, Byabato noted that the countries have agreed to ensure that Tanzanian laws do not prevent Kenyan traders from doing business in Tanzania and Kenyan laws



Nathan Belete, World Bank country director. Fil Deputy Minister of Foreign Affairs and East African Cooperation, Stephen Byabato (2nd R) receiving the proposals for an agreement to remove non-tariff trade barriers between Kenya and Tanzania from the Permanent Secretary of the Ministry of Industry and Trade Dr. Hashil Abdallah (2nd L). Others are Secretary General of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and East African Cooperation, Ambassador Stephen Mbundi (R) and Tanzania high commissioner in Kenya, Dr. Bernard Kibesse (L). Photo Correspondent Joseph Mwendapole e Photo

do not prevent Tanzanian traders from doing business in Kenya.

Regarding the signed agreement, Byabato said some non-tax barriers have so far been removed to promote trade and the economies of two countries.

He said this was done to strengthen relations with

Kenya which is the trading partner of Tanzania not only in Africa, but worldwide.

The Deputy Minister said the restrictions included the removal of the ban on tea importation from Kenya, the removal of the ban on exporting to Kenya, the removal of the ban on exporting

timber to Kenya through the Horohoro border, which was introduced by the Kenyan Bureau of Standards.

Byabato said that the two countries have agreed to deal with some obstacles in practical ways and to strengthen the procedure to monitor the implementation

of the agreement and exchanging information about areas of cooperation.

The Minister of Investment, Trade and Industry of Kenya, Rebecca Miano said that Kenya is ready to strengthen cooperating with Tanzania by removing non-tax trade barriers to promote business as well as strengthen the unity of the citizens of two countries.

The meeting is the implementation of the recent directives by President Samia Suluhu Hassan and President William Ruto seeking to remove all obstacles affecting business in order to strengthen trade relations.

The meeting also aimed to address the remaining issues discussed in the 7th business meeting between the countries held on March 9-12, 2022 in Zanzibar.

Such a meeting is expected to be held in July this year with the aim of reducing or completely removing the remaining obstacles, as part of promoting trade and the economy of both countries.

DSE weekly turnover declines with TBL counter dominance

By Guardian Reporter

The Dar es Salaam Stock Exchange (DSE) weekly turnover declined to 2.9bn/- last week, compared to 6.5bn/- recorded during the previous week.

The market reports show Tanzania Breweries Limited (TBL) counter was top mover, after recording the transaction of 320,000 shares sold by both local and foreign investors in pre-arranged block trades at discounted prices.

On Monday, the daily market report shows a total turnover of 1.3bn/- was recorded, following the transaction of 416,520 shares, traded in 173 deals.

During the day, TBL counter, the largest listed company on DSE, was top mover, after transacting a total of 200,030 shares valued 1.2bn/- traded in three deals, of which 200,000 were moved through block trade.

The second mover during the day was CRDB Bank counter, which recorded the transaction of 189,583 shares valued 100.6m/- traded at a price ranging from 520/- to 540/- per share in 1056 deals.

The market reports show the share price of the largest bank, in terms of total assets closed at 550/- during the end of the week, which is the highest in 11 months. Similar price was recorded in April last year.

On Tuesday, the market report



shows a total turnover of 92m/- was recorded, following the transaction of 102,854 shares traded in 151 deals.

NMB Bank counter recorded the highest value during the day, following the transaction of 7,100 shares valued 33.37m/- traded at a price ranging from 4,700/- to 4,800/- per share in seven deals, while CRDB Bank counter was top mover after recorded the transactions of 52,247 shares valued 28m/- traded in 96 deals.

According to the report, a total turnover of 628.08m/- was recorded on Wednesday, following the transaction of 196,525 shares traded in 131 deals.

Top mover during the day was TBL counter, after recording the transaction of 100,000 shares valued 550m/- traded at a discounted price of 5,500/- per share in one pre-arranged market board deal. The transacted shares were sold by a foreign investor and bought by a local

investor.

The second top mover during the day was CRDB counter, which recorded the transaction of 48,401 shares valued 25.9m/- in 69 deals, followed by NICO counter, which transacted 22,218 shares valued 12.9m/- in 19 deals.

The Thursday's daily report shows a total turnover of 459.5m/- was recorded, following the transactions of 233,870 shares traded in 130 deals.

During the day, CRDB counter was top mover, following the transactions of 123,005 shares valued 66.5m/- transacted at a price between 520/- and 550/- per share in 66 deals, followed by TBL counter which recorded the transactions of 60,000 shares 330.2m/- traded at a discounted price in two deals.

The daily report also shows that foreign investors appeared during the day by exchanging TBL shares, as they accounted for 71.82 percent and 72.27 percent of total values of

shares bought and sold respectively.

This has increased the foreign investors involvement as since the start of the current quarter, they have bought shares valued 4.3bn/- and sold shares valued 25.4bn/-, which translates into a net outflows of 21bn/-.

During the last day of the week, the report shows a total turnover of 439.9m/- was recorded, with CRDB counter being top mover, after transacting 182,627 shares valued 100.4m/- transacted at a weighted average of 545/- per share in 63 deals.

TBL counter was second top mover, after recording the transaction of 60,000 shares valued 330m/- traded through pre-arranged market board at a discounted price in two deals.

All share indices closed in green on Friday last week, whereby the Tanzania Share Index (TSI) gained by 9.86 points, after closing at 4,420.39 points while all share index (DSEI) increased by 3.13 points after closing at 1,776.94 points.

WB to attract private investors to developing countries



By Andrea Shalal

The World Bank will publish more of its proprietary data, including on debt defaults, starting next week as part of a push to attract more private sector investment to developing countries, World Bank President Ajay Banga (pictured) has said.

Banga, speaking at the China Development Forum early Sunday, China time, said the World Bank Group had mobilized \$41 billion of private capital for emerging markets and raised another \$42 billion from the private sector for bond issuance last year, with both totals to be eclipsed this year.

But he said more progress was needed, and the bank was taking action on a number of fronts to overcome barriers holding back private sector investment to developing economies.

Economic growth has slowed in developing countries, with growth falling to barely 4 percent from 6 percent in two decades, Banga said, noting that each lost percentage point dragged 100 million people into poverty, while debt levels were rising.

Banga noted that developing countries also faced an "unimaginable" gap between 1.1 billion young people expected to enter the workforce in the next decade and expected job creation of just

325 million jobs.

To better understand the issues, the bank convened a focus group with 15 chief executives of asset management companies, banks and operators who identified concerns such as regulatory certainty, political risk insurance and foreign exchange risk, he said.

The bank last month already announced reforms that will consolidate its loan and investment guarantee structure and triple its annual guarantees to \$20 billion by 2030.

Starting next week, Banga said, the bank and a consortium of development institutions would also start publishing private sec-

tor recovery data by county income level, as a step to inspire investor confidence.

The World Bank would also publish private sector default data broken down by credit rating, as well as sovereign default and recovery rate statistics dating back to 1985, he said.

"All this work contributes to one goal: getting more private sector capital into developing economies to drive impact and create jobs," Banga said.

The former Mastercard CEO said the bank was also working on a longer-term effort to build a securitization platform that will make it easier for pension funds and other institutional invest-

ors to bring their \$70 trillion to emerging markets.

Bundling large standardized investments in one package would encourage meaningful investment at scale, overcoming the current patchwork of small, bespoke loans that each had their own documents, risk and pricing, he said.

China's "remarkable journey" in the past five decades was a testament to what is possible, Banga said, noting China had created hundreds of millions of jobs, sharply reduced poverty and cut emissions. Once a major World Bank borrower, China is now one of the bank's biggest donors, he added.

Zanzibar minister calls for enhanced Tanzania-Pakistan trade

By Correspondent
James Kandoya

ZANZIBAR Minister for Education and Vocation Training, Lela Mohamed Mussa has called on private investors from Tanzania and Pakistan to pursue investment opportunities to boost trade and investment between the two countries.

Mussa said that over the weekend in Dar es Salaam at the Pakistan's 84th National Day Reception that brought together Ambassadors, High Commissioners and members of the Diplomatic Corps.

She said that the trade volume between the two countries has continued to grow and reached 45bn/- according to Tanzanian statistics in 2023 compared to 75bn/- in 2017.

"This is indeed a significant

growth, but Tanzania believes this could be better," she said.

She said a significant community of Pakistanis (around 3000) have made Tanzania their home and continue to contribute towards the development and prosperity of Tanzania.

Mussa said that they have been actively involved in various business activities including textiles, steel, construction, and trade.

"With the existing friendship of over 57 years, I believe the time has come for both sides to consider high-level visits between our two countries. I am informed that the last visit from Tanzania to Pakistan was by President Dr. Hussein Ali Mwinyi in Pakistan in 2014 when he was Minister of Defence and National Service," she said.

The minister said that over



Zanzibar Minister for Education and Vocation Training, Lela Mussa (3rd R), cuts cake to grace Pakistan's 84th National Day accompanied by Pakistan's High Commissioner to Tanzania, Siraj Ahmad Khan (2nd R), and Dr Ahmada El Badaoui, Dean of Diplomatic Corps (3rd L). The function was held in Dar es Salaam at the weekend.

150 from mainland Tanzanians and Zanzibar have benefitted from the courses including President Dr. Samia Suluhu Hassan, who attended a training course in Pakistan in 1988.

She said that the competence she attained during her course has been and still is being used as she undertakes her duties.

The minister reaffirmed Tanzania's continued commitment to continue strengthening the bilateral relations for the mutual benefit of peoples in two countries.

Pakistan's High Commissioner to Tanzania, Siraj Ahmad Khan, said that with shared values and aspirations, the two countries stand poised to navigate the future together, building a world that epitomizes peace, prosperity and unity.

"The two countries have maintained good cooperation

in sharing expertise and technical know-how to assist and complement each other," he said.

Ambassador Khan said Pakistan has provided institutional capacity building training programs to Tanzanian diplomats, bankers, railways, postal as well as armed forces officers adding that Dr. Samia Suluhu Hassan, the President of Tanzania, visited Pakistan for training during her early career in 1988.

The envoy said Pakistan has become an important trading partner for Tanzania, particularly in textiles, surgical equipment, electronics and agricultural products.

He said the establishment of a Joint Business Council has facilitated closer commercial ties, benefiting entrepreneurs and businesses on both sides.

Govt roots for-quality financial services



NBC Bank's Director of Credit, Salehe Mohammed (R), leads guests, including the guest of honour Permanent Secretary in the Ministry of Home Affairs, Ally Senga Gugu (C), at iftar the bank hosted for its customers in Dodoma city. The event, at the weekend, was attended by government officials, religious leaders, customers, agents, and bank employees. Photo: Guardian Correspondent

By Guardian Correspondent,
Dodoma

THE government has asked the country's banking sector to continue providing high-quality financial services that respect religious beliefs.

Ally Gugu, Permanent Secretary in the Ministry of Home Affairs made the call here at the weekend when speaking at iftar dinner organised by the National Bank of Commerce (NBC) for its Muslim customers. The event was also meant to celebrate bank's achievements as well as highlighting its commitment towards providing loans through their special service for Muslim customers, known as La Riba, which aligns with Islamic teachings on interest. It was attended by bank's cus-

tomers and senior government officials.

Gugu said that the banking industry should be at forefront to offer competitive services and meet customers' needs.

"In this matter, I commend NBC Bank for coming up with this 'La Riba', which is part and parcel of Islamic teachings on interest," he said, stressing the importance of providing high-quality financial services that respect religious beliefs.

The PS also emphasized that such services contribute to the nation's economic growth, stability, and peace. "The provision of financial services that honor customers' religious beliefs, while adhering to the country's laws, is crucial for promoting peace and stability within the country. It re-

assures people that their assets are secure and they can smoothly access financial services, including loans. NBC Bank, through the La Riba service, has gone a step further in providing loans that align with Islamic principles on interest," the PS said

Dodoma District Commissioner Jabir Shekimweri, also praised the bank's efforts in organizing the event.

He appreciated the bank's dedication to customer care and recognized the event as an opportunity for customers to strengthen their relationship with the bank.

Speaking at the event, Salehe Mohammed, bank's director of credit stated that since its launch, the La Riba service has granted loans worth a total of 28bn/- to over 20 thousand customers

across the country, showcasing its effectiveness in assisting individuals and businesses.

"We are thrilled with the positive response from our customers regarding our La Riba service, which follows Islamic principles on interest. It has proven to be a great support for businesspeople and entrepreneurs with Islamic beliefs. Events like this allow us to promote this significant service, and we can see the positive impact it is making," he explained.

Mohammed also emphasized that the iftar event is part of NBC's ongoing commitment for the past 15 years to organize similar events nationwide. The events aim to demonstrate solidarity and unity during the holy month of Ramadan.

Bank donates construction materials to schools in Nyasa

By Guardian Correspondent, Nyasa

NMB Bank PLC has donated construction materials worth over 29.7m/- to six schools located in Nyasa District Council, Ruvuma Region.

Speaking at the distribution event held at Nangombo Primary School in Mbambabay town, the NMB Bank Southern Zone Manager, Faraja Ngingo, mentioned that the materials provided by the bank included iron sheets and nails for roofing purposes.

The schools that benefited from this assistance are five primary schools including Nangombo primary school, which received materials worth over 5m/-; Chiwindi received materials worth 4.6m/-; Lundo received materials worth 4.5m/-; Chinula received materials worth 4.28m/-; Ndingine received materials worth 6.9m/-, and Ngumbo secondary school got materials worth 4.28m/-.

"Today, as we hand over these materials, it signifies our commitment to community development. As a bank, we have a responsibility to ensure that the surrounding community benefits from the profits we make," emphasized Ngingo.

For several years, NMB has been supporting various development projects for the citizens, primarily focusing on education by providing desks and roofing materials, and in the healthcare sector by donating mattresses, beds, and other medical supplies.

The guest of honor at the event, the Nyasa District Administrative Secretary, Salum Ismail, thanked NMB Bank for the

assistance provided, noting the bank's consistent support to the government in the education and healthcare sectors.

He highlighted NMB's significant contribution during disasters, citing an instance in Nyasa District where NMB provided relief materials, including coffins, for nine individuals who recently lost their lives in a car accident in the Lumeme ward.

He urged the teachers of the schools that received the roofing materials to ensure they are used for their intended purposes. He also called upon parents and guardians to continue upholding the morals and discipline of their children both at home and in school.

Pasifiki Mhapa, Acting Nyasa District Executive Director stated that NMB has been closely involved with the community to address educational and healthcare challenges.

However, he highlighted that the educational needs in the district remain substantial due to the increasing number of children attending school, emphasizing the need for partners like NMB to contribute to the advancement of education.

On behalf of the head teachers who received the construction materials, Head teacher of Chinula Primary School, Emanuel Chilwa, expressed gratitude to NMB for the assistance, stating that it will alleviate the challenges of construction materials in the schools.

NMB is a bank with over 231 branches nationwide, more than 715 Automated Teller Machines (ATMs) across the country, over 30,000 agents, and a customer base exceeding six million.



Nyasa district administrative secretary Salim Ismail (C), receives one of the iron sheets from the NMB Bank Southern Zone Manager, Faraja N'ng'ng'o (3rd L), at an event to provide construction materials to six schools in the Nyasa District Council. The total value of these materials is over 29m/-. Others are teachers from the beneficiary schools and NMB Bank employees. Photo: Guardian Correspondent

Firm to introduce digital learning platform for secondary schools



The Permanent Secretary of the Ministry of Education, Science and Technology, Prof Carolyne Nombo (3rd R), and Airtel Tanzania Managing Director Dinesh Balsingh (2nd L), exchange MoU document for the new collaborative project to connect more than 3000 schools nationwide to digital teaching systems. Others are UNICEF Resident Representative Elke Wisch (R), the Representative of the Permanent Secretary of the President's Office, Regional Administration and Local Government (TAMISEMI), Dr. Emmanuel Shindika (2nd R), and the Deputy Permanent Secretary of the Ministry of Information, Communications and Information Technology, Selestine Kakele (L). Photo: Guardian Correspondent

By Guardian Correspondent, Dodoma

Ministry of Education, Science, and Technology, and the President's Office for Regional Administration and Local Government (PO-RALG) have signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with Airtel Tanzania to introduce the digital learning platform for secondary school students.

Airtel SmartWasomi project aims to revolutionize the education system in the country through Information and Communication Technology (ICT).

The Permanent Secretary- Ministry of Education, Science, and Technology, Prof. Carolyne Nombo, said that Airtel SmartWasomi will increase children's enthusiasm for learning,

especially in schools facing challenges of inadequate learning and teaching materials.

"We expect the Airtel Smart Scholar project to bring about significant changes in student outcomes and ensure that every student has equal opportunities in education," she said.

On his part Dr. Emmanuel Shindika, who attended the event on behalf PO-RALG Permanent Secretary-Dr. Adolf Ndunguru, detailed that "PO-RALG Office is pleased to be part of this project that will facilitate teaching and access to digital content in approximately 3,000 government schools within the five years of implementation. This is a significant number, and we expect this project to be successful, thus enabling access

to even more schools after those five years."

He added, "I would like to take this opportunity to express sincere thanks to Airtel Tanzania and UNICEF for recognizing the importance of collaborating with the government on this initiative."

Despite the benefits to students, Airtel SmartWasomi will also help teachers easily access content using tablets provided by the government through the Ministry of Education, Science, and Technology. Additionally, it will assist in addressing challenges of teacher shortages and lack of textbooks.

The Airtel Tanzania Managing Director Dinesh Balsingh, explained that this project stems from data de-

tailoring some of the barriers preventing children from accessing education. Some of these barriers include school accessibility, financial difficulties, learning quality, and dissatisfaction with the level of education received.

"We believe education is a fundamental right and every child must access it. Through this project, we plan to modernize some schools to be SmartClass. The modern classroom will have a large Smart TV and routers provided by Airtel Tanzania. These routers will enable access to high-speed internet, which teachers can use to display content on the Smart TV and continue teaching students," Mr. Dinesh explained.



Construction workers wearing protective mouth masks speak with a caretaker outside Ward 16, where the drug-resistant tuberculosis patients are housed and treated, on August 5, 2019, at the Sizwe Tropical Diseases Hospital in Johannesburg, South Africa. AFP

WHO calls for concerted efforts to end TB in Africa

NAIROBI

AFRICAN countries should join hands and invest in high-impact interventions to achieve the goal of eliminating tuberculosis (TB) by 2030, a senior World Health Organization (WHO) official said on Saturday ahead of World Tuberculosis Day, which falls on March 24 every year.

Matshidiso Moeti, the WHO regional director for Africa, said it is possible to reduce Africa's high TB burden substantially once governments, industry, and donor partners invest in new diagnostics, vaccines, and therapeutics.

In Africa, TB continues to be the second leading cause of death from a single infectious agent, surpassing the toll of HIV and AIDS, Moeti noted, adding that in 2022, about 2.5 million people on the continent contracted the disease, equivalent to one person every 13 seconds.

"Additionally, the number of TB deaths in 2022 reached 424,000, resulting in the loss of one life every minute even when TB is preventable and treatable," Moeti said in a statement issued in the Kenyan

capital of Nairobi.

"These figures underscore the urgency of our collective action in addressing the ongoing TB epidemic and highlight the need for sustained efforts to end it," Moeti said, adding that the WHO African Region has provided strategic direction and monitoring tools, such as the African TB Scorecard, to accelerate progress toward eliminating the highly infectious lung disease.

This year's World Tuberculosis Day, themed "Yes! We can end TB!" aims to reinvigorate awareness campaigns to eradicate the bacterial disease, which is fueled by pollution, overcrowding, and poverty.

Moeti said sharing knowledge and best practices on effective TB control, easy access to rapid diagnostics, and regional co-operation will be key to ensuring that the disease is no longer a public health threat in Africa.

She hailed significant progress in the fight against TB in Africa, where a 38 percent reduction in deaths was achieved between 2015 and 2022, while the continent saw a 23 percent reduction in new cases over the same period.

Moeti said action on multidrug-resistant TB, intensified surveillance, adequate funding, research, community engagement, and strengthening health systems will be key to eliminating TB in Africa.

WB chief: China's sustainable growth a global example

SHIJIAZHUANG

WORLD Bank President Ajay Banga emphasized the pivotal role of China in fostering the world's sustainable growth, saying the World Bank is taking the things it has learned from China to other countries.

China is absolutely a key contributor to the sustainable global growth, Banga (pictured) said Saturday in Shijiazhuang, Hebei province, during his first official visit to China since assuming the position in June. Speaking highly of China's achievement in fighting air pollution, Banga said that is the lesson he would like to take elsewhere.

"I think that's the role China can play in many countries to show that you can do both development and cleaner (air) at the same time," he said. "So, citizens can have (not only) economic growth but also quality of life. And I think that's a very important lesson."

In 2016, the World Bank approved a \$500 million loan to support the implementation of measures to help control air pollution in Hebei province, adopting the Program-for-Results lending tool, which links loan disbursements to tangible results on



the ground.

"The best thing about China is they will try something in one place. They will learn, they will make whatever mistakes have to be made and learn. Once they learn, nobody is better at duplicating and replicating at scale," Banga said.

He said China is learning from its past and trying to get ahead of this, creating a better environment for its people and yet keep developing. "I think that's the learning we can take elsewhere."

Banga called on more efforts to work together to take knowledge from China and use China's examples elsewhere to promote green and sustainable growth.

"I think climate change is a crisis that does not stop at the border, we have to work together," he added.

Xinhua

To further promote Chinese-foreign personnel exchanges, China has adopted a visa-free policy for Switzerland, Ireland, Hungary, Austria, Belgium and Luxembourg on a trial basis, which is effective from March 14 to November 30 this year.

According to Tongcheng Research Institute affiliated to a major online travel agency, the six countries included in the visa-free policy this time have close tourism exchanges with China. In March, the average daily bookings of inbound air tickets from Austria increased by 70 percent compared to the

China's inbound tourism market sees continuous pickup

January-February period, while that from Switzerland also went up by 52 percent compared to the January-February period.

In recent times, China has been continuously expanding its visa-free "circle of friends," and the tourism industry is expecting a significant increase in tourist orders from visa-free countries visiting China in the near future.

The head of the United Nations World Tourism Organization (UNWTO) recently

noted that China's recent unilateral visa-free policies for multiple countries are an important measure to help the global tourism industry recover.

According to the UNWTO World Tourism Barometer, outbound and inbound tourism from China is expected to proliferate in 2024 due to visa facilitation and increased airline capacity.

The international cruise ship Zuiderdam recently arrived at Dalian port in northeast China's

Liaoning province. It was the first international cruise ship to visit a city in northeast China since China resumed international cruise transportation in September last year.

The cruise ship carried over 2,000 tourists from 47 countries and regions to Dalian, who later visited various attractions in the city, including ocean parks, city squares and featured blocks.

Recently, Zhengzhou, central China's Henan province wel-

comed the first batch of tourists from Australia after the Spring Festival, most of whom came to Henan for the first time.

In recent years, the Culture and Tourism Department of Henan Province has been actively promoting the international tourism brand of the province. It has conducted systematic international promotion activities, built cultural brands for overseas markets and established a cooperation system for inbound tourism.

Positive results have been achieved. In March, the province gradually welcomed thousands of tourists from countries and regions such as Australia, Italy, Germany, Luxembourg, South Korea, Malaysia, Vietnam, and Thailand.

Recently, the attractiveness of China's tourism market has been continuously increasing, with a large number of South Korean tourists visiting Zhangjiajie, a famous tourist city in central China's Hunan province. Ac-

ording to statistics, from early January to the end of February, Zhangjiajie received 98,000 inbound tourist visits, a 34-fold increase compared to the same period last year, with 42,000 of them from South Korea.

It is reported that Zhangjiajie has been focusing on creating unique tourism products to continuously attract South Korean tourists. Taking into account their preference for scenic landscapes, Zhangjiajie has introduced international tourism products centering on its amazing natural landscapes.

People's Daily

Russia mourns victims of concert hall massacre

MOSCOW

RUSSIA lowered flags to half-mast on Sunday for a day of mourning after scores of people were gunned down with automatic weapons at a rock concert outside Moscow in the deadliest attack inside Russia for two decades.

President Vladimir Putin declared a national day of mourning after pledging to track down and punish all those behind the attack, which left 133 people dead, including three children, and more than 150 were injured.

"I express my deep, sincere condolences to all those who lost their loved ones," Putin said in an address to the nation on Saturday, his first public comments on the attack. "The whole country and our entire people are grieving with you."

People laid flowers at Crocus City Hall, the 6,200-seat concert hall outside Moscow where four armed men burst in on Friday just before Soviet-era rock group Picnic was to perform.

The men fired their automatic weapons in short bursts at terrified civilians who fell screaming in a hail of bullets.

It was the deadliest attack on Russian territory since the 2004 Beslan school siege, when Islamist militants took more than 1,000 people, including hundreds of children, hostage.

Long lines formed in Moscow on Saturday to donate blood.

In the southwestern city of Voronezh, people were laying flowers and lighting candles at a monument to children who died there in a World War Two bombing, in solidarity with those who died in the attack near Moscow.

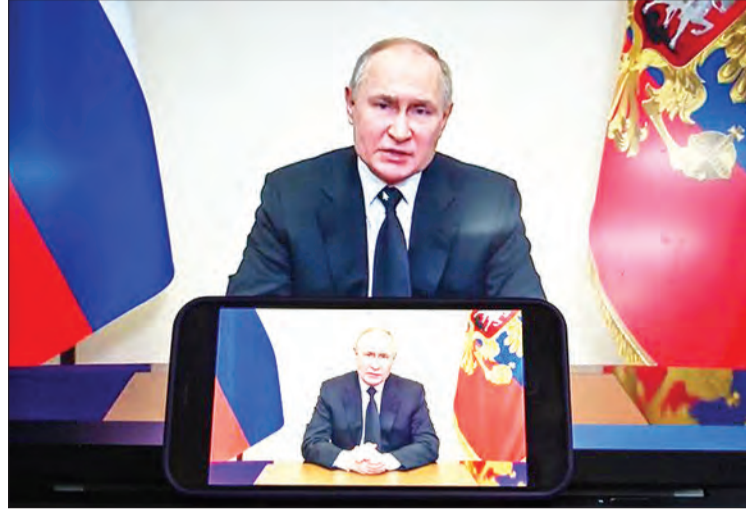
"We, like the whole country, are with you," the governor of the Voronezh region, Alexander Gusev, said on the Telegram messaging app.

Putin said all four gunmen in the attack were detained, adding that all perpetrators, organizers and financiers of this crime will be punished.

"Whoever they are, whoever guides them. I repeat, we will identify and punish everyone who stands behind the terrorists, who prepared this atrocity. This is a strike against Russia, against our people," Putin said.

The FSB said earlier that 11 people had been detained, including four who were directly involved in the terrorist attack, adding that the criminals intended to cross the Russian-Ukrainian border after the attack.

Vyacheslav Volodin, chairman of the Russian State Duma, said those be-



This photo taken in Moscow, Russia on March 23, 2024 shows screens displaying Russian President Vladimir Putin speaking in a televised address to the nation. XINHUA

hind this horrific terrorist attack must be "eradicated."

Dmitry Medvedev, deputy chairman of the Russian Security Council, stressed that those involved must face retribution, vowing to find and eliminate the attackers.

Following the attack, security measures have been tightened across Russia. Security checks at Moscow's airports and train, subway and bus stations have also intensified. Moscow and other regions have canceled all sports, cultural and other large public events.

State Duma Deputy Chairman Pyotr Tolstoy suggested the attack should not be viewed separately from the special military operation and Russia's confrontation with the "collective West." "This terrible day will only force us to unite stronger to fight until victory," he added.

In response to the tragedy, spontaneous vigils were organized in several Russian cities. Electronic billboards in many cities displayed images of candles in mourning of those killed in the attack.

A Moscow resident named Alexey said he was deeply shocked upon learning about the incident last night and hopes those responsible will be swiftly apprehended.

"I feel very heartbroken and upset," said Moscow resident Nadezhda, who lives near the site of the incident. "It's a horrific deed to launch attacks on civilians."

Analysts note that this is one of the severe terrorist attacks Russia has faced in over a decade.

Based on online photos and videos, political scientist Sergei Razgulyaev said that the attackers appeared professional, "like mercenaries."

Alexey Filatov, a veteran of Russian special forces unit Alpha Group, said that judging from eyewitness accounts and circulating videos, the attackers had long planned their assault, armed not just with firearms but also explosives.

Maria Zakharova, a spokeswoman for the Russian Foreign Ministry, called for international condemnation of the heinous crime.

The White House said on Friday night that there was no indication Ukraine or Ukrainians were involved in the attack and that it would continue to monitor the situation.

Zakharova said the US conclusions raised questions, urging the United States to share any reliable information with Russia.

Advisor to the head of the Ukrainian Presidential Office Mikhail Podolyak and the Ukrainian Foreign Ministry both rejected allegations of Ukraine's involvement in the attack.

United Nations Secretary-General Antonio Guterres and other world leaders strongly condemned the terrorist act and offered condolences to the victims' families, the Russian people and the government.

The United Nations Security Council said in a statement on Friday that it condemned "in the strongest terms the heinous and cowardly terrorist attack," underlining the need to "hold perpetrators, organizers, financiers and sponsors of these reprehensible acts of terrorism accountable and bring them to justice."

French President Emmanuel Macron strongly condemned the "terrorist attack," said the French presidential office on Friday, expressing solidarity with the victims, their families and all the Russian people.

Italian Prime Minister Giorgia Meloni expressed in a statement on Friday the "firm and total condemnation of the Italian government for this heinous act of terrorism."

British Foreign Secretary David Cameron said on Saturday that Britain "condemns in the strongest terms" the deadly terrorist attack at the Crocus City Hall near Moscow.

"We offer our heartfelt condolences and express our deepest sympathy to the families of the many victims," he said in a statement on X, formerly Twitter.

In a message of condolences to Putin on Saturday, Mongolian President Ukhnaa Khurelsukh said his people "are deeply saddened to learn about the brutal terrorist attack that caused the loss of many innocent lives," expressing solidarity with the Russian people.

The US government had concerns about a potential terrorist attack in and around Moscow earlier in March, and the US State Department had issued a warning to Americans, said US National Security Council Coordinator for Strategic Communications John Kirby during an appearance on Fox News channel on Friday.

"We don't know right now the degree to which that warning and this attack are connected," he said, adding that "we have no indication, no sense at all, that the Ukrainians were involved in this in any way, shape or form."

Pakistan expressed its deepest sympathies with the families of the victims, the country's Foreign Ministry said in a late-night statement on Friday. **Agencies**



Modi for 2024: Overseas Friends of BJP, Australia launches campaign to drum up support ahead of LS polls

CANBERRA

THE 'Overseas Friends of BJP', Australia, launched a campaign for members of the diaspora, titled 'Modi for 2024', covering seven prominent cities and significant landmarks in the country.

The campaign is aimed at drumming up overseas support for Prime Minister Narendra Modi and the BJP-led National Democratic Alliance (NDA) going into the Lok Sabha elections in the country.

"Overseas Friends of BJP Australia has launched a massive campaign from iconic locations like Sydney Harbour Bridge, Melbourne Cricket Ground, Perth Optus Stadium, Brisbane GABBA, Surfers Paradise in Gold Coast, Mt Ainslie in Canberra and Naval Memorial Garden in Adelaide," read a post on the official X handle of the 'Overseas Friends of BJP', Australia.

Respondents across various cities in Australia called themselves part of 'Modi ka Parivaar' (PM Modi's family), in a demonstration of overwhelming support for the governance in the country and the developmental policies under his leadership.

Enthusiastic teams from cities that the campaign aims to cover are preparing to lead a robust campaign for 'Abki Baar 400 Paar' (beyond 400 seats next time), the BJP's campaign call for the upcoming general elections, showcasing their support and dedication to the cause.

Earlier, 'Overseas Friends' of BJP UK organised a car rally in London to showcase 'unwavering support' for Prime Minister Narendra Modi and the ruling party at the Centre ahead of the Lok Sabha elections.

Over 250 cars participated in the rally, showcasing huge support for the BJP and PM Modi ahead of the general elections in the country. The members of the diaspora in Britain, who took part in the rally, were pictured holding up the Indian Tricolour as well as BJP flags, according to a press release by the 'Overseas Friends of BJP'.

Describing the upcoming general elections in the country as the "biggest exercise of democracy", UK Parliamentarian and Padmashri recipient, Bob Blackman said, "Obviously the Indian election is a massive election. It is the biggest exercise of democracy anywhere in the world. And I have a little prediction for you, a majority with 400-plus. Now the friendship between India and the United Kingdom has grown stronger and stronger ever since we have been involved in government and BJP gained power in India."

Earlier on March 16, the Election Commission announced that the general elections would be held across seven phases, with the first on April 19. **ANI**

Ramadan in Gaza reduced to daily struggle for survival

GAZA

AMIDST the debris of destroyed houses in the Gaza Strip, Nidal Abu Baraka, a 55-year-old Palestinian man, chose to break his daily Ramadan fast on the very ruins of his house with his family.

"I will never give up breaking fast in my house even during the current circumstances," the 55-year-old father of eight told Xinhua while helping his wife cook a pot of rice on firewood in his ruined home in Deir al-Balah, a central Gaza city.

On March 11, war-ravaged Gaza entered the Islamic holy month amid a mood of disappointment felt among many Palestinians upon seeing that every international effort to reach an Israel-Hamas ceasefire before Ramadan has failed.

Israel has launched a large-scale war against Hamas in Gaza since Oct. 7, after Hamas carried out a sudden attack on Israeli border towns, killing approximately 1,200 people and taking hostage 200 others.

Israel later escalated to land, air, and sea attacks on Gaza which is already suffering from the consequences of the Israeli blockade imposed on it in 2007.

So far, over 32,000 Palestinians have been killed in the war that has lasted for more than five months, according to the Hamas-run Ministry of Health in the Gaza Strip. "Because of all these tragedies, we have lost everything related to Ramadan rituals.

Most of our delicious dishes and sweets have no longer found a place



Amal al-Robayaa's children eat their meal amid the ruins of the family home destroyed by an Israeli strike in Rafah, southern Gaza. AFP

on our tables," Abu Baraka complained. Also, homes are no longer decorated with Ramadan lanterns and beautiful lights, "nor do we have time to exchange visits with our relatives and loved ones," he said.

"People are all busy finding the minimum amount of food to survive ... but even this is not easy for all Palestinians in Gaza," he added.

The situation is not much different for the family of Abu Hussam Ramadan, another Palestinian who was displaced from Beit Lahia, northern Gaza to a shelter in the southern city of Rafah.

His table is now limited to a few small plates of food, most of which are prepared

from ready-made canned goods.

Cooking a can of beans on fire for a meal, the father of two said the family used to cook the most delicious dishes in Ramadan, but conditions have completely changed this year as the war had deprived locals of their houses, jobs, and even their beloved ones.

"Since Ramadan kicked off 12 days ago, I have not been able to buy chicken or any kind of meat (whether fresh or frozen) because of their unreasonable price," he said.

Samiha Al-Ayoubi, another displaced Palestinian woman in Rafah, said that because of the war, poverty, and surging

goods prices, Ramadan has turned from a time of worship, charity and fasting, into a daily struggle for survival.

As the major caretaker for a 15-membered family, who all live in a tent, she spends most of her time moving between the clay ovens spread between the tents to reserve her turn to bake the dough or cook whatever canned food or vegetables she has available on firewood.

"Sometimes we rely on canned food only, and other times I cook lentils ... but other times our Iftar meal is limited to sandwiches with canned cheese only," the 45-year-old mother of five told Xinhua.

Unfortunately, Al-Ayoubi says, "We now struggle for survival ... and all delicious dishes, including soup and sweets, were absent from our table."

What makes matters worse for them are the ongoing Israeli threats to invade the city, which is home to more than 1.5 million Palestinians.

"We are threatened at any moment to leave again, and we cannot predict what will happen to us in the coming days or even hours," she added.

The United Nations has warned against widespread famine in the Gaza Strip in the holy month of Ramadan, if Israel continues its severe restrictions on the entry of aid into Gaza.

According to the Ministry of Health in Gaza, about 27 Palestinians died from malnutrition and dehydration, accusing Israel of deliberately starving the Palestinians.

The UN organizations called on Israel to allow aid to enter through land crossings and deliver it to all residents without exception.

Xinhua



How do you deal with a neighbour...: Jaishankar

SINGAPORE

EMPHASISING the complex situation of dealing with a neighbour like Pakistan, External Affairs Minister S Jaishankar (pictured) said that Islamabad uses terrorism as an instrument of statecraft and does not even hide from the fact.

He affirmed that India will not skirt this problem anymore and the mood in the country is not to overlook the issue of terrorism.

The EAM, who is in Singapore as part of his three-nation visit, was speaking at the Institute of South Asian Studies of the National University of Singapore on his book 'Why Bharat Matters'.

Speaking at the event, Jaishankar said, "Every country wants a stable neighbourhood...we have been unfortunate, or ill-starred to be blessed with the one we have to our west. How do you deal with a neighbour, who does not hide the fact that they use terrorism as an instrument of statecraft?"

Taking a veiled dig at Pakistan, the EAM said that in the country, terrorism exists almost at "industry level" and "assembly line".

"It's not a one-off, different countries at different points of time have experienced this. But, a very sustained, almost an industry level, assembly line...people whose job is to do bad things at night," he said.

Jaishankar added that India has decided that it will have to find a way to address the problem because dodging it will only invite more trouble.

"I don't have a quick, instantaneous fix, but what I can tell you is that India will not skirt this problem anymore...if we have a problem, we must be honest enough to face up to the problem. If you have to have those discussions, we should, if it's hard to find a solution, we must work through. We should not give the other country free pass...in India the mood is not to overlook terrorism," the EAM said.

"If you look at the changes that have happened in the last decade, the great deal of public anger to lack of response to terrorism threat is one factor," he added.

Jaishankar is on an official visit to Singapore, Philippines and Malaysia from March 23-27.

The visit will focus on enhancing bilateral relations with the three countries, and would provide an opportunity for engagement on regional issues of mutual concern, a Ministry of External Affairs release said earlier.

ANI

Barrick hunts new gold, copper prospects in DRC's Kibali base

KIBALI

BASED on the success of Kibali, which Barrick has built into Africa's largest gold mine, the company is ready to invest in new gold and copper opportunities in partnership with the government of the DRC, says president and chief executive Mark Bristow.

Speaking to media at a site visit to the mine, Bristow said Kibali

was on track for another value-creating year on the back of a strong production performance. It was also well set to replace the ounces being depleted by mining with more of the same high quality.

"Kibali has transformed the country's disadvantaged north-east region into a new economic frontier and a flourishing commercial hub. More than half of our

\$5 billion investment in the DRC has been spent with local contractors and suppliers, many of whose growth into substantial businesses we have promoted by enhancing their commercial and technical skills and providing them with the opportunities to exercise these. Kibali's third hydropower station, for example, was built by an all-Congolese team," he said.

Kibali recently announced that

a collaboration with the ARSP, the public regulator that oversees the country's sub-contracting sector, has already resulted in a range of initiatives, building on Kibali's industry-leading local content strategy.

Meanwhile, Kibali continues its transition to renewable energy with the planned commissioning of a 16MW solar plant and associated batteries in 2025. The plant

will increase the renewable energy use from 81% to 85%, with the mine running solely on renewal power during the six-month rainy season.

In line with its commitment to biodiversity preservation, Kibali has embarked on a feasibility assessment in consultation with the ICCN for the introduction of additional white rhinos into the Garamba National Park.

Ethiopia to import half a mln EVs in 10 years to promote electric

ADDIS ABABA

THE Ethiopian government has disclosed its plan to introduce nearly half a million electric vehicles (EVs) in 10 years as part of an ongoing transition to electric mobility.

The Ethiopian government initially worked to import about 148,000 electric automobiles and 48,555 electric buses as part of its 10-year strategic plan. The

Ethiopian Ministry of Transport and Logistics said in a statement issued late on Thursday that the initial 10-year plan is achieved within just the first two years of the implementation period from 2021 to 2030.

Thanks to the realization of the decade-long plan ahead of schedule, the ministry said it has now revised the national 10-year strategic plan with a new target of importing 439,000 EVs within

the reported period. The ministry said various incentives have been put in place to accelerate the East African country's transition to electric mobility.

Bareo Hassen, state minister of transport and logistics, said the Ethiopian government has allowed duty-free import of EV parts to be assembled in the country, a 5 percent tax on partially assembled EVs, and a 15 percent tax on imports of fully

assembled EVs.

"The tax exemption introduced for the importation of electric vehicles, which is significantly lower as compared to the tax imposed on gasoline-powered vehicles, is intended to encourage electric mobility in the country," the statement quoted Hassen as saying.

As part of the 10-year strategic plan, the Ethiopian government will also set up a total of 2,226

charging stations across the country, including 1,176 stations in the capital of Addis Ababa and 1,050 across regional cities.

According to incomplete statistics, there are roughly 1.2 million vehicles in Ethiopia, with a big chunk of them being well over 20 years old.

Most of the cars on the road are secondhand imports, and black smoke is often seen rising from the rear of these cars.

Nearly a quarter of DR Congo's population face crisis level of hunger, says WFP

KINSHASA

AROUND 23.4 million people in the Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC), nearly a quarter of the country's population, are facing crisis levels of hunger or worse, the World Food Program (WFP) said in a statement Friday.

The DRC's conflict-driven hunger crisis is worsening as violence in the eastern provinces surges, forcing families to flee again, said the WFP, which is struggling to feed those most in need, as humanitarian funding fails to keep pace.

With most civilians seeking refuge in Goma, the capital of North

Kivu Province, the conflicts have led to food shortages and pushed food prices in Goma's markets out of reach for many, the WFP said.

On a recent visit to Goma, WFP Executive Director Cindy McCain witnessed firsthand the horrors unfolding for millions affected by the conflict.

"The city of Goma is surrounded by tens of thousands of temporary shelters, and the numbers are growing every single day.

The displaced people crammed into them urgently require food, clean water and sanitation. WFP needs the support of donors and partners to step up our response to

this worsening crisis and provide badly needed assistance to people living in the camps before it's too late," said McCain.

In response, the WFP has vastly expanded its emergency operations in the East, tripling the number of people it is reaching with food assistance from an average of

400,000 people in May 2023 to an average of 1.3 million people today.

The agency, however, warned of the lack of funds to keep the emergency response going. According to the statement, the WFP requires 548.5 million U.S. dollars to sustain comprehensive operations in the DRC.

Xinhua

Construction of China's smart customs enters phase of comprehensive implementation

AS the customs of the world's largest trading nation in goods, the Customs of China inspects the largest volume of goods each year, with the most diverse scenarios and most comprehensive modes.

The construction of China's smart customs has entered a phase of comprehensive implementation this year, and the General Administration of Customs of China (GACC) will build nine landmark projects to make customs supervision services more intelligent and automated, said an official with the GACC at a regular press briefing recently.

In recent years, the rapid development of new technologies such as big data, cloud computing, artificial intelligence, and the Internet of Things has provided new ways and means for customs supervision services, offering strong technological support.

"We will continue to strengthen and explore the application of technological innovation in different customs scenarios," said Chen Zongwang, deputy head of the Department of Science and Technology of the GACC, adding that the construction of smart customs will fully leverage the guiding and supporting role of technological innovation.

For example, through intelligent image recognition, various goods can be identified, which will enable a 24/7 working mode, reduce frontline pressure, and enhance port targeted supervision capabilities.

Additionally, intelligent trademark recognition technology for intellectual property rights can quickly search trademark information in the intellectual property rights filing system online, thus identi-

fying infringing trademarks.

In recent years, the GACC has been continuously promoting digital transformation and intelligent upgrading, optimizing regulatory services and supporting the construction of the international logistics system.

Du Hongwei, deputy head of the Department of General Operation of the GACC, noted that the GACC will focus on three main areas of work in order to further promote high-level opening-up.

Firstly, the GACC will strengthen bilateral and multilateral cooperation. It will collaborate with the World Customs Organization on a "smart customs" project, actively promote a smart customs partnership initiative within the Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation framework, and deepen institutional cooperation on inspection and quarantine



A visitor learns about artificial intelligence products at an expo on smart customs clearance held in Beijing, Nov. 26, 2023. (Guo Junfeng / People's Daily Online)

with customs of neighboring countries such as Central Asian and ASEAN countries.

It will also promote the electronic origin networking with members of the Regional Comprehensive Economic Partnership and expand international cooperation on mutual recognition of AEO (Authorized Economic Operator) status.

Secondly, the GACC will serve high-quality Belt and Road cooperation. On one hand, it will expand the connection with international trade single windows and promote cooperation between China and Belt and Road partner countries in this area.

On the other hand, it will further support the establishment of efficient international

logistics corridors that are compatible with new production and logistics methods, and facilitate the coordinated development of international logistics corridors such as the China-Europe freight train service, the new western land-sea corridor, and the China-Laos Railway.

Thirdly, the GACC will facilitate the construction of high-level opening-up platforms. The administration has been actively exploring and designing intelligent solutions to the innovation of regulatory systems and the application of advanced technologies, focusing on the development of opening-up platforms including the Hainan Free Trade Port, the Guangdong-Macao In-Depth Cooperation Zone in Hengqin, comprehensive bonded zones and pilot free trade zones.

It will continue to unleash

the dividends of reform and contribute to the advancement of high-level institutional opening-up.

Promoting the construction of smart customs helps reduce trade costs and facilitates the clearance of personnel and goods. Currently, customs clearance in China is becoming smarter and smarter.

Thanks to the construction of an intelligent platform for cross-border trade in Hunchun, northeast China's Jilin province, border residents can complete online declarations on their mobile phones, reducing the average clearance time by nearly 70 percent. The platform also allows customs officials to establish stronger service and supervision collaboration with departments such as taxation, banking, and fisheries associations through data connectivity.

People's Daily

Al Ahly SC faces injury crisis ahead of crucial CAF CL tie against Simba SC

By Correspondent Seth Mapoli

SIMBA SC has had a boost in its preparation for the 2023/24 CAF Champions League's quarterfinal match against Al Ahly SC as the latter has been hit by an injury crisis.

The anxiously awaited match will be played at the Benjamin Mkapa Stadium in Dar es Salaam on March 29, 2024.

The Msimbazi Street club's opponent - Al Ahly SC - has experienced a series of injuries, as one of the outfit's key players, Emam Ashour, has been ruled out of the match against Simba SC.

This is a major blow for Al Ahly SC given Ashour is a talented midfielder who has been in good form this season.

Simba SC will be hoping to take advantage of Al Ahly SC's injury problems.

The team is confident of winning the match and advancing to the semi-finals of the CAF Champions League for the first time in six consecutive seasons of CAF Champions League participation.

Simba SC is currently in Zanzibar for a training camp. The team is under the tutelage of Algerian Abdelhak Benchikha.

Just days before their upcoming crucial match, Al Ahly, the reigning CAF Champions League champion, received a blow with another player added to the squad's growing list of casualties.

The team's woes deepened as midfielder Ashour sustained an injury, marking the fifth player sidelined due to various ailments.

The news comes as a significant setback for Al Ahly, who are gearing up for an important match.

Ashour's injury adds to the mounting concerns surrounding the team's fitness and availability of key players.

As the reigning champions, Al Ahly faces increased pressure to maintain their dominance on the field, but the recent string of injuries poses a considerable challenge to their aspirations.

Ashour suffered an injury just 24 minutes into the match as Egypt's national team secured a hard-fought victory against New Zealand at the Cairo International Stadium in Egypt.

Despite the setback, the Egypt national side emerged triumphant with a narrow 1-0 win, delighting the local fans with their spirited performance on the field.

Preliminary tests have revealed that Ashour has suffered a dislocated shoulder, casting doubt on his availability for the upcoming match against Simba SC in Dar es Salaam on March 29.

The club is awaiting further infor-

mation regarding the extent of his injury and the anticipated duration of his absence.

With just four days remaining until the scheduled match, Al Ahly faces uncertainty over the participation of one of their key players in this crucial fixture.

Ashour joins the growing list of injured players, raising concerns as the team prepares to face Simba SC in the quarterfinals.

With goalkeeper and captain Mohammed El Shenawy, holding midfielder Aliou Dieng, forward Hussein El Shahat, and central defender Yasser Ibrahim already sidelined, the mounting injuries amplify the pressure on Al Ahly's camp.

As they gear up for the crucial match against Simba SC, the absence of key players poses a formidable challenge.

As the showdown with Simba SC approaches, Al Ahly finds itself under increasing pressure, given the team's less convincing record against the Tanzanian side.

In their six encounters at the Benjamin Mkapa Stadium, Al Ahly has yet to secure a victory, with the most recent meeting resulting in a 2-2 draw during the quarter-final match of the new African Football League (AFL).

The two teams further faced off twice in the group stage of the CAF Champions League, with Simba emerging victorious 1-0 on both occasions.

However, it should be noted that Simba SC has never managed to secure a win against Al Ahly at the Cairo International Stadium, with the Egyptian giants claiming two victories and a draw in their encounters on home turf.

Simba SC heads into this crucial CAF Champions League quarterfinal clash brimming with confidence.

The Tanzanian outfit roared through to the Group Stage, finishing second whilst giants Wydad Casablanca, which was in Group B that included the former, exited the tournament early for the first time in their history.

Simba SC also managed a resounding 6-0 victory over Jwaneng Galaxy in their last Group Stage meeting at the Benjamin Mkapa Stadium.

Benjamin Mkapa Stadium has proven to be a fortress for Simba SC, and the outfit will be looking to leverage that advantage against the mighty Al Ahly.

While Al Ahly represents a formidable opponent, especially in the knockout stages, Simba SC finds itself buoyed by its recent successes.

A win at home would see the Msimbazi Street club inch closer to garnering a coveted semi-final berth in the CAF Champions League.

Even without threats of lowly stadium entrances, fans must be let to choose jerseys

By Correspondent John Kimbute

SPIRITED debate is being heard in sports talk radio shows emanating from a directive from the minister in charge of the portfolio, that fans wishing to flock to the Benjamin Mkapa Stadium at the end of this week refrain from donning jerseys (often known as shirts) of visiting teams playing against the top local soccer sides, the city archrivals - Young Africans SC and Simba SC.

The minister told all and sundry that the police would be under orders to stop the entrance of local fans putting on shirts of the opposing team, as that would be unpatriotic. That's where the discussion lies if supporting the rivals is treachery.

There is indeed a large number of people who agree with the minister on the need to support the local sides when they play foreign teams in a tournament, but few can be found to relish in ordering the fans what to do.

It is especially questionable if wishing that either of the local sides fail the test is altogether an offense, for the police are there to assure peace and safety, not mobilize the fans to either sing or boo either their side or the contenders.

The issue is whether there is anything wrong with the fans choosing the team they support, even by donning their shirts.

For one thing, it is a bit unlikely that there is a threat of low attendance at the Benjamin Mkapa Stadium, alias Lupaso Arena, because of the jersey or vocal support limitation, since the ones who attend are chiefly supporters of the local side.

Even if their opponents have leagues of support-



Tanzania's Yanga footballers participate in their club's training in Dar es Salaam recently in preparation for the 2023/24 NBC Premier League and 2023/24 CAF Champions League. PHOTO: COURTESY OF YANGA

ers either in Dar es Salaam or in Tanzania generally, they are not evidently in a position to organize a show of support as that outlook cannot be spoken out too loudly.

In addition, the city rivals are both facing quite formidable opponents, and will not be in a strong position to laugh at the visible misfortunes, errors/shortcomings of the other side in its first game since there is a return match after the double-tie, and neither side is sure of winning any tie.

The draw was so merciless on the city rivals that they picked the worst possible opponents, but the draw wasn't vindictive on purpose and if anything it was entirely proper and advisable.

For one thing, Tanzania is the only member of the Confederation of African Football (CAF) to have succeeded in having two teams in the

quarterfinal stage of its premier club tournament.

There is hence a sort of pride at the local level, what can be described as brand arrogance at the continental level, that we have billionaire enthusiasts building credible sides.

In a situation where being ranked as the fifth-best league in the CAF run rang out with an unconvincing tone just last season, delivering two sides in the CAF Champions League quarterfinals became the proof we needed that we can indeed be ranked fifth, even higher perhaps.

So the pairing of the city rivals with the best of the cream in the continental premier tournament was just right so that the newly found spirit of arrogance, so to speak, is tested right away, and strongly.

How far we can pass the tests, and filter at least one team to the

semis, is guesswork

That explains the minister's mobilization appeal for the fans to support the city sides, while seemingly taking them to be Tanzanian teams, whereas they are only located in Dar es Salaam, as a residential address.

For the rest, they are brands like either Pepsi or Coca-Cola, and anyone can like or detest either brand or both of them as much as they want, without questions of patriotism coming in.

For the sake of clarity, that idea applies to Taifa Stars and other national teams when they face foreign national sides as there we have no choice in our support, and decidedly there has never been anything like dispute on whether anyone opts to support a side playing Taifa Stars; even players are committed.

For once, the pundits mention that at the

time that the Msimbazi Street side was playing Kaizer Chiefs FC at the Lupaso Arena, incoming Jangwani Street outfit leader Hersi Said posted himself on social media in a Kaizer Chiefs jersey.

There was no talk of patriotism at that time and no one remembers censuring the sports official for that reason, as he was exercising his right of wishing the nemesis club diluted in its ego. It is not expected that anyone on the Jangwani Street side wanted Simba SC to win.

Wishing all the bad luck for the other side is an unavoidable element in what takes place in the contention between traditional rivals, as all gains by an adversary occur more or less at the expense of the other.

If the archrival fails in a league match that means he has less chance of winning the league trophy, and if it is a continental tournament, it means he would not advance and the ego is pruned to the size it at best deserves, that is, by the considered estimation of the ill-wisher.

Trying to curb any of this, and the National Assembly is itself a strong talking shop for the rivals, risks diminishing fan enthusiasm, and when that is compromised, the flow of investments will be affected.

Even Azam FC, which is not in the circle of rivalry, benefits a lot as a checkmate to the city rivals, enjoying the competition it can muster, and short of it, it could unravel.



Tanzania's netballers are pictured taking part in a past Tanzania Netball Association (Chaneta)-organized tournament which took place in Dar es Salaam.

Junior Taifa Queens takes pride in Netball World Youth Cup Africa Qualifiers stint

By Correspondent Joseph Mchekadona

TANZANIA's national U-21 netball team has stated the experience and exposure gained from Netball World Youth Cup 2025 Africa Qualifiers, which was played in South Africa, will make the team stronger.

The tournament brought together national junior netball teams of Malawi, Zimbabwe, Zambia, Namibia, Kenya, Tanzania, and the host South Africa.

The Tanzanian squad, alias Junior Taifa Queens, arrived on Sunday night from South Africa where they lost all six matches in the continental qualifiers.

The Junior Taifa Queens lost 75-7 to South Africa, suffered a 64-24 loss to Malawi, succumbed to a 55-17 loss to Namibia, endured a 62-17 drubbing when it

took on Zimbabwe, and on Friday lost 44-23 to Kenya.

Due to the results, the Junior Taifa Queens did not play in the playoffs on Saturday. The playoffs were played to determine the top six finishers.

South Africa was awarded the gold medal after beating Malawi 45-26, Malawi secured the silver medal, Zambia was presented with a bronze medal after beating Zimbabwe 43-41, and Kenya finished fifth after beating Namibia 50-43.

The results mean South Africa, Malawi, and Zambia will represent the continent in next year's World Youth Netball World Cup in Gibraltar.

Tanzania Netball Association (Chaneta) president Devatha Marwa - who also served as the leader of the delegation - said the

tournament has given the squad a good reason to seek improvement and she is optimistic about the bright future.

The team, coached by Haleluya Kavalambi, had 12 players namely Jesca Leonard, Catherine Buzari, Lilian Mwambisi, Fausta Chakawe, Scola Ramadhanani, Heldegard Marwa, Rhoda Simbeye, Mecklina Mwita, Zuhura Ramadhanani, Happy Kongoka, Rehema Mwita and Elizabeth Ambumbu.

Hafsa Ali served as team manager whereas David Zacharia was team doctor.

Some netball analysts in the country have said there should be more investment in the sport.

"There is no secret for netball development considering it requires investment. First of all, investment should be at the

grassroots... that's where you start from," Rose Mussa - a Physical Education teacher at one of Dar es Salaam-based secondary schools - disclosed.

"You have to build structures, you need to have youth teams, U-12s, U-14s, U-20s and U-23s. If you can organize the structure, the next stage is to participate in international events," Rose stressed.

She revealed: "This is why it is very important that a country should always have a presence in competitions at various age groups and then the senior team will come in."

"What you always see is that when you have invested, you have a long-term agenda. You will continue to participate and succeed," she concluded.

Scout Dar hosts water safety and rescuing course

By Correspondent Joseph Mchekadona

A six-week safety, swimming, and diving course organized by Scout Dar es Salaam and Agnes Kimimba Foundation (ASF) is set to begin on Saturday in Kigamboni Dar es Salaam.

Amina Maulid - Commissioner for Scout Dar es Salaam - said they expect 50 participants to attend the course aimed at teaching the participants rescuing skills during water calamities.

She said that the course - which will be in two modules (practical and theory) - will have the participants, who are mostly scouts members - working with the police and military personnel in learning how to rescue people during water calamities.

"The Tanzania Meteorological Agency (TMA) has forecasted that the country will experience heavy rains, the rains will be heavy, especially in coastal areas," Amina stated.

She pointed out: "Considering a big part of Dar es Salaam is surrounded by water bodies, we thought it wise to prepare the scouts for anything which will happen."

"After the course, our scouts who will attend the course can help the police, army, and others in rescuing people and their properties during water calamities," she said.

Agnes - the ASF Director - said the course targets to offer water safety and awareness to society.

"We are happy to work with Dar es Salaam Scouts, we hope the knowledge which the participants will get will be used during water calamities, not only in Dar es Salaam but also in other parts of the country," she said.

Agnes said the World Health Organization (WHO) has put water calamities as a major cause of death in Africa - especially in East Africa - and is placed 10th as far as main causes of death in the world are concerned.

The ASF is one of the leading agencies for promoting life-serving, swimming, and diving courses in Tanzania.

The foundation educates the community brings awareness of life-saving skills, and organizes regular swimming events for different groups' categories.

Austria, Germany score two of fastest international goals

VIENNA

AUSTRIA'S Christoph Baumgartner scored one of the fastest ever international goals inside seven seconds on Saturday and was then quickly followed by a similarly lightning strike by Germany's Florian Wirtz.

Baumgartner, 24, went into the record books during a friendly match against Slovakia in Bratislava.

The Leipzig attacker drove through the home defence from kick-off, drifting past three players, before unleashing a 25-metre shot past Martin Durbavka in goal.

"We've done this variation before, sprinting from kick-off at full risk. The sequence of steps somehow worked out so that I made the run," Baumgartner told Austrian public broadcaster ORF after the game which his team won 2-0.

"Of course it's really cool, I'm very happy. The fact that I hit it like that... it's of course sensational."

He added: "I'm especially pleased that I was able to help the team. That's the most important thing about the goal."

Baumgartner's strike matched the previous record of seven seconds it took Lukas Podolski to score for Germany against Ecuador in May, 2013.

The Austrian FA described Baumgartner's effort as the fastest goal in the history of international football.

"Of course we got off to a really good start, that goal by itself was probably worth the price of admission," said Austria coach Ralf Rangnick.

"After that, we didn't play a good first half. The second half was much better."

Meanwhile, later Saturday, Wirtz was just as fast off the mark against France in a friendly in Lyon which Germany won 2-0.

The Leverkusen player beat keeper Brice Samba with a superb shot under the crossbar.

"I don't think anyone understood or realised what was happening. We were all quite surprised, but there was obviously a lot of joy," Wirtz told German broadcaster ZDF after his first international goal.

"You can't start a match any better."

Wirtz added that his team's lightning-fast start had been practised.

"But for it to work so well and lead to this chance to score, it's great."

AFP

Brazil football bosses break silence on 'shameful' Robinho, Alves rape cases

LONDON

BRAZIL coach Dorival Junior said the national team and players were going through a "difficult time" coming to terms with the rape convictions of former internationals Robinho and Dani Alves.

The Brazilian team and national federation had been criticised for their silence concerning the cases of striker Robinho and full-back Alves, both aged 40.

Robinho has begun a nine-year sentence in Brazil for taking part in a gang rape in Italy in 2013, while Alves received a four-and-a-half year conviction for raping a young woman in a Barcelona nightclub in 2022.

"As coach of the national team, I have an obligation to speak out," Dorival said ahead of Saturday's international friendly against England in Wembley.

"First, I think it's a very delicate situation. I think of the families and especially the victims affected by these cases which occur every day in our country and around the world."

Dorival, who took over the five-time world champions in January, said the situation of Robinho whom he coached at Brazilian club Santos was particularly painful for him.

"If it has been proven that there was any crime, he must be punished even if it hurts my heart to say this about a person with whom I have always had an exceptional relationship," added the 61-year-old.

"I didn't have the opportunity to work with Daniel, but we all know his story within football. It's a difficult time for all of us to express ourselves in these situations."

Dorival added: "But I care much more for the victims, for the families."

"I know how painful it must have been for each of them. What I can do is help them with prayers, nothing more."

In a statement on Friday, the Brazilian Football Confederation (CBF) described the cases as "shameful", expressing its support for "the victims of the two brutal crimes committed by former players".

CBF president Edinaldo Rodrigues added that in an environment where "machismo reigns", men must "fight not only sexual violence, but all kinds of violence".

AFP

Endrick makes history as Brazil beat England to launch new era

LONDON

BRAZIL'S new boss Dorival Junior started his bid to revive the five-time world champions with a 1-0 win against England as teenage sensation Endrick bagged his first international goal in Saturday's friendly at Wembley.

Coming off their worst period for over 60 years, Brazil hope Dorival Junior can trigger a revival in time to challenge for the 2026 World Cup.

This was a first significant step in the right direction for the Selecao, who marked their manager's debut with victory against an England side expected to make a strong challenge to win Euro 2024.

On a cathartic evening for Brazil after their wretched 2023, it was fitting the highly-rated Endrick bagged Brazil's late winner.

The Palmeiras forward, due to join Real Madrid in July, has been tipped to succeed Neymar as Brazil's latest superstar and his match-winning cameo



Brazil's Endrick celebrates his goal at Wembley. Agencies

appearance off the bench was a suitable coming of age moment in his third appearance.

Endrick stole the spotlight in the 80th minute when the teenager tapped in, defying England's appeals for offside after Vinicius Junior's shot was saved by Jordan Pickford.

Aged 17 years and 246 days, Endrick is the youngest senior international goal-scorer at Wembley.

He is also the youngest player to score for Brazil since Ronaldo in 1994.

"Time will tell how far he can go. We have to be calm and patient with

him," said Dorival Junior.

Endrick's emergence is a breath of fresh air for Brazil after an unusually stale period for the Selecao.

Snubbed by Real Madrid boss Carlo Ancelotti and frustrated by the failings of two caretaker managers, Dorival Junior has been tasked with ensuring Brazil qualify for the World Cup.

The 61-year-old left Sao Paulo to take charge of Brazil in January, moving into world football's most scrutinised job at a time when his country

had just finished a calendar year with more defeats (five) than wins

(three) for the first time since 1963.

Beaten in three consecutive World Cup qualifiers for the first time ever, Brazil face a nervous fight to qualify for the 2026 tournament.

But in the dynamic display of Vinicius Junior, the emergence of Endrick and the combative performances of his team-mates, Brazil have cause for optimism at last.

England boss Gareth Southgate was impressed with the new Brazil, saying: "The difference was one moment of ruthlessness.

"In the attacking third they have players of the very highest quality. The midfield three are all technical players as well.

"They have got some fabulous forwards and you have to defend well. Endrick has finished off their goal. It's a good moment for him."

- Kane misses Belgium game -

Brazil will aim to build on the momentum from their first win over England since 2009 in another friendly against Spain on Tuesday.

England's spluttering performance featured few highlights, although Southgate will have been encouraged by a lively debut from Newcastle forward Anthony Gordon.

England were wearing their controversial new home shirt for the first time after criticism of manufacturer Nike's decision to change the colour of the St George's Cross on the kit.

The debate about the shirt will soon be forgotten, but Southgate won't have fond memories of its debut as England lost at home for the first time

in 21 games.

Southgate opted for Ollie Watkins instead of Ivan Toney as England's central striker, with Harry Kane not risked due to an ankle injury.

But Watkins did little to suggest he could shoulder the burden if Kane were to be injured at the Euros.

Adding to Southgate's problems, England's stand-in captain Kyle Walker was forced off with a hamstring injury.

"He is feeling something. We just have to assess it over the next couple of days," Southgate said.

Belgium's friendly visit to Wembley on Tuesday represents the last chance for England's fringe players to impress before Southgate names his Euro squad.

"I'm not down on the performance at all. Clearly I don't like losing but I thought there were lots of very good performances from players who have hardly played for England," said Southgate, who revealed Kane will not be fit for the Belgium game.

AFP

Bellingham's kicking against Brazil sends England a Euro 2024 warning

By Jamie Braidwood

JUDE Bellingham in full flow was a sight Wembley was starting to get used to. Leaning forwards, ball almost dangling from his stretched toes, dynamic yet in perfect balance. Then Brazil arrived. The beautiful game? Joga bonito? Not tonight. Instead, meet the tactical foul: the sight of Bellingham laid out on his back proved a rather more frustrating image during this 1-0 defeat.

Brazil did not allow Wembley to be treated to a repeat performance of Bellingham's peerless display against Italy last October - a night of fearlessness and youth that quite rightly had England dreaming of something special unfolding at the Euros this summer.

Brazil recognised that this England has, at its heart, a true star: a Galactico who should belong to them along with Vinicius Jr and Rodrygo. But when the precocious Endrick tapped in the winning goal at the end of a Wembley friendly that fizzed but never quite managed to splutter into life, Bellingham, his future Real Madrid teammate, was already on the bench. It would not be a stretch to suggest he was kicked off the pitch.

It was that kind of night, highlighted from early on. The arc of Bellingham shaping to receive the ball was a warning sign for Brazil - it signalled a threat that had to be put out. At one stage during the first half, the centre-back Lucas Beraldo jumped from his defensive berth to clatter into the back of Bellingham's legs.



Bellingham is fouled by Lucas Paqueta, who was lucky to stay on. Agencies

Other fouls in midfield carried the appearance of the tactical variety: a gameplan from the injury-weakened visitors that lacked subtlety but proved effective. With 21 goals and 11 assists in 34 appearances for England and Real Madrid this season, not many teams have succeeded in slowing Bellingham down and limiting his threat. But Brazil managed to here.

Which in fairness, takes some doing. Bellingham has an ability to drive through contact and maintain his elegant stride despite the kicks and nibbles at his ankles, to turn smoothly, bundle through challenges, and remain with the ball tied to his foot.

Brazil, under the instruction of the old-school Dorival Junior, the latest occupant of the head coach of the Selecao, just about managed to get away with their series of fouls on Bellingham, although it was a rotation that probably would have

brought a second caution for West Ham's Lucas Paqueta, had the fixture been competitive in name as well as nature.

Bellingham was in the ear of the Portuguese referee Artur Ribeiro Soares Dias as the players returned to their dressing rooms at half-time, undoubtedly as a result of the rough treatment he had endured in 45 irritating minutes.

It did not improve after the interval and Bell-

ingham was replaced midway through the second half, after going down with cramp in the Brazil box following a late run to the back post. As Harry Kane also watched on, injured, it left England without either of the two pillars, both excelling abroad this season in Munich and Madrid, who will be key if Southgate is to lead England to Euros glory this summer.

That, in itself, was a

warning, as England suffered their first defeat since the World Cup quarter-final agony against France in Qatar. Bellingham, despite his status, and aura that the Brazil fans in the corner of Wembley appeared to be taken in by, is still only 20.

Even with Kane leading the line, and able to absorb some of the attention and blows, this is Bellingham's team. But this was a night to suggest that England and Southgate now need a plan for when opposing teams at the Euros inevitably target Bellingham, through rough treatment or otherwise. If Brazil managed to achieve it, there won't be a side in Germany next summer who won't try the same.

Invariably, against Brazil, England needed others to step up. Phil Foden, who is enjoying the best season of his career at Manchester City, carried a renewed swagger in the early stages but fizzled out. Anthony Gordon and Ollie Watkins had moments but almost seemed to defer to Bellingham, struggling to act with a deci-

siveness and certainty that was required without Kane or Bukayo Saka.

Of course, restoring those absentees to a starting line-up that includes Bellingham and Foden lightens the load. Perhaps the truth was that, tonight, Southgate only really learned something new from those who are unlikely to start for him anyway.

This wasn't a vintage Brazil - Joelinton was injured, after all - but the inexperienced line-up named by Dorival managed to crack at something under England's surface. They did so while still shimmering in flashes: with the touches from Paqueta, the bursts from Vinicius Jr, and the elusiveness of Rodrygo all a delight throughout.

England were mostly fine at Wembley and there is still excitement at the fact they now have their own star who can send those same ripples through the crowd when he gets on the ball. Brazil, though, did not want to hear it. And in victory, they succeeded.

THE INDEPENDENT

Gwiji by David Chikoko



SPORT

Endrick makes history as Brazil beat England to launch new era

PAGE 19

Simba SC and Yanga stars return for crucial CAF CL last eight ties

By Correspondent Seth Mapoli

STANDOUT players from Simba SC and Young Africans SC have embarked on their journey back to their home country to join their respective team camps now gearing up for the CAF Champions League last eight matches.

They were in Baku, Azerbaijan, where Tanzania's senior national team 'Taifa Stars' is participating in the FIFA Series.

Participating in a tournament sponsored by FIFA, the stars faced a 1-0 defeat in a fixture against Bulgaria. Taifa Stars will face Mongolia at Liv Bona Dea Arena stadium, Baku today.

Initial reports revealed that the management of Simba SC and Young Africans SC, alias Yanga, had corresponded with the Tanzania Football Federation, indicating that their players had been summoned for national team duty as per the FIFA calendar.

This directive aimed to facilitate their return early to their respective club camps, where they would rejoin their teammates in readiness for the upcoming CAF Champions League quarterfinal matches.

Now, it has been confirmed that five out of the nine stars, who were called up for national duty, have commenced their journey back to join their respective camps at Simba SC and Yanga for the quarterfinal matches of the premier continental showpiece.

Young Africans will face Mamelodi Sundowns from South Africa and Simba SC will face Al Ahly from Egypt.

Players who embarked on the journey from Baku to their home country include Mudathir Yahya, Ibrahim Hamad, and Clement Mzize from Young Africans, while Aboutwalib Mshery and defender Bakari Mwamnyeto will stay behind for today's match against the Mongolian national team.

On the Simba SC side, Mohamed Hussein and Kibu Denis have reunited with their teammates in the camp.

However, goalkeeper Aishi Manula and defender Kennedy Juma remain absent from the camp, sidelined due to their exclusion from the coach's preferred starting lineup under Abdelhak Benchikha's management.

Additionally, foreign players like Saidi Ntibazonkiza and Clatous Chama for Simba SC, Kennedy Musonda, Stephane Aziz Ki, Djigui Diarra, and Pacome Zouzoua for Yanga, are also being considered despite their respective countries' national teams commitments.

The swift return of these key players, who have been instrumental in many matches, indicates a high likelihood of their participation in these crucial upcoming matches.

Both Simba SC and Yanga currently face tough challenges in the CAF Champions League via demanding home matches before they travel for crucial away fixtures against formidable opponents in their quest for a semi-final berth.

Simba SC's match against Al Ahly is scheduled for Friday, followed by Yanga's clash with Mamelodi Sundowns the following day, both taking place at the Benjamin Mkapa Stadium.

Subsequently, they will travel to Cairo and Pretoria for the return legs on April 5.

The winners of these matches will advance to the semi-finals. Simba SC awaits the winner between TP Mazembe of DR Congo and Petro Atlético of Angola, while Yanga will confront either Tunisian Esperance or ASEC Mimosas of Ivory Coast.

Taifa Stars in search of a pick-me-up victory against Mongolia



Footballers making Tanzania's senior national football team are pictured training in Baku, Azerbaijan yesterday gearing up for today's 2024 FIFA Series match against Mongolia. PHOTO: COURTESY OF TANZANIA FOOTBALL FEDERATION

By Correspondent Michael Mwebi

TANZANIA and Mongolia will this afternoon lock horns at the Dalga Arena in Baku, Azerbaijan in an international friendly that is part of the inaugural 2024 FIFA Series.

Both nations were beaten by UEFA teams on Friday and will now battle to see who will finish third in this four-team mini-tournament.

Taifa Stars lost 1-0 to Bulgaria on Friday. Kiril Despodov scored the only goal of the game in the 52nd minute, beating keeper Kwesi Kawawa with a well-taken free kick. Tanzania is now winless in six games, losing four.

There have been losses to Morocco (twice), Egypt, and Bulgaria with draws coming against DR Congo and Zambia in the 2023 AFCON.

With the 2026 World Cup qualifiers coming up in June, Tanzania will look to get up a pick-me-up victory to boost their momentum.

To register their first in 2024, the finishing department has to improve. Tanzania has not scored in five of the squad's last six games, netting only against Zambia at the 2023 AFCON which is an indication of the side's issues in the final third of the field.

There will be changes from the team that played on Friday, with Simba SC and Young Africans SC key players allowed to go back and join their clubs in preparation for the CAF Champions League.

Kibu Denis, Ibrahim Hamad 'Bacca', and Mohamed Hussein 'Tshabalala' who took to the field for the first time against Bulgaria are back in Dar es Salaam as well as second-half substi-

tutes Clement Mzize, and Mudathir Yahya.

Goalie Kawawa - who came in for the injured Aishi Manula at the half-hour mark - is likely to continue between the sticks.

Central defender Kennedy Juma will replace Bacca while Lusajo Mwaikenda might get the nod over Miano van den Bos in the right full-back role.

With Hussein's absence, utility footballer Novatus Miroshi might be re-deployed at the left full-back spot.

Midfielder Yahya Zayd could be reunited with his former Azam FC teammate Himid Mao in the engine room.

Mzize and Kibu's absence paves the way for either Abdulhamis Suleiman

'Sopu' or Kelvin John.

Mongolia, as mentioned, lost 1-0 to Azerbaijan on the same day Taifa Stars were bruised by Bulgaria.

Behlul Mustafazade scored the only goal of the game in stoppage time as Mongolia's Blue Waves lost their fourth straight game.

Having now gone seven without a win, they have lost six and drawn one since beating Yemen 2-0 in an AFC Asian Cup qualifier game in June 2022.

The 190th-ranked side will be determined to pick up a confidence-boosting victory in their first-ever meeting with Tanzania.

Gamondi praises Yanga's resolve after setback, eyes CAF CL success

By Correspondent Seth Mapoli

THE technical bench of Mainland Tanzania Premier League champion, Young Africans SC, has expressed confidence in the morale exhibited by its players as they approach the first leg of the quarterfinals of the CAF Champions League.

Despite a recent setback in the Premier League, where Young Africans SC, also termed Yanga, suffered a 2-1 defeat to Azam FC, the team remains resolute in preparations for securing victory in their upcoming continental showpiece fixture.

Scheduled to host the first leg of the CAF Champions League quarterfinals at the Benjamin Mkapa Stadium in Dar es Salaam on Saturday, Yanga will face off against Mamelodi Sundowns.

Yanga's head coach Miguel Angel Gamondi shared his perspective on the team's psychological state following the loss to Azam FC.

Contrary to expectations, Gamondi found his players in high spirits and fully committed to the upcoming challenge against Mamelodi Sundowns.

"In football, mistakes happen. My players made a few errors and were duly punished. However, they have pledged to fight back and bring joy to our fans. I'm impressed by their determination, which I believe will elevate our competitive spirit in the CAF Champions League match," Gamondi said.

Acknowledging the need to maintain readiness among all squad members, Gamondi emphasized the importance of every player being prepared to contribute as per the demands of the game.

He underscored his commitment to nurturing talent and providing opportunities based on performance.

The Argentine stated: "Each player in my squad must be prepared for action at any given moment. I believe in giving everyone a chance, and that's why I emphasize training."

"Those who demonstrate commitment and execute the game plan effectively earn their spot on the field," Gamondi explained.

Adapting to changing circumstances, Gamondi urged his players to assume greater responsibility on the field and adjust their tactics accordingly to counter the strategies of their opponents.

He stressed the importance of maintaining a proactive approach, especially in international competitions.

"We cannot afford to falter. Our presence in international tournaments demands excellence, and the players understand this sentiment," Gamondi asserted.

As Yanga gears up to face Mamelodi Sundowns in the quarterfinals of the CAF Champions League, the Jangwani Street club is fueled by a collective determination to overcome challenges and emerge victorious on the continental stage.



Yanga's head coach Miguel Gamondi.

Flexibles by David Chikoko

