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TANZANIA

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Njombe regional commissioner Waziri Kindamba (R) and Tanzania's High Commissioner to Malawi, Humphrey Polepole, both appointed by President Samia Suluhu Hassan to the positions on Monday, take the oath for ethical leadership at Chamwino State House in Dodoma yesterday. Photo: State House

# 'Around 300 Tanzanians have already left Ukraine'

By Henry Mwangonde

ALL Tanzanians who were stuck in war-torn Ukraine have reached safe havens in neighbouring countries with the majority opting to come back home, the government said yesterday.

Liberata Mulamula (pictured), the Minister for Foreign Affairs and East African Cooperation, said at a press conference in Dar es Salaam yesterday that there were around 300 Tanzanians in Ukraine who were there for various



reasons, college education in particular, with medical training the leading field. "I can now confirm that there are no Tanzanians remaining in Ukraine. We have managed to safely take them to neighbouring countries but many have also returned home," she said, briefing reporters on the ministry's achievements during the year-long leadership of President Samia Suluhu Hassan. The government was now working on formulating an integrated system to

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## Government: Irrigation will cover half of all arable land

By Correspondent Marc Nkwame, Arusha

TANZANIA is diverting from rain-fed into serious irrigation farming with the Ministry of Finance and Planning expecting that over 50 per cent of arable land will be drawn into the scheme.

Dr Mwigulu Nchemba, the minister, said yesterday that all major water projects will have special windows with branching pipes for pumping water into irrigation schemes, when presenting a report on Treasury performance during the year-long leadership of President Samia Suluhu Hassan. Funds have also been allocated to ensure that each region becomes self-sufficient when it comes to water drilling equipment, he stated, pointing at the effects of global warming and

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## Envoy Polepole to attend classes first, meet Samia

By Guardian Reporter, Dodoma

PRESIDENT Samia Suluhu Hassan has said that she will meet and have a long discussion with Tanzanian High Commissioner to Malawi, Humphrey Polepole, before he proceeds to his work station.

Also, she said the new envoy and ranking ruling party ideologue will attend classes at the Centre for

Foreign Relations (CFR) before proceeding to the Malawian capital of Lilongwe, she remarked after the swearing-in which saw High Commissioner Polepole and Njombe regional commissioner Waziri Kindamba take the oath at the Chamwino State House.

"We are continuing with the task of swapping people in various positions and today we have sworn in



As our representative in Malawi you will beef up defence and security at our common border for the people therein to live peacefully and conduct economic...

two people, a High Commissioner and a Regional Commissioner. Hon Ambassador, I know after here you will be advised to attend some classes at the Centre for Foreign Relations and thereafter I have to meet with you and we shall talk in length," she told the audience.

Polepole came into the political

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## 'Gold extraction using mercury choking human environment'

By Guardian Reporter

ARTISANAL and small-scale gold mining uses 18.5 tonnes of mercury annually, causing pollution that affects human health and the environment, the government has cautioned.

Edward Nyamanga, the deputy permanent secretary in the Vice President's Office (Environment) said in Dodoma yesterday that massive use of mercury by miners impairs health and thus affects sustainable development.

In this practice, elemental mercury is used to extract gold from ore where mercury is mixed with gold-containing ore, forming a mercury-gold amalgam which is then heated, vaporising the mercury to obtain the gold.

And with no way of recapturing and controlling the vaporised chemical, mercury exposure in such operations puts the health of humans and the environment at risk, he stated when launching an implementation awareness workshop. It is a national initiative on reducing the use of mercury in small-

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Kilombero district commissioner Hanji Yusuph Godigodi (2nd-R) and Kilombero Sugar Company managing director Guy Williams hold a placard during the launch of the firm's Women's Platform in Morogoro region yesterday. They are joined by KSC's female employees. Photo: Guardian Correspondent



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## 'Around 300 Tanzanians have already left Ukraine'

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identify Tanzanians living abroad so as to ease rescue processes when emergencies occur as in this case, she stated, urging that Tanzanians register with the country's embassies whenever they travel, to facilitate information flow if any crisis breaks out.

Examining the work of the ministry, she said the process of reviewing the country's foreign policy was in final stages and now awaits cabinet approval. A final reviewed draft of the policy was already in place and at any time it will be presented to the cabinet for scrutiny and then to the legislature, she said.

"We have taken a certain length of time because we wanted the process to be inclusive by getting views from the Diaspora," she stated, explaining that the current foreign policy stance has been operational since 2001. It needed a major review to bring it into line with current national and global needs, the minister declared.

The review was needed to relate the policy to the government's economic diplomacy drive, where the blue economy agenda is high on its priorities, and thus align the policy with international protocols for instance on ocean safety, she stated.

Climate change is also a foreign policy focus together with the shift to digital economy, the government's agenda to popularise Kiswahili globally and relations with Diaspora, where Tanzanians living outside can be involved in national development. Their legal status in terms of nationality is integral to the foreign policy review, she elaborated.

President Samia's tours and visits have brought benefits to the country including obtaining loans and grants to implement key development projects, she said, citing the \$3.3bn/- loan by the International Monetary Fund (IMF). During the year, the president visited various countries in Africa and beyond, leading to the signing of bilateral agreements amounting to trillions of shillings in committed investment funds, she stated.

The government has opened up the country to the world, with two more embassies and six consulates opened. Indonesia and Austria now have embassies while consulates have been set up in Lubumbashi in the Democratic Republic of Congo and Guangzhou in China, she added.



Burundi's Energy and Minerals minister, Ibrahim Uwizeye (4th-R), has a feel of nickel during a tour of a mining site in Ngara District yesterday. Photo: Guardian Correspondent

## Bunge committee salutes TAA for building fence at Mwanza airport

By Guardian Reporter

THE Parliamentary Infrastructures Committee has lauded the government, through the Tanzania Airport Authority (TAA) for completing the construction of the perimeter fence around Mwanza airport to beef up security at the airport.

Speaking in Mwanza yesterday soon after inspecting the project built by

M/s Mumangi Trans and Construction Company, the committee chairman, Selman Kakoso said the fence's completion will minimize accident incidents at the

airport.

"There used to be accidents involving animals and human beings and I am now certain we will no longer hear these," Kakoso said.

He called on TAA to make sure it erects boundaries at all its airports in the country as well as seeking title deeds for them to avoid encroachment and land conflicts with local people.

"You have many areas at your airports that have no title deeds, for example Sumbawanga, Mtwara, Songea airports and local people have slowly been encroach-

ing the airports, and if you are not careful, you will find yourselves being hauled into courts while the airport is all yours," Chairman Kakoso added.

For his part, Deputy Minister for Works and Transport (Transport Sector), Atupele Mwakibete said the government is set to implement projects aimed at upgrading Mwanza Airport.

Hamisi Amiri, TAA Acting Director General said the construction of the perimeter fence at Mwanza Airport that has abide by UICAO standards was now 100 per cent complete and has cost about 2bn/-.

## Envoy Polepole to attend classes first, meet Samia

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limelight as one of the most audible voices in the run up to the Constitutional Assembly as a member of the Warioba Commission and then of the assembly, before taking up the role of NEC Secretary for Ideology and Publicity during the fifth phase presidency.

His departure from the party secretariat along with former CCM, Secretary General and then Chief Secretary, Dr Bashiru Ally were two notable events during the sixth phase apart from a number of key cabinet portfolio shifts.

Attending lessons at the School of Diplomacy for the new envoy appeared ironic to some observers as he is credited with an online programme, Shule ya Uongozi (Leadership School) whose content stood for the traditional quasi-revolutionary ethos of the ruling party.

Glancing at functions of the new regional commissioner, the president talked of the need to elevate the region in revenue collections as well as mobilizing the population to observe correct nutrition.

"Njombe Region has everything and if you do well, you can greatly increase its revenue. There are many things to look into even though the region produces food crops in abundance it has a visible nutrition challenge.

"In the past I entered into contracts with regional commissioners and many have performed very well. I again contemplate entering into contracts with regional commissioners to supervise

the nutrition issue, hence go and look into the situation there," she explained.

As for vaccination against Covid-19, President Samia called on the people to continue receiving jabs.

"Don't forget about Covid-19 vaccination, go and make efforts with fellow leaders to mobilise people in Njombe Region to be vaccinated," she stated.

Delivering some reflections at the ceremony, Prime Minister Kassim Majaliwa said the public has confidence in the leaders who have been sworn in.

"We understand that a regional commissioner is a leader of government business and Njombe Region is well known for its economic activities, like farming and entrepreneurship.

"As the chief supervisor of government business in Njombe we trust you will work together with its residents to spur development and beef up security, plus other tasks that will be assigned to you by the Head of State," he declared.

Addressing the new envoy the premier said President Samia has given him the trust to represent the country there and that the public has high hopes with that assignment. Malawi is a neighbouring country and we have had good relations with it for a long time, and it also has many economic opportunities, the premier intoned.

"As our representative in Malawi you will beef up defence and security at our common border for the people therein to live peacefully and conduct economic activities without bother," he added.

## 'Gold extraction mercury use choking human environment'

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scale gold mining activities, stretching from 2020 to 2025.

Despite that the sector makes decent profits, small-scale mining activities pose huge challenges to human health and the environment, including toxic water in the environment, he stated, noting that the environment is prone to air pollution caused by arbitrary burning of gold.

The habit of cutting down large trees to get logs to build underground pathways is negative, while extracting gold without protective equipment can cause health effects, he elaborated.

The World Health Organization (WHO) lists mercury as one of the 10 most dangerous sources of disease and physical impairment, whereupon the international community ratified the Minamata Convention in 2013, to protect human health from the effects of polluting the environment due to using mercury.

"Serious health effects of mercury include nervous system disorders, numbness of the limbs, body weakness, muscle weakness, impaired kidney function, blurred vision, hearing and speech impairment, impaired

pregnancy, and the birth of children with disabilities. There are also effects like mental retardation, memory loss, prolonged insomnia and eventually stroke," he pointed out.

In seeking to protect human health from the harmful effects of mercury, Tanzania actively participated in negotiations for the Minamata Convention, signing the convention in 2013 and ratifying it in 2020.

Article 7 (7) of the convention directs member states to reduce or completely eliminate the use of mercury, so Tanzania has implemented a two-year project to prepare a five year national action plan for reducing the use of the chemical, the 2020-25 plan, he said.

The project was among instruments to reduce and if possible fully eliminate the use of mercury in small-scale gold mining by encouraging miners to adopt alternative technologies to protect human health and the environment generally, he said, expressing gratitude to the United Nations Environment Program (UNEP) for financial support and expertise in the project.

The workshop involved participants from sector ministries and public organisations involved in small-scale gold mining activities using mercury.



Dar es Salaam Water and Sanitation Authority (Dawasa) CEO Cyprian Luhemeja (3rd-R) briefs the board chairman, former Chief of Defence Forces Davis Mwanunyangye (2nd-L, foreground), on the Makongo-Bagamoyo water project. This was during Monday's inspection tour by Dawasa board members. Photo: Correspondent Joseph Mwendapole

## Minister: Irrigation will cover will of arable land

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climate change causing unreliable and fluctuating rain patterns. Drought spells are now frequent and as a result we can no longer depend on seasonal farming, he stated, emphasizing that irrigation is the way of the future. Treasury will be tabling the next budget on Thursday of the second week of June, he stated, affirming that the agriculture content will surprise many.

"President Samia has directed the

Treasury to prioritize agriculture and make it more resilient to climatic disturbances and other challenges," he noted that if anything the sector will be the leading income generator for the youth from next year onwards. Budget allocation for agriculture will focus on farm inputs like seeds and fertilisers, irrigation funding and storage infrastructure to cut post-harvest losses.

In order to ensure that the more than 15m hectares of arable land gets dependable water through irrigation schemes, using sea water in irrigation is possible for farmlands in flat

coastal areas, he said. Experts say that using seawater for irrigation is a possible solution as plant roots can absorb the water when it is moderately salty, but the roots can only do so inefficiently. "If the water is too saline, water will move out of the plants to the soils," thus making it impossible for such water to sustain crops, an online write up indicates.

At the moment irrigation takes up five per cent of arable land, at 461,000 hectares out of around 29m hectares, thus placing half of arable land comes up to nearly 15m hec-

tares, while some other authorities put the size of arable land as 13.5m hectares, equivalent to 15.2 per cent of total country area. The data is dated 2018 and doubles the size of agro-feasible land that was put at 6.8 per cent of the total land area in a 1969 survey, with used arable land growing at 1.76 per cent annually, as the agricultural sector takes up close to 80 per cent of the labour force and means of livelihood of more than three quarters of the estimated 60m inhabitants, experts say





Foreign Affairs and East African Cooperation minister Liberata Mulamula outlines to journalists in Dar es Salaam yesterday on the achievements her ministry has registered since Samia Suluhu Hassan took over as Tanzania's President on March 19 last year. Photo: Guardian Correspondent

## Govt to cooperate with private sector to execute water projects

By Felister Peter

THE government has reiterated its commitment to ensure clean water services pledging to cooperate with the private sector in executing mega water projects.

Deputy water minister, Maryprisca Mahundi made the remarks in Dar es Salaam yesterday when addressing participants at Water Aid Tanzania stakeholder's conference which among other things aimed to share experiences and discuss ways to further improve water services in the country.

Mahundi said that a lot has to be done for the country to achieve the new Sustainable Development Goals (SDG-6) which aims to reach universal access to safe water and sanitation by 2030.

According to her clean water services in urban areas have now reached 86 percent while in rural areas it has reached 72.3 percent. The government target is to reach over 95 percent in urban areas and in rural areas by 2025. "Emphasis is also put on combating the impacts of climate change and improving waste water management systems," said Mahundi underscoring the need to educate people on the importance of being connected to waste water systems.

She said to ensure timely completion of identified water projects, the government plans to fast-track its implementation in collaboration with the project sector, of which Water Aid plays an important role in ensur-

ing successful implementation. "The ministry's priority is to implement mega water projects which will benefit a good number of people," she added.

Water Aid Tanzania country director, Anna Mzinga said the organization has been working closely with stakeholders and the government in improving water supply, sanitation, and hygiene (WASH) services whereas it has so far reached 8 million people in both rural and urban areas.

"The presence of Water Aid in Tanzania proves continued partnership with the government and citizens including special groups in enhancing WASH services. We also prioritise conservation of water sources and the environment," said Mzinga noting, stakeholders will discuss the importance of having decent toilets and clean water services.

Regional director of WaterAid in East Africa, Olutayo Bankole-Bolawole said they operate in 34 countries around the globe and that in Tanzania they have succeeded to reach 8 million people. She said women and girls spend many hours in search of the precious liquid, the time which could be spent on other development activities.

She said the meeting is meant to share experience with the various stakeholders on how to enhance the productivity and enhance water services. She said that stakeholder's opinions would help Water Aid Tanzania in preparing its 2022-2026 strategic plans.

## Commissioner calls on councils to improve working conditions

By Polycarp Machira, Dodoma

THE Labour Commissioner in the Prime Minister's Office, Susan Mkangwa has called on public workers to ensure existence of workers' councils in effort to help solve challenges.

Speaking during the launch of the Tanzania Revenue Authority (TRA)'s workers' council, calling on private sector employers to allow workers join trade unions. She added that mutual agreement at work is important in national development.

The commissioner noted that the government is committed to end conflicts at places of work through friendly dialogue for the prosperity of both parties and entire nation.

"The government has seen it wise to end conflicts between workers and employers through mutual discussion for the betterment of both parties and national development" he said.

According to Mkangwa better relation at work places mean a lot to the government for it is through workers and employers that the government gets part of its revenues, thus the need for intervention.

Officiating the opening of the meeting, Deputy Permanent Secretary in the Ministry of Finance and Planning, Lawrence Mafuru, commended TRA for launching its first ever workers' council which he said was a legal requirement in ensuring that workers' participation in planning and running of the institution was included. Speaking on behalf of the Deputy Minister for Finance and Planning, Hamad Hassan Chande, also asked TRA to improve revenue collection in order to increase the country's Gross Domestic Product (GDP) ratio.

He said ministry was welcoming policy ideas that can be adopted in the ministry in order to boost the country's economy.

TRA Commissioner General, Alphayo Kidata, said good cooperation and relations within employees was one of the big reasons which make the authority to remain strong in revenue collections which kept on increasing every year thus enabling the government to implement different development projects.

HE noted that TRA is destined to increase revenue collections, voluntary tax payment and strengthen public image on the authority upon completion of its 6th corporate plan, to be implemented in the 2022/23 financial year.

The five-year plan currently on the final stages, according to the TRA Commissioner General, Alphayo Kidata, will provide the strategic direction on the long term challenges facing the tax body.

He said the plan aims at hiking revenue collections according to the national and international agenda intensify voluntary tax payment, improve efficiency and performance, building a positive image on the duties performed by as well as good trust from taxpayers, among others. The Commissioner General made the statement at the opening of the two-day workers' council meeting which ended yesterday. This is the first TRA's workers' council since its establishment in 1995.

At the meeting, he said, on average, the taxman collects 1.85tril/- unlike when the authority was inaugurated in 1996/97 where monthly revenue collection stood at 42bn/-.

He noted that in December 2021, the authority collected 2.5tril/-, being one of the highest collection in the country since independence, also collections in Zanzibar have also increased after TRA's several strategic steps aimed at increasing efficiency.



**The government has seen it wise to end conflicts between workers and employers through mutual discussion for the betterment of both parties and national development**

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## SGA hailed for containing GSM inferno

By Guardian Reporter

THE Dar es Salaam Special Zone Police Commander, Muliro Jumanne and the Senior Assistant Commissioner of Fire Commissioner for Kinondoni and Ubungo Christina Sunga have applauded SGA Security for playing a key role in containing the GSM factory inferno at Mikocheni in Dar es Salaam.

They said the situation would have been worse were it not for SGA Security getting at the scene on time and collaborating with the rest of the teams to fight the fire at the factory that produces mattresses, cables and iron sheets.

The SGA fire fighting team was seen going to the inner most parts of the factory due to sophisticated fighting equipment that they had while other teams could not go beyond some points as they lacked the equipment.

It took the team close to five hours to put out the fire that is said to have started at around 5am and by 10am the situation was under control.

Commissioner Sunga said had it not been for SGA Security and other fighters, things would have been worse and the fire would have easily

spread to the neighbourhood.

"The preparedness shown by SGA in handling such an incident should be emulated. Their expertise and equipment highly contributed to a successful operation by the joint forces," she said.

Commander Muliro said no one was injured in the incident but the destruction on property was massive. GSM President via his Personal Assistant and Head of Procurement, Chenedzo Mupukuta, commended SGA for responding quickly when called and arriving well prepared. "After the task was completed, disaster management team chose SGA to remain on site overnight on standby because sometimes after fires happen", she added.

SGA Tanzania Managing Director, Eric Sambu, expressed relief that the concerted efforts coordinated by Dar es Salaam police and fire department commanders helped reduce further damage. "We are happy to have made positive contribution in putting off the fire," Sambu added.

SGA is the oldest private security company that has branches country-wide and has employed over 6000 employees.



Morogoro regional commissioner Martine Shigella pictured in Morogoro municipality yesterday speaks at a two-day meeting on ways to boost crop production in Kilombero District. Organised jointly by the RC's Office in collaboration with the Southern Agricultural Growth Corridor of Tanzania (SAGCOT), it has brought together various stakeholders from the public and private sectors. Others (front row) include: Morogoro regional administrative secretary Mariam Mtunguja (L), SAGCOT chief executive officer Geoffrey Kirenga (2nd-L) and Morogoro Regional Police Commander Fortunatus Muslim (R). Photo: Guardian Correspondent

## Women with disabilities call on govt to improve health services

By Beatrice Philemon

WOMEN with disabilities in the country have called on the government to improve health services and help the group obtain high quality maternal healthcare services in various facilities.

Speaking on behalf of women with disabilities, Tanzania Federation of Disabled People's Organisation (SHIVYAWATA)'s chairperson, Nuru Awadhi said "We need government intervention because pregnant women with disabilities experienced

challenges during the labour and delivery process.

The group made the statement when briefing journalists on the National day for women with disabilities that will be held on March 23, this year in Dar es Salaam. "Even beds used by PwDs during labour time in hospitals are not friendly to us and maternity care providers lack knowledge on the best way to take care of the group," she said.

She also claimed that PwDs rights were poorly respected in other hospitals by being treated less because of their disabilities.

"We call on the government to consider the allocation of special beds for pregnant women with disabilities in hospitals as well allow them to have interpreters, a person who will translate language in words or into sign language when they go to deliver babies or giving birth in hospital," she said.

Interpreters should be allowed to be accompanied by them because other healthcare professionals lack knowledge about disabilities.

"For example, women with deaf or hearing impairment,

visual impairment or blindness should be allowed to enter inside the labor with interpreters so that they can understand what doctors or nurses say to them during childbirth," she added.

SHIVYAWATA'S Treasurer, Christina Silas added that on March 23, this year, the federation will celebrate the National day of women with disabilities to discuss one year of President Samia Suluhu Hassan in office and what she has been done to support women's and children's rights especially persons

with disabilities.

The main goal of the event is to review one year tenure of the sixth President Samia Suluhu Hassan in terms of efforts being done by her to foster women's and children's rights especially those with disabilities in various aspects of political, social and economic to enhance economic rights and equality.

The event also seeks to raise awareness and promote the rights and perspectives of persons with disabilities around the country.

Participants will get an op-

portunity to discuss various issues relating to political, economic, education and leadership issues. The day also aims to promote an understanding of disability issues and mobilize support for the dignity, rights and well-being of persons with disabilities.

According to her, women with disabilities experience discrimination which places them at higher risk of gender-based violence. Elaborating on women's achievements, SHIVYAWATA'S Secretary, Maria Chale noted that they are very glad for what

has been achieved so far.

"Right now majority of people are aware of people with albinism and we're seeing drastic changes because children with albinism are now protected with their parents and relatives, something that was not there before," she said.

She further said some women with disabilities have also been able to contest leadership positions in different areas and won and in turn has helped them to effectively participate not only in politics, but in other areas that affect development.



An Roinn Gnóthai Eachtracha  
Department of Foreign Affairs

Vacancy – Operations Manager

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Dar es Salaam  
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Our mission is to promote and protect abroad the values, interests and economic well-being of Ireland and its people. We do this under the political direction of our Ministers, through our staff at home and through our Embassy network abroad.

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**Position details:**

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- The position will have an annual leave allowance of 24 days per annum, exclusive of public holidays, adjusted pro rata.
- The role offers good opportunities for training and for travel within Tanzania and occasional international travel.

**Office Manager:**  
Under the direction of Head of Mission, and working closely with the Second Secretary, the Operations Manager will manage and direct the operations and systems of the Embassy to ensure the efficient and effective running of the administrative, general operations and human resources functions. The Embassy expects that all staff are sensitive to gender issues and demonstrate an active commitment to human rights by facilitating open dialogue during engagement with stakeholders at all levels.

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**Applications that do not bear the position in the subject line will be automatically disregarded.**

**Applications must be received before 18:00hrs on Wednesday 30 March 2022**

No applications will be accepted after this deadline. Please note that only short listed applicants will be contacted.

Applicants should note the following points in respect of the application process:

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**Security Clearance for Local Staff:**  
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**Please note that canvassing will disqualify applicants.**

**The Irish Embassy in Tanzania is an equal opportunities employer.**

## VP Mpango: Govt will continue developing, promoting Kiswahili

By Guardian Correspondent, Arusha

THE Vice President, Dr Philip Mpango has said the government will continue to develop and promote Kiswahili nationally, regionally and internationally to bring about benefits as to the correct usage of the language in the media, radio and television.

The Vice President has also called on the country's media to abide by the laws and ethics governing the media industry by desisting usage of informal language especially for radio and television presenters.

Dr Mpango also instructed Mohamed Mchengerwa, the minister for Arts and Sports to make sure China's Swahili Service headquartered in Nairobi, Kenya receives copyright in regard to

the 20 novels it had written in Kiswahili.

Dr Mpango made the remarks here on Monday when opening a five-day forum that brought together programme presenters, journalists and other stakeholders from within and outside the country.

"Where there is intent, there is a way; hence promoting our Kiswahili language is possible. Through this Second Kiswahili forum I call for the writing various books in Kiswahili language," he said.

He said we should reach a time for journalists, in particular radio and TV broadcasters to respect ethics governing the media industry by using formal and official Kiswahili language.

"We recognise the importance of

the media in promoting Kiswahili language and for this reason, from now on I call on radio and TV broadcasters to avoid using informal languages so as not to mislead people on this rare Kiswahili language," he added.

He said there are 36 radio and TV services worldwide that broadcast in the Kiswahili language, and added "here in the country there are 172 radio and TV stations that broadcast in Kiswahili, and this is a great opportunity for them to promote Kiswahili.

Meanwhile, Dr Mpango said there should reach a time that government policies and plans and court proceedings of cases and judgements thereof should be written in Kiswahili instead of English.

He also called on Members of Parliament that from now on they should use Kiswahili instead of mixing it and English when contributing to various debates in Parliament in order to promote the language in the important pillar of State.

He said the Second Kiswahili Forum has many benefits including promoting relations within the African continent and the world in general and praised Tanzania's Ambassador to Ethiopia, Amb. Innocent Shio and Tanzania's Kiswahili Ambassador, Salma Kikwete.

For his part, the minister for Culture, Arts and Sports, Mohamed Mchengerwa said as for now Kiswahili is fast spreading due to the advances in science and technology.

## Sexual reproductive health lacks quality content - teachers

By Mary Kadoko

RESEARCH findings from HakiElimu have showed that 93 per cent of teachers say curricula on sexual reproductive health and rights (SRHR) taught in primary and secondary schools lack merit.

Dr John Kalage, HakiElimu executive director, made the revelation yesterday during the book launch on SRHR held in Dar es Salaam.

He said that research findings shows that pupils' are not pleased with the sexual and reproduction education while the frontline implementers (teachers) claim that curriculum does not collate positive coordination of thoughts, problem-solving and compassion as far as girl child education is concerned.

"Findings show that 15 per cent of pupils are not satisfied with the SRHR while 93 per cent of teachers said the content was unsatisfactory, however some underlined that the content is not to be taught immediately," he said.

He further affirmed that the teacher's point of view carried various factors behind the gap over SRHR curriculum, one of them being teachers' mischievous ideology that education over the matter will result in unpleasant behaviours.

"The qualitative research showed SRHR education gap is caused by teachers' ideology thinking that the knowledge will provide a loophole to incidents such as early pregnancies. Some teachers are ashamed to teach on the matter and gender separation during lectures are other factors influencing the gap of knowledge," he explained.

He however, said the research came out with recommendations as making SRHR as a standout topic, having a SRHR desk in schools to establish pupils' friendly environment and of policies, guidelines and laws availability to support the move.

Permanent Secretary in the Ministry of Education, Science and Technology, Dr Eliamani Sedoyeka said that the



Serengeti Breweries Ltd packaging manager Praygod Minja (R) briefs Tanzania Revenue Authority commissioner general Alphayo Kidata on how the firm puts to use the electronic tax stamp system. This was during a visit by TRA board members to the SBL's plant in Dar es Salaam yesterday. Looking on is SBL managing director Mark Ocitti. Photo: Guardian Correspondent

government will make sure it improves the curriculum from the gap revealed as it highly depends on stakeholders since they meet the public directly.

"Our task is to review laws and create a con-

ducive environment for the sector to grow. Therefore we are obliged to work closely with stakeholders such as HakiElimu as we get recommendations that will improve on issues that seem to be a challenge in the community."



# 'Collection of taxes and fees is key development priority'

By Guardian Reporter

PRIME Minister Kassim Majaliwa has told regional commissioner that collecting taxes and fees is a fundamental way for our country to generate public revenues that make it possible to finance investments in human capital, infrastructure, and the provision of services for citizens and businesses.



He called upon them to strengthen their tax administrations.

He also appealed to them to oversee ethics in revenue collection saying "satisfy yourselves with what is being collected and whether the money enters government coffers."

He gave the directives on Monday this week when addressing regional commissioners from his Dodoma office via video conference.

"This issue must be supervised well, and among the big agendas is revenue, revenue collection should be Agenda No one in your daily work schedules," he said.

Majaliwa (pictured) added that in case they will ignore the strict revenue collection issue, their budgets will not increase and will affect the implementation of various development projects.

"Do not leave revenue collection supervision to the Ministry for Regional Administration and Local Government (RALG) alone, we must supervise our local councils to ensure revenue increases," he added.

He also called on the RCs to supervise well all development projects being implemented in their areas and to make sure the projects compares with the money value.



Angelica Pasha, Tigo Pesa's chief officer for mobile financial services, briefs journalists in Dar es Salaam yesterday at the launch of the firm's promotion raffle dubbed 'Pesa Mwaa Mwii na Tigo Pesa'. Left is Tigo Pesa special customers manager Mary Rutta. Photo: Guardian Correspondent

# Activists call for immediate review, amendment of Marriage Act, 1971

By Getrude Mbago

THE Movement of Women and Girls Rights (TAPO) has called for immediate action by the government and the parliament to review and amend the Marriage Act, 1971.

The movement see that by amending the law, it will greatly help to fight child marriage, which has been affecting and thwarting a number of young girls from achieving their dreams.

Tanzania's Marriage Act of 1971 sets the minimum marriage age for girls at 15 with parental consent and 18 for boys.

Addressing journalists in Dar es Salaam Rebeca Gyumi, executive direc-

tor of Msichana Initiative, which is part of the movement, said in a bid to end child marriage in the country, the law should be amended specifically sections 13 and 17 which provides for girls to be married before the age of 18.

She said by continuing to remain mum on the laws, a number of young girls also fall into the traps which kill their dreams with others taking difficult decisions of killing themselves.

"We recognise the power that MPs have and we are sure that through them, we can make changes in the law, child marriage poses several health risks to the girls. Statistics show that three out of five girls are married be-

fore 18 years," she said.

Gyumi also said the organisation recognises that for change to take place, the community must be able to join forces with the government in preventing child marriage as well as taking action against those who practice such marriages. Dr Dinah Mmbaga from the Coalition of Women Constitution, Election, Leadership and Sextortion said it was high time now for the Members of Parliament to push for the review of the law. She noted when young girls are forced to marry, they face potentially lifelong harmful consequences. They are essentially subject to state-sanctioned rape and are at risk of increased do-

mestic violence, forced pregnancy and negative health consequences, while being denied education and economic opportunity.

"We must continue to apply pressure to ensure that the government complies with the ruling issued by the High Court and truly puts an end to child marriage in the country," she said.

In a landmark 2016 decision, the High Court ruled these provisions unconstitutional, and directed the government to raise the legal age of marriage to 18 years for both girls and boys.

This ruling followed a legal challenge by the Msichana Initiative, an organisation advocating for girls' right to education in Tanzania.

Their petition argued that the Marriage Act violated girls' fundamental rights to equality, dignity, and access to education, and contravened Tanzania's Law of the Child Act.

The government appealed against the High Court decision, but the Court of Appeal upheld the 2016 High Court ruling. With two out of five girls being married off before their 18th birthday, Tanzania has one of the highest rates of child marriage in the world, according to UN estimates.

According to Tanzania Demographic and Health Survey (TDHS) data from 2015- 2016, Shinyanga region leads by 59 per cent of the total

challenge followed by Tabora 58 per cent, Mara 55 per cent, and Dodoma region which has 51 per cent and Lindi region 48 percent from the big five leading regions.

TAPO is made up of several organisations including Msichana Initiative, Tanzania Women Cross-Party Platform (TWCP-ULINGO), Tanzania Feminist Initiative, Her Ability Foundation, WAJIKI, TAWIA, WILDAF, Hope for Young Girls, Her Initiative, Soma, Open Young Organisation, TAMWA, Men Engage, C-SEMA, ICCAO, JIDA, Mwanamke na Uongozi, Binti Makini Foundation, TECMN, Women Fund Trust-Tanzania, Binti Salha Foundation and the Legal and Human Right Centre (LHRC).



## Request for Expression of Interest Conducting Endline Evaluation for Ardhi Yetu Programme Plus

### Introduction

Care International in Tanzania in collaboration with Land Rights Research & Resources Institute (HAKIARDHI), Pastoralists Indigenous Community Development Organization (PAICODEO), and Tanzania Natural Resources Forum (TNRFF) implemented Ardhi Yetu programme plus (AYP+) from 2018-2021. This was a national land rights advocacy programme, that consolidated on-the-ground interventions in natural resources governance, sustainable land use management, land right, and livelihood while integrating resilience and adaptation.

### Mode of implementation

Community has been an integral part of the programme implementation to ensure national Civil Society driven advocacy campaigns and policy dialogues have their foundations in community voices, actions, and realities. The initiatives were taken by the Programme to strengthen the focus on gender equality and women's empowerment by integrating specific and sustainable gender activities.

### Programme Overall objectives

The main objective of the programme is to see active communities and civil society advocate for an inclusive and transparent land sector, strengthening the land tenure security and resilience of small-scale farming and pastoral communities particularly women. The Programme specific objectives are:

- o Specific Objective 1: Communities can manage drivers of risk (climate change, natural resource governance, land access, and gender), and hold local government to account.
- o Specific Objective 2: Strong networks of like-minded CSOs have the capacity and available platforms, to hold the Government and Private Sector to account on responsible, climate resilient, and inclusive land policies and actions.
- o Specific Objective 3: A transparent and responsive Government (at both local and national level) is engaging small-scale farmers and pastoralists in climate sensitive land dialogues.

### Purpose of Evaluation:

The purpose of this evaluation is to assess the extent to which Ardhi Yetu Programme plus (AYP+) objectives have been achieved and the (positive) changes being realized to the lives of targeted population and families of piloted districts of Simanjiro, Chemba, Kiteto, Morogoro Rural, Kilosa, Mvomero, Kilombero, Mufindi, Kilolo and Iringa Rural. The evaluation has the following fold purposes

1. To assess and document results achieved under the programme (endline).
2. To assess the impact against project indicators.
3. To identify and outline lessons learned, best practices and recommendations for future programming.
4. To Assess any unintended consequences (positive or negative) such as building individual or community resilience or supporting local leadership.
5. Assess the integration of gender, resilience and inclusive governance in the project implementation using specific questions and tools.

The evaluation seeks to measuring the extent to which, and the reasons behind, the achievement (or not) of the program overall objective, specific objectives, outcomes, and activities.

### Evaluation team composition and requirement competencies

The evaluation assignment requires significant consultation fame or individual consultant with intensive knowledge of Monitoring and evaluation and broad technical knowledge in natural resources management, Climate resilience, land use management, environment management, rural management, and project management.

### Application procedure

For more details and application procedure, please request for the Terms of Reference (ToR) from Ms Furaha Mgeni using email [furaha.mgeni@care.org](mailto:furaha.mgeni@care.org). Expressions for interest should be sent to [TZAprocurement@care.org](mailto:TZAprocurement@care.org) copied to [furaha.mgeni@care.org](mailto:furaha.mgeni@care.org). The deadline for applications is **01st April 2022 at 4:30pm**.

(Only shortlisted candidates/fames will be contacted)



## TENDER INVITATION FOR

### Assignment: to Conduct

### commercial and legal eligibility checks on potential recipients (KEP)

As a federally owned enterprise of the German Government in the field of international cooperation for sustainable development, the Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ) GmbH supports the Government of Tanzania and the East African Community secretariate to achieve their development objectives. On behalf of the German Federal Ministry for Economic and Development Cooperation, GIZ operates in more than 120 countries around the globe supporting its partner countries shape a future worth living around the world.

### Purpose of consultancy

GIZ Dar es Salaam office is looking for a consulting firm to provide an examination of the commercial and legal eligibility checks on GIZ's partner organisations for the efficient and transparent management of finances in line with GIZ rules and regulations.

### The contractor shall provide the following work/service:

The examination of the systems, structure and processes of the organisation, must enable the Head of Project to complete the GIZ Documentation of the Commercial Suitability of the Recipient (see attachment) prior to concluding a Financing agreement.

The organisations shall be assessed for receiving, administering and accounting for a grant agreement, financing agreement and local subsidy and should be checked for its legal status under the prevailing national law.

This tender is intended solely for Tanzania based & registered Companies

Interested Companies should request for detailed tender documents from [giz-tanzania@giz.de](mailto:giz-tanzania@giz.de) no later than **23rd March 2022** and submit Technical and Financial proposals by email no later than **30th March 2022**.





Tanzania Cigarette Company board chairman Paul Makanza (R) gifts his Tanzania Revenue Authority counterpart, Uledi Mussa, a tobacco leaf as TRA board members moved to check the Dar es Salaam-based firm's compliance with the use of electronic tax stamps on its products. Photo: Correspondent Miraji Msala

## 'ELCT, German sponsors sought euro 4,000 to buy food for Hai District drought victims'

By Guardian Reporter, Kilimanjaro

SPONSORS from Germany's Bavarian Lutheran Church and those of the Northern Diocese of Evangelical Lutheran Church of Tanzania (ELCT) have sought euro 4,000 for buying food for drought victims in Hai District, Kilimanjaro Region.

The money has been used to purchase 108 bags of maize and 23 bags of beans for distribution to Tindigani, Sanya Station and Mtakuja villagers.

ELCT Bishop Dr Frederick Shoo said the food aimed to rescue from hunger 3,738 households of the nomadic community in the area.

Dr Shoo pleaded the Minister of Agriculture, Hussein Bashe to direct the National Food Regulatory Agency (NFRA) to send food assistance to those affected by drought in Hai District.

Due to the hunger threat, the Deacon Department of ELCT Northern Diocese that supervises Orphanage services (HUYAMWI) and the Bavarian Lutheran Church sought euros 4,000 that was used to purchase food to the victims.

Speaking on Monday at Tindigani Village in KIA Ward, Hai District during his visit to distribute the food, seeds and small livestock businesses, Bishop Dr Shoo said:

"It is important for food from NFRA's warehouses to be sent to all areas affected by drought in Simanjiro, Kiteto, Longido and Hai districts, which should be sold at affordable

price.

"And we in the church, as part of our divine mission, we have seen the importance of assisting these people who have been affected by food shortages. We have distributed this food, part of which has been contributed by our friends in Germany, adding that climate change has affected various regions, Bishop Shoo said;

"This extreme drought we are witnessing is part of adverse effects of climate change. We shall continue to witness such condition for a long time if we disregard the issue of environmental protection."

Earlier, HUYAMWI Director from ELCT Northern diocese, Deacon Samuel Mori said the First phase of food assistance consisted 64 bags of maize and 17 bags of beans that was distributed to Nomeuti, Tindugai and Kawaya parishes.

"These areas were affected by hunger due to big food shortage as a result of scarce rains in 2021, the drought which continued to January this year. The situation resulted in many households living hard lives," Mori said.

For his part, Claus Heim, the Secretary of Bavarian Evangelical Lutheran Church of Germany said:

"We in Germany have close ties with ELCT especially the Northern Diocese. This is not food only in maize and beans, but also a sign of love. The Bible has taught us that if one part of a family is in difficulty, the other part is also in difficulty," he said.

# Morogoro renews efforts to become Tanzania's food basket

By Guardian Correspondent,

Morogoro

MOROGORO Region working together with the Southern Agricultural Growth Corridor of Tanzania (SAGCOT) yesterday launched new efforts to make the region Tanzania's reliable food basket.

Addressing a two-day meeting which brought together experts from the private and public sectors, eager and energized Morogoro Regional Commissioner Martine Shigela pledged here that the region will spare no effort in working with SAGCOT and Agricultural Seed Agency (ASA) in transforming region's

farming by empowering the region's "hardworking smallholders."

"We salute SAGCOT for its efforts in transforming small-scale farmers by exposing them to appropriate knowledge related to crop husbandry so that farming becomes efficient and rewarding. This meeting is just a start. We shall have other meetings bringing together leaders of political parties, co-operatives, farmers' associations, agro-processors, financial institutions and agri-buyers," Shigela pledged.

SAGCOT uses the cluster approach in grouping together regions in order to implement agreed on initiatives. In this

case, Morogoro region is biggest chunk of the SAGCOT's Kilombero cluster.

Experts say over 90 percent of the region's six districts Gairo, Mvomero, Morogoro, Kilosa, Kilombero and Ulanga have beautiful arable land and the region is gifted with a temperate climate allowing farming of cereals and many varieties of horticultural crops. Seventy-one percent of the regions residents are engaged in agricultural activities.

"Agriculture remains the main economic activity of the region's private households and 79 percent of the region's households are in rural areas engaged in farming," according

to the statistics of the 2012 Population and Housing Census availed to reporters at the meeting that is also jointly backed by ASA.

The statistics show that out of the regions 501,794 households, 375,838 household or 74.9 employed by agriculture and 791 rural households are active in farming.

Kilosa District has the biggest farming households (80,772), followed by Kilombero (75,047), Mvomero (57,806) Morogoro (56,675), Ulanga (45,098), Morogoro Municipality (27,949) and Gairo (32,491).

SAGCOT Chief Executive Officer, Geoffrey Kirenga, told the meeting that Tanzanians expect the meeting to come up with practical proposals on making

agriculture increase its contribution to the gross domestic product and national food security because, he said, the region is gifted with huge areas of arable land.

"The aim of this meeting is to see how agriculture can increase national wealth, and remain friendly to environment," he said.

ASA Chief Executive Officer, Dr Sophia Kashenge, pledged that the agency will produce quality seeds as meeting's resolutions.

"We have the ability to produce the kind of seeds that will promote agricultural efficiency and increase the farmer's disposable income," she assured.

The meeting drew representative from the public and private sectors. SAGCOT is an international public-private sector partnership which works with regional authorities in a bid to transform chosen areas' agricultural productivity.

One of SAGCOT's expected outcomes by 2030 is to have "some 350,000 hectares in profitable production, serving regional and international markets and tens of thousands of smallholders become commercial farmers, with access to irrigation and weather insurance."

Morogoro Region has one of Tanzania's biggest rivers, Kilombero River and several small rivers.



**We salute SAGCOT for its efforts in transforming small-scale farmers by exposing them to appropriate knowledge related to crop husbandry so that farming becomes efficient and rewarding. This meeting is just a start**

## Kupatana and Zoomtanzania merge in a bid to gain access to bigger market across Tanzania

By Guardian Reporter

TWO licensed classifieds sites Kupatana.com and Zoomtanzania.com have officially merged aiming to continue developing its strong market position in Tanzania.

Makusaro Tesha, General Manager of AfriEuro Digital Ventures, a private limited company said that last year the company obtained the exclusive rights to market and operate the two classified sites which are both broadly used in the country.

Tesha said: "This is an amazing opportunity for us, but particularly for the Tanzanian internet users since we will be able to further develop the already strong online marketplace presence and provide even more sales opportunities and a better user experience across all categories."

He said from a technical standpoint, the new platform will be a new version that will combine the best of the two platforms. He said the platform will bring new and exciting features that can

provide a safe, fast and user-friendly experience to buy and sell online.

"Our current plan is to launch a new website that will merge both brands," he said.

The two platforms, Kupatana.com and Zoomtanzania.com, have been long time competitors, but will now join forces to offer a much easier, faster and more secure experience for buyers and sellers online.

Because of its high brand awareness rate in Tanzania and mobile adoption of users, Kupatana.com will be kept as the brand name in the future but for now both website will be kept as they are.

Sammy Ben Abla, Managing Director, AfriEuro Digital Ventures Limited said that users of the platform must register and put their personal details such as phone number and names.

"We want to be able to reach thousands of buyers; the new platform will ensure safer transactions, with the Kupatana platform one can chat and share live locations, share opinions on the product and verify information," he added.



Faustina Urassa (L), founder and CEO of Moshi-based charity Songambe Initiative Organisation, briefs Moshi district commissioner Abbas Kayanda (2nd-R) and other government officials on the agency's activities. Photo: Correspondent James Lanka

## Songea District embarks on strategy to boost academic standards

By Guardian Correspondent, Songea

SONGEA Rural District Council in Ruvuma Region has embarked on a strategy to raise academic standards in both primary and secondary schools aimed at increasing passes in examinations.

Speaking at the weekend on the strategy's

launch, Songea Rural District Executive Officer, Neema Maghembe said its aim follows realisation that in the past few years many schools performed poorly.

Briefing Ruvuma Regional Commissioner Brig. Gen. Wilbert Ibuge on the district's academic situation, Maghembe said the strategy will assist the community, including various

education stakeholders to provide the much needed push in arresting the deteriorating situation.

She said the council has 81 primary schools of which 78 are run by the government and three private, whereas in regard to secondary schools it has 22 of which 17 are public.

Unveiling the strategy, Ruvuma RC Brig. Gen.

Wilbert Ibuge praised the council for inventing the strategy designed to assist students to perform better in examinations.

Brig. Gen. Ibuge represented the Peramiho Member of Parliament, Jenista Mhagama who is also the Minister of state in the President's Office, Public Service Management and Good Governance.

She said the strategy will be fully adhered to and the district should expect to see a great transformation in the education sector.

For his part, Songea Rural District Council chairperson, Mennas Komba said all issues that have been recommended by the strategy with a slogan "Better Education is Possible, Play Your part" will be dealt with.



# Kilombero Sugar Company launches women's platform

By Guardian Correspondent, Morogoro

AT the culmination of the International Women's Day (IWD) celebrations, women at Kilombero Sugar Company have officially launched a women's platform as part of the firm's strategies in promoting gender equality and women empowerment.

The launch took place recently with the Kilombero District Commissioner, Hanji Yusuph Godigodi as the special guest.

In his address, the district commissioner, commended the entire organising committee led by Willa Haonga for coming up with the idea which aims to empower women by building their capacity, boosting their self-confidence as well as addressing gender challenges.

She commended the company's management for approving the formation of the platform, which will transform the image of the company and contribute to business sustainability by promoting gender inclusion in the workplace.

Managing Director for Kilombero Sugar Company, Guy Williams commended the organizing committee for facilitating the launch as well as executing various activities that were carried out throughout the week and explained that the company has more strategies in making further improvements in promoting gender equality and empowering women.

"Apart from condemning acts of harassment and discrimination against women in the workplace and at home, the company aims to promote women's participation in the company's decision-

making processes and operational activities, including increasing the number of women employees and the number of women in leadership positions. This will be possible by building women's confidence and self-esteem through training opportunities and allow them time to improve themselves academically while creating an enabling workplace environment to meet their gender and child care needs," said Williams.

Chairperson of the women's platform launch committee, Willa Haonga who is the company's Communications and Stakeholder Relations Manager, thanked the company's management for enabling women to join other women around the world in celebrating International Women's Day, which takes place on March 8 each year.

In line with this year's theme 'Gender Equality for Sustainable Development', the women engaged in various development activities including sanitation, planting trees in various areas around the company, sensitizing Covid-19 vaccination and health screening, as well as the opportunity to visit the gender desk.

The platform has been established with the aim of empowering women and building their capacity, developing a strategy and an integrated gender mainstreaming policy, addressing various gender challenges and maintaining a culture of celebrating International Women's Day every year as a catalyst for dialogue to address various issues affecting women in the company and society at large.



Omary Mashaka Hassan (C) of Tunduru District, Ruvuma Region, in jovial mood in the company of relatives on Monday after he was presented with a dummy cheque for 10m/- for winning a Biko raffle. Photo: Guardian Correspondent

# MNH spent Covid-19 recovery funds well - govt

By Guardian Reporter

THE government has hailed Muhimbili National Hospital (MNH) for the positive steps it has been taking in implementing projects via the 25.5bn/- it received under the Covid-19 national recovery plan.

MNH received 25.540bn/- from

the government to implement various projects at the hospital but was also mandated to purchase equipment for hospitals of Mwananyamala, Amana and Temeke.

Speaking after inspecting progress of the projects, Permanent Secretary in the Ministry of Health Prof Abel Makubi expressed satisfaction with the progress of the projects saying this was a sign of proper management of the funds.

"The speed of implementing these projects is encouraging and I am confident that they will end in the planned timeline of April this year," he said.

Earlier, MNH Executive Director Prof Lawrence Museru told the

PS that out of the funds that the hospital received, 11.876bn/- were meant to purchase MRI/CT Scan, Angio suite, ICU equipment and other important medical facilities. He said currently MNH has signed 16 contracts worth 11.874bn/-.

Prof Museru said further that Temeke referral hospital received 4.071bn/- for purchasing CT Scan,

Digital X-ray, Portable Ultra-sound, radiology machine and emergency department machines.

He said up to now Amana referral hospital has signed 11 contracts worth 3.559bn/-, whereby the received 4.065bn/- will be for purchasing CT-Scan, digital X-ray, Portable Ultra-sound, Radiology machine and emergency department machines where up to now it has signed nine contracts worth 3.586bn/-.

On the side of Mwananyamala referral hospital, Prof Museru said 1.889bn/- was set aside for the purchase of CT-Scan, digital X-ray, Portable Ultra-sound, Radiology machine and emergency department machines where it has now signed 10 contracts worth 1.708bn/-.

He added that Tumbi hospital received 3.641bn/- for purchasing of CT-Scan, digital X-ray, Portable Ultra-sound, Radiology machine and emergency department machines where it has now signed 11 contracts worth 3.530bn/-.

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This is the stage the construction of a flyover along the Mbezi Mwisho section of Dar es Salaam's Morogoro Road has reached, as captured yesterday. Photo: Correspondent Sabato Kasika

# Minister urges women to interpret land ownership into economic benefits

By Guardian Correspondent, Singida

THE Minister for Lands, Housing and Human Settlements Development, Dr Angeline Mabula has encouraged women in Ikungi District of Singida to ensure that they leverage on the land they own for greater economic benefits.

Dr Mabula made this statement at a ceremony held yesterday where her ministry and the Ikungi District Commissioner's office issued over 5,058 Certificates of Customary Rights of Occupancy (CCROs).

"It is an indisputable fact that many women in our society are left behind in various social and economic spheres," said minister Mabula.

"Through this initiative, I believe that the women of Ikungi have opened doors for the entire Singida region and will show the public that your rights to own land have been realised, and I urge you all to use this land to uplift yourselves economically and socially for your benefit and the benefit of your children, families and the nation as a whole," she added.

The initiative to issue CCROs is being implemented through a 3-year UN Women and UNFPA joint programme on 'Realising Gender Equality through

Empowering Women and Adolescent Girls' which is funded by the Korean International Cooperation Agency (KOICA).

On behalf of the UN Women Representative, the UN Women Head of Women's Economic Empowerment, Lilian Mwamdanga said the issuance of CCROs will ensure that comprehensive services and support systems are in place.

"This will help create a more enabling environment for women to hold land titles and enable smallholder farmers, including young women, to increase their productivity in the agricultural sector," said Lilian Mwamdanga, UN Women Head of Women's Economic Empowerment in a speech delivered on behalf of the UN Women Representative.

KOICA Country Director for Tanzania, Kyuc heol Eo, said that women in Tanzania make up 70 percent of the agriculture labour force, yet female farmers own a lesser share when it comes to land.

"These CCROs will therefore play a vital role in empowering women farmers both economically and socially. Through the KOICA funded joint programme, UN Women has been working with the Ministry of Lands

and the Ikungi District for over a year now to facilitate the four villages and the Ikungi district administration to draft village land use plans and subsequently deliver CCROs to villagers. The land use plans were developed using participatory land use management processes which involved demarcating and mapping land parcels, resolving disputes over land use and occupancy, and establishing village registry cabinets or offices prior to issuing CCROs.

The programme also trained village governance land institutions and villagers in the selected villages at Ikungi District, strengthening the capacities of representatives from the Village Council, Village Assembly, Hamlet, Women Farmer Groups and youth on registering land use planning and CCROs.

"As a result of this initiative, over 2,000 women and girls from the villages of Mnang'ana, Munyu, Kipumbwiko and Irisya have been issued the CCROs, which is a proportion of about 40% of the CCROs issued," said Mwamdanga, adding that this is a significant step forward compared to the situation in the past where women owned less than 10 per cent of certificates of customary rights.



## PUBLIC NOTICE

**WAJIBU - INSTITUTE OF PUBLIC ACCOUNTABILITY WOULD LIKE TO MAKE REFERENCE ON THE ADVERTISEMENT OF THE REVIEW AND HARMONIZATION OF THE MONITORING, EVALUATION AND LEARNING FRAMEWORK (MEL) FOR THE RESULTS REPORTING OF WAJIBU, ADVERTISED ON 11<sup>TH</sup> MARCH 2022 WHICH HAD MISSING INFORMATION.**

WAJIBU would like to add the following information to the advertisement issued on 11<sup>th</sup> March 2022.

### 16. Payment

Eligible firm is required to submit the tender bidding document (technical and financial proposal) to WAJIBU institute of public accountability before or on 31st March 2022 (04:00 pm EAT). For more information, kindly visit our website [www.wajibu.or.tz](http://www.wajibu.or.tz).

The tender bidding documents should include but not limited to:

### TECHNICAL PROPOSAL

- Firm experience in previous similar assignments,
- Understanding of the terms of reference, Methodology and quality assurance plan,
- Qualification of Key Personnel (Lead Consultant and Key Experts) on Monitoring, Evaluation and Learning and the country's PFA structure and legal framework in general,
- A narrative concept for undertaking review of MEL framework and
- Description of the work plan.

### FINANCIAL PROPOSAL

- Budget,
- Scanned copy of your TIN number and other relevant registration certificates,
- Scanned copy of your Business Registration and license, and
- Scanned copy of your Tax Clearance certificate for the past two years.

### Address:

The tender bidding documents should be submitted to:  
 Executive Director,  
 WAJIBU - Institute of Public Accountability,  
 P. o. Box 13486,  
 Dar es Salaam.  
 Email: [wajibu.institute@gmail.com](mailto:wajibu.institute@gmail.com)  
 Tell: +25573666916



## Africa should fight a more determined economic war

Africa's economy consists of the continent's trade, industry, agriculture, and human resources. As of 2012, approximately 1.07 billion people were living in 54 different countries in Africa. Africa is a resource-rich continent. Recent growth has been due to growth in sales in commodities, services, and manufacturing. Sub-Saharan Africa, in particular, is expected to reach a GDP of \$29 trillion by 2050.

In March 2013, Africa was identified as the world's poorest inhabited continent: Africa's entire combined GDP is barely a third of the United States' GDP; however, the World Bank expects that most African countries will reach "middle income" status (defined as at least US\$1,000 per person a year) by 2025 if current growth rates continue. In 2013, Africa was the world's fastest-growing continent at 5.6 per cent a year, and GDP is expected to rise by an average of over 6 per cent a year between 2013 and 2023. In 2017, the African Development Bank reported Africa to be the world's second-fastest growing economy, and estimates that average growth will rebound to 3.4 per cent in 2017, while growth is expected to increase by 4.3 per cent in 2018.

Growth has been present throughout the continent, with over one-third of sub-Saharan Africa countries posting 6 per cent or higher growth rates, and another 40 per cent growing between 4 per cent to 6 per cent per year. Several international business observers have also named Africa as the future economic growth engine of the world.

Africa's economy was diverse,

driven by extensive trade routes that developed between cities and kingdoms. Some trade routes were overland; some involved navigating rivers, still others developed around port cities. Large African empires became wealthy due to their trade networks, for example Ancient Egypt, Nubia, Mali, Ashanti, and the Oyo Empire.

The dawn of the African economic boom (which is in place since the 2000s) has been compared to the Chinese economic boom that had emerged in Asia since late 1970's.[12] In 2013, Africa was home to seven of the world's fastest-growing economies.

The United Nations predicts that Africa's economic growth will reach 3.5 in 2018 and 3.7 per cent in 2019. As of 2007, growth in Africa had surpassed that of East Asia. Data suggest parts of the continent are now experiencing fast growth, thanks to their resources and increasing political stability and 'has steadily increased levels of peacefulness since 2007'.

The World Bank reports the economy of Sub-Saharan African countries grew at rates that match or surpass global rates. According to the United Nations Department of Economic and Social Affairs, the improvement in the region's aggregate growth is largely attributable to a recovery in Egypt, Nigeria and South Africa, three of Africa's largest economies.

In the same vein, African countries can turnaround their economies for the better if they invest heavily in the continent's young population, American philanthropists Bill and Melinda Gates have advised in their 2019 annual letter.

## Laxity is to blame in failure to rid ourselves of some diseases

The numbers of children who die of pneumonia each year is staggering. In 2015, a child under five died every two minutes - 920,000 in all - and pneumonia is the leading cause of child deaths around the world.

Our progress in the fight against pneumonia remains inadequate. Deaths from measles, AIDS, malaria and diarrhoea, the other four main causes of child mortality, are all being reduced at a faster rate. Progress has been slowest in sub-Saharan Africa, which is the cause of greatest concern.

Pneumonia is a disease that cannot be tackled in isolation. As with so many diseases, our unifying advocacy call to 'Stop Pneumonia' is underpinned by complicated and challenging issues which often vary from country to country, and even from town to town.

Although the challenges vary considerably, one aspect has remained remarkably consistent: pneumonia is a disease of poverty. Unfairness and inequity are at the heart of pneumonia deaths. A child from a wealthy background in Nigeria, for instance, is 15 times more likely to be vaccinated against pneumonia than a child from a poor household.

Closely linked to poverty's impact on pneumonia is the risk of malnutrition. Pneumonia often unmasks vulnerability in children who are undernourished, compounding the chances that pneumonia will stunt or kill our youngest. Tragically, a severely malnourished child is nine times more likely to die from pneumonia than one who is well-fed.

Inequity in the availability of medical treatment also greatly affects our ability to treat children who have contracted pneumonia. The disease is most effec-

tively treated by the antibiotic amoxicillin, but this is not always widely available to those who need it most.

Fewer than 60 per cent of the medical facilities in Tanzania, Kenya and the Democratic Republic of Congo have a readily available source of amoxicillin. In Uganda, the number of medical facilities with access to amoxicillin falls to less than a quarter.

Pollution, too, may play a role in the likelihood of children contracting pneumonia. Children breathe twice as fast as adults, meaning that they take in far more air relative to their bodyweight. This can put a strain on their lungs if they live in a polluted environment. In sub-Saharan Africa, more than eight in 10 households use biomass energy sources in their homes that release soot. Breathing this in at home may put children at risk of contracting pneumonia.

It can become a daunting task to stop pneumonia. There are so many issues to address if we are truly to stop pneumonia deaths, and the scale of challenge is a little scary. While it is extremely difficult to simultaneously drive progress in all of the areas impacting pneumonia, one tool in our inventory is particularly powerful: vaccines.

Just take a look at the success stories in Africa. Ghana introduced the Pneumococcal Conjugate Vaccine (PCV), the most effective immunization we have against pneumonia, in 2011. In one year, the Ghanaian government reached nearly half of its citizens. Now, Ghana has reached near universal immunization coverage against the disease. The Ethiopian Government also introduced PCV in 2011, and now more than three quarters of its people are fully immunized.

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## Putin Vs Rasputin



## Message from a resident in Tigray as Ethiopia shows signs of dialogue

By Maria Gerth-Niculescu

WE used to have this inside joke in my friend circle long before the war started. It started as a witty comment made to mock one of our friends who has a habit of evading splitting the bill whenever we go out together.

Our group comprises bachelors who are civil servants who regularly hang out over meals and beer. When the bills come, this friend always drags his feet to contribute his share, often successfully evading payment. Another friend who was tired of this said, "My friend do you receive your salary in the form of wheat flour? How come you never have cash on you?"

The joke stuck on in our circle but we never would have imagined that it would be our reality. After the war, people from all walks of life including Professors, Doctors, Teachers, and civil servants now swell up the queues at aid agencies for rations of wheat.

Our lives turned into a joke, literally! Employees haven't received their salaries for more than seven months since the federal government blocked all banking services and put strict control over every penny coming into Tigray.

The more unfortunate ones are perishing in hunger daily. In rural areas, it's common to see severely malnourished skinny children everywhere. More and more elderly people are going out on the streets seeking alms.

Tigray has been systematically besieged. With the cutting of basic humanitarian needs, countless innocent civilians were subjected to unbearable suffering. Supplies in the market have depleted to the last drop. Parents who can't afford the skyrocketing prices of the last few packs of baby diapers have resorted to using folded rags instead.

Not everybody is suffering out of poverty. Even well-to-do families with significant amounts of savings in the banks are going through this misery and woe because they are denied access to their hard-won resources. They are deprived of their basic rights, by design, by the very government that is supposed to protect them.

It is becoming crystal clear that the Ethiopian government has neither the will nor intention to separate between the people of Tigray and the combatants in the war. This is evidenced by the continued indiscriminate aerial bombardment of civilian houses and market areas throughout Tigray, in addition to the blockade.

I believe the blockade is being used as a strategy to starve the people of Tigray into submission. It resembles the "surrender or starve" tactic used by previous dictatorial regimes against the people of Tigray. This strategy has not yielded fruits of military gain in the past, nor will it today.

It will only bring a never-before-seen catastrophe. The more this tactic is employed, the more innocent lives are lost. Adults are dying from a lack of medical treatment, countless unvaccinated children will perish from starvation.

This tactic will only fuel stronger resistance against the government. More young people, university graduates, taxi drivers, farmers who felt breaking the siege is a matter of survival are



joining the Tigray Defense Forces. The continued blockade is reinforcing people's belief that there is an all-out effort to wipe out every single Tigrayan.

For someone who saw their loved one die a preventable death from lack of medication, what is left to hope for?

Chemotherapy hasn't been available for months now. Even the most basic medical supplies like gloves have become a luxury to the point where Physicians are operating by putting on plastic bags. Very essential medications for HIV, Tuberculosis, diabetes, and hypertension are getting scarce.

I remember the incident where the realization struck me how catastrophic the situation has become in Tigray.

Last week, an old acquaintance approached me while I was having coffee and asked me if the truck parked nearby belonged to me. I told him it was not mine and asked him if he was okay. He looked disturbed and in a hurry. He then briefly told me how a man has died because he hadn't taken his HIV medication for months. A truck was needed to transport the body but it wasn't easy to find one. There is an acute shortage of fuel across Tigray.

One is considered lucky to find

a liter of benzene for electric generation Tigray's capital Mekelle. It's hard to imagine how the less developed towns and cities are functioning.

Electric power suppliers were repeatedly targeted in the war leaving millions in the dark.

What is more perplexing in all this is how the world turned a blind eye to the misery of the people of Tigray. Why isn't the international community trying to do something practical apart from issuing statements of "grave concern"?

Let me tell you another story before I conclude.

Recently I was with a group of friends at our hang-out spot. (Nowadays, people have to come to certain public places to check up on each other since there are no other means of communication)

When we were having some chit chat about current issues, one of our friends playfully twisted the arm of the other. Then she pleaded for our rescue particularly looking at the one she thought would certainly come to her rescue.

But he responded by saying "I am gravely concerned, dear friend".

Everybody burst out into laughter and we didn't discuss it further. But it keeps coming to my mind whenever I think of the situation we

are in. That is how we actually feel and understand the international community's response to the Tigray situation. Mere expression of pity!

The international community must dispose of its responsibility by stepping up action to end the suffering of the people of Tigray. A lot of time to end this violence has been wasted because of its reluctance to act in a way that matches its capacity.

However, the world still has time to make things right and initiate a peaceful dialogue between all warring parties.

This starts with helping to break the siege on the Tigray region. Lifting the blockade of basic services and aid would be a great start for the Ethiopian government to pave a way for dialogue and demonstrate its will for actual peace.

The people of Tigray have always shown their wish and readiness for peace. No Tigrayan mother wants her child on the battlefield unless it is necessary for her and her child's survival. All the people of Tigray wanted was peace until they are left with no other option but to fight to survive.

The international community, therefore, has the responsibility to make sure that there are other options.



THE LAW & YOU

Let's engage in constructive dialogue to maintain world peace

By Telesphor Magobe

THE world is divided over Russian invasion of Ukraine and the horrendous human suffering and damage to the country's infrastructure and buildings. Yet, what is happening raises questions about moral and legal responsibility.

In the eyes of Russia and allies this is not invasion, but "a special military operation to demilitarise Ukraine". This view, of course, disregards the extent of fatalities, casualties and the agony of the fleeing multitudes of civilians to seek refuge in other countries or the failure of those in other countries to return home due to spiraling insecurity. Ukrainians are in a despicable situation - they won't be the same again.

According to The Washington Post, Russia accuses the United States of America of supporting a biological weapons programme in Ukraine. Russian Representative to the UN Vasily Nebenzya told a United Nations Security Council meeting in New York on March 11, 2022 that "Russia has discovered truly shocking facts related to at least 30 Ukraine laboratories working on diseases such as anthrax, cholera and the plague with funding and oversight by the US military."

Nebenzya is quoted to have said "reckless activity included research related to diseases born by birds, lice and fleas and we call on you to think about a very real biological danger to the people in European countries which can result from an uncontrolled spread of bio-agents from Ukraine." But US officials denied the allegations, saying Russia



could be projecting its own use of chemical or biological warfare in Ukraine.

On March 2, this year, the UN General Assembly overwhelmingly passed a resolution to condemn the invasion of Ukraine, declared by Russia on February 24, 2022. At least 141 out of 193 members of the UN voted in favour of the resolution, five members voted against and 35 others abstained.

Belarus, North Korea, Eritrea, Russia and Syria were the only five countries that voted against the resolution, but in favour of

Russia's so-called "special military operation in Ukraine". Abstentions included Burundi, Tanzania, South Sudan and Uganda, while Kenya and Rwanda - the only two members of the East African Community (EAC) - voted in favour of the UN resolution.

Both Russia and Ukraine are members of the UN Charter. Russia took over the seat of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics (USSR) on December 24, 1991. USSR was an original member of the UN on October 24, 1945. The Ukrainian Soviet Socialist Republic too joined the UN on October

24, 1945 and after independence it changed its name to Ukraine on August 24, 1991.

Being members of the UN Charter both countries are bound by UN principles in international dispute settlement.

Article 2(3) of the UN Charter states: "All Members shall settle their international disputes by peaceful means in such a manner that international peace and security, and justice, are not endangered."

Article 2(4) states further that "All Members shall refrain in their international relations from the threat or use of force against the territorial integrity or political independence of any state, or in any other manner inconsistent with the purposes of the United Nations."

The UN General Assembly, while reaffirming its commitment to the sovereignty, independence, unity and territorial integrity of Ukraine within its internationally recognised borders, extending to its territorial waters, deplored in the strongest terms the aggression by the Russian Federation against Ukraine in violation of Article 2(4) of the Charter.

It also demanded the Russian Federation "to immediately cease its use of force against Ukraine and refrain from any further unlawful threat or use of force against any Member State". Furthermore, it called for immediate, complete and unconditional withdrawal all of its military forces from the territory of Ukraine within its internationally recognised borders.

On the other hand, Ukraine recently accused Russia of bombing children's hospital and maternity ward in Mariupol, which was inundated with several casualties. Residential areas have also been allegedly targeted by fatal bombings in beleaguered cities.

As a result, Ukraine recently lodged an application, instituting proceedings against the Russian Federation (Ukraine v Russian Federation) before the International Court of Justice (ICJ) concerning "a dispute...relating to the interpretation, application and fulfillment of the 1948 Con-

vention on the Prevention and Punishment of the Crime of Genocide."

Public hearing on the request for the indication of provisional measures submitted by Ukraine was concluded on March 7 after its presentation of oral arguments.

However, the Russian Federation did not participate in the hearing. In a letter sent on March 5, 2022, the Russian Federation informed the Court that it "had decided not to participate in the oral proceedings due to open on March 7, 2022".

This is indicative that peaceful coexistence between Russia and Ukraine has been put to the test. The Global Peace Index (GPI) 2021 is reflective of the situation in the world today, including the devastation of Ukraine. The GPI, which ranked 163 independent states and territories according to their level of peacefulness, showed that the average level of global peacefulness had deteriorated by 0.07 per cent.

"This is the 9th deterioration in peacefulness in the last 13 years, with 87 countries improving, and 73 recording deteriorations." According to GPI 2021, while conflicts and crises of the past decade have begun to subside, tension and uncertainty among major powers are gathering momentum. "Since 2010, the number of conflicts globally has increased by 88 per cent." This is not a good sign of the peace we are longing for.

World leaders often speak about peace, respect for territorial integrity and for the obligations arising from treaties and other sources of international law to promote social progress and better standards of life for all. We ought to engage in constructive dialogue if we need lasting peace to prevail.

Today's proverb: "Better a little fire to warm us, than a great one to burn us."

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Anti-foreigner sentiment and labour disputes fuelled by SA's failure to manage international migration

By Sergio Carciotto

SOUTH Africa's government is determined to use new policies and legislation to curb the number of foreigners working in the formal and informal economy. Anti-immigrant sentiment isn't new in the country, and the latest official drive shows why labour market needs must be linked to appropriate policy responses.

Employment and Labour Minister Thulas Nxesi released the draft National Labour Migration Policy for public comment on 28 February. It goes hand-in-hand with amendments to the 2014 Employment Services Act by introducing quotas for foreigners employed in sectors such as agriculture, tourism, hospitality and construction.

Along with the proposed amendments, the National Small Business Act also aims to limit the involvement of migrants in the informal trading sector. The Employment and Labour Department says the new policy seeks to "address population expectations regarding access to work for South Africans and [the] perception that foreign nationals, especially undocumented, are distorting labour market access."

When plans for the policy were announced in January, the Economic Freedom Fighters visited restaurants in Midrand near Johannesburg to check on employment policies. The opposition party demanded that at least 50% of staff be South African. Members of the Patriotic Alliance party raided spaza shops in Eldorado Park in Johannesburg, accusing migrant business owners of selling expired goods. The party also accused Johannesburg's city council of preferring foreigners over locals in their hiring practices.

This trend is nothing new and is part of a rising tide of anti-immigrant sentiment. Foreigners, particularly those from other African countries and parts of Asia, are accused of 'stealing' jobs intended for South Africans.

In 1994, in his first speech to Parliament, newly appointed home affairs minister Mangosuthu Buthelezi said "the employment of illegal immigrants is unpatriotic because it deprives South Africans of jobs." Research conducted in 1999 by the Southern African Migration Programme on attitudes towards migrants found that threats to jobs were among South Africans' main reasons for fearing immigration.

Historically, the presence of foreign workers is linked to regional labour migration dynamics. Since democracy, the fracturing of southern Africa's contract mining labour system has paved the way for spontaneous and informal cross-border movements. The rise in immigrant numbers, particularly low-skilled and semi-skilled workers from neighbouring countries, has encouraged the belief that South Africa has lost control over its borders and that foreigners are taking jobs from locals.

So far, protectionist and hierarchical labour immigration policies have failed to attract the desired skills and achieve development goals. The Immigration Act doesn't provide an avenue for legal migration of low-skilled workers, so many economic migrants have used the asylum system to regularise their stay. Consequently, migrants - especially low-skilled, semi-skilled and failed asylum seekers - have been portrayed as problematic to society.

The "South Africa first" employment policy, enforced since 1994, reflects a politically motivated intention to protect local workers, despite the objective of matching skills and labour market needs. Legislation has sought to promote economic growth by facilitating the recruitment of highly skilled workers while excluding those with fewer skills coming from other African countries.

Over the years, policy interventions in the absence of a comprehensive labour migration policy have aimed to exercise strict control on unskilled labour. Several attempts have also been made to bar foreigners from operating informal businesses. In 2013 the draft Business Licensing Bill, later withdrawn, sought



Operation Dudula members make their way down the streets of Hillbrow during their protest on 19 February 2022. (Photo: Shiraaz Mohamed)

to exclude foreigners from the informal economy, while more recent amendments to the Refugees Act restrict asylum seekers' access to work. Women informal traders are especially hard hit by these interventions.

Attempts to control migration through tough laws are often justified by the need to stop unlawful recruitment practices such as hiring irregular migrants. But a 2014 study by the Migrating out of Poverty Research Programme Consortium shows that South Africa's government spends hundreds of millions of rands yearly on migration control, with little effect in reducing irregular migration.

Rather than sanctioning migrants and employers, it should deal with the real problem - its failure to manage international migration and promote access to dignified work for all.

The argument against the exploitative

practice of recruiting 'illegal' migrants is morally compelling, but other issues cannot be ignored. First, violations of immigration law are often due to administrative inefficiencies. Many asylum seeker visas aren't extended because understaffed refugee reception offices can't process their applications. The failure of Home Affairs' online processing system is also a factor.

Also, the absence of legal avenues for migration and lack of visas for low-skilled/semi-skilled workers and small-scale traders have pushed migrants into 'illegality'. Government should revise its permitting regime to provide adequate options for migrants with lower levels of skills and capital.

Second, besides the 'mega-blitz inspections' targeting the hospitality sector in January, the labour department has shown a limited insti-

tutional capacity to enforce labour laws and little interest in protecting migrants' rights.

Regionally, South Africa's lack of political commitment to enforcing workers' rights is highlighted by its non-ratification of the Southern African Development Community (SADC) Protocol on Employment and Labour. The same goes for two International Labour Organization conventions on migration (N.97 and N.143).

With the new National Labour Migration Policy released for public consultation, comments must be constructive and focus on ensuring legal pathways to labour migration and improving the labour inspection system.

Much of what's needed is already

included in Home Affairs' 2017 White Paper on International Migration, which the labour department has endorsed in its new policy. This includes the proposal to introduce a permitting regime based on quotas, and regulate legal migration from SADC that isn't constrained to specific sectors.

To ensure that such a regime is efficient, the government could establish an African qualification framework that favours skill matching. South Africa could then capitalise on the skills of the many migrants and refugees currently forced into informal and low-skilled jobs because their qualifications aren't recognised.



# Ukraine incursion, world stagflation

SYDNEY and KUALA LUMPUR

**F**INGER pointing in the blame game over Russia's Ukraine incursion obscures the damage it is doing on many fronts. Meanwhile, billions struggle to cope with worsening living standards, exacerbated by the pandemic and more.

Losing sight in the fog of war

US Secretary of State Anthony Blinken insists, "the Russian people will suffer the consequences of their leaders' choices". Western leaders and media seem to believe their unprecedented "crushing sanctions" will have a "chilling effect" on Russia.

With sanctions intended to strangle Russia's economy, the US and its allies somehow hope to increase domestic pressure on Russian President Vladimir Putin to retreat from Ukraine. The West wants to choke Russia by cutting its revenue streams, e.g., from oil and gas sales to Europe.

Already, the rouble has been hammered by preventing Russia's central bank from accessing its US\$643bn in foreign currency reserves, and barring Russian banks from using the US-run global payments transfer system, SWIFT.

Withdrawal of major Western transnational companies - such as Shell, McDonald's and Apple - will undoubtedly hurt many Russians - not only oligarchs, their ostensible target.

Thus, Blinken's claim that "The economic costs that we've been forced to impose on Russia are not aimed at you [ordinary Russians]" may well ring hollow to them. They will get little comfort from knowing, "They are aimed at compelling your government to stop its actions, to stop its aggression".

As The New York Times notes, "sanctions have a poor record of persuading governments to change their behavior". US sanctions against Cuba over six decades have undoubtedly hurt its economy and people.

But - as in Iran, North Korea, Syria and Venezuela - it has failed to achieve its supposed



A Ukrainian firefighter helps a man remove belongings from a destroyed building after it was hit by artillery shelling in Kyiv, Ukraine, March 14, 2022. AP

objectives. Clearly, "If the goal of sanctions is to compel Mr. Putin to halt his war, then the end point seems far-off."

### Russia, major commodity exporter

Undoubtedly, Russia no longer has the industrial and technological edges it once had. Following Yeltsin era reforms in the early 1990s, its economy shrank by half - lowering Russian life expectancy more than anywhere else in the last six millennia!

Russia has become a major primary commodity producer - not unlike many developing countries and the former settler colonies of North America and Australasia. It is now a major exporter of crude oil and natural gas.

It is also the largest exporter of palladium and wheat, and among the world's biggest suppliers of fertilizers using potash and nitrogen. On 4 March, Moscow suspended fertilizer exports, citing "sabotage" by "foreign logistics companies".

Farmers and consumers will suffer as

yields drop by up to half. Sudden massive supply disruptions will thus have serious ramifications for the world economy - now more interdependent than ever, due to earlier globalization.

### Sanctions' inflation boomerang

International Monetary Fund Managing Director Kristalina Georgieva has ominously warned of the Ukraine crisis' economic fallout. She cautions wide-ranging sanctions on Russia will worsen inflation and further slow growth.

No country is immune, including those imposing sanctions. But the worst hit are poor countries, particularly in Africa, already struggling with rising fuel and food prices.

For Georgieva, more inflation - due to Russian sanctions - is the greatest threat to the world economy. "The surging prices for energy and other commodities - corn, metals, inputs for fertilizers, semiconductors - coming on top of already high inflation" are

of grave concern to the world.

Russia and Ukraine export more than a quarter of the world's wheat while Ukraine is also a major corn exporter. Supply chain shocks and disruptions could add between 0.2% to 0.4% to 'headline inflation' - which includes both food and fuel prices - in developed economies over the coming months.

US petrol prices jumped to a 17-year high in the first week of March. The costs of other necessities, especially food, are rising as well. US Treasury Secretary Janet Yellen has acknowledged that the sanctions are worsening US inflation.

The European Union (EU) gets 40% of its natural gas from Russia. Finding alternative supplies will be neither easy nor cheap. The EU is Russia's largest trading partner, accounting for 37% of global trade in 2020. Thus, sanctions may well hurt Europe more than Russia - like cutting one's nose to spite one's face.

The European Central Bank now expects stagflation - economic stagnation with inflation, and presumably, rising unemployment. It has already slashed its growth forecast for 2022 from 4.2% to 3.7%. Inflation is expected to hit a record 5.1% - way above its previous 3.2% forecast!

### Developing countries worse victims

Global food prices are already at record highs, with the Food Price Index (FPI) of the Food and Agricultural Organization up more than 40% over the past two years.

The FPI hit an all-time high in February - largely due to bad weather and rising energy and fertilizer costs. By February 2022, the Agricultural Commodity Price Index was 35% higher, while maize and wheat prices were 26% and 23% more than in January 2021.

Besides shortages and rising production costs - due to surging fuel and fertilizer prices - speculation may also push food prices up - as in 2007-2008.

Signs of such speculation are already visible. Chicago Board of Trade wheat future prices rose 40% in early March - its largest weekly increase since 1959!

Rising food prices impact people in low- and middle-income countries more as they spend much larger shares of their incomes on food than in high-income countries. The main food insecurity measure has doubled in the past two years, with 45 million people close to starvation, even before the Ukraine crisis.

Countries in Africa and Asia rely much more on Russian and Ukrainian grain. The World Bank has warned, "There will be important ramifications for the Middle East, for Africa, North Africa and sub-Saharan Africa, in particular", where many were already food insecure before the incursion.

The Ukraine crisis will be devastating for countries struggling to cope with the pandemic. Unable to access enough vaccines or mount adequate responses, they already lag behind rich countries. The latest food and fuel price hikes will also worsen balance-of-payments problems and domestic inflationary pressures.

No to war!

The African proverb, "When two elephants fight, all grass gets trampled", sums up the world situation well. The US and its allies seem intent to 'strangle Russia' at all costs, regardless of the massive collateral damage to others.

This international crisis comes after multilateralism has been undermined for decades. Hopes for reduced international hostilities, after President Biden's election, have evaporated as US foreign policy double standards become more apparent.

Russia has little support for its aggressive violation of international law and norms. Despite decades of deliberate NATO provocations, even after the Soviet Union ended, Putin has lost international sympathy with his aggression in Ukraine.

But there is no widespread support for NATO or the West. Following the vaccine apartheid and climate finance fiascos, the poorer, 'darker nations' have become more cynical of Western hypocrisy as its racism becomes more brazen.

IPS

# Construction of Guangdong-Hong Kong-Macao Greater Bay Area gains momentum

By Wang Lingqi

**S**INCE the Communist Party of China (CPC) Central Committee and the State Council issued the Outline Development Plan for the Guangdong-Hong Kong-Macao Greater Bay Area around three years ago, construction of the Greater Bay Area has witnessed significant results.

The comprehensive strength of the Greater Bay Area has evidently improved; the cooperation among Guangdong province, Hong Kong and Macao has become deeper and more extensive; regional connectivity has constantly seen new breakthroughs and progress; and residents in the three regions have enjoyed a stronger sense of gain. These results fully demonstrate the institutional advantages and great vitality of China's "one country, two systems" policy.

Last year, the Greater Bay Area's gross domestic product (GDP) stood at around 13 trillion yuan (\$2 trillion), and the area was home to 25 Fortune Global 500 enterprises, over 50 unicorn companies, more than 1,000 industrial incubators and nearly 15,000 investment firms.

The Greater Bay Area cultivated more than 60,000 high-tech enterprises and kicked off over 30 funded sci-tech projects involving cooperation between Guangdong and Hong Kong or Guangdong and Macao in 2021.

Last year, Guangdong-Macao In-depth

Cooperation Zone in Hengqin, Guangdong, saw the number of Macao-funded enterprises rise to 4,761. Meanwhile, the Traditional Chinese Medicine Science and Technology Industrial Park of Co-operation between Guangdong and Macao (GMTCM Park) in the zone had gathered 220 pharmaceutical companies by the end of 2021.

The number of Hong Kong-funded enterprises registered in the Qianhai Shenzhen-Hong Kong Modern Service Industry Cooperation Zone in Shenzhen city, Guangdong, grew to 11,900 in 2021, during the year 93.2 percent of the foreign capital actually used in the cooperation zone were from Hong Kong.

With the support of the CPC Central Committee and central government, Hengqin and Qianhai cooperation zones become experimental fields for innovation, fully exploring market potential and stimulating market vitality.

The cross-border collaborative innovation and in-depth regional cooperation in the Greater Bay Area based on the "one country, two systems" policy and involving three customs territories and three currencies is an unprecedented exploration in the world.

Over the past three years or so, Guangdong, Hong Kong and Macao have actively promoted the connectivity of rules, institutions and infrastructure, and elevated the level of regional market integration, striving to develop the Greater Bay



Citizens watch new-energy vehicles at the Guangdong-Hong Kong-Macao Greater Bay Area International Auto Show, July 24, 2021. File photo

Area into a gateway hub for high-level opening-up.

As expressways stretch across rivers and the sea, the transportation of the Greater Bay Area has been further improved. A tightly knit three-dimensional transportation network covering all 11 cities involved in the Greater Bay Area is taking shape, gradually allowing residents to travel between these cities in one hour. Such "hard connectivity" of infrastructure has broken limitations on the physical space and vitalizes population flow and logistics.

Last year, investment facilitation in the Greater Bay Area was further promoted with the implementation of relevant initiatives and measures including the Cross-boundary Wealth Management Connect (WMC) Scheme and southbound trading under the Bond Connect program between the Chinese mainland and Hong Kong. As of the end of last year, the Cross-boundary WMC had handled 5,855 fund transfers, which involved 486 million yuan.

Hong Kong and Macao professionals in 16 fields,

including finance, taxation, construction, planning and cultural tourism, health, legal services, and accounting, enjoy convenience in working in the cities of Guangdong involved in the Greater Bay Area.

A total of 402 physicians in Hong Kong and Macao have obtained physician qualification certificates issued by the Chinese mainland and 707 law practitioners in Hong Kong and Macao have taken the practice examination for lawyers in the Greater Bay Area.

The "hard connectivity" of infrastructure and "soft connectivity" of institutions and rules have accelerated the convenient and efficient flow of personnel, goods, capital, information and other elements in the Greater Bay Area.

With the unique advantage of connecting two markets and resources of the two markets, the Greater Bay Area is advancing reform and opening-up with greater courage and determination and from a higher starting point, and playing a more important role in guiding and demonstrating reform and opening-up.

All 11 cities in the Greater Bay Area have their unique advantages. For example, Hong Kong is an international financial center, Macao a cultural tourism center, and Guangdong's Shenzhen, Guangzhou and Dongguan known as center for technological innovation, business and manufacturing, respectively.

Cities in the Greater Bay Area have accurately identified their own roles over the past more than three years and are now taking opportunities to cultivate emerging industries at a faster pace.

In particular, for Hong Kong and Macao, two special administrative regions of China which have their own strengths and are faced with development bottlenecks, integrating into the development of the country and facilitating the construction of the Greater Bay Area, which is essential to the "one country, two systems" policy, can provide new development path, open up new space for development and generate new drivers of development.

People's Daily

## 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 UMJUAYVO 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 MICHEZOJI 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



## Chinese Juncao technology spells bright future for Tanzania's mushroom growers

By Guardian Reporter and Agencies

PARTICIPANTS in a workshop held in Tanzania's capital Dar es Salaam wore broad smiles as they were exposed to the wonders of a Chinese Juncao technology saying the technology spelled a bright future for mushroom growers and livestock keepers in the country.

Juncao, which in Chinese literally means "mushroom" and "grass", can be used, as its name suggests, to grow edible and medicinal mushrooms, as livestock feed or as a green barrier to control soil erosion and stop desertification.

The Juncao technology has been developed by the National Engineering Research Center for Juncao Technology of the Fujian Agriculture and Forestry University (FAFU) of China.

The technology has a multifaceted approach of cultivating mushrooms for food and medicinal purposes while at the same time addressing soil erosion for maintaining the volume of arable land, and also supporting livestock feed development.

On the third day of the workshop on "Applications of Juncao Technology and its Contribution to the Achievement of Sustainable Agriculture and the Sustainable Development Goals in Tanzania" organized by the United Nations Department of Economic and Social Affairs (UN-DESA), the participants visited Uyogaplus, a mushroom farm at

Mabwepande in Kinondoni district on the outskirts of the commercial capital Dar es Salaam.

The Uyogaplus project is an intensive program of health and economic empowerment of women and youth through mushroom production in Tanzania.

"We have been producing mushrooms by using sawdust, banana leaves, and other supplements which are very expensive. We are now in the process of adopting Juncao grass as a substitute for sawdust," said Bathsheba Mchuza, founder and sales officer for Uyogaplus project.

Uyogaplus has established a nursery for cultivating Juncao grass for growing mushrooms, said the 25-year-old female university graduate, adding that the Juncao grass seedlings were planted in February 2021 after they were supplied by the Sokoine University of Agriculture (SUA) based in Morogoro region that introduced the technology to the project.

"By using Juncao grass to cultivate mushrooms the future looks brighter," Mchuza told the participants of the four-day workshop that brought together national policy makers, academicians, researchers, farmers, livestock keepers and experts from FAFU and the UN.

Mchuza is among 5,000 mushroom growers in Tanzania who are producing 1,000 tons of mushrooms annually.

Elly Ligate, a senior lecturer, re-



searcher and national Juncao technological consultant at the SUA, with over five years of experience in Juncao technology projects in Tanzania, said the Juncao technology is being championed by the Ministry of Livestock and Fisheries in Tanzania mainland and the Ministry of Agriculture, Irrigation and Livestock in Zanzibar, add-

ing that farmers and local government authorities in the country have widely accepted the technology.

"I see good opportunities as far as Juncao technology is concerned. This technology is comprehensive as it involves production of grass and mushrooms. The Juncao grass is very important in our country in eliminating

challenges of shortage of fodder," Ligate, an ecologist, told Xinhua on the sidelines of the workshop.

"The second challenge that we want to address is environmental degradation. If we provide grass to livestock keepers it will improve carrying capacity and minimize the pressure on the land. In that case, management of the land will be a little easy," said Ligate, a PhD graduate at Fujian Agriculture and Forestry University of China (FUFU) where he also learnt about the Juncao technology.

Asimwe Rwiguza, director of Grazing Land and Animal Feed Resources in the Ministry of Livestock and Fisheries, said intensification of high forage producing species such as Juncao grass is a useful strategy to ensure sustainable pasture production in order to feed the existing and ever-increasing number of livestock throughout the year.

Rwiguza said the Juncao technology is expected to conserve the environment through sustainable livestock production, especially in semi-arid areas of the country where animal pastures are limited and land degradation is high.

Lin Zhanxi, inventor of Juncao technology, and chief scientist and director of the National Engineering Research Center for Juncao Technology of the FAFU of China, said on a video conference that Juncao technology is helping in adapting and mitigating challenges posed by climate change.

Yuan Lin, the economic and commercial counselor of the Chinese Embassy, said during the past two decades, this handy and practical technology has taken root in more than 100 countries.

## KOICA introduces virtual educational programme for students at Saint Mary's

By Beatrice Philemon

THE Korean International Cooperation Agency (KOICA) has introduced a virtual educational programme for students at Sisters of Mary secondary school.

KOICA Tanzania country director, Kyu Cheol said this yesterday during his visit at the school whereas he said through virtual programme students will inter-

act directly with Korean volunteers. It will be implemented by KOICA in collaboration with Korean International Development Cooperation Center (KIDC) and Gipumnam International based in South Korea.

Volunteers will prepare their subjects through educational videos in Korea before they are delivered to Tanzanian students. Beneficiaries include students

from Form One to Form Six.

He said that subjects to be taught include social and emotion education, health care, global citizenship education, gender equality, drawing their life graph, body percussion and others.

"This is part of activities to commemorate the International Women's Day (IWD) to ensure students from poor families enjoy their education and promote

relationship between Tanzania and South Korea," he added.

Before introduction of the programme, volunteer teachers were traveling all the way from Korea to Tanzania to teach students, but due to Covid-19 pandemic, their travel arrangements have been suspended, he said.

The school's Headmistress, Merry Talines lauded KOICA, KIDC and Gipumnam Interna-

tional for introducing the online educational video programme as it is going to help students from poor families.

The programme teaches students the important life skills, ability to understand themselves, develop a positive self-image, take responsibility for their actions and forge relationships with the people around them.

"As more students learn this

subject, it would result in improved classroom behaviour and decrease instances of depression and increase students' ability to manage stress," she said.

The Sister of Mary secondary school was officially established in 2019 in Kisarawe District, Coast Region to support students from poor families who are willing to study to meet their dreams. It has a total of 628 students receiving

free secondary education.

The school accepts children from poor families who cannot support and provide educational materials for their children.

Meanwhile Tony Pack who accompanied KOICA Country Director has donated sanitary pads for all the 628 girls to keep them healthy during their menstrual cycle, feel confident and focus on their studies in school.

## Govt urged to axe taxes for ordinary people buying new motor vehicles

By Correspondent Felix Andrew

VEHICLES manufacturers and governments have been urged to reduce prices and taxes so as to enable more ordinary people particularly in African countries including Tanzania to buy brand new cars which can last longer.

Speaking on behalf of importers of used vehicles, Selemeni Kimwomwe said Tanzanians will be able to buy brand new imported vehicles if taxes from the country of origin are reduced.

He said the price of a car which was manufactured three years ago is higher than which was manufactured ten years ago.

He said a Toyota Harrier which was manufactured in 2015 with a mileage of 56,000 km is sold at 85m/- while a similar vehicle which was manufactured in 1998 with a mileage of 54,000 km is sold at 22m/-.

He urged the countries of origin and local governments to reduce taxes in order to enable Tanzanians to buy brand new or those which have not been for too many years.

However, he said many people prefer to buy used cars due to the low price because they have travelled a lot of mileage since they were manufactured.

Kimwomwe noted that there are few people who procure or import brand new cars from abroad through agencies.

Experts say used cars are increasing in the market especially in Tanzania. People purchase used cars due to a couple of reasons that include affordable price, low mileage, no extra charges, and easy accessibility.

In addition to excise duty on motor vehicles charged based on cylinder capacity, imported used motor vehicles are charged extra Excise duties.

In Tanzania used vehicles excluding agricultural tractors aged 8 years but not more than 10 years charged at the rate of 15 percent used motor vehicle aged more than 10 years from the year of manufactures charged at the rate of 30 percent

While used buses aged more than 5 years from the year of manufacture charged at the rate of 10 percent and used spare parts for motor vehicles and motor cycles the rate is 25 percent.

There are efforts by international organizations to regulate importation of used vehicles in some African countries.

Recently the UN Road Safety Fund (UNRSF) announced the launch of a project to regulate the export and import of used vehicles in West and East Africa, in

countries such as Cameroon, Côte d'Ivoire or Uganda. The "Safer and cleaner used vehicles for Africa" initiative will put in place requirements to ensure that participating countries only receive quality used vehicles, helping to save lives of both car drivers and other road users.

The project, implemented by the UN Environment Programme (UNEP), will develop a programme bringing exporters, mainly the European Union, the United States and Japan, and African importing countries together, to agree to adhere to a minimum level of UN regulations for used vehicles. The programme will also support African countries to develop and implement national regulations, including vehicle labelling, inspection and enforcement.

A major global challenge to road safety and clean and affordable road transport is the rapid growth of used vehicles in developing countries. The African vehicle fleet is set to grow four to five times by 2050. 80-90 per cent of this growth will come from the import of used vehicles. Today, a significant share of these imported used vehicles in Africa offer low levels of safety and environmental protection, with high associated economic costs.

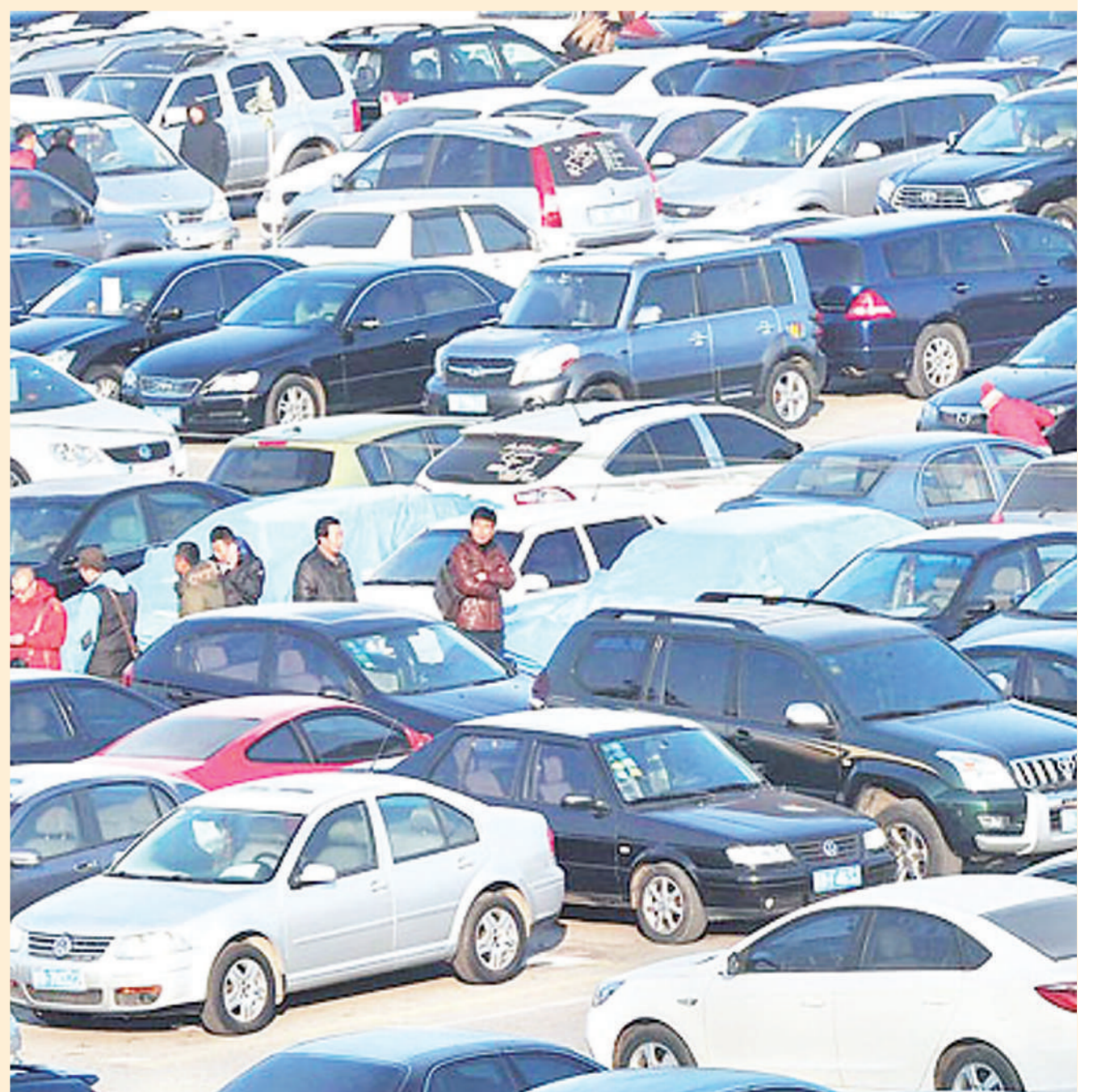
Ensuring a minimum set of operational safety features leads to a 30 percent reduction in mortality and morbidity, according to a study of the Transport Research Laboratory looking at the impact of UN regulations on road safety.

Periodic technical inspection also decreases the number of vehicles involved in fatal accidents due to technical defects by 50 percent. Ensuring vehicles are equipped with well-functioning equipment to reduce emissions, e.g. exhaust filters, results in emissions reductions of up to 90 percent (compared to vehicles not equipped with filters or equipped with non-working filters).

The main activities of the UNRSF project are to develop an action plan with used vehicles requirements, with an agreement on the minimum level of UN regulation to be observed, the enforcement of the action plans with technical support on inspection and the establishment of a working group to develop used vehicle labelling.

The project will also create awareness among stakeholders about the issues and promote a harmonized approach with regional and national communication campaigns.

Countries that have introduced used vehicles regulations also see safer fleets and fewer accidents. The UNEP



report also shows that where countries have implemented measures to govern the import of used vehicles, notably age and emissions standards, these give them access to high-quality used vehicles, including hybrid and electric cars, at affordable prices. For example, Morocco only permits the import of vehicles less than five years old and those meeting the EURO4 Eu-

ropean vehicles emission standard.

A number of African countries have already put in place minimum quality standards. Ghana was the first country in the West Africa region to shift to low sulphur fuels and this month has imposed a 10-year age limit for used vehicle imports.

With a total budget of nearly USD500, 000, the UNRSF project will

scale the Fund's geographical and programmatic footprint in the coming months.

The UNRSF project is implemented by UNEP, in partnership with UNECE, UNECA, WHO, the Fédération Internationale automobile (FIA), International Motor Vehicles Inspection Committee (CITA) and International Transport Forum (ITF).



# Refugees recount harrowing escape from besieged Ukraine

BRATISLAVA

“I never, ever, believed that anything like this could happen,” says Valia. “Not for a second.”

Just two weeks ago, the English teacher says, she had been living a normal life in Kropyvnytskyi in central Ukraine with her 13-year-old son. But on February 24, she woke up to the news that Russia had invaded her country.

After spending one night in a school basement with scores of other people afraid that her town could come under Russian fire, she decided she had to try and get herself and her son to safety and began a 1,000-kilometre journey out of the country.

She spent days travelling in what she describes as “terrible conditions” on dangerously overcrowded trains where people became sick. It was sometimes hard to breathe properly because many people were packed into carriages. She then took buses to the border with Slovakia.

There, she waited four hours in the cold before she and her son made it over the border and then on to friends in the Slovak capital, Bratislava.

“My journey may sound bad, but when I think about it, I see myself as lucky. I know some people who came from Kharkiv, in eastern Ukraine, and they had a terrible journey. It took some of them six days,” she tells IPS.

Valia is just one of the estimated more than 2.8 million people, overwhelmingly women and children, who have fled Ukraine since the Russian invasion began.

The UN has described the exodus as the fastest-growing refugee crisis in Europe since WWII. International humanitarian organisations warn there

are likely to be many millions more trying to leave the country in the coming weeks as what they have repeatedly described as a humanitarian catastrophe is set to only get worse.

“The humanitarian situation in Ukraine is increasingly dire and desperate. Hundreds of thousands of people have no food, water, heat, electricity, or medical care. Two million people are reported to have left their homes for neighbouring countries, while hundreds of thousands more are trapped in cities desperate for a safe escape,” Christoph Hanger, spokesperson for the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC), told IPS.

Humanitarian organisations have described the scenes in some parts of the country as “apocalyptic”.

The conflict - which has so far claimed the lives of at least 549 civilians as of March 11, according to the UN, although the real figure is thought to be much higher - has left some towns and large parts of cities destroyed.

Infrastructure damage, Russian troops blocking roads, and constant shelling, means that in some places, there is no way to get in even basic humanitarian supplies to residents.

In the city of Mariupol, which has been surrounded by Russian troops and whose authorities have said it is essentially under siege, the situation is said to be desperate.

There have been reports of people fighting each other for scraps of food on the streets as residents begin to starve. Others are simply unable to leave their homes because of constant shelling.

Svitlana, a 52-year-old hairdresser, said her life now in the city was spent



Ukrainian refugee Valia recalls the ‘terrible conditions’ during her 1000 km journey to safety with her 13-year-old son.

largely in bomb shelters.

“Life in a shelter is not a life. We are surviving as long as we can. People bring their food and share it in the shelter while the bombing goes on above us. We try to pretend all will be ok, but we all know many of us will die,” she told IPS.

But even in places where there has not been fierce fighting, the toll of war is being felt.

Oksana, 35, who lives in Kyiv, told IPS: “Even though the bombs are not falling here yet, the atmosphere of war is so stressful. The worst thing is that after a day or two, you realise

it is not a movie but a fight for life and death. It is hard to explain how terrified I feel. A friend of mine filmed on his phone a Russian warplane crashing in his neighbour’s garden. My mind is simply unable to understand that this is really going on. This has to stop. Otherwise, I don’t know how people will survive and what will happen to food and medicine supplies for people.”

All across the country, medical supplies, in particular, are dwindling while hospitals and healthcare facilities have been targeted by Russian forces putting pressure on healthcare provision.

People who spoke to IPS said in some places, services are increasingly being focused solely on emergency healthcare and treating war wounded, limiting the capacity for treatment of people with chronic or potentially fatal diseases.

There have also been unconfirmed reports of medics and ambulances being targeted by Russian troops.

Evgenia, who works in the healthcare sector, managed to escape her hometown Irpin, outside Kyiv, just days before it came under heavy fire by the Russian army and was eventually largely destroyed.

She is now in Kyiv, where, she says, many healthcare services are continuing to run relatively normally. But, she says, “in some parts of the country, the only healthcare now is emergency healthcare, nothing else”.

She said any healthcare that involves outreach work has stopped in some towns and cities “because it is now very dangerous, you can get shot just being out on the street” while drug supplies are dwindling because “the roads are occupied by Russian military, and so it is impossible to move medicines from one area to another even if anyone tried to”.

And there are growing problems in the Ukrainian capital, too.

“The queues outside drug stores are long, and they’re often out of medicines now anyway,” she told IPS, adding that NGOs and other groups involved in the response to chronic diseases like TB, HIV/AIDS, hepatitis, social outreach groups for vulnerable populations, including in the LGBT community, had been forced to turn to delivering humanitarian aid on the streets of the capital rather than their usual work.

The deteriorating security and humanitarian situation is driving more and more people to flee their homes. The UNHCR reports that there are as many as 1 million internally displaced persons (IDPs) in the country due to the conflict, and as fighting continues, that number is expected to rise, putting more and more strain on resources.

“If the fighting gets closer and closer to more towns and cities, especially in the west, the numbers of refugees will increase, and then there will, because of the numbers, be an even greater strain on services, within Ukraine itself as people move to escape fighting elsewhere, but also in neighbouring countries receiving refugees,” Toby Fricker, Chief of Communications and Partnerships at UNICEF, told IPS.

This is already being seen in some parts of the west of the country, which, so far, has seen relatively little fighting and is perceived to be safer, notably in Lviv, a major city in the west of Ukraine.

The UNHCR has forecast as many as 4 million people will be forced to leave Ukraine because of the war.

But while leaving Ukraine provides some hope of safety, for many, the journey itself is fraught with danger, and once across the border, the effects of the conflict remain.

Many refugee journeys can be days long, are made in freezing weather, sometimes involve treks for dozens of miles on foot, and sometimes with limited food and water supplies.

Meanwhile, because Ukrainian men aged between 18 and 60 have been ordered not to

leave the country to help defend it if needed, the overwhelming majority of refugees are women and children.

Humanitarian organisations have warned women refugees face an increased risk of exploitation and gender-based violence, while the abrupt separation from partners and fathers can also be traumatic for women and, especially, children, others say.

“Kids are going through having to cope with seeing, for instance, their parents have a last embrace as they go separate ways, and trying to understand why daddy isn’t going with them,” James Elder, UNICEF spokesperson, told IPS.

Organisations helping with reception of refugees in receiving countries told IPS that many people who arrive are often exhausted and deeply traumatised.

“What we are seeing very much is that people are turning up in a very deep sense of shock and trauma. Because of the speed at which everything happened, a lot of them are still in a state of confusion. The adults, most of whom are women with children, are still in a state of denial about what has happened to them, about having to leave their countries, businesses, homes, and husbands and partners suddenly,” said Fricker.

Valia, who is now working as a volunteer at Bratislava’s main train station helping the thousands of Ukrainians coming in every day from further east in the country, agrees.

“People are traumatised, but it happened so quickly that a lot of them are just in a state of massive shock. They still can’t quite believe what’s happened,” she said.

Uncertainty is also a worry for many refugees, she says. Some have lost everything, and many have been left with little money as the Ukrainian currency they brought with them cannot be changed now in many countries, and because many people cleared out their bank accounts before they left, any bank cards they have with them are largely useless.

Valia herself says she does not know how long she will stay in Slovakia, and her son wants to return to Ukraine as soon as possible. But she admits she has “no clear idea” what the future holds for her, and others.

“It’s troubling for a lot of people I speak to,” she says.

However, Valia believes she will one day go back to her homeland when peace returns to it.

“I believe I will go back to Ukraine. I speak to other Ukrainians who say they will never forgive Russia for what it has done. But I don’t hold it against the Russian people. Everyone has to come together to stop things like this happening. The world has so many other problems with climate change, poverty, diseases, etc - people should be putting energy into that and not fighting wars like this.”

“Valia is identified by her first name for her safety. **IPS**



**There, she waited four hours in the cold before she and her son made it over the border and then on to friends in the Slovak capital, Bratislava**

THE GUARDIAN SIMPLE WORD FIT // THE GUARDIAN CROSSWORD --00 244 00--

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

**WORD-FIT**

3 LETTERS: CRY, LNB, ONE  
 4 LETTERS: EAST, SAVE, GIVE, REAL, DARE, EASE RANK (7 WORDS)  
 5 LETTERS: EASEL, EDITS, DRIVE, DAILY EVOKE (5 WORDS)  
 6 LETTERS: ASSIGN, BETTER, ONLINE, DEARIE PASTOR (5 WORDS)  
 7 LETTERS: BARAKOA  
 8 LETTERS: COLOMBIA  
 10 LETTERS: ENGINE ROOM

**CROSSWORD**

**CLUES: Across**

1 maize with high sugar content  
 5 in control of  
 7 a grass-like plant with triangular stems, growing in wet ground  
 8 Identities of People  
 10 an act that harms someone  
 11 calm, peaceful  
 13 a person who uses something  
 15 a set of moral principles  
 17 act a part in a play or film in an overemotional way  
 19 very old  
 20 a native of Ossetia

**Down:**

1 a small mark  
 2 flat, level  
 3 kind of rocks which metals are found  
 4 a person’s head  
 6 fierce anger that continues with great force  
 7 strict in judgment  
 9 annoying  
 12 to shout  
 14 grasses growing in water  
 16 indicating that a voice or instrument is silent  
 17 United Arab Emirates  
 18 Latin word for “deity”

**SOLUTIONS**

**WORD-FIT**

S I T U A T I O N S  
 A I M E P A N E L  
 L O M E P A N E L  
 T E N D E D D  
 T I D N P L Y  
 R U S S I A E  
 N L S  
 S N A R S T A R K  
 E O I I G I O A  
 F L A M I N G O L  
 I S L E R L R I O T E Z  
 G L O O S E R S

**CROSSWORD**

S H A B U S H A B U  
 O T O A L L  
 R O O K S M A L L  
 T P A S T E B O Y  
 A K R B O Y  
 A S K A R I A  
 S S V S A N  
 H A R P E S S A Y  
 P A S S L A W S N  
 L R I O T E Z  
 O T E N U R E A

By Margezi: 07:55:49240 felixmargezi@gmail.com

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

MONDAY TIME PROGRAMME	TUESDAY TIME PROGRAMME	WEDNESDAY TIME PROGRAMME	THURSDAY TIME PROGRAMME	FRIDAY TIME PROGRAMME	SATURDAY TIME PROGRAMME	SUNDAY TIME PROGRAMME
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**Tembelea mitandao ya kijamii ya Radio One** **Radio One**





Livestock cross Ruvu river in search for water and pasture.

## New dam set to protect water resources against Lower Ruvu pollution

By Beatrice Philemon

THE Wami/Ruvu Basin Water Board (WRBWB) is set to build two modern dams worth 100m/- for cattle and irrigation farming activities especially small scale farmers engaged in vegetable farming.

WRBWB director Eng Elibariki Mmassy said the dams will be constructed at Mlandizi and Bagamoyo areas close to the Ruvu River with the funding from Tanzania Breweries Limited (TBL) and other stakeholders.

The main goal is to provide water for livestock, preserve water source around lower Ruvu Sub catchment and prevent a large number of cattle into moving into lower Ruvu River in search of water, especially during the dry season.

Currently, Wami/ Ruvu basin has a large number of cattle that move all the way to Ruvu River in search of water, which causes massive pollutions and erosion.

"We still invite other stakeholders who can support us to build other 17 dams to protect the lower Ruvu and coast catchments of the Wami-Ruvu Basin", he said

Over the years, a large pastoralist migration has taken place into the Ruvu sub-basin due to the availability of good pasture and water; that in-turn cause damage in water sources.

"Keeping cattle out of the river will improve water quality; conserve water sources, limits damage to river banks, as during the past, all the livestock were taken to the river for water which

was a great setback in protecting the river source." He said

He called on livestock keepers and farmers who will use it to make sure that the facility is protected.

"TBL and other stakeholders have injected a lot of funds to ensure they get water for their cattle and irrigation activities," he said.

"To start with, we need stakeholders who can support us to construct charcoal dams with storage capacities ranging from 5,000 to 20,000 cubic metres of water, to support livestock keepers in Morogoro and Mpwapwa District in Dodoma Regions".

Currently Morogoro region and Mpwapwa district has a large number of cattle which move to the water sources in search of water. These daily movements of livestock cause severe soil erosion and land degradation.

Also both areas do not have dams and troughs that can provide water for their cattle.

"In a bid to help livestock keepers to get water for their cattle as well as reduce the level of pollutants into the lower Ruvu river, WRBWB has been able to construct five cattle troughs and will be handed to livestock keepers during the world water day," he said.

The project will help greatly in the conservation of water sources especially as in the past all the livestock were taken to the nearby river for water which was a great setback in protecting the water source.

## Vodacom partners with Eutelsat to spread high-speed broadband

By Guardian Reporter

VODACOM Tanzania Plc has signed an agreement with Eutelsat Communications to create packaged services to bring connectivity to underserved regions by utilizing Eutelsat's KONNECT high-throughput satellite.

The new facility which will primarily provide services for business users and the hospitality industry comes after successful trials by Vodacom Tanzania to extend coverage to previously unreached users.

These services will be delivered under Vodacom's brand and installation of equipment at customer locations will be done by Konnect Africa, according to a statement issued yesterday.

This new facility is in line with Vodacom Tanzania's dedication to improving access to high-speed digital connectivity to more people and businesses in the country by finding new ways and innovative ways to deliver relevant products and services to the Tanzanian market.

In service since end of 2020, EUTELSAT KONNECT is a new-generation High Throughput Satellite offering unprecedented operational flexibility.

Delivering significant resources for broadband services with quasi-complete coverage of Sub-Saharan Africa, it addresses direct-to-user consumer and enterprise broadband services.

Speaking when announcing the agreement, Vodacom Tanzania PLC managing director Sitholizwe Mdlalose said, "We are delighted to incorporate satellite to our suite of services, leveraging the state-of-the-art EUTELSAT KONNECT satellite to fulfil our mission, which is to deliver connectivity to all regions within the country."

He added that with Konnect, Vodacom will cover 100 percent of the country, that means connecting all regions, districts and villages no matter how remote they are.

"With this service, we will connect everyone, this includes areas which are not covered today, giving access to services up to 100Mbps," Vodacom boss detailed.

Commenting on the agreement, Philippe Baudrier, Chief Executive Officer of Konnect Africa said: "We are excited to partner with Vodacom, a leading pan-African telecom operator, to extend the reach of its services in Tanzania."

He said an agreement illustrates the unparalleled resources of our powerful EUTELSAT KONNECT satellite to satisfy the strong demand for connectivity in underserved regions of the African continent and marks another success in the development of our distribution capabilities following recent additions in Nigeria, South Africa and the Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC)."



Vodacom Tanzania PLC managing director Sitholizwe Mdlalose

## Prisons Services project promises small salt miners a better market

By Correspondent Geoffrey Nangai

SMALL-SCALE salt miners in Mtwara and Lindi regions are set to have an assured market as the Tanzania Prisons Service (TPS) intends to open a salt mining industry at the end of this month, after the procurement of the necessary production equipment from China.

Speaking to this paper, the project Coordinator SP Johnstone Kabyemela noted that the project will not only bring health benefits, but also supplementing other benefit to the economy

He noted the project will enhance value addition as the institution seeks to enhance quality in the salt chain production.

"This is part of our strategy to ensure value addition in line with TPS's vision of providing quality services that can compete favorably in the market," he said.

Kabyemela said the prisons service has already purchased machinery worth 34.5m/- that will help in drying, grinding, feeding and packaging.

He noted that before the purchase of the manufacturing plant, the prisons service would sell a 50kg bag of raw salt at 5,000/- but the price for the same would double to 10,000/- for the same after value addition.

"All is set for the project to commence operations and as we speak today (Monday) we have already received a certificate from the Tanzania Bureau of Standards as a green light," he said.

He noted that the new salt plant will produce an average of three tons per 12 hours, adding that the plant's production capacity at



New commissioned Salt making machine

full scale will depend on the availability of raw materials.

Asked on the intended market for the pro-

duce, Kabyemela however noted that the plant has already secured tenders to supply iodized salt to prisons in seven regions including Mbeya, Iringa, Songea, Njombe, Lindi, Ruvuma, Mtwara.

"We have already secured markets in eight regions but we will be coming up with strategies to tap into other markets across Tanzania. There are still more unexploited markets," he added.

He said the products will be sold under the brand name of Shima Salt Mining iodized salt and called upon the public to buy the prison's quality products.

"In a bid to cement our presence in the market we have embarked on branding of our products for easy identification in the market. Customers should give our products a try and they will never regret," he added.

He however noted that the Prison Service industry will also offer opportunities to small holder farmers as it will be procuring raw salt directly from them.

According to statistics, the studies conducted in 2005 and 2010 showed that the use of mineral salt in families increased from 43 percent in 2005 to 59 percent in 2010.

Tanzania produced roughly 99.5 thousand metric tons of salt in 2019 with the output increased substantially from 36.6 thousand metric tons in the previous year.

## Shanta Gold reports large deposits in western Kenya

NAIROBI

EXPLORATION firm Shanta Gold says it has found more high-grade gold at its western Kenya project, estimated to be worth KSh365 billion.

The firm says in its latest market update that it has established high-grade gold deposits estimated at 1.6 million ounces in Kakamega County, with a current market value of KSh364.8 billion.

The price of gold has touched highs of \$2,000 (KSh228,000) per ounce as investors rushed to buy the commodity in the aftermath of the Russia-Ukraine crisis which has impacted the value of currency-based assets.

Though the area has a history of small-scale and informal gold mining stretching back decades and has long been a popular destination for artisanal miners hoping to

strike it rich, commercially viable large-scale mining has remained elusive.

"We are delighted with the transformative drilling results announced at the Ramula target, adding 434k oz grading to 2.08 g/t and increasing total resources at our West Kenya Project by a significant 37 percent to 1.6 million oz, further strengthening our view that the region is a major new gold



**Situated in close proximity to the Liranda Region which holds the Isulu-Bushiangala resource, we are confident that in time, we will be able to expand Ramula...**

district and an area of massive future growth for the Company," said Shanta chief executive Eric Zurrin.

The firm which bought licences from another Canadian miner, Barrick Gold hopes to actualise large scale gold mining but has not provided timelines. Canada's Barrick held licences for rights to mine gold over a 1,161 km2 that straddles Kakamega, Kisumu, Siaya and Vi-higa counties.

"Situated in close proximity to the Liranda Region which holds the Isulu-Bushiangala resource, we are confident that in time, we will be able to expand Ramula into the second significant resource region in the wider West Kenyan Project," said Mr Zurrin in a statement.

The miner hailed Western Kenya's as-yet largely untapped deposits of gold, as the possible future of the country's gold mining industry.



# Panic selling grips Chinese stocks in biggest decrease

HONG KONG

Chinese stocks listed in Hong Kong had their worst day since the global financial crisis, as concerns over Beijing's close relationship with Russia and renewed regulatory risks sparked panic selling.

The Hang Seng China Enterprises Index closed down 7.2 percent on Monday, the biggest drop since November 2008. The Hang Seng Tech Index tumbled 11 percent in its worst decline since the gauge was launched in July 2020, wiping out \$2.1 trillion in value since a year-earlier peak.

The broad rout follows a report citing U.S. officials that Russia has asked China for military assistance for its war in Ukraine. Even as China denied the report, traders worry that Beijing's potential overture toward Vladimir Putin could bring a global backlash against Chinese firms, even sanctions. Sentiment was also hurt by a Covid-induced lockdown in the southern city of Shenzhen, a key tech hub, and the northern province of Jilin.

That comes on top of a spate of regulatory worries. Tencent Holdings Ltd. is reportedly facing a possible record fine for violations of anti money-laundering rules, which pushed the stock down nearly 10% on Monday. There's also a risk of Chinese firms delisting from the U.S., as the Securities and Exchange Commission identified some names as part of a crackdown on foreign firms that refuse to open their books to U.S. regulators.

"If the U.S. decides to impose sanctions on China in total or on individual Chinese companies doing business with Russia, that would be a concern," said Mark Mobius, who set up Mobius Capital Partners after more than three decades at Franklin Templeton Investments.



"The whole story is still up in the air in this case."

Investors have reason to be jittery after several big-name funds reported significant losses related to Russia. BlackRock Inc.'s funds exposed to Russia have plunged by \$17 billion since the war began.

On Friday, the Golden Dragon Index, which tracks American depository receipts of Chinese firms, slumped 10% for a second consecutive day -- something

that's never happened before in its 22-year history. It fell 12% Monday to its lowest level since July 2013. China's benchmark CSI 300 Index closed 3.1% lower on Monday. The onshore yuan also fell to its weakest in a month as sentiment toward Chinese assets turned sour.

"We don't see a major catalyst in the near term," to help China stocks, though earnings results may create some share price volatility, said Marvin Chen, a strategist at Bloomberg Intelligence. "For a

material re-rating of China tech, we may need to see a shift in regulatory tone, and we didn't get that from the recently concluded NPC meeting."

Even amid the rout, mainland traders have continued to snap up Hong Kong stocks, though that's proving insufficient to buttress share prices. They have been net buying Hong Kong equities via the stock connect in every session since Feb. 22, loading up \$1 billion on Monday, the most since January.

## Local companies share index grow by 7pc in first ten weeks

By Correspondent Geoffrey Nangai

THE Tanzania Share Index (TSI), which measures the performance of the domestic companies, grew by 7 percent in the first ten weeks of 2022, after opening at 3565.18 in the first trading day of 2022 and reaching 3822.56 last week.

According to DSE data, during 2021, the TSI registered a growth of 2.3 percent between January and December 2021.

Counters such as NMB registered share price increasing by +35 percent, CRDB by 25 percent and TCCL (Simba) by 24 percent.

The TPCC (Twiga) counter consequently appreciated by 21 percent while the NICO share price appreciated by 20 percent and DSE share price increased by 9 percent respectively.



**"The overall trend toward lower bond yields often coincided with supporting higher prices in the stock market. During periods of economic expansion, bond prices and the stock market move in opposite directions because they are competing for capital," he said.**

Analysts say this year will be a positive for domestic listed equities, earmarked as a recovery year, with expansion of economic activities expected to catalyze shares trading activities.

So far the bourse has seen 5 counters register double digit returns largely driven by recovering corporate earnings and improved investor sentiments.

Data also indicates that the domestic equity capitalization rose by 7.23 percent being an addition of 682.1bn/- during the period.

But according to the Zan Securities Chief Executive Officer Raphael Mumbuko, the theoretical market relationship between the stock market and bond market is one of the factors for the equity market resurgence.

"The overall trend toward lower bond yields often coincided with supporting higher prices in the stock market. During periods of economic expansion, bond prices and the stock market move in opposite directions because they are competing for capital," he said.

# Private, public sector heads get candid about breaking the bias

By Guardian Reporter

It was a full house as members of the CEO Roundtable of Tanzania (CEOrt) came together to honour International Women's Day during the March monthly meeting.

For years, the forum, which comprises business leaders from multiple sectors of the economy, has championed diversity and inclusion as part of the shared purpose to enhance impact in leadership and Tanzania's sustainable socio-economic prosperity.

Enriched with personal perspectives, shared experiences and current insights, the dialogue held in Dar es Salaam earlier this week, laid a strong foundation for building on the country's vision of gender parity and equitable opportunities.

Gender balance is critical to unlocking sustainable prosperity. Furthermore, empirical evidence demonstrates that increasing female representation in leadership positions results in enhanced performance.

For the private sector, this serves as a key driving factor in celebrating Women's Day and the mission it stands for. At the International Women's Day celebrations, the CEOrt welcomed Liberata Mulamula, Minister for Foreign Affairs and East African Cooperation, as keynote speaker and guest of honour.

For Tanzania, this year's Women's Day celebrations is indeed special, as it is the first time we commemorate the day with a sit-

ting female president.

Relaying President Samia's message to the forum, Mulamula acknowledged the CEOrt's contribution to the nation's development, while encouraging the business leaders to further assist the government in identifying and eradicating obstacles to economic growth, as well as propose solutions to support continued economic prosperity.

In celebrating the International Women's Day, Mulamula said, all community members are called to imagine a gender equal world. Beyond imagining it, the public and private sectors need to walk the talk, as women are underrepresented in corporations, and encounter many societal barriers to advancement.

"The government has progressively worked to ensure increased participation of women in various positions - we have seen the appointments made, but our accomplishments do not erase the wide gender gap that still exists.

As the first female president of the country, Samia Suluhu Hassan shoulders a heavy burden of the expectations the world has on her making strides in bringing gender parity. Alone, she can only do so much, but together, we can break the bias," she said.

Amb. Mulamula further challenged business leaders to move out of their comfort zones, noting that it has been difficult to motivate private sector participation in key sectors that impact women and the society at large.

The sectors mentioned includ-



Minister Liberata Mulamula

ed water and youth employment, with the Minister recommending implementing dedicated programmes that target these areas.

She emphasized a particular focus on championing women empowerment in ways that truly breaks the bias as opposed to the small-scale opportunities that have been the norm.

Contributing to the discussion, CEOrt Chairman, Sanjay Rughani said: "Begin by admitting the problem - you cannot break the bias without acknowledging you are biased to begin with. Sec-

only, be brave enough to take action. And thereafter, each time we make progress, we must keep count and derive self-motivation from it," he said.

In this regard, the CEOrt has publicly advocated for gender equality and diversity, leveraged their leadership influence to advance equality by supporting female empowerment, and continues to draw inspiration from the progress made - female representation in the organization's membership has seen an 86 percent increase over the last three years.

Moremi Marwa CEO at the Dar es Salaam Stock Exchange said at the DSE Gender Diversity Scorecard, female board representation in Tanzania's listed companies is only 22 percent. Only 28.6 percent of the companies listed have at least 30 percent female representation on their boards, while research shows that minorities start to have an impact at a 30 percent representation threshold.

"Furthermore, of the 28 listed companies, only one listed company is led by a female CEO. These statistics indicate that the private sector is still at the beginning of the journey towards attaining gender parity," said Marwa.

According to him, the scenario also presents an opportunity for businesses to embrace good governance and sustainable practices as for companies listed on the DSE, it is mandatory to report on what they are doing in the diversity space.

"Delivering on the dream of gender equality for the country's sustainable and equitable development is a journey. Whilst the CEOrt's International Women's Day commemoration yielded significant food for thought for both the private and public sectors, continued collaborative efforts will be the key to driving equality today for a sustainable tomorrow," he added.

With lessons from personal experiences, Temeke District Commissioner Jocate Mwegelo urged the need to go back to basics and teach the desired family values.



DSE CEO Moremi Marwa

# Simba supply chain solutions award its best workers

By Correspondent Joseph Mchekadona

SIMBA Supply Chain Solutions Limited (SSCS) has hailed staffs of the company for their innovation and creativity which are the key to the

growth of the firm. Speaking, SSCS's Chief Technical Officer, Ally Dewji said this at the Simba Bigwa Performance Appraisal awards, he said the awards was launched last year with the aim of honoring and

acknowledging contributions made by workers of the company.

He said the other aim of the Simba Bingwa Performance Appraisal System is to manage and coordinate performance and evaluation of our

workers.

He said the system is essential for the Company as it helps to ensure that employees are aware of the Company's goals which are to work collaboratively and to increase efficiency in

the workplace to achieve strategic goals in business.

"Simba Bingwa is an individual who has the heart to be a champion every day, when he or she wakes up every morning, the individual

must realize that they should perform their work to the best of their abilities with simple goals that eventually add up to a bigger goal. The Bingwa title comes from every aspect of performance and is a team effort

to align a person in the right direction," he concluded.

The winner of the Simba Bingwa 2021 program was Innocent Austack Mbala, who has worked with SSCS for about three years now, first

runner up was Ally Hassan Mowezi followed by Nurdin Hamza Ramadhani all truck drivers who have been working tirelessly in providing Supply Chain Solutions to the region.



# Gold drops for third day as bond yields increase

NEW YORK

GOLD declined for a third day after bond yields climbed ahead of a key Federal Reserve meeting where policy makers are set to raise interest rates.

Bullion has eased after rallying to within \$5 of a record last week as Russia's invasion of Ukraine and accelerating inflation boosted demand for the haven asset.

The war has led to sustained inflows into bullion-backed exchange-traded funds, driving total holdings to the highest level in a year, according to initial data compiled by Bloomberg.

Months of speculation about a new wave of interest-rate hikes look to be coming to a head on Wednesday, when the U.S. central bank is expected to begin tightening to rein in decades-high inflation, which is being exacerbated by surging commodity prices.

"The market seems to be belatedly waking up to the implications of a hawkish FOMC meeting this week,



and the rise in U.S. yields will not help gold's cause," said Jeffrey Halley, senior market analyst for Oanda Asia Pacific Pte, referring to the

policy-setting Federal Open Market Committee.

Markets now indicate they expect about seven quarter-point Fed rate

hikes in 2022. The 10-year Treasury yield was steady after rising to its highest level since July 2019 on Monday, which reduced the appeal of non-interest-bearing gold.

"Price action will depend on Fed commentary in the short-term, but I wouldn't be surprised to see gold rally on the day of the Fed hike, as long as the commentary isn't too hawkish," said John Feeney, business development manager at Sydney-based bullion dealer Guardian Gold Australia. "Any shifts in the current situation in Ukraine will likely outweigh the focus on the Fed, and inflation is tipped to remain elevated for some time which could keep a floor in gold and silver prices."

Spot gold declined 1% to \$1,930.69 an ounce as of 6:14 a.m. in London, after falling 1.9% Monday. Prices touched \$2,070.44 last week, near the all-time high reached in August 2020. The Bloomberg Dollar Spot Index slipped 0.1%. Silver and platinum fell.



Refinery in Germany

## German oil lobby says imports from Russia being cut

FRANKFURT

GERMAN refineries have started reducing imports of Russian crude and oil products, a domestic industry group said earlier this week, adding that the adjustment would not threaten domestic supply.

The European Union has so far stopped short of a ban on Russian oil in response to Russia's invasion of Ukraine that began on Feb. 24, but some operators have voluntarily ceased imports.

"The mineral oil industry has started reducing imports of Russian crude oil and mineral oil products, especially diesel," the Berlin-based German Fuels & Energy Association (en2x) said in response to an enquiry.

It gave no further details. "The most important thing is that domestic supply can be upheld for the time being, despite these adjustments," it added.

Shell, one of the association's prominent members with refineries in Cologne-Godorf and Wesseling, last week stopped buying oil from Russia and said it would cut all links to the country.

The association said replacing

oil imports from Russia, which make up a third of Germany's total, would be possible, but would take time and the industry would have to rely on more seaborne oil rather than on pipelines.

The group, formerly called the mineral oil association, last December renamed itself to reflect its target of moving away from fossil fuels and reducing Germany's energy import dependency.

Russian oil company Rosneft's refinery in Schwedt, eastern Germany, did not immediately reply to an inquiry regarding oil flows, which it receives via the Druzhba pipeline through Poland.

In 2021, Germany's total oil imports fell 1.6 percent year-on-year to 81.4 million tonnes, trade statistics office BAFA reported. Oil product imports totalled 36.8 million tonnes, up 5.6 percent.

Official numbers up to March 2022 will be available in May at the earliest.

The European Commission and Germany's government aim to quickly become independent of Russian oil and coal.

But weaning Germany off its gas dependency will be harder, due to its lack of import capacity for liquefied natural gas (LNG).

## Volkswagen warns of more supply chain troubles in 2022

BERLIN

VOLKSWAGEN sold 2 million fewer cars than planned last year due to the semiconductor shortage, it said on Tuesday, warning that ongoing supply bottlenecks, high commodity prices and the Russia-Ukraine conflict could hit growth in 2022.

Volatility in commodity markets could continue into 2026, Volkswagen said, exacerbated by Russia's invasion of Ukraine, which has caused prices of materials key to car production, such as nickel and palladium, to soar.

The Volkswagen Group has a production site in Kaluga as well as sales units and financing companies in Russia, it said, which could be adversely affected by further sanctions on the country. It does not have subsidiaries or equity investments in Ukraine.

Still, business activities of the

group in Russia and Ukraine were not significant, it said.

Volkswagen reported on Friday that it doubled operating profit in 2021 to just under 20 billion euros (\$21.99 billion) thanks to higher prices and a more favourable product mix, despite total unit deliveries hitting a 10-year low of 8.9 million.

Looking forward, it expects to increase deliveries by 5-10% in 2021 and boost revenues by 8-13%, it said on Friday, even as it warned of ongoing troubles in the supply chain.

The carmaker reported rising revenue across all major regions in 2021, including in Asia Pacific, where it saw a fall in unit sales.

Both Volkswagen and Toyota have suspended production temporarily at some plants in China due to COVID-related lockdowns, with Toyota warning on Tuesday that the suspensions could last until the end of the month.



**MONDAY - FRIDAY**  
**STARTING 7:30 PM**



ITV

**SATURDAY 12 March**

5:30 Uwanja wa Mazoezi  
6:00 HABARI  
6:40 KumeKucha  
7:00 Habari  
8:00 Al Jazeera  
9:00 Watoto Wetu  
10:00 Shika Bamba 5  
10:30 Mjue Zaidi rpt  
11:10 Chetu ni chetu rpt  
11:50 Hawavumi lakini wamo  
12:50 Korean: Jumong  
13:30 Soap: Love to Death rpt  
14:50 Igizo: Mizengwe  
16:15 Igizo: Rebeca  
17:00 Shamsham za Pwani  
18:00 Jiji Letu  
18:30 Kipindi Maalum: Huru Talk Show  
19:00 Jungu Kuu  
19:30 Shika Bamba  
20:00 Habari  
21:00 Igizo: Rebeca  
21:30 Art and lifestyle  
22:00 ITV TOP 10  
22:45 Hawavumi lakini wamo  
23:45 Soap: Uzalo rpt  
01:15 DWTV

**SUNDAY 13 March**

5:30 Uwanja wa Mazoezi  
6:00 HABARI  
6:40 KumeKucha  
7:00 Habari  
8:00 Al Jazeera  
9:00 Watoto Wetu  
10:00 Soap: Uzalo rpt  
11:35 Bongo Movie rpt:  
14:00 Tamasha la Michezo  
15:30 Mwangaza  
16:30 ITV Top 10  
17:20 Kipindi cha kikristo  
18:00 Jiji Letu  
18:15 Mapishi  
18:30 Matukio ya wiki  
19:30 Igizo: Rebeca  
20:00 Habari  
21:00 Kipindi maalum: Biko  
21:05 Kipindi Maalum: Reflexology  
21:10 Mizengwe  
21:30 Mjue Zaidi  
22:15 Bongo Movie:  
00:00 Soap: Love to Death rpt  
02:05 Al Jazeera

**MONDAY 14 March**

5:30 Uwanja wa Mazoezi  
6:00 HABARI  
6:40 KumeKucha  
7:30 HABARI  
8:00 KumeKucha Michezo  
8:55 Habai za saa  
9:00 KumeKucha Kishindo  
9:30 Soap: Uzalo  
9:55 Habari za saa  
10:00 Watoto wetu  
10:55 Habari za saa  
11:00 ITV Top Ten  
11:55 Habari za saa

12:00 Al Jazeera  
12:30 Kipindi Maalum: Huru Talk Show rp  
12:55 Habari za saa  
13:00 Mjue Zaidi  
13:45 Art and Lifestyle rpt  
13:55 Habari za saa  
14:00 Art and Lifestyle rpt  
14:15 Soap: Love to Death  
14:55 Habari za saa  
15:00 Meza Huru  
16:30 Watoto Wetu  
17:00 The Base  
18:00 Jiji Letu  
18:10 Albu yako rpt  
18:15 DWTV: Kesho leo  
18:50 Kipindi Maalum: Women Mean Business  
19:00 Alya ya Jamii  
19:30 Soap: Uzalo  
20:00 Habari  
21:05 Dakika 45  
22:00 Kipindi Maalum: Bundesliga na DW  
22:15 Soap: Love to Death  
23:00 Habari  
23:30 The Base  
00:30 Al Jazeera  
02:00 DWTV

**TUESDAY 15 March**

5:30 Uwanja wa Mazoezi  
6:00 HABARI  
6:40 KumeKucha  
7:30 HABARI  
8:00 KumeKucha Michezo  
8:55 Habai za saa  
9:00 KumeKucha Kishindo  
9:30 Soap: Uzalo  
9:55 Habari za saa  
10:00 Watoto wetu  
10:25 Jagina rpt  
10:55 Habari za saa  
11:00 The Base rpt  
11:55 Habari za saa  
12:00 Al Jazeera  
12:30 Alya ya jamii  
12:55 Habari za saa  
13:00 Ripoti Maalum rpt:  
13:30 Shika Bamba rpt  
13:55 Habari za saa  
14:00 Soap: Love to Death  
14:55 Habari za saa  
15:00 Meza Huru  
16:30 Watoto wetu  
17:00 The Base  
18:00 Jiji Letu  
18:10 Yu wapi  
18:15 Kipindi Maalum: Bundesliga na DW rpt  
18:30 Uchumi na biashara  
19:00 Jarida la wanawake  
19:30 Soap: Uzalo  
20:00 Habari  
21:05 Kipindi Maalum: Maisha ni Nyumba  
21:30 Kipindi Maalum: NSSF  
21:45 Chetu ni chetu  
22:20 Soap: Love to Death  
23:00 Habari  
23:30 The Base  
00:30 Al Jazeera  
02:00 DWTV

**WEDNESDAY 16 March**

5:30 Uwanja wa Mazoezi  
6:00 HABARI  
6:40 KumeKucha  
7:30 HABARI  
8:00 KumeKucha Michezo  
8:55 Habai za saa  
9:00 KumeKucha Kishindo  
9:30 Soap: Uzalo  
9:55 Habari za saa  
10:00 Watoto wetu  
10:55 Habari za saa  
11:00 ITV Top Ten  
11:55 Habari za saa

6:00 HABARI  
6:40 KumeKucha  
7:30 HABARI  
8:00 KumeKucha Michezo  
8:55 Habai za saa  
9:00 KumeKucha Kishindo  
9:30 Soap: Uzalo  
9:55 Habari za saa  
10:00 Watoto wetu  
10:25 Uchumi wetu  
10:55 Habari za saa  
11:00 The Base rpt  
11:55 Habari za saa  
12:00 Al Jazeera  
12:30 Jarida la wanawake  
12:55 Habari za saa  
13:00 Dakika 45 rpt  
13:45 Kipindi Maalum: NSSF  
13:55 Habari za saa  
14:00 Kipindi Maalum: NSSF  
14:15 Soap: Love to Death  
14:55 Habari za saa  
15:00 Meza huru  
16:30 Watoto Wetu  
17:00 The Base  
18:00 Jiji Letu  
18:15 Igizo: Mizengwe rpt  
18:30 Ijue Sheria  
19:00 Kipindi Maalum: TMDA  
19:30 Soap: Uzalo  
20:00 Habari  
21:00 Albu Yako  
21:05 Kipindi Maalum: Tanesco  
21:35 Ripoti Maalum  
22:10 Soap: Love to Death  
23:00 Habari  
23:30 The Base  
00:30 Al Jazeera  
02:00 DWTV

**THURSDAY 17 March**

5:30 Uwanja wa Mazoezi  
6:00 HABARI  
6:40 KumeKucha  
7:30 HABARI  
8:00 KumeKucha Michezo  
8:55 Habai za saa  
9:00 KumeKucha Kishindo  
9:55 Habari za saa  
10:00 Watoto wetu  
10:25 Shamba lulu  
10:55 Habari za saa  
11:00 The base  
11:55 Habari za saa  
12:00 Al Jazeera  
12:30 Ijue sheria rpt  
12:55 Habari za saa  
13:00 Kipindi Maalum: TMDA  
13:30 Igizo: Rebeca  
13:55 Habari za saa  
14:00 Soap: Love to Death  
14:55 Habari za saa  
15:00 Meza huru  
16:30 Watoto Wetu  
17:00 The Base  
18:00 Jiji Letu  
18:15 Jagina  
18:50 Kipindi Maalum: Women Mean Business  
19:00 Usafiri wako  
19:30 Soap: Uzalo

20:00 Habari  
21:05 Malumbano ya hoja  
23:00 Habari  
23:30 The Base  
00:30 Al Jazeera  
02:00 DWTV

**FRIDAY 18 March**

5:30 Uwanja wa Mazoezi  
6:00 HABARI  
6:40 KumeKucha  
7:30 HABARI  
8:00 KumeKucha Michezo  
8:55 Habai za saa  
9:00 KumeKucha Kishindo  
9:55 Habari za saa  
10:00 Watoto Wetu  
10:25 Habari za saa  
10:55 Habari za saa  
11:00 The Base rpt  
11:55 Habari za saa  
12:00 Al Jazeera  
12:30 Kipindi Maalum rpt: Tanesco  
12:55 Habari za saa  
13:00 Kipindi Maalum: Maisha ni Nyumba rpt  
13:30 Chetu ni Chetu rpt  
13:55 Habari za saa  
14:00 Chetu ni Chetu rpt  
14:15 Igizo: Rebeca rpt  
15:00 Meza Huru  
16:30 Watoto Wetu  
17:00 The Base (DJ Show)  
17:30 Kiislam  
18:00 Jiji Letu  
18:15 Korean: Jumong rpt  
19:00 Shamba lulu  
19:30 Soap: Uzalo  
20:00 Habari  
21:05 Kipima Joto  
23:00 Habari  
23:30 The Base  
00:30 Al Jazeera  
02:00 DWTV

**SATURDAY 19 March**

5:30 Uwanja wa Mazoezi  
6:00 HABARI  
6:40 KumeKucha  
7:00 Habari  
8:00 Al Jazeera  
9:00 Watoto wetu  
10:00 Shika Bamba 5  
10:30 Mjue Zaidi rpt  
11:10 Chetu ni chetu rpt  
11:50 Hawavumi lakini wamo  
12:50 Korean: Jumong rpt  
13:30 Soap: Love to Death rpt  
15:45 Igizo: Mizengwe  
16:15 Igizo: Rebeca  
17:00 Shamsham za Pwani  
18:00 Jiji Letu  
18:15 Korean: Jumong  
19:00 Jungu Kuu  
19:30 Shika Bamba  
20:00 Habari  
21:05 Kipindi Maalum: Mwaka 1 wa Mh. Rais  
22:00 Samia Suluhu  
22:45 Hawavumi lakini wamo  
23:45 Soap: Uzalo rpt  
01:15 DWTV

**SUNDAY 20 March**

5:30 Uwanja wa Mazoezi  
6:00 HABARI  
6:40 KumeKucha  
7:00 Habari  
8:00 Al Jazeera  
09:00 Watoto Wetu  
10:00 Soap: Uzalo rpt  
11:35 Bongo Movie rpt:  
14:00 Tamasha la Michezo  
15:30 Kipindi Maalum: Mwaka 1 wa Mh. Rais Samia Suluhu rpt  
16:30 ITV Top 10  
17:20 Kipindi cha kikristo  
18:00 Jiji Letu  
18:15 Mapishi  
18:30 Matukio ya wiki  
19:30 Igizo: Rebeca  
20:00 Habari  
21:05 Kipindi maalum: Biko  
21:10 Kipindi Maalum: Reflexology  
21:15 Mizengwe  
21:30 Mjue Zaidi  
22:15 Bongo Movie:  
00:00 Soap: Love to Death rpt  
02:05 Al Jazeera

**CAPITAL**

**Wed 16 March**

06:00 Al Jazeera  
07:00 Deutsche Welle  
09:00 Al Jazeera  
12:00 Our Earth Rpt  
12:30 Innovation Rpt  
13:00 Telenovela rpt: Laws Of love 14:00 Club 101 (via Capital Radio)  
16:00 Series rpt: Ithohan  
16:30 Culinary delight rpt  
17:00 Innovation rpt  
17:30 Meza huru  
19:00 Sports Gazette  
19:30 Chetu ni chetu  
20:00 Series: Ithohan  
20:45 Telenovela: Laws Of love  
21:30 Capital Prime News  
22:00 Dakika 45:  
22:45 The Décor  
23:15 Al Jazeera

**Thurs 17 March**

06:00 Al Jazeera  
07:00 Deutsche Welle  
09:00 Al Jazeera  
12:00 Our Earth rpt  
13:00 Telenovela rpt: Laws Of love  
14:00 Club 101 (via Capital Radio)  
16:00 Series rpt: Ithohan  
16:30 Business edition rpt  
17:00 In good shape  
17:30 Meza huru  
19:00 Turning the spotlight  
19:30 Tanzania yetu  
20:00 Series: Ithohan  
20:45 Telenovela: Laws Of love 21:30 Capital Prime News  
22:00 Capchat rpt  
23:00 Al Jazeera



## WORLD

## WikiLeaks' Assange denied permission to appeal at UK court

LONDON

WIKILEAKS founder Julian Assange has been denied permission to appeal at Britain's Supreme Court against a decision to extradite him to the United States, the court said on Monday.

While Assange's extradition must still be approved by the government, Monday's decision deals a serious blow to Assange's effort to fight his deportation from Britain in the courts.

US authorities want Australian-born Assange, 50, to face trial on 18 counts relating to WikiLeaks' release of vast troves of confidential US military records and diplomatic cables which they

said had put lives in danger.

In December, the High Court in London overturned a lower court's ruling that he should not be extradited because his mental health problems meant he would be at risk of suicide, and on Monday the Supreme Court itself said it would not hear a challenge to that ruling.

"The application has been refused by the Supreme Court and the reason given is that application did not raise an arguable point of law," a spokesperson for Britain's Supreme Court said.

The extradition decision will now need to be ratified by interior minister Priti Patel, after which Assange can try



WikiLeaks founder Julian Assange greets supporters from a balcony of the Ecuadorian embassy in London, May 19, 2017. File photo

to challenge the decision by judicial review. A judicial review involves a judge examining the legitimacy of a public body's decision.

An interior ministry spokesperson said it would not be appropriate to comment on the court's decision.

The High Court had accepted a package of assurances given by the United States, including that Assange would not be held in a so-called "ADX" maximum security prison in Colorado and that he could be transferred to Australia to

serve his sentence if convicted.

Assange's lawyers said the decision to extradite Assange based on those pledges was "highly disturbing."

"We regret that the opportunity has not been taken to consider the troubling circumstances in which Requesting States can provide caveated guarantees after the conclusion of a full evidential hearing," Assange's lawyers said in a statement on Monday. **Agencies**

## Indian court upholds Karnataka state's ban on hijab in class

NEW DELHI

AN Indian court upheld yesterday a ban on wearing of the hijab in classrooms in the southern state of Karnataka, a ruling that could set a precedent for the rest of the country which has a big Muslim minority.

The ban last month by the state sparked protests by some Muslim students and parents, and counter-protests by Hindu students. Critics of the ban say it is another way of marginalizing a community that accounts for about 13 percent of Hindu-majority India's 1.35 billion people.

"We are of the considered opinion that wearing of hijab by Muslim women does not form a part of essential religious practice," Chief Justice Ritu Raj Awasthi of the High Court of Karnataka said in the judgement.

He said the government had the power to prescribe uniform guidelines, dismissing various petitions challenging the order.

Ahead of the verdict, Karnataka authorities announced closures of schools and colleges and imposed restrictions on public gatherings in some parts of the state to prevent potential trouble.

Karnataka, home to the tech hub of Bengaluru, is the only southern state ruled by Prime Minister Narendra Modi's Hindu nationalist Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) and holds state assembly elections next year. Critics say the BJP could benefit from the division between



A veiled Indian Muslim student, her hands decorated with henna, talks to her friend as they gather to meet student activists in Kundapur in district Udupi, Karnataka state, India, where Muslim students found themselves at the center of a debate over hijab bans in schools. AP

Hindus and Muslims, though the party says the hijab ban had nothing to do with their political ambitions. [read more](#)

Students who had challenged the ban in court had said wearing the hijab was a fundamental right guaranteed under India's constitution and an essential practice of Islam. Reuters could not immediately contact the

challengers.

Abdul Majeed, Karnataka chief of the Social Democratic Party of India that mainly fights for Muslim causes, said he would speak with the petitioners and their parents to help them challenge the verdict in the Supreme Court.

"The high court order is against individual

rights, against fundamental rights and against religious rights," he said. "Muslim women have been wearing the hijab for hundreds of years."

## 'DEEPLY DISAPPOINTING'

Other Muslim politicians, including the former chief minister of Jammu and Kashmir state, called the verdict "deeply disappointing". "On one hand we talk about empowering women yet we are denying them the right to a simple choice," she wrote on Twitter. "It isn't just about religion but the freedom to choose."

Karnataka ministers told reporters that Muslim girl students who are staying away from class in protest against the ban should respect the judgement and rejoin school.

The ban had led to protests in some other parts of the country too and drew criticism from the United States and the Organisation of Islamic Cooperation.

Last month, Federal Home Minister Amit Shah said he preferred students sticking to school uniforms instead of any religious attire. Currently, there is no central law or rule on school uniforms across the country, but the Karnataka ruling could prompt more states to issue such guidelines. [read more](#)

India has experienced several deadly Hindu-Muslim riots since independence in 1947, but hardly any of them in the south. **Agencies**

## US Fed expected to raise rates this week amid skyrocketing inflation, Ukraine conflict

WASHINGTON

THE U.S. Federal Reserve is widely expected to start raising interest rates from near zero this week as the Ukraine conflict could further push up U.S. inflation, which has been rising to the highest level in four decades, economists said.

"Despite the geopolitical developments, we still expect the FOMC will hike the federal funds rate by 25 bps (basis points) at the conclusion of its March 15-16 meeting," Jay Bryson, chief economist at Wells Fargo Securities, said in a recent analysis, referring to the Federal Open Market Committee, the Fed's policy-making committee.

"A near-complete labor market recovery and inflation that is well-above the central

bank's target make the case clear for beginning the tightening cycle," Bryson said, adding skyrocketing commodity prices and more potential supply chain disruptions due to the Ukraine conflict create additional sources of inflationary pressure.

The consumer price index (CPI) last month surged 7.9 percent from a year earlier, the largest 12-month growth since the period ending January 1982, according to the U.S. Labor Department.

At a congressional hearing earlier this month, Fed Chair Jerome Powell said that he was inclined to support a 25-basis-point rate hike at the March policy meeting, the first move since the start of the COVID-19 pandemic.

When asked about how international

events would impact the Fed's decision, Powell noted that before the Ukraine crisis, the Fed was set to initiate a series of rate hikes this year.

Powell said it's too soon to say for sure how the ongoing conflict, the response from nations around the world, including sanctions may have changed that expectation, but for now, the Fed will proceed carefully with that plan.

Diane Swonk, chief economist at major accounting firm Grant Thornton, said that the Fed is expected to be "demonstrably more hawkish" than it was just a few months ago.

"The statement following the FOMC meeting is expected to highlight the need for a series of rate hikes, while closely mon-

itoring financial market conditions," Swonk said last week in a blog. "Powell will be walking a tightrope, balancing the needs to raise rates and rein in a more systemic rise in inflation with the need to avert a meltdown in credit markets," she added.

Desmond Lachman, senior fellow at the American Enterprise Institute, also said that higher international oil prices could exert considerable inflationary pressure and force the Fed to be more aggressive on raising rates.

The Fed's quarterly Summary of Economic Projections, to be released Wednesday, could show the median projection of 25-basis-point rate hikes in 2022 rising from three to at least four, and even more likely five, Bryson said.

## Woman overcomes hearing loss, aims for PhD

THE moment that Jiang Mengnan received the award of Person Touching China for 2021, she said she most wanted to express her gratitude to her parents.

She was chosen along with nine other honorees on March 3 to receive the award given annually on China Central Television, which selects 10 models nationwide every year who spread positive energy and promote social integrity.

Deaf almost since birth, Jiang has overcome myriad obstacles to achieve her dream of studying for a PhD at Tsinghua University, one of China's most prestigious schools.

Born in 1992 into an ethnic Yao family in Yizhang county, Hunan province, Jiang's world has been silent since she was 6 months old, when medicine she was given that irreparably damaged her hearing.

When she was a toddler, her parents began teaching her to read lips. They also taught her vocalization by putting her hands on their throats, so she could feel the vibration of their vocal cords.

It was a slow, laborious process, but her parents never gave up and Jiang learned to speak.

When she was old enough, Jiang was enrolled in a standard primary school, not a special school, as was common for most children with disabilities.

She said it was difficult at first. During lessons, teachers would often write on the blackboard with their back to the students, so Jiang missed much of the content. She had to copy down everything on the blackboard and study alone after class to keep up with her classmates.

Her perseverance made her a top student. In 2011, she achieved an impressive score on the national college entrance exam and was admitted to Jilin University in Changchun, Jilin province.

After graduating in 2015, she began pursuing an advanced degree at the university, studying computer-aided drug design. In 2018, she was accepted as a PhD candidate at Tsinghua University's School of Life Sciences.

Jiang is expected to receive her doctorate at the end of this year.

"I'm always grateful for the respect I received from my parents, teachers and friends," she said. "They never give me special attention for my imperfection, which means I've never seen myself as different from anyone else."

In the future, she wants to continue scientific research in pharmacology and contribute her values to solving problems of life and health, she said. **China Daily**



Jiang Mengnan on the campus of Tsinghua University in Beijing. (Photo/China Daily)

## International partners call for timely conclusion of electoral process in Somalia

MOGADISHU

INTERNATIONAL partners have called on Somali leaders to conclude elections for all House of the People seats at the earliest ahead of the March 15 deadline.

The partners, including representatives from the African Union, the European Union and the United Nations also urged all leaders to ensure that the electoral process respects the right of women to participate fully in all aspects of public life, and that the minimum quota of 30 percent women's representation in Parliament should be achieved.

"We, therefore, urge that ongoing efforts be redoubled to ensure more women's representation in the Federal Parliament," the UN Secretary-General's Deputy Special Representative for Somalia, Anita Kiki Gbeho, said in a joint statement issued at the end of the meeting in the Puntland capital, Garowe on Sunday evening.

The delegation of some of Somalia's international partners was in Puntland, northeast Somalia where it held meetings with the President of Puntland State, Said Abdullahi Deni, to discuss the support needed to conclude the ongoing electoral process on time.

The meeting with Deni and members of his cabinet was part of regular visits to the federal member states by representatives of international partners to discuss means to support Somalia's peace, security and humanitarian processes. Gbeho noted that Puntland State had so far filled 31 out of 37 parliamentary seats, with five of these seats taken by women.

**Agencies**

## Chinese political advisors, lawmakers spend a lot of time on field trips to make proposals, motions more pragmatic

NATIONAL Lawmakers and political advisors in China have brought motions and proposals based on solid field investigation to the ongoing "two sessions", namely the fifth session of the 13th National People's Congress (NPC), China's top legislature, and the fifth session of the 13th National Committee of the Chinese People's Political Consultative Conference (CPPCC), China's top political advisory body, showing close ties with the people and a strong sense of responsibility toward the people.

"Some of the proposals I'm going to submit this year are based on years of field trips, and some are the result of the hard work of many experts and my

peers," said Feng Yuan, chief engineer with China Southwest Architectural Design and Research Institute Corp. Ltd., and also a member of the National Committee of the CPPCC.

Feng always carries a notebook with her to write down ideas and thoughts during her field trips. Her unremitting efforts have paid off. According to Feng, she has submitted a total of 11 proposals over the past years, among which the ones on issues including furthering the implementation of the system of housing instruction manual have gained a lot of attention from and been adopted by relevant authorities.

Feng feels heartened when her pro-

posals are adopted and translated into policies and the problems she reported on via proposals are gradually solved.

Bearing in mind people's trust, members of the CPPCC committees and deputies to people's congresses at various levels across the country make active efforts to perform their duties.

Just like Feng, political advisors and lawmakers in China earnestly conduct field investigation, summarize problems, examine the actual situation, and search for solutions, trying to contribute to the high-quality development of the country through high-quality performance of duties.

Gao Chunyan, director of the agricul-

tural technology promotion center of Muling city, northeast China's Heilongjiang province, and a deputy to the NPC, makes field trips to rural areas every week. Over the past nearly one year, she visited more than 20 rural cooperatives and over 100 farmer households, and held discussions with local residents for more than 30 times to learn about the progress and efforts made in improving the living environment in rural areas.

Focusing his attention on the safety of seeds, Ma Zhongming, head of Gansu Academy of Agricultural Sciences and a member of the CPPCC National Committee, spends at least a third of his time a year on field surveys.

"Investigation" and "responsibility" were among the most frequent words used by China's political advisors and lawmakers during the recent interviews.

They said that "Only by understanding the actual situation can we truly find out the problems and put forward targeted countermeasures and proposals." "To improve people's participation in discussion on and handling of state affairs, we must involve ourselves deeply in their daily life," and "Real knowledge comes from first-hand experience. How could we come up with good suggestions if we don't make field trips to grassroots communities and maintain close ties with the people?"

Good suggestions are indeed the result of field trips. Only when based on first-hand experience can political advisors' proposals and lawmakers' motions truly reflect people's life and aspirations and help the people better feel the breadth, depth, and warmth of China's whole-process people's democracy.

It's firmly believed that the high-quality proposals and motions submitted by China's CPPCC members and NPC deputies will be properly and carefully reviewed and handled, and eventually translated into pragmatic measures that will bring a better life to the people.

People's Daily



## Making progress while maintaining stability: China striving for annual targets

HEADS of three State Council departments were interviewed via video link after the opening meeting of the fifth session of the 13th National People's Congress (NPC) at the Great Hall of the People in Beijing on March 5.

Introducing China's current situations and development prospects, and answering questions on national strategies and livelihood issues, they demonstrated China's confidence in its future economic and social development.

According to the government work report delivered this year, energy consumption per unit of GDP will be assessed with appropriate flexibility within the framework of the 14th Five-Year Plan, and newly added renewable energy and coal, petroleum, and natural gas consumed as raw materials will be excluded from the total amount of energy consumption.

Besides, the country is planning to transition from assessing the total amount and intensity of energy consumption to assessing the total amount and intensity of carbon emissions.

He Lifeng, head of the National Development and Reform Commission (NDRC), noted that China will give a great impetus to its work related to carbon peak and carbon neutrality this year in a well-ordered manner.

To peak carbon dioxide emissions before 2030 and achieve carbon neutrality before 2060 is a major strategic decision made by the Communist Party of China (CPC) Central Committee, he said.

He introduced that China has made orderly progress in carbon peak and neutrality over the past year. Strengthening top-level design, it has issued a working guidance for carbon dioxide peaking and carbon neutrality and an action plan for carbon dioxide peaking. Implementation plans in major areas have also been made and constantly rolled out.

The country has comprehensively promoted the implementation of the top-level design. Now, all industries are going through upgrading according to new standards and vigorously launching green and low-carbon projects.

He said the NDRC will faithfully implement the strategies of the CPC Central Committee and the State Council to advance the work related to carbon peak and carbon neutrality in a well-ordered manner, and avoid campaign-style approaches.

According to the government work report, China has set the deficit-to-GDP ratio for 2022 at around 2.8 percent, slightly lower than last year.

Minister of Finance Liu Kun noted that the ratio is down by 0.4 percentage point, which means a reduction of 200 billion yuan (\$31.65 billion). However, there will be an increase in the central government's fund allocation of 1.267 trillion yuan this year, he said.

"This increase is equivalent to a one-percentage rise in the deficit-to-GDP ratio, which guarantees the intensity of fiscal expenditure," Liu explained.

The finance minister said China's tax refunds and cuts are expected to total around 2.5 trillion yuan this year, the highest in history. Meanwhile, the country will extend tax and fee reduction policies that support manufacturing, micro and small enterprises.

VAT credit refunds will account for 1.5 trillion yuan and all go straight to enterprises, and central government transfer payments to local governments will be significantly increased to help the latter relieve the pressure of revenue decrease and ensure the implementation of tax and fee reduction policies, he said.

The Ministry of Finance will earnestly fulfill its duties to bring the real benefits of tax and fee reduction policies to enterprises and individuals as early as possible, Liu added.

To achieve grain output of over 650 million metric tons is a main projected target for development in the government work report. Tang Renjian, Minister of Agriculture and Rural Affairs, said apart from securing summer grain harvest, China will also ramp up efforts to ensure harvests throughout the year.

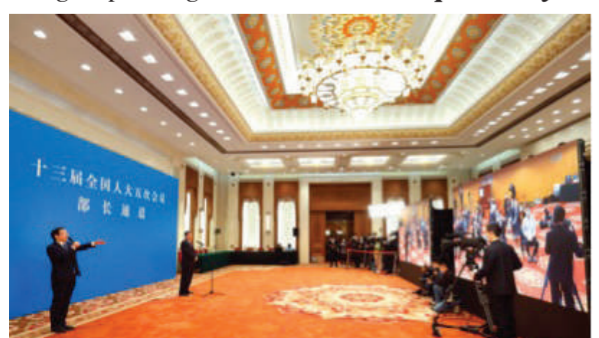
Tang introduced that per capita food availability in China has increased nine kilograms to 483 kilograms this year. "Under such circumstances, whatever changes take place globally, we are capable of ensuring that more than 1.4 billion citizens have enough food to eat. Our rice bowls will be held more firmly in our own hands, and will be filled with better and healthier food," he remarked.

The government work report proposed to boost agricultural production and promote all-around rural revitalization. China will refine and strengthen policies in support of agriculture, continue promoting development in areas lifted out of poverty, ensure good harvests, and promote growth in rural incomes.

Tang noted that China will make sure that it doesn't cross the redline of people falling back into poverty and that people have the self-motivation to live a better life.

China will improve its dynamic monitoring system that prevents the re-emergence of poverty, Tang said, adding that the country will also rely on industry and strengthen areas of weakness such as technology, equipment, marketing and talent pool. Besides, China will also enhance its assistance for major areas, fields and groups, Tang said.

People's Daily



He Lifeng, head of the National Development and Reform Commission, attends an interview via video link after the opening meeting of the fifth session of the 13th National People's Congress (NPC) in Beijing, capital of China, March 5, 2022. File photo

# Sanctions won't help solve Ukraine crisis - Chinese envoy to UN

UNITED NATIONS

CHINA'S permanent representative to the United Nations said on Monday "the wanton use of sanctions" will not help solve the conflict in Ukraine but only create new problems.

"The current status in the situation in Ukraine is an outcome of the interplay of complex historical and present factors. To solve complex issues, calm and rational thinking are all the more needed," Zhang Jun said at the UN Security Council briefing by the chairperson-in-office of the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe (OSCE).

Escalating sanctions have already seriously affected and will continue to affect global finance, energy, food, transportation, supply chains and other fields, hampering the already fragile world economy amid the pandemic.

The sanctions would negatively impact livelihoods, particularly in developing countries, the diplomat added.

"We once again call for greater diplomatic efforts by the international community to de-escalate tensions and immediately bring the Ukrainian issue back



Zhang Jun, China's permanent representative to the United Nations

to the track of political settlement."

China will strengthen communication and coordination with all parties concerned and continue its constructive role in promoting dialogue for peace, said Zhang.

Noting that Russia and Ukraine have held multiple rounds of direct negotiations and have demonstrated a willingness to continue the talks further, he said the international community must help sustain the positive momentum.

"The crisis in Ukraine is interwoven with European security and stability," said the Chinese envoy, encouraging the OSCE to "bring into full play its strengths and set up the

necessary platform for the negotiations and communication of the parties concerned."

China calls for guarantees for civilian security and their basic needs, he said, adding that safe and unimpeded humanitarian corridors are needed to prevent a larger-scale crisis.

China has also provided in-kind humanitarian assistance to Ukraine, said the envoy.

China supports the UN to coordinate humanitarian aid to Ukraine and is ready to work with other parties in achieving consensus on the Security Council's response to the humanitarian crisis, he said.

## Importance of indivisible security

Zhang stressed the importance of the principle of indivisible security and called for abandoning a Cold War mentality in the context of the Ukraine crisis.

Noting that the international situation is undergoing profound changes and is full of instability and uncertainty, he said that the outbreak of the Ukraine crisis has further raised the question of how to maintain the stability of the international system and focus more on the real pathway toward universal security and common development.

The vital principle of indivisible security was included in the 1975 Helsinki Final Act, which formed the basis of the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe, he said at a Security Council briefing by the OSCE chairperson-in-office.

"This principle carries special significance under the current circumstances. Therefore, it should not only be upheld, but more importantly, be implemented," said Zhang.

"The final settlement of the crisis in Ukraine requires taking seriously and respecting the legitimate security concerns of all states, and forming a balanced, effective and sustainable European

security mechanism."

The Cold War mentality based on bloc confrontation should be rejected entirely. Sticking to a hegemonic mentality and provoking bloc confrontation will only exacerbate turmoil and division, he said, adding that is the case in Europe and other regions.

This world does not need another Cold War. Under the banner of multilateralism, all countries must strengthen unity and cooperation and work together for a community with a shared future for mankind, he said.

"We must adhere to the overall direction of dialogue and cooperation. Even in the most intensive moments of the Cold War, dialogue and cooperation were possible and necessary. The more frictions, differences and potential risks there are, the more important and necessary it is to enhance understanding and mutual trust," said Zhang.

He noted that the world has now entered a new era, adding that the path of dialogue and cooperation should become wider rather than narrower.

He said that differences among states in national interests, social system, and ideology should not become an obstacle to dialogue, let alone a reason for confrontation.

Xinhua

## US urged to clarify bio-labs in Ukraine

BEIJING urged Washington once again on Monday to fully clarify its biological military activities with a responsible attitude, saying that biological military activities in Ukraine have become a shared concern of the international community.

Foreign Ministry spokesman Zhao Lijian made the remark at a daily news briefing after the United States Representative to the United Nations Linda Thomas-Greenfield accused China of spreading disinformation in support of Russia when the UN Security Council met on biological weapons at Moscow's request on Friday.

The US has denied Russian claims that Washington is operating bio-warfare laboratories in Ukraine that involve deadly pathogens, including bubonic plague and anthrax. The US embassy in Ukraine has reportedly hastily removed information related to such labs from its website.

Zhao said the US could not convince others by simply dismissing the concerns as disinformation in the face of evidence found by Russia in Ukraine, including documents, photos and other materials.

According to the information released publicly, Zhao said there are dozens of biological labs in Ukraine that



Black smoke rises from a military airport in Chuguyev near Kharkiv on Feb 24, 2022. AFP

are operated by order of the US Department of Defense.

Washington has invested more than \$200 million in the activities of these labs, whose research aims to create a mechanism for the covert transmission of deadly pathogens, he said.

"As the US has always claimed itself to be open and transparent, why doesn't it release detailed materials and why doesn't it open up these biological labs for independent investigations by international experts, if it wants to prove its innocence?" Zhao asked.

Agencies

## Chinese, Spanish FMs hold phone talks over Ukraine situation

BEIJING

CHINESE State Councilor and Foreign Minister Wang Yi on Monday held a phone conversation with Spanish Minister of Foreign Affairs Jose Manuel Albares at the latter's request.

During their conversation, Albares congratulated China on the success of the Beijing Winter Olympic Games and the two sides exchanged views on the current situation in Ukraine.

The situation in Ukraine threatens peace and stability in Europe and, if left unchecked, will spill over across the entire international community, Albares said.

He expressed hope that the conflict in Ukraine will be put to an end as soon as possible through dialogue and diplomatic means and that China, as a great peace-loving country and a permanent member of the UN Security Council, will play an active role in promoting peace.

For his part, Wang said that as a permanent member of the UN Security Council, China has been pushing for peace talks in its own way since the first day of the Ukraine crisis, and hopes that the fourth round of Russia-Ukraine peace talks can achieve new progress acceptable to all parties, accumulate factors conducive to ending the conflict and opening up a door to peace.

Some forces have been constantly smearing China's objective and just position on the Ukraine issue and creating disinformation, Wang



Ukrainian move towards a border crossing at the border area between Ukraine and Poland. File photo

warned, noting that China has always made its judgment according to the merits of the matter itself.

China maintains that the sovereignty and territorial integrity of all countries should be respected, upholds the purposes and principles of the UN Charter, and believes that legitimate security concerns of all parties should be addressed, said Wang.

China has the world's best record as a major country when it comes to peace and security, he said, adding that the Chinese side will continue to play a constructive role on multilateral occasions for the peaceful settlement of the Ukraine crisis.

The Ukraine crisis is the result of the accumulation and intensification of conflicts on security in Europe over the years, Wang said.

He added that the Chinese side encourages Russia and Ukraine to achieve a ceasefire through peace

talks, and expressed his hope that Europe and Russia will launch dialogue and negotiations on an equal basis, and find reasonable solutions to their security concerns, so as to set up a balanced, effective and sustainable European security framework.

China has always opposed using sanctions to solve problems, let alone unilateral sanctions that has no basis in international law, which will undermine international rules and harm people's livelihood in all countries, Wang said.

China is not a party to the crisis, still less wants to be affected by the sanctions, and it has the right to safeguard its legitimate and lawful rights and interests, he added.

Noting that Spain is a solid force in Europe, Wang said he is confident that Spain can play a positive role in resolving the crisis peacefully.

Xinhua

## Russia-Ukraine peace talks continue daily

MOSCOW/KYIV/NEW YORK

NEGOTIATIONS between Russia and Ukraine are being held daily, Russian presidential aide Vladimir Medinsky, also the head of the Russian delegation, said on Monday.

"The negotiations with Ukraine are being held every day, seven days a week, in a format of video conferences," Medinsky posted on his Telegram account.

Video meetings save time and are more efficient, he added.

"We are striving to do everything that is possible to fulfill the tasks set by (Russian President) Vladimir Putin for Russia's peaceful future," he wrote.

The fourth round of negotiations between Russia and Ukraine occurred earlier on Monday via video link. According to Ukrainian Presidential Advisor Mykhailo Podolyak, a member of the delegation, a technical pause has been taken in the negotiations until Tuesday.

"A technical pause has been taken in the negotiations until tomorrow. For additional work in the working subgroups and clarification of individual definitions," Podolyak tweeted.

Earlier in the day, Podolyak said that the talks between Ukraine and Russia went on, although they were "hard."

## Putin isolation 'Western bias'

The suggestion that Russian President Vladimir Putin is iso-

lated may still be something of a Western bias - an assumption based on a definition of the "world" as places of privilege, largely the United States, Europe, Canada, Australia and Japan, according to an analysis published by The Washington Post last week.

"Of the 193 members of the United Nations, 141 voted to condemn Moscow's unprovoked attack on its neighbor. But that majority vote doesn't tell the more nuanced story," read the analysis titled "Outside the West, Putin is less isolated than you might think."

The giants of the Global South, including India, Brazil and South Africa, are hedging their bets; even NATO-member Turkey is acting coy, moving to shut off the Bosphorus and Dardanelles straits to all warships, not just the Russians, said the article.

"Some citizens in emerging economies are gazing at Ukraine and seeing themselves without a dog in this fight - and with compelling national interests for not alienating Russia," and "in a broad swath of the developing world, the Kremlin's talking points are filtering into mainstream news and social media," it said.

Meanwhile, "the gulf between the West and the Global South may also be worsening during the pandemic and the era of climate change, as developing nations grow increasingly resentful of the self-interested responses in the United States and Europe," added the article.



Members of delegations from Ukraine and Russia, including Russian presidential aide Vladimir Medinsky (second left), Ukrainian presidential aide Mykhailo Podolyak (second right), Volodymyr Zelensky's "Servant of the People" lawmaker Davyd Arakhamia (third right), hold talks in Belarus' Gomel region on Feb 28, 2022. AFP

## Turkish president says Ankara to maintain ties with both Kiev, Moscow

ANKARA

TURKISH President Recep Tayyip Erdogan on Monday said his country has to maintain close ties with both Kiev and Moscow.

He made the remarks while responding to a question as to whether Turkey will comply with international sanctions against Russia at a joint press conference here with visiting German Chancellor Olaf Scholz. Turkey has to maintain friendship with Ukraini-

an President Volodymyr Zelensky and Russian President Vladimir Putin, Erdogan said, adding "as for the sanctions issue, we did what was necessary so far within the framework of UN rules." "Despite Russia, we made for Ukraine what the NATO countries could not do," Erdogan said. For his part, Scholz said Turkey and Germany have common concerns regarding the Ukraine crisis and agree on the necessity for a ceasefire.





Tanzania's wheelchair tennis team's coach, Riziki Salum, talks to the squad's players at training that took place at Dar es Salaam Gymkhana Club (DGC) recently. The team was shaping up for a trip to Turkey for the 2022 BNP Paribas World Team Cup Tournament. PHOTO: CORRESPONDENT MIRAJI MSALA

## Wheelchair tennis players optimistic holding sway in BNP Paribas World Team Cup

BY CORRESPONDENT JOSEPH MCHEKADONA

TANZANIA'S wheelchair tennis players departed for Turkey on Tuesday to compete at the BNP Paribas World Team Cup whilst promising to work hard for their country.

Speaking before departure at Julius Nyerere International Airport, the performers making the team Lucy Julius and Rehema Suleiman said they will work hard at the event to bring pride to the country.

The BNP Paribas World Team Cup gets underway tomorrow and is set to come to a close on Sunday.

The players and coach Riziki Salum ave made the trip to Turkey under the sponsorship of the International Tennis Federation (ITF).

"We are very ready for the tournament, of course, we had some challenges, but we have prepared well and we hope to fly our country's flag at the tournament very high," Rehema revealed.

BNP Paribas World Team Cup, a wheelchair tennis showdown equivalent of the Davis Cup and Billie Jean King Cup, is slated for May 2-8 in Portugal.

Coach Salum who further serves as National Wheelchair Tennis Association (WTTA) secretary-general said he is confident his players will do well at the tournament which will serve as a Tennis World Cup qualification event.

Salum pointed out "My players are ready for the challenge and I'm very confident that with the preparations which we had the team will do well."

"Yes going with a small number of players sometimes can have a negative impact, but I have advised the two to focus on their games," he said.

Salum thanked Gold Star Limited which helped the team with cash and the Turkish Embassy in Tanzania for offering visas to the team free of charge.

## Russia invasion upends Olympic 'neutrality' – if it existed

BY STEPHEN WADE

THE International Olympic Committee has always been political, from the sheikhs and royals in its membership to a seat at the United Nations to pushing for peace talks between the Koreans. But Russia's invasion of Ukraine three weeks ago exposed its irreconcilable claims of "political neutrality."

The IOC's politics were evident at Hitler's 1936 Olympics. During the Cold War, the Games were a stage for conflict (Mexico City), violence (Munich) and boycotts (Moscow). To this day, the IOC has partnered with authoritarian states like China and Russia, beginning with the 2008 Beijing Summer Olympics, through the doping-scarred Sochi Games to the just-closed Beijing Winter Olympics.

Yawning gaps exist between what the IOC has long insisted it is – "the very heart of world sport" – and a view that hews closer to reality; a non-profit sports business, based in Switzerland, that generates about 90% of its income from selling broadcast rights and sponsorships.

Increasingly, the IOC must cater to rich spon-

sors that were barely a factor 30 years ago as the Games, almost bankrupt, turned commercial and professional. Olympic athletes are pressing for a larger slice of the pie, aware their careers are fragile (only 30% of them attend the Olympics more than once). The most visible politics involve the 206 nations and territories that march into the Games under national colors, flags, and stirring anthems – but never in a vacuum. By comparison, the U.N. has only 193 member states.

Following the invasion of Ukraine – acting because of a breach of the so-called Olympic Truce and not because of the war itself – the IOC recommended that sports federations and event organizers "not invite or allow" Russian or Belarusian athletes to participate.

But it left loopholes, stayed out of the fray and urged others to act. Many have, leaving Russians and Belarusians out of most sports competitions. The IOC itself has not banned the Russian or Belarusian Olympic committees, nor IOC members from those countries, nor has it asked publicly that top IOC sponsors take any action.

AP

# Morogoro children care center wins praise



Mehayo Children's Center's seven-year-old child, Muslim Makungila (in blue T-shirt), a youth suffering mental retardation, shows his dancing skills in front of Tanzania Union of Government and Health Employees (TUGHE) ÇOs Chairperson in Morogoro, Noves Nkwera (3rd L), once the official visited the institution in the region recently. Others are TUGHE's regional leaders and the institution's children. PHOTO: CORRESPONDENT MICHAEL SIKAPUNDWA

BY CORRESPONDENT MICHAEL SIKAPUNDWA, MOROGORO

TANZANIA Union of Government and Health Employees (TUGHE) ÇOs Chairperson in Morogoro, Noves Nkwera, recently congratulated Mehayo Children's Care Center which teaches music and fitness as part of the extra curriculum for the youngsters.

The center, based in the region, accommodates over 50 children with mental retardation, physical disabilities, and youngsters from poor families.

The institution's life philosophy is based on sports and arts as children's life game-changer.

Noves issued appreciation during the celebration of International Women's Day.

The official further handed over clothes, sanitary towels, food, and other basic needs to the center.

Noves said music is nowadays business, whilst hailing the center's youngster Muslim Makungila for the latter's dancing skills.

Makungila gathered votes from over 50 TUGHE officials that visited the institution for expertly dancing a song titled 'Yope' composed by Congolese artist Innocent Balume, popularly known as 'Innos'B'.

Noves disclosed: "Congratulations to Makungila, hopefully, he will be more successful than his model, artist 'Diamond', in the future."

"Besides you are the master of body fitness at this center, congratulation once again to the in-

stitution for vouching for talent promotion," she said.

TUGHE ÇOs regional secretary, Suzana Charles, said women in Morogoro have to be ambassadors in revealing the strengths of the center as apart from conducting classroom activities children are taught life skills. "It is the women's international festival, let us use this platform to increase awareness to communities on the importance of identification of children with disabilities and advise guardians to enroll the youngsters at such a special center like this."

Melchizedek Saera, the center's spokesman, and music teacher, in his remarks, said the extra curriculum is associated with other life skills which include gardening.

Saera noted the activity is mainly done by children whose Intelligent Quotient (IQ) hinders them from mastering mental activities for short time.

The official revealed: "Children should find life alternatives rather than leaving the youngsters behind, children, particularly those with physical disabilities, should engage in outdoor activities including strengthening their muscles."

He congratulated the government for offering sustainable cooperation to the institution as the approach allows children to get education scheduled for youngsters with mental retardation and other physical disabilities at Mazimbu Primary School located just 50 meters from the center.

## Midfielder Chama produces impressive statistics for Simba SC in 2021/22 season

BY CORRESPONDENT NASSIR NCHIMBI

SIMBA SC's Zambian midfielder, Clatous Chama, has not made his way back to the side by fluke, given his statistics in seven matches he has played in this season's NBC Premier League and Azam Sports Federation Cup (ASFC) have turned out to be impressive.

Chama had played for Simba before heading to Morocco's RS Berkane early this season and had a brief stint at the latter.

The midfielder has already been involved in 10 goals upon his return to Simba.

The club opted to re-sign the 2019/20 Premier League Best Player in January from RS Berkane.

Chama's arrival shocked many, with several enthusiasts complaining about his poor form in the first few duels. The midfielder denied the allegations.

Simba SC had, in 12 matches, collected 24 points, netted 14 goals, and came from three draws against Biashara United, Coastal Union, and Yanga before Chama made his way back.

In 24 points, Simba, under former coach Didier Gomes, who was sacked on October 26, scored four goals.

The Msimbazi Street club notched one goalless draw against Biashara United and won 1-0 over Dodoma Jiji FC.

The outfit, under the tutelage of Thierry Hitimana, registered four points, settling for a 0-0 draw with Coastal Union and netting one goal against Polisi Tanzania in a 1-0 victory.

Chama sat on the bench as Simba was beaten 1-0 by Mbeya City FC, the midfielder later entered the second half in the squad's 0-0 draw with Mtwara Sugar.

The midfielder started in his outfit's loss against Kagera Sugar and played against Tanzania Prisons, helping his side notch a 1-0 win.

Chama scored against Mbeya Kwanza FC, with Simba winning 1-0 and scored one goal in Simba's 3-0 win over Biashara United and scored one goal when Simba defeated Dodoma Jiji 2-0.

Simba collected 13 points whilst fielding Chama, which amounts to 37 points once they are added to the ones posted in 24 matches that he did not take part in.

The matches that Simba played before Chama returned were against Biashara United (0-0), victory over Dodoma Jiji FC (1-0 at Jamhuri Stadium, Dodoma), victory over Polisi Tanzania (1-0 at Benjamin Mkapa Stadium, Dar es Salaam).

In other fixtures, Simba notched a 0-0 draw



Chama

with Coastal Union at Benjamin Mkapa Stadium, beat Namungo FC 1-0 at the stadium, and recorded a 3-1 victory over Ruwu Shooting at CCM Kirumba Stadium in Mwanza.

In other games, Simba played against Geita Gold FC (won 2-1 at Benjamin Mkapa Stadium), faced Yanga (0-0, Benjamin Mkapa Stadium), won against Kinondoni Municipal Council FC (4-1, Ali Hassan Mwinyi Stadium, Tabora) and

won against Azam FC (2-1, Benjamin Mkapa Stadium).

Chama scored in the ASFC's round of 16's match against Dar City FC when Simba won 6-0, and also scored a hat-trick against Ruwu Shooting in the seventh, 25th, and 27th minutes as Simba won 7-0.

The performer provided a total of four assists in those two matches.



## Madrid sweat on trio's fitness ahead of El Clasico

MADRID

REAL Madrid were left waiting for news on the fitness of Karim Benzema, Rodrygo and Ferland Mendy after all three players went off hurt in their 3-0 win at Mallorca on Monday – just six days ahead of El Clasico.

After a combative first half ended goalless, Vinicius Junior put Madrid ahead in the 55th minute before Benzema scored a brace, dispatching a 77th minute penalty when Vinicius was fouled, and heading Marcelo's cross past goalkeeper Sergio Rico five minutes later.

The result left Madrid top of La Liga on 66 points – 10 points clear of their nearest rivals Sevilla – but with concerns about the availability of Benzema, Rodrygo and Mendy for Sunday's showpiece clash with Barcelona at the Bernabeu.

Rodrygo had to be helped from the field by medical staff in the 71st minute after a challenge by Mallorca defender Antonio Rallo. Nine minutes later, Mendy was taken off with an apparent muscular injury, before Benzema was withdrawn with a calf problem.

"We have to evaluate them in the next few days," coach Carlo Ancelotti said in his post-match news conference. "They don't seem serious. Ro-

drygo's [injury] looks like a knock, it bothered him a lot. Ferland has an abductor strain, and Karim didn't feel good after jumping [for the ball].

"We'll have to wait until Wednesday to see if they can recover for Sunday. Right now we can't say anything. Let's hope they aren't serious."

Ancelotti refused to criticise Mallorca for some tough tackling which saw both Vinicius Junior and Rodrygo targeted.

"That's football sometimes, it can happen," he said. "I don't think [Mallorca defender Pablo] Maffeo intended to hurt [Vinicius]. It was a very competitive game, above all in the first half, with a lot of contacts ... It was competitive but fair."

"Rodrygo's is a shame for him, let's hope he doesn't have anything," midfielder Federico Valverde said. "Obviously when a teammate gets injured everyone is worried, but we have a big squad, and whoever plays has to be ready."

Real Madrid and Barcelona both go into this weekend's Clasico in impressive form, with Madrid unbeaten in La Liga since Jan. 2, and Barca – who beat Osasuna 4-0 on Sunday – having won their last four league games.

(Agencies)

## Morata repaying Juve's faith as Villarreal showdown looms

MILAN

ALVARO Morata feels at home again at Juventus as the Italians try to convert their ominous domestic form into European success in today's Champions League decider with Villarreal.

The Spain striker's double in Saturday's 3-1 win at Sampdoria underlined a recent rise in form since being told he was not surplus to requirements in Turin, and he has been a key part in Juve's grinding unbeaten run.

After looking set to leave for Barcelona in January Morata – who is on loan from Atletico Madrid – is again key to coach Massimiliano Allegri's plans.

His burgeoning partnership with new signing Dusan Vlahovic is one of the reasons Juve are pushing to keep him in Turin.

Morata's option for a permanent move at the end of the season is fixed at 35 million euros, but Juve are reportedly trying to renegotiate to secure Morata's services for 10 million less.

"In January I spoke to Allegri, and before that talk I didn't feel particularly important," Morata said after his brace.

"But when your boss tells you what he thinks of you, gives you encouragement and tells you that he rates you, that gives you strength."

Juve head into Wednesday's clash at the Allianz Stadium on the crest of a wave as their long run without defeat in the league has taken them to the edge of Italy's title race.

A dreadful start to the season left returning coach Massimiliano Allegri with a huge task to make something of the campaign, but since late November Juve have only lost once in all competitions.

- Juve on the up -

Their single defeat in the last 21 fixtures came in the Italian Super Cup back in mid-January, a largely unimportant match even if losing any game to fierce rivals Inter Milan is painful for Juve.

That run has taken Juve to within seven points of league leaders AC Milan and made them firm favourites to requalify for the Champions League next season.

Juve sit fourth and have an eight-point advantage over fifth-placed Atalanta, a situation which before Christmas would have sounded like a pipe dream.

However the arrival of Vlahovic in January has galvanised Juve, who have managed to keep their strong run of results going despite being hit by a host of injuries to key players.

Allegri is hoping for the return of Giorgio Chiellini, Paulo Dybala and Federico Bernardeschi, who are however unlikely to start even if they are ready to be picked in the squad.

He is still sure to be without Leonardo Bonucci, midfielder Weston McKennie, another January signing in Denis Zakaria and Federico Chiesa but that is a much shorter injury list than in recent weeks.

Juve will be favourites as they have won eight of their last 10 home fixtures since being beaten by Atalanta in November, conceding just four goals in the process.

Helping their bid to extend Italy's participation in the competition is the absence of striker Gerard Moreno, whose calf problem led to him missing Villarreal's 1-0 win over Celta Vigo.

Unai Emery will also be without Argentina defender Juan Foyth while key midfielder Etienne Capoue could also miss the trip to Turin after missing out at the weekend with a groin problem.

AFP

# Man City give Liverpool further hope in puzzling draw with Palace

BY JAMES OLLEY, SENIOR WRITER, ESPN FC

PEP Guardiola had one person in mind when striding onto the Selhurst Park turf at full-time of a goalless draw with Crystal Palace.

He walked past his Manchester City players, who had failed to find the net despite dominating the preceding 90 minutes to leave south London with a 0-0 draw that firmly opens the door for Liverpool in the Premier League title race.

He walked past referee Martin Atkinson after a game thankfully free of any officiating controversy.

Guardiola instead went straight to Palace goalkeeper Vicente Guaita. A lengthy, animated exchange ensued, but the City boss was unwilling to elaborate on what was said beyond simply "congratulating him for an incredible effort and his saves."

City peppered Palace's goal with 18 shots. Combined with the 14 they amassed when losing the reverse fixture in October, a tally of 32 is the most for any top-flight team this season without finding the net.

Before praising Guaita, Guardiola admitted he had other players in mind: specifically making a substitution to freshen up a forward line that was firing blanks.

"I was thinking about that, Gabriel [Jesus], Gundo [Ilkay Gundogan], but the guys were playing good," said Guardiola. "The game was in a high rhythm and I decided to continue with these guys."

As it was, Guardiola didn't make a single substitution in a game City had to win to maintain a degree of breathing space over Liverpool, the holder's lead standing at four points now.

It is not the first time: since English football resumed after an enforced break due to COVID-19 in June 2020, Guardiola has opted against making any substitutions on four occasions. No other manager has done so more than twice in the same period.

This was, however, the first time this season he decided not to intervene in a match his side failed to win. Raheem Sterling, Jesus and Gundogan rarely warmed up with any purpose even as



Kevin De Bruyne and Manchester City were held to a frustrating draw against Crystal Palace. (Agencies)

the three points began to slip from view.

If he really was thinking about changing things, it never seemed particularly close to becoming reality. The result inevitably shapes judgements on such decision-making, but that just felt odd in the immediate aftermath.

Guardiola was right to assert that his team was playing well, monopolising the ball in typical fashion – albeit bereft of the total control City often display, allowing Palace threaten on several occasions when counter-attacking.

Conor Gallagher epitomised Palace's work ethic. In tirelessly chasing down City as they probed relentlessly for the opener, the 22-year-old covered 12.5 km – the highest distance of any Palace player in a Premier League game this season.

Gallagher usually tops that statistic – he has done so in 15 of his 25 league starts during his season-long loan from Chelsea.

But Palace's goal was never under constant threat. Guaita had only four shots on target to save, and only one of them was particularly memorable: a reflex second-half stop from Riyad Mahrez after Kevin De Bruyne hit the post on 57 minutes.

Despite Guardiola's full-time reaction, this was not a virtuoso performance worthy of special praise from Guardiola. Opposite number Patrick Vieira underlined the point by focusing on how his goalkeeper "managed the game" by essentially timewasting to ease the pressure on his back line, allowing them to fill their lungs again after a night almost endlessly chasing down the ball.

City dropped points here because of their own profligacy. Bernardo Silva was the biggest culprit, missing the visitors' two best chances: miscontrolling with the goal at his mercy just 14 minutes in and later sliding a second-half shot wide from Jack Grealish's 71st-minute cross.

Joao Cancelo hit the post shortly before the half-hour mark, and Aymeric Laporte will squirm uncomfortably when watching back the two opportunities that came his way.

Recriminations can't be far-reaching for a City side that created plenty but failed to score for the first time in 19 games since losing to Palace at Etihad Stadium almost five months ago.

They have given Liverpool a huge incentive for Wednesday's trip to Arsenal, knowing that victory there in their game

in hand will take them one point behind City with nine games each to play. Liverpool's visit to Man City on April 10 just got even bigger and Guardiola will welcome the fact the title remains in their hands as much as it does for Jurgen Klopp's side.

But it is tempting on nights like this – as rare as they are – to imagine what might have happened here had City landed Tottenham Hotspur's Harry Kane or Cristiano Ronaldo last summer. After all, despite their general consistency, there is a reason they are heavily linked with a move for Borussia Dortmund's Erling Haaland at the end of the season.

And should they end up missing out on another Premier League crown to Liverpool this season, the inquest will not focus on their defence, which is still the best in the division and the foundation of last season's title win.

"I don't know if a striker, like you said is in line for next season, we would win the game because I don't know," Guardiola said.

He's right, of course. But thanks to Guardiola's passivity here, we won't know if City would have won by using all the options at his disposal either.

## Messi's and Ronaldo's struggles prove there are no guarantees in sport

BY MARK OGDEN, SENIOR WRITER, ESPN FC

LIONEL Messi was booed by Paris Saint-Germain supporters on Sunday. A day earlier, Cristiano Ronaldo scored a hat trick for Manchester United and swapped GOAT talk with NFL icon Tom Brady in a postmatch meeting of the greats at Old Trafford, conveniently in full glare of the cameras on the pitch so the whole world could see it.

Those two moments in time could not have been more contrasting for two players who have dominated world football for the best part of 15 years. But appearances can be deceptive, and Ronaldo's virtuoso performance in front of Brady masks the reality of his time at Old Trafford since returning to the club 12 years after leaving for Real Madrid, from Juventus, last August.

Before his hat trick against Tottenham – the 59th of his remarkable career – Ronaldo had scored just one goal in 2022. One goal in 10 appearances, to be precise, and he had been dropped to the bench by interim manager Ralf Rangnick for a game at Burnley during that run. His absence from the squad for the 4-1 defeat at Manchester City on March 6, officially attributed to a hip injury, led to the player returning to Portugal with accompanying headlines that suggested he was unhappy at United and ready to leave in the summer.

Questions over Ronaldo's presence in the United team have grown in recent weeks – is he able to play as a centre-forward? Is he now showing his age (37)? Have United foolishly sacrificed a team ethic in order to accommodate him? These are all issues that continue to be raised whenever Ronaldo doesn't do what he did on Saturday, when he performed like a man 10 years his junior.

It is a similar story for Messi at PSG. Messi, who is three years younger than Ronaldo, was signed by the Ligue 1 leaders to become the final part of the club's Champions League-winning jigsaw. The idea, which makes sense from a fantasy football perspective, was that a forward line of Messi, Neymar and Kylian Mbappe would prove to be unstoppable in Europe's premier competition.



Lionel Messi



Cristiano Ronaldo

the season empty-handed unless he can inspire United to a highly unlikely Champions League triumph in Paris in May. (They host Atletico Madrid on Tuesday with things tied 1-1 from the first leg.)

Although the re-signing of Ronaldo was a nostalgia trip with a major commercial up-tick for United, he was primarily signed to make Ole Gunnar Solskjaer's team serious competitors for the Premier League title. Yet Solskjaer was fired in November and United are no-hopers in the title race, and they'll struggle to even finish in the top four, with Arsenal one point ahead and enjoying the luxury of three games in hand.

Ronaldo signed up for a trophy-winning end to his career at United, but his first season might fizzle out into nothing more than a race to avoid playing in the Europa Conference League next season. His 18 goals in 32 games may count for nothing.

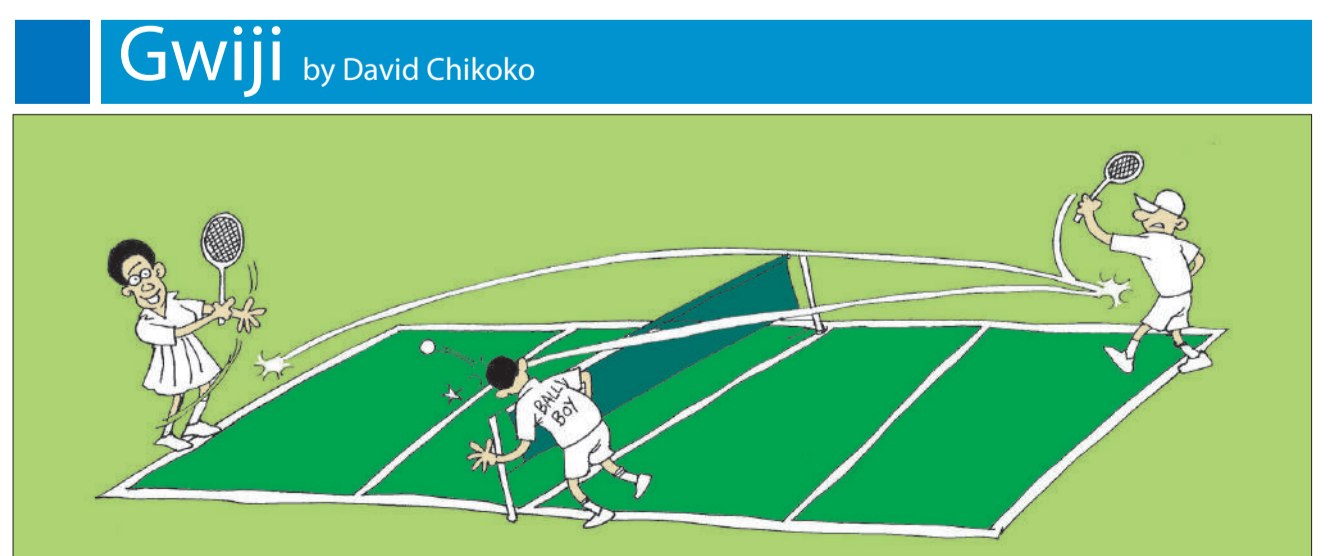
Yes, there have been some highs for both Messi and Ronaldo. Messi's goal against

City is probably as good as it has been for the PSG star, while Ronaldo has his Spurs hat trick and several match-winning goals in the Premier League and Champions League.

But has any of it really been worth it for United or PSG? Have Messi or Ronaldo actually made their teams better? Neither have helped their club deliver their objectives and, at times, both have been a distraction from the necessary, but time-consuming, work of team-building.

It has been no Last Dance, the ESPN+ series which revolves around Michael Jordan and his final season with the Chicago Bulls, for either. Messi's time in Paris has been a tale of false steps and unfulfillment, while Ronaldo has been like a solo artist missing a partner.

And it might not get any better. A year older and with even more pressure to deliver, nobody can say that it will all come good for either of them next season.



Gwiji by David Chikoko



# SPORT

Man City give Liverpool further hope in puzzling draw with Palace

COMPREHENSIVE REPORT, PAGE 19

## Bocco, Nyoni left out of youthful Taifa Stars squad



Taifa Stars' players celebrate a goal netted by attacker John Bocco when the squad faced Malawi in an international friendly duel in Dar es Salaam last year. PHOTO: CORRESPONDENT JUMANNE JUMA

By Correspondent Nassir Nchimbi

TANZANIA's senior national soccer team head coach, Kim Poulsen, has unveiled a 25-man squad for the FIFA calendar's international friendly matches to be played in Dar es Salaam from March 23-29.

Taifa Stars will battle it out in a mini-competition that is set to include such countries as Sudan and the Central Africa Republic.

Tanzania's squad will play on the opening day of March 23 against the Central African side, and later lock horns with Sudan on March 26.

Taifa Stars will conclude the tournament

on March 29, again confronting Sudan.

Poulsen has selected a youthful squad with many of the footballers expected to make their debuts this month.

Veteran striker John Bocco and experienced midfielder Erasto Nyoni that play for Simba are out of the national squad to give room to the young footballers.

The Danish coach has opted to give the experienced ones chance to excel at their club and improve so they can have a green light to return and play for the squad from June-September.

Tanzania will be playing in the African Nations Championship qualifiers

with AFCON 2023 to be held in Ivory Coast next year.

The tactician stated that one of the key factors that he has used to assemble this squad is looking at how the new performers can show their potential in their clubs and prove themselves at the international level.

He revealed he is eager to have the footballers seeing to it they open the doors to play in the national team regularly with four games of AFCON qualifiers in June and later two in

Two fixtures await the side in September with the footballers playing in domestic leagues also

getting a chance to play in the African Nations Championship qualifiers.

There are new players in the Taifa Stars squad such as George Mpole, Geita Gold FC striker with eight goals in this season's Premier League.

England-born midfielder Haji Mnoga who plays for Portsmouth in England, Ben Starkie who plays for Spalding of England, and Mbeya City FC midfielder Aziz Andambwile.

Andambwile has as well played in the Malawian Premier League recently.

Others are midfielder Tepsi Evans of Azam FC, Abdulrazack Hamza from Namungo FC, Ab-

dultwalib Mshery now with Yanga, and Kenyan Premier League break-out star, Ibrahim Joshua from Tusker FC.

Poulsen lauded Yanga midfielder, Farid Mussa, for his ability to play as left-back as he does now with his club despite being able to play as either winger or midfielder, keeping his intention to use him as a left-back in the upcoming games.

In the Taifa Stars squad, striker Simon Msuva has been called up although he has not played competitive football for a long time due to a signing fee dispute with his club Wydad Athletic Club of Morocco.

Coach Poulsen has confirmed to hold regular talks with Msuva to advise him to end the misunderstanding that will enable him to serve the national team from June if he sorts out the challenge.

Poulsen has applauded players who are doing well in the Premier League right now while saying through the international friendlies he is confident some players will be ready for national duties while others will cement their spots.

The players selected are Aishi Manula (Simba SC) Metacha Mnata (Polisi Tanzania), Abdultwalib Mshery (Yanga), Shomari Kapombe (Simba), Israel Mwenda (Simba), Haji Mnoga (Portsmouth), Dickson Job (Yanga), Bakari Mwamnyeto (Yanga), Lusajo Mwaikenda (Azam FC), Abdulrazack Hamza (Namungo FC), Mohamed Hussein (Simba), Nickson Kibabage (KMC FC) and Farid Mussa (Yanga).

Midfielders are Novatus Dismas (Maccabi Tel Aviv) Mzamiru Yassin (Simba) Jonas Mkude (Simba), Andambwile Aziz (Mbeya City), Zawadi Mauya (Yanga), and Feisal Salum (Yanga).

Wingers and strikers are Mbwana Samatta (Royal Antwerp) Simon Msuva (Wydad), Ben Starkie (Spalding) and Kelvin John (KRC Genk), George Mpole (Geita Gold FC) Reliants Lusajo (Namungo FC), Ibrahim Joshua (Tusker FC) and Kibu Denis (Simba).



Geah Habib, a producer for Television program known as Ya Walimwengu, speaks during the launch of the new program on DStv in Dar es Salaam yesterday. It will be airing every Wednesday at 3:30 pm via channel 144 Maisha Magic Poa available in DStv Poa package for 9,900/-. PHOTO: CORRESPONDENT

## FINA leader pledges to support swimming promotion in Tanzania

By Guardian Correspondent

THE World Swimming Federation (FINA) has promised to support Tanzania Swimming Association (TSA) to build a modern swimming pool in collaboration with the government.

The statement was issued by FINA president Husain Al Musallam during the swimming convention held at the Julius Nyerere International Convention Centre.

Al Musallam said they are happy with swimming development in Tanzania and that's why they have decided to visit the country.

According to Al Musallam, they have discussed the matter with TSA leadership as well as the government, and what is needed now is a joint effort to achieve the construction of the swimming pool.

"Please be clear, the task of developing the sport of swimming is not limited to FINA, there are governments, associations, and stakeholders. In partnership with the Tanzanian government, the swimming association, and stakeholders, I believe we will achieve this construction," Al Musallam disclosed.

He said that FINA wants to see that the swimmer participates in the sport without being challenged and does well in various competitions.

"We also want to see a player get healthier once he decides to retire. This will help him to continue to love the game and to inspire others. Let me make it clear, Tanzania is one of the countries that has made progress in the game despite the various challenges, we are very impressed with this," he said.

Director of Sports Development in the Ministry of Culture, Arts and Sports, Yusuph Singo, said that the government is relieved by the arrival of FINA and has already shown the artwork and the area set aside for the construction of a modern 50-meter swimming pool.

"First of all, the arrival of the president of FINA and other senior leaders of the federation is a great honor for the country. No African country has ever had such a great arrival in history and Tanzania has been the first. The government is very relieved and congratulates TSA for the great work they have done," Singo disclosed.

Imani Alimanya, TSA Chairman, said that they have submitted their plans to FINA regarding game development and they believe they will succeed.

Alimanya said that one of their plans is to make Tanzania a major swimming training center (High-Performance Training Center).

The president of the Confederation of African Swimming Confederation (CANA Zone 3), Donald Rukare commended FINA for making Tanzania the only country in its region to visit and promote the sport of swimming.

Apart from Al Musallam, other high-ranking officials who are on the tour are Sam Ramasamy who is the African swimming federation president.

Ramasamy is also the vice president of FINA. Also on the tour is John Nowicki who is FINA's executive director and Chaykh Ahmad Al Saab who is the assistant executive to the president of FINA.

There are also Alex Szanto (FINA delegate), Mikolaus Schonfeldt (assistant to the FINA president), former Olympic champion Ferry Weertam, and Ranom Kromowidjojo who is a former champion world and the Olympics.

By Guardian Reporter

TANZANIA's hockey players have been given chance to exhibit their prowess given this year's National Club Championship has been scheduled to take place in Tanga from March 24-27.

Tanzania Hockey Association (THA)'s secretary-general Kaushik Doshi disclosed that winners of the prestigious hockey tournament will get a chance to represent the country in Africa Club Championship which will be held in Malawi in December this year.

Doshi noted the high-profile national tournament is organized by THA and kindly sponsored by Reliance Insurance Company and NAS Tyre Services LTD.

According to the THA leader, the association leadership is very grateful to the firms for sponsoring the tournament.

The official revealed the event is open to all outfits, and institutions.

He added all teams which take part on regular basis have shown willingness to participate in the competition and shall be vying for the top honour.

Doshi revealed all matches will be played at Annadil Burhani

## Tanga set to host 2022 National Hockey Club Championship



Dar es Salaam hockey players battle it out in a recent competition at Ukonga KM ground in the city. PHOTO: COURTESY OF TWENE HOCKEY FOUNDATION

Complex in the northern region.

The THA official said all top domestic hockey outfits are said to be undergoing vigorous training and preparation for the tournament

is going on smoothly.

Doshi further said that most of the teams have already confirmed and are just waiting for a few more teams to confirm within 48 hours.

The last edition of the National Club Championship was played in 2020 in Daressalaam whereby Kilimanjaro's Moshi Khalsa was the winner, Black Mamba settled for run-

ners-up place.

This tournament will also boost hockey in Tanga after the absence of 7 years since any big tournament is being held.

## Flexibles by David Chikoko

