

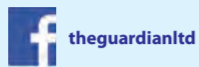


BUSINESS Dr Biteko gives one month for nickel explorer to comply with mining laws

Crude oil climbs as traders weigh demand signals

Govt, Vietnam enters talks on cashew processing factories

Cargo handling volume at airports hit 7,441 tons in 2022, says TCCIA



+255 745 700710

LIKE & FOLLOW US

ISSN 0856 - 5434 ISSUE No. 8591 • PRICE: Tsh 1,000, Kenya sh100

TANZANIA



SATURDAY 23 JULY, 2022

EDUCATION



STAKEHOLDERS EYE HEFTY INVESTMENT IN EDUCATION PG 3

CENSUS



1,000 KILINDI YOUTH INTERVIEWED TO BE CENSUS CLERKS PG4

AGRICULTURE



SUGARCANE HARVEST BOOSTED BY IRRIGATION, QUALITY SEEDS PG5

TOURISM



HANDICAPPED DUTCH CITIZEN CLIMBS MT KILI AGAIN PG 7

Page 13

EAC summit signals Somalia joining EAC

By Correspondent Marc Nkwame, Arusha

SOMALIA is closing in to become the newest member of the East African Community (EAC) whose current membership stands at seven.

Outgoing EAC chairman President Uhuru Kenyatta broadly hinted the imminent acceptance of Somalia by the Heads of State summit, after preliminary work by the EAC Secretariat and the Council of Ministers.

"We are glad that soon Somalia will also join us in the East African Community," the president quipped as he bid the public and plenary summit farewell as he is set to hand over office after next month's general election.

The new President of Somalia, Hassan Sheikh Mohamud was in attendance, both at the high-level retreat for the summit of the EAC Heads of State to take stock of the 11 years of the EAC Common Market protocol, and in the summit plenary session.

The Somali leader, whose election generated new international initiatives including the restoration of the United States stabilisation mission in the country, said that it was always in Somali interest to be part of the EAC.

The country could have joined the EAC much earlier were it not for some internal conflicts in the country, he stated, airing the view that the country has moved to most of its problems since then.

Somalia could thus start seeking a new



President Samia Suluhu Hassan, Kenyan President (current East African Community chairman) Uhuru Kenyatta, Ugandan President Yoweri Museveni, Burundi President Évariste Ndayishimiye and other leaders of the eastern African regional intergovernmental organisation cut the ribbon to inaugurate the East Africa Regional Road - the 42.4-km Arusha Bypass - at Ngarantoni in Arusha Region yesterday. Photo: State House

“We are glad that soon Somalia will also join us in the East African Community

consideration for its outstanding application to join the EAC, he said, pointing out there are millions of Somali people in Kenya and Tanzania who have blood relations with people in Somalia

President Samia Suluhu Hassan, speaking a while later at the Arusha by-pass road launching with President Kenyatta, called for sharper alert on the part of the police and local authorities to protect infrastructure that links EAC member states.

The infrastructure layout is constructed at a huge cost and such systems are targeted by vandals bent on making a quick buck, she said the road and attendant systems must be protected at all costs to enable the public get value for money from the projects.

"Such projects cost billions of shillings and it is the responsibility of each one

TURN TO Page2

Burundi chairs EAC, Samia urges peaceful Kenya polls

By Correspondent Marc Nkwame, Arusha

BURUNDI leader Evariste Ndayishimiye yesterday took over as the new chairman of the East African Community (EAC) at the 22nd Heads of State summit.

President Ndayishimiye lifted the baton and instruments of that office from outgoing Kenyan Presi-

“We were with Mzee Moi (late former Kenyan President), Mzee Mkapa and also Mzee Mwinyi, gathering at the (Sheikh Amri Abeid) Stadium here in Arusha. Many things have changed for the better and we have come far as a community

dent Uhuru Kenyatta who is not seeking re-election in the August 9 polls.

President Samia Suluhu Hassan bid President Kenyatta farewell after diligently guiding the work of the EAC from February 2021, urging that the forthcoming Kenyan election should be another opportunity for the EAC zone to display mature

TURN TO Page2

Uganda minister, MPs scan joint energy projects

By Guardian Reporter

A DELEGATION of Ugandan MPs is in the country to assess progress made in the energy sector in preparations to transport crude oil from Hoima in north Uganda to the port of Tanga via the East Africa Crude Oil Pipeline (EACOP).

Felchesmi Mramba, the permanent secretary for Energy accompanied the visiting MPs led by the country's Energy and Minerals minister, Peter Lokeris, to the Kinyerezi natural gas power generation project to start the familiarization tour. They will visit various energy projects with Kinyerezi seen as a game changer. The team will also take an intense look at the transportation of crude oil from Tanzania to Zambia via the pipeline operated by the Tanzania - Zambia Crude Oil Pipeline (TAZAMA). The delegation features MPs forming the parliamentary environment and natural resources committee with the Minerals Development state minister accompanying it, with other experts. The minister remarked that Tanzania has a 50-year experience in crude oil transmission via the pipeline and is therefore the right place for the delegation to learn about the issue. Tanzania also has experience in

TURN TO Page2

WHO fears for conditions of one billion refugees, migrants

By Guardian Correspondent

MILLIONS of refugees and migrants are in vulnerable situations, such as low-skilled migrant workers, with poorer health outcomes than host communities, especially where living and working conditions are sub-standard, the United Nations has declared.

Dr Tedros Ghebreyesus, director general of the World Health Organisation (WHO)

“This report is the first to offer a global review of refugee and migrant health

says in the first WHO report on the health of refugees and migrants

launched at midweek noted that today there are one billion migrants globally, as about one in eight people around the world are in the displaced situation. He said that this situation has dire consequences for the chances that the world achieves the health-related Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) for large populations around the world. The experience of migration

increasingly becoming a key determinant of health and wellbeing, with refugees and migrants often the most vulnerable and neglected members of many societies, the report underlined. "This report is the first to offer a global review of refugee and migrant health," he stated, noting that it calls for urgent and

TURN TO Page2



WHO fears for conditions of one billion refugees, migrants' health

FROM PAGE 1

collective action to ensure refugees and migrants can access health care services that are sensitive to their needs. Globally, the report indicated the pressing need to address the root causes of ill health and to radically reorient health systems "to respond to a world increasingly in motion," noting that available medical literature shows that refugees and migrants are not inherently less healthy than host populations.

"It is, rather, the impact of the various suboptimal health determinants, such as education, income, housing, access to services, compounded by linguistic, cultural, legal and other barriers and the interaction of these during the course of life that are behind poor health outcomes," the report declared.

The experience of migration and displacement is a key factor in a person's health and wellbeing, especially when combined with other determinants, it explained, highlighting a recent "meta-analysis" of more than 17 million participants from 16 countries across five WHO regions. It found that compared with non-migrant workers, migrant workers were less likely to use health services and more likely to have an occupational injury, while a significant number of the 169 million migrant workers globally are engaged in dirty, dangerous, and demanding jobs.

They are at greater risk of occupational accidents, injuries, and work-related health problems than their non-migrant counterparts, conditions exacerbated by their often limited or restricted access to and use of health services, the report noted. It demonstrated critical gaps in data and health information systems regarding the health of refugees and migrants, affirming that while data and evidence are plentiful, "they are fragmented and not comparable across countries and over time."

Although these mobile populations are sometimes identifiable in global datasets used for monitoring sustainable development goals, health data are often missing from migration statistics, with migratory status variables often missing from health statistics.

"This makes it difficult to determine and track progress for refugees and migrants towards the health-related SDGs," it added.

Uganda minister, MPs scan energy projects

FROM PAGE 1

pipeline operation for natural gas, from Madimba area in Mtwara region to Kinyerezi suburb in Dar es Salaam for power generation.

Meanwhile, Tanzania is engaged in preliminary discussions for construction of a major natural gas pipeline from the same Mtwara location to a reception point in Uganda that wasn't clear from initial reports. The MPs thought it was the right time to pick up a few elements of Tanzania's experience in view of all these projects, they said.

Minister Lokeris expressed gratitude to the host authorities for agreeing to the crude oil pipeline project, as underlining the amicable relations existing between the two neighbours. The pipeline will help Uganda boost its economy, as it will incur little cost to transport the crude oil compared to loading it on trucks, apart from the time advantage, he added.



Zanzibar President Dr Hussein Ali Mwinyi unveils a plaque yesterday to lay the foundation stone for a building at a district hospital at Kitongaji in South Unga Region. To his left is Haroun Ali Suleiman, Minister of State in the Zanzibar President's Office (Constitutional, Legal Affairs, Public Service and Good Governance). Photo: Zanzibar State House

EAC summit signals Somalia joining EAC

FROM PAGE 1

of us to jealously protect them as they are vital for our development and wellbeing," she stated.

Other EAC leaders were also present at the event, namely Ugandan President Yoweri Museveni and incoming EAC chairman, Burundi President Évariste Ndayishimiye.

The road networks launched are Sakina-Tengeru stretch tying up with the Arusha bypass highway at the Ngarantoni point in the northerly city.

President Kenyatta told the audience said that the sections of the road being inaugurated are part of the Arusha-Holili-Voi expressway later extending to

Mombasa.

President Samia profiled another key integration infrastructure, a road system from the Malindi port to the north of Mombasa through to Mombasa, Tanga and Bagamoyo ports, the latter being closely integrated in road infrastructure with Dar es Salaam.

"Apart from peace and tranquility, the second most important factor in the development of our community is strong and well-developed infrastructure," the outgoing EAC chairman had remarked.

The Arusha bypass measuring 42.4 km circumnavigates Arusha on its north all the way to Holili on the border with Kenya, on the eastern reaches of Kirua Vunjo ward of

Moshi rural district.

The 230km Arusha - Holili -Taveta - Voi road project, co-funded by the African Development Bank (AfDB), the Africa Trade Fund and the two governments the tune of \$173.86m.

An auxiliary project was the 14km Sakina-Tengeru within Arusha, which connects with the Arusha-Namanga-Athi-River highway, scaled at 272km.



Beatrice Bandawe, Nipashe newspaper's managing editor, cuts a cake in her office in The Guardian Limited newsroom in Dar es Salaam yesterday as part of a surprise congratulatory ceremony the company and colleagues hosted for her as she marked her 60th birthday. A lot more partying was lined up for later in the evening. Looking on are TGL administrative officer Rehema Shadrack Songoro (R) and advertising manager Angel Navuri. Photo: Correspondent Jumanne Juma

New report underscores need for regular public awareness campaigns to address human trafficking

By Correspondent James Kandoya

A new report has recommended the need for regular public awareness campaigns to address rising human trafficking cases and improved mobilisation of human resources to fight the malpractice.

The bi-Annual Tanzania anti-trafficking report, 2022 released yesterday by the Tanzania Anti-Human Trafficking and Legal Initiatives (TATLI) also called for improved comprehensive, specialized services for victims, expand-

ing the partnership with non government Organization (NGOs) and train labour inspectors to inspect, identify and report cases.

Speaking during the launch, TATLI Executive Director Godfrey Mpanikizi pointed out challenges hindering efforts to curb the problem as victim witness protection, lack of effectively engaging survivors of human trafficking as partners in developing policies, strategies, practices.

"Others are lack of effective victim-centre, trauma informed

policies, strategies, conducting regular inspections, virtual focus group discussion and case management," he said.

The other challenges according to the report were protection of Tanzanians trafficked abroad which remains minimal giving an example of migrant workers and reporting of fraudulent recruitment agencies which is still an issue.

The report underscored the need establishing effective -trafficking victims assistance mecha-

nism (One stop center) to avoid a right delayed.

The findings further recommended the establishment of one stop center adding that the center will accommodate community welfare officers, police desk and legal officers to ensure the victims are served at one center.

The purpose of keeping all the stakeholders within one centre according to the study was to facilitate and enhance the effectiveness of rendering justice services to the victims.

Burundi chairs EAC, Samia urges peaceful Kenya polls

FROM PAGE 1

democracy via peaceful transition of high office.

Ugandan President Yoweri Museveni recalls the time of the revival of the East African Community where the Arusha-Holili road project started being brought up, towards the end of the 1990s.

"We were with Mzee Moi (late former Kenyan President), Mzee Mkapa and also Mzee Mwinyi, gathering at the (Sheikh Amri Abeid) Stadium here in Arusha. Many things have changed for the better and we have come far as a community," the visiting leader underlined, noting that driving around Tanzania shows that the country was developing rapidly.

"The last time I moved around here there were so many grass thatched huts but they are all now replaced by mansions," he remarked.

Prime Minister Édouard Ngirente standing for Rwanda President Paul Kagame at the summit saluted the Burundian leader for his new role, expressing the view that the community needs to work even harder in bringing people in the region together.

South Sudan presidential affairs minister Barnaba Marial Benjamin sat in for President Salva Kiir Mayardit, highlighting in his remarks at the plenary session that South Sudan had abolished visa requirements for people from the other EAC member states. They can now move freely for business in and out of Juba unhampered, he asserted.

The summit received a report from the council of ministers relating to including French and Kiswahili as EAC official languages.

Indian university to open campus in Dar

By Correspondent Joseph Mwendapole

ONE of the top universities in India—SHARDA University has expressed its intention to open a campus in Dar es Salaam to accommodate Tanzanian students who wish to study in their country.

SHARDA Marketing Manager, Mudasar Naik made the remarks yesterday at the Global Education Link (GEL) pavilion during the university's exhibitions going on at Mnazi Mmoja grounds in Dar es Salaam.

He said the exhibitions have helped the university because most of the students and parents who visited their pavilion were interested in their courses and learning environment in their campuses in India.

Naik said SHARDA has been receiving many students across the world and currently there are more than 150 Tanzanian students pursuing their studies at the varsity which is said to be among top 10 universities in India.

He commended GEL on how it has been helping Tanzanian youth to study in various universities in India and other parts of the world.

He mentioned a few courses they offer as computer science, banking and insurance, information technology, communication engineering, robotics and automation, data analytics, specialization in genetic engineering, food processing technology and cell & molecular biology.

He said SHARDA University has become one of the leading centers of education, research and innovations in Delhi and it offers up to 130 recognized programs.

Naik said the university has more than 270 global academic

partnerships and is the only global university in India that has seen students from 95 countries experience world class facilities.

Irene Shadari, quality assurance specialist at GEOMEDI medical university of Georgia said the university has an intention to open a campus as it is satisfied with the country's investment climate.

She said GEOMEDI is among the successful higher education institutions in Georgia where Tanzanians can join to take different expatriates.

She mentioned some courses offered by the university as medicine, dentistry, physical medicine and rehabilitation, healthcare economics and it provides students with academic and high-tech laboratories and modern clinical bases.

"Equipped with theoretical knowledge and practical skills received at our university, graduate successfully continue their work in the leading clinics and medical institutions in our country or abroad," she said, adding: "Education program at our university are in line with modern European standards and our university collaborates with many foreign educational and scientific research institutions which allow us to fulfill many international project," she said.

He said the university provides students with conditions where research, critical thinking, experience sharing, tolerance, ethics and social responsibility are priorities to ensure preparation of competitive, high qualified specialists.

Universities that attend the on-going exhibition at Mnazi Mmoja are from Iran, India, Georgia, Cyprus, Turkey, United States of America, UK, Mauritius, Dubai, Poland, Australia, Canada and Malaysia.



Dodoma City Council livestock development experts prepare to place an electronic earring on a goat during a livestock identification operation in Nala ward yesterday. Photo: Correspondent Renatha Msungu

UNESCO, government launch gender desk at Udom

By Guardian Reporter

THE United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) in partnership with the government has launched gender desk the University of Dodoma (UDOM) in efforts aimed to strengthen managements in addressing gender-based violence and sexual harassment in higher learning institutions.

The UN agency also handed over about 800 copies of gender desk register books to the government through the Ministry of Community Development, Gender, Women and Special Groups.

In a statement availed to the media yesterday, said Herman Mathias, UNESCO national profession officer for the Education for Health and Well-being Programme said the support to the establishment and op-

erationalization of gender desk at the University of Dodoma is meant to complement government's efforts of ensuring that Higher and Tertiary Education Institutions (HTEIs) have safer and inclusive environment that promotes gender equality and equity to all, partly through the establishment of gender desks.

He said the support is recognition to immense efforts taken by the university managements in addressing GBV and sexual harassment in higher learning institutions.

"While university managements including that of the University of Dodoma have zero tolerance on GBV and sexual harassment acts, the existing reporting mechanisms are not well known to stakeholders particularly students, and do not offer friendly environment that encourages victims (survivors) of such acts to report. This situation has the ten-

gency of inducing underreporting of GBV and sexual harassment acts. The launching of the gender desk at the University of Dodoma is a revolutionary step towards improving GBV reporting mechanisms," he noted.

The book, whose development and printing process was supported by UNESCO under the coordination of the Ministry of Community Development, is an important tool for implementing the 2021 Guideline for the establishment of Gender desks, and for operationalizing the activities of the gender desk in higher and tertiary institutions.

As part of the UNESCO's contribution in the fight against GBV and sexual harassment in higher education, these copies will be distributed to HTEIs in both Tanzania Mainland and Zanzibar indicating that gender desks in HTEIs are now functional.

The operations of the Gender Desk

will be guided by the core values namely: Accountability, Confidentiality, Client centered service and Respect.

"With access to gender desk register book, gender desks are expected to offer such services as: document all GBV related cases, train and sensitize the university community on GBV, sexual harassment and code of conduct issues, provide psycho-social support to survivors of GBV acts, create GBV user friendly reporting systems that empower survivors to open-up, manage GBV referrals and generate evidence to influence policy dialogue on GBV and Sexual harassment cases," the statement read.

UNESCO commits to continue promoting a safer and inclusive environment in higher education in view of ensuring that young people are protected and supported to realize their dreams."

"Our focus is to ensure that every student who is admitted in a higher learning institution accomplishes their dream while healthy, educated and happy about the learning journey. In that regard, we will continue complimenting government and universities' initiatives that address GBV and sexual harassment acts in higher education," he added.

Dr Lily Makalanga-UDOM Gender Unit coordinator said: "Launching of the gender desk is a milestone to us, and an important step towards strengthening university's commitment of ensuring that the university community, particularly the young people have a reliable and trustworthy point of presenting their concerns and receive support."

UNESCO through SIDA funded project "Our Rights, Our Lives, Our Future (O3 Plus Project)" currently being implemented in seven (7) higher

learning institutions including the university of Dodoma will contribute in ensuring that young people in higher and tertiary education institutions in Tanzania realize positive health, education and gender equality outcomes through sustained reductions in new HIV infections, unintended pregnancy and gender-based violence partly through the establishment of gender desks.

Through this project, UNESCO will raise awareness of over 50000 university stakeholders on GBV and sexual harassment acts, provide office furniture to over 10 university gender desks, train about 200 gender desk coordinators from around 15 universities, and facilitate distribution of copies of the gender desk register books to all the project beneficiary universities.

ENDS/sm



Nicodemus Mushi, acting marketing and corporate affairs director with the Tanzania Ports Authority, briefs journalists in Mwanza city on Thursday on the loading of 4,000 tonnes of wheat in Dar es Salaam for onward transportation to Uganda via Mwanza Port - for the first time in about five years. Photo: Correspondent Vitus Audax

'Special strategies meant to lift up cotton farmers'

By Guardian Correspondent, Dodoma

THE government has put in place special strategies aimed to lift up cotton farmers in the country equipping them with essential tools and conducive environment to increase production of the crop to 1 million tonnes by 2025.

This was said by the Tanzania Cotton Board (TCB) Marko Mtunga when addressing reporters on the board's plans to increase production of the crop in the country.

He said the board is working on steady strategies to reach farmers with affordable farming inputs such as quality seeds so as to enable them to increase production and harvests.

"We are well prepared to strengthen cooperation with the Agricultural Seed Agency (ASA) so as to facilitate supply of quality seeds to farmers thus stimulating farming of the crop of the country," he said.

He said that with the support from the Brazil government in the cotton farming, the country will witness transformation of the agriculture sector by attracting more Tanzanians in producing the crop.

"This year production of the crop wasn't good due to climate change, but in the next farming season, we are well prepared to expand and increase production of this commercial crop with strategies that will increase farmers' efficiency, productivity and eventually profit"

he said.

He commended the government for increasing the budget in the agriculture sector which includes putting more emphasis in cotton farming so as to lift farmers who have for years been getting unsatisfying yields.

Joseph Maganga, one of the farmers said cotton is a saviour for the majority of farmers in the Lake Zone and thus efforts instilled by the government in the crop, will help transform incomes and lives of many Tanzanians.

He noted that the crop was abandoned for many years but now many Tanzanians are attracted to it due to robust efforts conducted by the government to increase the value of the crop.

Stakeholders push for hefty investment in education sector

By Getrude Mbago

OUTDATED policies, curriculums and laws have been cited as among major challenges thwarting progress of the education sector in the country despite strides and investment made by the government and stakeholders in the sector.

According to the Tanzania Education Network (TenMet), more coordinated efforts from the government, stakeholders and development partners are needed to sustainably improve the quality of education for the country's development.

Addressing journalists in Dar es Salaam yesterday, TenMet national coordinator Ochola Wayoga said that the fate of the education sector will be discussed intensively so as to come up with deliberate solutions to help it grow and benefit Tanzanians and global citizens.

"We are however happy that the government has commenced a process to review the education policy as well as curriculums in schools. Investment in the education sector should align with the needs in the sector for the country to attain its development goals," he said.

He was speaking at the forthcoming 2nd International Quality Education Conference (IQEC) set to be conducted for three days from August 17, this year to discuss various challenges facing the education sector and later develop and deliberate on innovative approaches to improving quality.

Themed: "Rethinking the Role of Education- At the Key Moment of Global Transformation", the conference aim to provide an opportunity and avenue for policymakers, delegates across Africa and beyond, researchers, academia, stakeholders, and students to interact and share their experience

and knowledge on the role of education in transforming global dynamics.

He said the session will deeply discuss, share experience, technology, and expertise on effective governance of the education sector to find more improved sustainable solutions to education financing.

Ochola said the country's education sector is still facing a shortage of staff, especially competent teachers, essential equipment and tools to support smooth teaching and learning.

"However, despite the challenges, the education sector has continued to improve compared to previous years, we only need collective efforts to continue improving and addressing gaps in the policies, laws and curriculums," he said.

"TenMet is also contributing to the ongoing review of curriculums and policies, we have advised the government to invest in producing competent teachers from kindergarten to university so as to enable provision of quality knowledge to Tanzanian



BBC MEDIA ACTION
TRANSFORMING LIVES THROUGH MEDIA
AROUND THE WORLD

RECRUITMENT NOTICE

BBC Media Action is the BBC's international charity. We believe in the power of media and communication to help reduce poverty and support people in understanding their rights. Our aim is to inform, connect and empower people around the world. With an expanding portfolio, we are now advertising for the following position in Tanzania.

Research Officer: will support the Research Manager in the coordination and implementation of research under the rural radio support project, with a focus on supporting rural radio stations in Tanzania to improve their production capacity, increase their income and develop sustainable approaches to their work. The Research Officer will liaise with local partners and programme participants to support the design, coordination, and implementation of research activities to inform and evaluate the project. The successful candidate will make sure that all activities are implemented in a timely and effective manner.

The Research Officer may, at times, be expected to work flexibly across a range of genres and across all media content, irrespective of their own area of specialism, in line with business needs and to enhance their understanding of the wider media development environment. As a member of a global team of research and communication practitioners, the officer will have the opportunity to contribute to the research and learning team on the synthesis and analysis of best practice for BBC Media Action's projects.

Please only apply if you meet the basic criteria under the person specification which can be downloaded at:

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/mediaaction/jobs/research-officer-tanzania-aug-2022/>

Candidates should send their CV and a cover letter (PDF or Microsoft Word format) which outlines their experience and suitability for the role in English by email to: recruitment@tz.bbcmmediaaction.org with the title of the position applied for in the subject line by **5pm on 07th August 2022**. Please do not send certificates or other attachments. Applicants with no separate cover letter will not be considered. These are local posts applicable to people who have the legal right to live and work in Tanzania and national terms and conditions will apply. Only shortlisted candidates will be notified.

The role may involve working with groups of vulnerable children and adults. For the successful candidate, mandatory training will be provided on BBC Media Action's safeguarding policy and staff code of conduct. A police background check may form part of the recruitment process. BBC Media Action operates a zero-tolerance policy concerning all forms of abuse and exploitation of vulnerable people.

BBC Media Action has zero tolerance for fraud and exploitation. If you have any concerns, please share with us through whistleblower@tz.bbcmmediaaction.org

Lack of reliable avocado markets still stand as obstacle to farmers

By Guardian Correspondent, Njombe

LACK of reliable markets continues to be an impediment to avocado farmers as the fruits rot in the farms.

This was observed here on Monday by Frank Msigwa, the Director of Njombe Southern Highlands Development Association (NSHDA), avocado farmers NGO in the Southern Highlands regions at a training forum that brought together farmers and other stakeholders of the crop.

Msigwa said if steps to find reliable markets for the crop from within and outside the country are not taken, farmers will be in great hardship.

He said as for now there is the challenge regarding lack of reliable markets due to among other things, the ongoing war in Ukraine that has forced the country to export dismal volume of the fruit outside the country leaving it to rot in the fields.

According to him, avocado production has increased globally and many countries are seeking for markets with many capturing Tanzania's former markets.

In realising this, NSHDA, in collaboration with Tanzania Horticulture Association (TAHA) has brought in stakeholders from the United States

to assist farmers acquire huge avocado markets in the United States and the world in general.

"In that case we are also required to invest and ensure we get reliable markets for our fruits," Msigwa noted.

Meanwhile, Njombe Region Trade Officer, Lusungu Mbede, speaking on behalf of Njombe Regional Commissioner Waziri Kindamba, said the government was still fighting for farmers to get reliable markets for their crop.

Jan Francis, a technologist from Agromovil, a US firm that connects avocado farmers and buyers said the main aim of their coming to Tanzania is to assist avocado farmers by directly connecting them to bypassing middlemen.

"We are not buyers ourselves, but we have created systems which will enable farmers to meet buyers," he said.

Some avocado farmers and stakeholders from Southern Highlands regions, including Leonard Mhidimba, Hombé Kaduma and Bokela Mwakabango said such training assists farmers in getting the true picture of the challenge they face, as many of them started to despair.

"In this issue, cooperation is needed to rescue avocado farmers from middlemen who have been squeezing them a lot of their money they earn from their toils," said Mwakabango.



Pascal Gomba (2nd-L), admissions and registration officer with the Institute of Tax Administration, introduces the institute to visitors earlier this week at the ITA pavilion at the Higher Education and Technology Exhibition now in progress in Dar es Salaam. Photo: Guardian Correspondent

SADC ministers plead for acceleration of disaster risk mitigation programmes

By Guardian Reporter

MINISTERS responsible for disaster risk management from the Southern African Development Community (SADC) have expressed concerns over high prevalence of disasters in the region, urging a shift in the regional approach on disaster risk reduction and allocation of significant resources to disaster response and recovery in recent years.

They expressed concerns at the recurrence of disasters in the region at accelerated frequency and severity and stressed the need for heightened vigilance, and pro-activeness when dealing with natural disasters, instead of only reacting when disasters occurred.

The Ministers who met in Lilongwe, Malawi recently reviewed

the implementation of SADC programmes aimed at strengthening the region's preparedness to disaster risks, and mitigation of the impacts of disasters; as well as enhancing relief efforts and strengthening the region's resilience to natural disasters, amongst others.

The meeting was held against the backdrop of several disasters in the SADC region, including droughts, tropical cyclones, torrential rains, floods, wildfires as well as pandemics which continue to batter the region, causing deaths, service disruptions, and severe damage to infrastructure.

Robin Lowe, Malawi's Minister for Agriculture and Chairperson of Committee of SADC ministers responsible for disaster risk management, highlighted disasters that

have devastated the region, citing cyclones that caused excessive torrential rains and floods that resulted in destruction of infrastructure, loss of lives and livelihoods in Madagascar, Malawi, Mozambique, and South Africa.

The tropical cyclones also triggered flooding in Botswana, Malawi, Tanzania, Zambia, and Zimbabwe.

He emphasised the need for SADC to step-up efforts to combat disasters and advocated for member states' involvement in mapping the way to improve disaster risk management.

Dr Thembinkosi Mhlongo, SADC Deputy Executive Secretary responsible for regional integration, emphasised the need to improve coordinated efforts

to overcome natural and human-made calamities.

He said SADC must develop structures and mechanisms at regional level to face these catastrophes as a cohesive front. He noted that the region was emerging from yet another wave of COVID-19, whose effects worsened over the winter period, highlighting the need for continued vigilance.

Ministers reviewed progress in building the region's disaster risk financing facility and operationalising the SADC humanitarian and emergency operations centre in Mozambique, which will coordinate humanitarian and emergency efforts to assist Member States affected by disasters.

Ministers received the 2022 regional synthesis report on the

state of food and nutrition security in Southern Africa, and noted the region's weak macroeconomic performance which contributed to an increase in the number of food insecure people, currently estimated to be 55.7 million for the 2022/23 rainfall season.

Ministers considered the allocation of additional financial resources to support member states affected by disasters as well as strengthening the Regional Vulnerability Assessment and Analysis Programme and National Vulnerability Assessment and Analysis Committees to ensure the collection and analysis of data to determine the levels of vulnerabilities to food insecurity in the region, while the Disaster Preparedness Fund is being finalised.

On the implementation of the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction, and Africa Strategy for DRR Programme of Action (PoA) the ministers assessed progress made and identified gaps and bottlenecks in the regional efforts to enhance national disaster risk management capacities.

They urged member states to improve timely reporting on the impacts of disasters as they occurred in order to facilitate early action and response.

They urged the region to fast-track the implementation of disaster risk management interventions by implementing the provisions of the Sendai Framework for disaster risk reduction, which aims to avoid the generation of new risks, reduce current risks, and enhanced resilience.



Zanzibar's Health deputy minister, Hassan Khamis Hafidh, addresses locality officials and medical staff at Kianga Hospital in Unguja's Urban West Region yesterday on the importance of Covid-19 vaccinations. It was during the launch of a campaign on the issue. Photo: Rahma Suleiman

1,000 youths in Kilindi interviews as census clerks

By Correspondent Cheji Bakari, Kilindi

A total of 1000 youth in Kilindi District, Tanga Region who applied for jobs in the Population and Housing Census have passed interviews as clerks and are only waiting for a special capacity building training.

The training will focus on the use of the digital tools during implementation of population and housing census day expected to be conducted on August 23, this year.

District census coordinator Yuda Thadei Kway told this paper in an interview that a total of 2,570 people had applied for census clerk jobs where 1,889 underwent interviews with 1,000 of them passing the exam.

He said that the selected clerks will be working throughout all 608 selected counting areas that population and housing census exercise will be carried out and called on the community to participate in the exercise which is important for social and national development.

He said the timetable for the census exercise has already been released and supplied in suburbs, villages and wards offices alongside with formation of census committees on their respective areas.

He pointed out the district council in collaboration with land officers was also closely monitoring areas with land boundaries conflicts so as to find durable solutions.

"Here in the district some villages are facing a number of land conflicts but fortunately enough already leaders from village to district level sat and came up with positive solutions, so the census exercise will be carried out peacefully," he explained.

District Commissioner Abel Busalama preparations of the census have reached 90 percent including transport facilities, formation of census committees, motivation and provision of education on the importance of census for the country's development.

He said the remaining work includes convening religious and traditional leaders and organizing more workshops to improve awareness on the importance of census.

Special Seats MP highlights need for CCM wings to streamline operations

By Correspondent George Sembony, Tanga

SPECIAL Seats MP, Husna Sekiboko has highlighted need for the CCM parent and youth wings to streamline operations so as to align with the modern technological requirements.

She made the call here at the handing over event of 13 desktop computers, printers and accessories, plum paper rims worth 19m/- donated by three Special Seats legislators for CCM's women national wing (UWT) offices in nine districts and other wings of the ruling

party.

Sekiboko donated ten computers worth 14m/- on the 13 computers while her colleague, Mwanaisha Ulenge donated three computers and printers worth 5m/-.

She said that as development of science and technology has taken centre stage in various operations, investing in adopting and installing digital systems in offices was a matter of paramount importance.

"It is our duty as CCM members and leaders to help build the party and change the party into modern institution that operates using

the digital revolution," Sekiboko said.

Receiving the computers, UWT regional chairperson, Dr Aisha Kigoda thanked the three MPs for donating the computers and other devices to modernize operations in the offices.

She particularly urged district UWT Secretaries and management to utilize the digital equipment by formulating project proposals to further increase income.

"Our major challenge now is lack of income generating projects that would enable the wing to be self-sufficient. Party wings have

been directed to build staff houses and the districts were currently in different stages of the execution of the directive," she said.

She said some districts were currently in the process of acquiring plots or pursuing title deeds, but Muheza was far ahead and currently in the process of building foundations.

"Establishment of economic projects was the only answer to being able to finance our projects. We must strive to create projects that would make us self-sufficient," she said.

Dr Kigoda also urged the UWT offices to use the modern equipment to keep important re-

ords and data such as the number of women and groups which have already acquired loans from various sources and keep track to see whether the loans have had an impact on their economic well-being.

Earlier, UWT Tanga Regional Secretary Aziza Hussein Kiduda said the computers and printers will help improve their operational performance.

She said that Special Seats MP Husna Sekiboko has agreed to support training to enable UWT staff to use the computers efficiently.

TANROADS all out to construct 25km Mbulu-Garbabi road at tarmac level

By Guardian Correspondent, Manyara

THE Tanzania National Roads Agency (TANROADS) in Manyara Region is expecting to start construction of the 25 kilometres road from Mbulu to Garbabi village at tarmac level.

Construction of the road follows efforts by Mbulu Rural MP, Platei Masay, who has been pushing the government to construct the road which apart from easing transportation services will facilitate business activities.

TANROADS Manager in Manyara Region, Eng Bashiri Rwesingisa made the remarks over the weekend when briefing Manyara Regional Commissioner, Makongoro Nyerere who is on official tour to inspect implementation of development projects.

The manager said that the design and construction tender was announced on June 8 last year and that tenders were to be submitted from October 2021, but no company has applied for the job.

"We re-announced the tender on December 15th 2021 whereas the site in-

spection was conducted on November 15th last year," said Rwesingisa, adding the project will now be implemented by a Chinese firm—Jiangxi Geo Engineering Co Ltd from China.

He said TANROADS and Jiangxi Geo Engineering Co Ltd signed the agreement on June 30th this year.

Rwesingisa said the project will be implemented for 18 months which includes three months of preparations prior to starting the work.

Manyara Regional Commissioner, Makongoro Nyerere said although the MP wanted TANROADS to construct a 389 kilometres section of the road from Mbulu/Karatu to Sibiti/Lalago they will start with 25 kilometres from Mbulu to Garbabi. He advised TANROADS if the contractor has the ability for the government to provide him with the entire road and build it alone.

Meanwhile, the legislator used the opportunity to thank President Samia Suluhu Hassan for improving the road since it is important for the region's economy.



Dr Francis Michael (3rd-L, foreground), Permanent Secretary in the Education, Science and Technology ministry, exchanges greetings with Tanzania Education Authority staff when he arrived at the TEA offices in Dar es Salaam on Thursday for a routine visit. Photo: Correspondent Joseph Mwendapole

EAC head of states commit to revitalising bloc's common market

By Guardian Reporter

THE East African Community (EAC) chairman Uhuru Kenyatta has said that infrastructure development was critical in attaining the region's objective of being one big market stretching from the Indian Ocean to the Atlantic Ocean.

The Summit that met for the first time physically in three years noted that the Common Market was the best way to increase intra-regional trade and spur economic growth in the region.

He made the remarks at the high-level retreat for the summit on the EAC Common Market that was held yesterday in Arusha.

He deliberated at length on the vast opportunities available to the region under the protocol and how to exploit them for the benefit of all partner states.

President Kenyatta said that East Africa would only attain the Common Market if its citizens were able to communicate easily, and to move and ferry goods freely across the region.

He said that Kenya was keen to build transnational roads extending to all her borders, adding that the Multi-national Bagamoyo-Horohoro-Lunga Lunga-Malindi Road stretching along the coasts of Kenya and Tanzania was currently under construction and would be launched soon.

The EAC chairperson said that the massive infrastructure development including modern railroads on both the Northern and Central Transport Corridors was meant to reduce the cost of movement of people and goods across the region.

President Kenyatta said that if the region is not interlinked through infrastructure, it would remain a market

for other nations and blocs, not a producer of commodities for sale.

He said that by exporting minerals and raw materials, the region would essentially be exporting jobs as is now the case, adding that value addition to national products was vital.

President Kenyatta said that EAC had a vast opportunity to grow with its ever-expanding market and therefore reduce economic dependence on the developed world.

He defended his government's policy to take Chinese loans saying that without infrastructure development, Kenya and by extension EAC would remain a primary producer of raw materials.

In her remarks President Samia Suluhu Hassan called for intensive agriculture through irrigation and rainwater harvesting to double food production in the region and boost

food security.

President Samia emphasized the need to avail cheap credit to farmers to purchase inputs to boost agricultural production.

President Samia further observed that pre- and post-harvest losses were impacting negatively on agricultural production in the region, adding that proper storage was crucial to attaining food security.

The Head of State called for the establishment of a food balance sheet for the region that would state what each country produces and on what scale.

President Samia said that Burundi was a good example of agricultural transformation saying that the country had witnessed increased food production due to good governance and an improved security situation.

President Samia disclosed that Tanzania was determined to increase

its maize production from the 6 million tonnes for the current year to 18 million tonnes in 2023, adding that through proper planning, the region has the capacity to feed itself with a surplus for export.

Ugandan President Yoweri Museveni said that there is no way a country or region could achieve prosperity if it doesn't solve the issue of market size.

"The more goods people can buy from you, the better," said President Museveni, adding that the global trend over the past two hundred years was to expand markets to guarantee prosperity.

President Museveni observed that Latin America was rich in natural resources yet its people were suffering and flocking to the US to escape poverty due to disorder in the region's economic policies.

President Museveni said that a ro-

bust policy framework was a key to attaining economic growth in all sectors.

On Covid-19, President Museveni said that it had been a mixed bag with a good and bad side. He said that Uganda was upgrading its ARV factory to produce vaccines for life-threatening diseases and conduct research.

The Ugandan Head of State said the current fuel price crisis was another opportunity for the EAC and Africa to take charge of their destiny by shifting to cheap and cleaner energy sources. He disclosed that Uganda would upgrade its Kiira automobile plant to produce electrical cars that reduce fuel consumption.

Burundi's President Evariste Ndayishimiye said that EAC was doing well in terms of inter-linking its markets through infrastructure development and allowing free movement of persons.



Small traders defy standing directives by conducting business on a pedestrian path beside the Kimara Mwisho stretch of Dar es Salaam's Morogoro Road, as captured yesterday. Photo: Correspondent Sabato Kasika

Govt vows to boost sugarcane production with help of irrigation and quality seeds

By Guardian Correspondent, Morogoro

THE government has vowed to boost sugarcane production in the country by investing in irrigation infrastructures and encourage use of quality seeds.

The government strategy was announced here Monday this week by the Minister for Agriculture, Hussein Bashe when opening the 10th meeting of the country's sugar sector stakeholders which was also attended by the Minister for Investment, Industry and Trade, Dr Ashatu Kijaji.

Bashe also instructed Tanzania Sugar Board (TSB) to collaborate with the National Irrigation Commission (NIRC) to identify farm areas to make feasibility studies and invest in the construction of infrastructures as many small sugarcane farmers depend on rains for cultivation.

He explained that for the irrigation technology to reach sugarcane farms, TSB must involve NIRC in identifying the farms to know which type of technology will be needed.

According to Bashe, small sugarcane farmers have a big contribution in sugar production and that it is essential to improve farming infrastructures.

He cited the example of the infrastructure investment to be made in the Kilombero Valley with many sugarcane farmers, saying it will have to be emulated by others in the crop's production.

He also instructed Tanzania Agriculture Research Institute (TARI) to conduct research and establish quality seedlings blocks for high capacity sugarcane production to be used by farmers.

Dr Kijaji called upon sugar stakeholders to make preparations for competing at sugar markets in Africa and beyond.

She said there is no need for fear in the world competitive markets, adding that what is important is for farmers to employ modern farming practices.

SBT Managing Director, Prof Kenneth Bengesi said the sugar shortage is caused by low sugar production especially by small farmers due to using poor quality seeds that cannot withstand drought.

Bakari Mwangi, a sugarcane farmer from the Kilombero Valley thanked the government for helping small farmers to abandon traditional farming practices that solely depend on rains, saying they will now adopt irrigation as well as using quality seeds.

Local leaders urged to be on forefront in protecting the environment

By Correspondent James Kandoya

LOCAL leaders at street's level have been urged to be on the forefront to emphasize the cleaning of the environment to destroy the common mosquito breeding site.

Ummy Mwalimu, the Minister for Health made the order at the official launching of mosquito larvicide for Handeni and Lushoto districts in Tanga region that was sponsored by the Switzerland development agency.

She said even after using the mosquitoes larvicide the community needed to clean the environment by destroying common mosquito breeding site adding that street's

leaders should be responsible to emphasize their people to do so.

"If we cover trash cans, pools it will help to prevent disease spread by the parasite and other related diseases such as dengue, elephantiasis, hydrocele, and rift valley fever," she said.

She called for the implementation of both the Public Health Act, 2009 (No. 1 of 2010) and Environment Management Act of 2004 from the responsible authorities.

Mwalimu added that once it was implemented effectively, it will help to reduce the breeding sites, mosquitoes and therefore reduce malaria infections.

"Stern measures should be taken to any

one ignoring to implement the directives of destroying the breeding sites," she added.

"Malaria disease is still a problem in the country. The ministry of Health in collaboration with stakeholders has reduced the disease rates where out of 100 people attended in hospitals 10 are diagnosed with the disease," she said.

The minister said through the project 'Towards Elimination of Malaria in Tanzania' (TEMT), a two year project implemented by Switzerland will bring positive outcomes.

The ministry through its national Malaria control programme is implementing

a five years aimed at reducing infection rates where in 2012 it was 14 percent and dropped to 7.5 percent in 2017.

Didier Chassot, the Ambassador of Switzerland to Tanzania, said his government would like to see Tanzania that is free from malaria disease and therefore support the project worth 400bn/-.

He said despite efforts from the government and its stakeholder's malaria still kills people adding that Switzerland government will continue collaborating with Tanzania.

TEMT project has fully embraced the new strategic approach recommended by the World Health Organisation (WHO) and

undertakes to support it outcomes.

In addition, the project is committed to strengthen national, regional and global links as well as generating, disseminating and using knowledge nationally, regionally and globally.

It includes the support for cost-effective and evidence-based malaria control efforts at national level and decentralized in each epidemiological risk strata.

Also, enhancing multi-sectoral action in malaria control by including non-health sectors and particularly the private sector in the malaria control effort and extend this to cross-border and regional initiatives.



Kishapu district commissioner Joseph Mkunde (R) sensitises pastoralists at Magalata village on Thursday on the need for them to facilitate efforts by the Tanzania Petroleum Development Corporation to continue with the oil and gas research in or around their places of domicile. Photo: Correspondent Marco Maduhu

Kunenge calls on livestock keepers to adopt modern farming practices

By Guardian Reporter, Kibaha

COAST Regional Commissioner, Abubakari Kunenge has urged livestock keepers to adopt modern farming practices to increase their income and enhance productivity.

He made the statement over the weekend when speaking at the livestock exhibition held at Highland Estate farm in Ubena Zomozi, Chalinze District. The exhibition which started on July 15th to 17th, 2022 was organised by the Tanzania Cattle Commercial Society.

Kunenge said that for farmers to benefit from their livestock keeping activities they should consider improving their farming practices and its value chain. He said it is important also to select better livestock breeds and ensure the use of proper animal drugs.

"Without the application of proper farming methods there shouldn't be good productivity. You must use the education and information from this exhibition to improve your farming practices," the RC said noting good performance

of the sub-sector would attract more people into cattle rearing.

He however challenged livestock keepers to consider the number of animals they keep as well as land use planning to allow implementation of other activities such as agriculture, mining and industries.

Kunenge emphasized that proper land use planning with a limited number of animals would result in better yields. He advised farmers to make use of quality certified seeds to harvest enough for food and business.

He has called upon local government leaders to help motivate livestock keepers and promote modern farming practices. He asked participating banks and financial institutions to help those interested to invest in the livestock sub-sector.

"It is my hope that improvement of the sector would result in improved welfare of the people, thus contributing to the country's economic growth. Farmers should also be assisted to get insurance for their crops and animals to benefit with their agricultural services," he stated.

NGO establishes VCT for youth's education skills

By Correspondent James Lanka, Same

THE Kilimanjaro based Non-Governmental Organisation-Ishinde Youth Initiative Organisation (IYI Org) has established a vocational training centre (VCT) to provide technical skills education for youths, aiming at making them self-reliant through self-employment.

Speaking in Same District recently, Director of the institution, Noel Kipesha

said the project has already been introduced to government officials as well as Ishinde village residents.

"Establishment of this technical training institution is in response to a call by the government which urged education stakeholders to set up vocational training centres to provide young people with vocational skills," he said.

Kipesha said they are targeting youth who have completed their

education at various levels of education; this will help them with technical skills to be able to employ themselves.

The centre will also target those with Advanced level secondary education as well as those who have completed their studies in higher learning institutions, he said.

He said the college has been established in collaboration with a German based-Marion Meyenburg

Stiftung. He said their partner will provide education in a modern digital system whereas students will be taught virtually.

"We expect to start enrolling students in January, 2023 whereas we will be offering five vocational courses namely, motor vehicle mechanics, masonry, carpentry, tailoring and electrical technicians.

Ishinde Village Executive Officer (VEO), Indiaeli Moshi, commended

IYI Org for setting up the college which will help youth who have been struggling to get jobs after completing their secondary school education.

"You should also consider learning and teaching equipment for people living with disabilities (PWDs) as they are also in need of such skills," she said.

IYI Org Project Manager, Emmanuel Msimo said the first intake will

have a total of 150 students who will be registered through the National Council for Technical Education and Training (NACTVET). He said being approved by the council will make their certificates to be recognized locally and internationally.

"May I call upon youth to take advantage of the college and enroll for the various vocational courses. With the skills young people will be able to come up with innovative ideas to es-



Plumbers from Kondoa-based Miraji Mgogo Ltd lay clean and safe water pipes earlier this week pending connection to tanks Plasco has built at Dabalo village in Chamwino District, Dodoma Region. Photo: Correspondent Peter Mkwavila

Villagers in Ikombe plead for road connecting them to local government offices

By Guardian Correspondent, Mbeya

RESIDENTS of Ikombe village at Matema ward in Kyela district Mbeya Region have appealed to the government to construct a road connecting them to local government offices so that they move away from using canoes which risks their lives.

The residents claim they fail to access essential services available at Matema including crossing to Kyela town and other places in Mbeya region due to lack of a road. One of the residents Julius Angumbwike said they tried to make a passable road for themselves using hand hoes but they failed because of the geography of the area which is rocky.

They said the road which was dug on the sides of Lake Nyasa was in the past promised to be constructed by the government but the promise was not implemented.

"Our main business is ports and fish but our customers are in Kyela and Mbeya and now we are forced to transport the goods through canoes and other modes because vehicles cannot access the area," he said.

He said even the economy of the area has been affected due to lack of effective transport calling upon the government to open up the village.

The legislator for Kyela Ally Jumbe said he toured the village with authorities from Tanzania National Roads Agency (TANROADS) who were inspecting the situation.

He said the problem with the road was that it has hills with rocks which are required to be broken by blasts saying there was a contractor who was tasked with constructing the road but abandoned it for unknown reasons.

He said the road was important for the villagers because it was the only way out of the village where they get essential good and needs.

He said the road and others in Kyela Township are in government books for construction calling upon residents to remain calm for the government was aware.

TEMESA, stakeholders meet to discuss customers' complaints

By Guardian Reporter

TANZANIA Electrical, Mechanical and Electronics Services Agency (TEMESA) has convened a meeting with its stakeholder to discuss on how to provide better services aimed at reducing customers' complaints and bring about its structural transformation for positive results starting from its management

down to workers.

At the meeting, held in Morogoro region, Works and Transport Permanent Deputy Secretary (Works Division) Ludovick Nduhiye said its aim is to collect views on a strategical document for the agency's improvement.

He said TEMESA workshops that perform poorly has incurred the government a lot of money in their operation, hence, he added,

they are reviewing the agency performance that will work together with the private sector.

"I am very much pleased to see the Managing Director of Toyota Tanzania here as the firm is a big government stakeholder in regard to the make of cars the government uses as well as in their repair," Nduhiye said.

He noted that the government has met with its important stakeholders to enable them

provide their own concept in regard to challenges facing the agency, as well as receiving views that could provide correct solutions.

Meanwhile, TEMESA Chief Executive Officer, Lazaro Kilahalaa said he hopes that after going through various areas for improvement, the agency will come up differently to be able to go in tandem with the government's pace to spur economic growth.

Simultaneously, Toyota Tanzania Managing Director, Kadiva William assured the Deputy Permanent Secretary that they, as big stakeholders in regard to the importation of government vehicles were ready to help the government on the better to take care of the vehicles as well as aiding the government reduce maintenance costs thereon.

TARI calls on farmers to use researched groundnut seeds

By Guardian Correspondent, Mtwara

GROUNDNUTS farmers in the country have been advised to use seeds that have been researched on and follow advice provided by farming experts in order to boost production.

The remarks were made here Wednesday by the national coordinator for the groundnuts crop from the Naliende Centre of Tanzania Agricultural Research Institute (TARI-Naliende), Dr Happy Daud in an interview with this paper in which he said Tanzanians should wake up and grow groundnuts in abundance as quality seeds that produce better yield are now available.

Meanwhile, TARI-Naliende researchers have mobilised farmers to use quality seeds that have been researched on by the centre.

She said so far they have 11 types of groundnuts seeds that are fit to grow in many parts of the country and which were now being distributed by the centre. "If you plant a quality seed, you are supposed to harvest 10 seeds which boosts farmers' yields and that is why we are mobilising farmers to use these seeds," said Dr Daud.

Assistant groundnuts researcher at the TARI-Naliende Centre, Anthony Bujiku said it is better for farmers to understand the quality of these seeds and use them as they will be more enthusiastic to grow the cash crop.

"The good thing of these seeds is that they withstand drought and pests and that is why we are urging farmers to use them.

"We also displayed the seeds and educate farmers on how to grow them during the just ended 46th Dar es Salaam International Trade Fair in Dar es Salaam," she added.

One, Ibadi Matata, a groundnuts farmer from Chitekete Ward in Newala District said the "Pendo" type of groundnuts seeds has helped him to harvest six bags of the crop from one acre, the first time ever to do so.

"I must thank TARI-Naliende for mobilising us to use researched seeds as they provide us with more profit, as I have been able to harvest six bags of groundnuts this year, and I consider cultivating cassava as well this season after consulting TARI," he said, adding that last year he harvested only two bags of groundnuts while using traditional seeds.

We also displayed the seeds and educate farmers on how to grow them during the just ended 46th Dar es Salaam International Trade Fair in Dar es Salaam



David Chitemo, a member of the Nanenane agricultural exhibition central zone preparation committee, oversees the on-going construction of roads at the Nanenane Nzuguni Exhibition Grounds in Dodoma city earlier this week. It was all in preparation for the commemoration of Nanenane Farmers' Day slate for July. Photo: Correspondent Ibrahim Joseph

Dutch national on third-time Mt Kilimanjaro expedition

By Correspondent James Lanka, Moshi

HOLLAND native, Wendy Baardman who lost her right leg in 1999 when she was 35 years old has climbed Mount Kilimanjaro for the third time through the Marangu route aiming to inform the world that 'disability is not inability'.

Wendy's aims at raising awareness on the needs and abilities of people with physical disabilities and funds

for her country's based charitable organisation—Foundation Friends of the Port Reitz School.

Speaking with this paper yesterday, Wendy said she has decided to climb Mt Kilimanjaro, famously known as 'The Roof of Africa' to deliver mobility into the lives of children, teens and adults, within the community who otherwise would have limited resources to acquire a wheelchair.

The charity Kili climbing was or-

ganized by the ZARA Tanzania Adventures.

"I was in a wheelchair from 1999 to 2016 before I got an electric leg. Through this Kilimanjaro charity climb we are going to prove to the world that disability is not inability as well as raising funds to support disabled children in Tanzania and Kenya," she said.

She said the Holland-based Foundation Friends of the Port Reitz

School is also transforming lives through providing dignity of mobility, hope and opportunity through freedom of independence.

"Through the generosity and support of both local and international sponsors we are able to deliver hope, independence, and enable human and social upward mobility," Wendy added. She said they are expecting to climb the mountain in January 2023 together with her friends from Hol-

land, France, Kenya, and Tanzania.

She further explained that her organisation will support disabled children in Tanzania through ZARA tours and in Kenya through the 'The Friends of Port Reitz School Foundation' in Mombasa.

President of The Friends of Port Reitz School Foundation in Mombasa, Morrison Asava said the goal of the foundation is to improve the quality of life, health and education.

The Port Reitz School in Mombasa, Kenya is a school with 300 handicapped and socially disadvantaged students of which 165 are boarders. The foundation was formed in Holland in 2009.

Chief Guide of the special expedition from ZARA tours, Theophil Karia said clients with disabilities experience various challenges when climbing the mountain, but they were assisted to ensure they all reach the peak.



A member of Dar es Salaam's Kipunguni Knowledge and Information Centre, which is engaged chiefly in sensitising the public on gender-based violence in Dar es Salaam, pictured earlier this week distributing leaflets on the issue. It was during a street-by-street campaign meant to mobilise people to line themselves up for the upcoming (August 23) national Population and Housing Census. Photo: Correspondent Sabato Kasika

Improve graduates skills development through 'apprenticeship' programme, ILO advises govt

By Correspondent Emmanuel Onyango

THE International Labour Organisation (ILO) has suggested for the government to heavily invest on apprenticeship programmes to help fresh graduates from higher learning institutions to acquire more work experiences, thus being able to compete in job markets.

The call by ILO has come at a time when the world is faced with high rate of unemployment and majority graduates are denied access to available job opportunities over lack of enough experience as demanded by employers.

The communication trainer for ILO based in Dar es Salaam office which also serves as the East African headquarter Belinda Jaffeth said on Tuesday this week that the two way training approach known as 'apprenticeship' helps to improve skills development.

She told journalists at a one day training seminar organised by ILO that, the apprentice spends a portion of time in class and the other portion of studies on the job training, hence training institutes collaborate with employers to develop, train and assess the apprentices.

"The world is changing at an immeasurable speed, and all this is because of science and technology which is now taking the centre stage in all spheres of human life and therefore the government need to think about this and if possible induce in its policy and educational curriculum.

Statistics made available by ILO shows that, currently there are about 800,000 graduates in the country who are faced with unemployment due to

lack of development skills in their careers, this is a national problem whose rates increase year after year.

After having realised the magnitude of the problem is increasing among graduates in the country, the ILO launched the programme in June 2021 which has proved a good success as it works in collaboration with the government.

ILO piloted and launched Tanzania's first apprenticeship programme in the hospitality and tourism sector in collaboration with the government and the success of this programme is that ILO provides useful tools, guidelines and technical support on how to develop quality apprenticeship programmes.

According to Belinda, ILO first identified programmes that fit the apprenticeship mode in banking and finance and also in insurance and risk management. Then the organisation formed curriculum development team comprised of training partners, she affirmed.

She added: "What prompted ILO in this programme is that there is a great concern of employability of Tanzanian graduates because of a mismatch of what training institutions offer and what employers expect."

There are several benefits to this dual training approach, according to the ILO as the programme systems are increasingly recognised as a key element to tackle the youth employment crisis.

Despite facing challenges in the context of a fast changing world of work and technological advancements, apprenticeships can empower both youth and older workers to acquire new skills throughout their working lives.

600 women-led businesses in Africa get 165m/- grant

By Esther Nyandoro

SOME 600 women-led businesses in Mozambique, Tanzania and Zambia will receive \$1.4 million (about 165M/-) in funding from the African Development Bank (AfDB).

The technical assistance grant to Export Trading Group (ETG), an integrated agricultural supply chain manager and processor in sub-Saharan Africa, was approved by the bank's board of directors.

Through a press release, AfDB said the project will enable 200 women-owned businesses in each of the three countries to improve their entrepreneurship skills through training under ETG's Women Entrepreneurship and Employability project.

The programme's main objective is to increase the efficiency of targeted women-owned and led small and medium-sized enterprises employed in ETG's operations. It also aims to provide such enterprises with opportunities to link with domestic and global markets, scaling up access to financial products and services, building capacity and expanding networks plus mentorship. The initiative will run until 2025.

"This is the first project to directly leverage the bank's Affirmative Finance Action for Women in Africa (AFAWA) programme for the bank's private sector agriculture projects, enhancing development impact while supporting women farmers and women-led small and medium enterprises," noted Atsuko Toda, AfDB's director

of Agricultural Finance and Rural Infrastructure Development.

The agriculture sector, the press release said, significantly contributes to the growth of the economies of Mozambique, Tanzania, and Zambia. Women constitute up to 60 per cent of the rural labour force and about 80 per cent of food producers in these economies.

"Of the financing for the grant, \$1.4 million will come from AfDB-managed We-Fi grant resources, which will be utilised to undertake a diagnostic study and capacity building of the selected enterprises in the major ETG locations.

Additional co-financing of up to \$400,000 will come from ETG for the employability aspects of the project. It will also be used to

facilitate collaboration with financial institutions and other relevant stakeholders," stated the press release.

"Through AFAWA, the bank will support the implementation of the programme through provision of gender equitable financial and technical support in agriculture towards increased productivity and food security, access to financial services, information, markets, technology, and productive resources," said Esther Dassanou, AFAWA programme manager.

"ETG has shown its commitment to embedding a gender perspective into its business operations with the understanding that this is vital to its success and that women are at the centre of this development process, and

a crucial resource in agriculture and the rural economy."

This project will complement the bank's \$150 million trade and agro-finance package approved in November last year to EGT. It will be implemented in partnership with ETG's development arm, the Farmers Foundation, a non-profit organisation established in 2012 in Tanzania to stimulate growth in agriculture and foster the development of rural economies.

As stated in the press release, the foundation has worked with 100,000 (40 per cent female) agribusinesses and created an inclusive sustainable development model in multiple value chains such as oil seeds, legumes, pulses, cereals, coffee and cashew in Uganda, Kenya, Tanzania, Zambia, Zimbabwe, and Mozambique.

Africa should do lots more on women's empowerment

WOMEN'S empowerment (or female empowerment) may be defined in several ways, including accepting women's viewpoints or making an effort to seek them, raising the status of women through education, awareness, literacy, and training. Empowering women means to have agency over one's life and equal opportunity to participate in society. Women's empowerment, or female empowerment, is the process by which women gain influence and equal opportunity to pursue personal, social and economic endeavours, engaging in all parts of society on the same basis as men globally. Poverty greatly limits women's empowerment. In general, the poorer a person is the less access they have to jobs, resources, political participation and much more. Around the world, poverty disproportionately affects young women and girls. Helping them move out of poverty is an incredibly effective way to achieve female empowerment.

In addition, in many low-income countries, discriminatory laws and intertwined social practices limit a woman's rights. She may not be able to own property, open a bank account, receive education, start a business and more. Encouraging society to re-examine these laws and norms also can empower women.

Kudos to the Food and Agriculture Organisation (FAO) sub regional office for eastern Africa and the Japanese government mission to the African Union have launched a project aiming at fostering employment among women and youth in agriculture and agribusiness in six eastern African countries.

The project 'Promoting Employment and Entrepreneurship Opportunities among Women and Youth in Agriculture and Agribusiness in Eastern Africa' is being implemented in Burundi, Ethiopia, Kenya, Rwanda,

South Sudan and Uganda.

It is set to facilitate and ensure enhanced knowledge and application of digital solutions in agri-food systems with a particular focus on women and youth. It is also strengthening human and institutional capacities, while providing agripreneurs with the opportunities to access finance for agri-food systems development.

During the virtual launch event, David Phiri, FAO Sub-regional Coordinator for Eastern Africa and Representative to the AU and United Nations Economic Commission for Africa (UNECA), recalled that the Eastern Africa sub-region was home to 50 percent of the highly food insecure population of the whole of Africa and, hence, aiding this sub-region meant supporting the whole of Africa.

The COVID-19 pandemic posed additional risks, which significantly compromised the livelihoods of millions of people, particularly the youth and women. To alleviate this challenge, FAO, in collaboration with development partners, was engaged in several interventions, supporting decent employment, agripreneurship and resilience building for youth and women in the agriculture sector.

"This project, which supports nations to explore new ways to tap into their youthful, energetic, innovative and industrious resources by creating opportunities for jobs, where agriculture is the most viable sector, is one of the timeliest engagements of FAO and the government of Japan," Phiri commented.

Horiuchi Toshihiko, Ambassador of Japan to the African Union, asserted that the Japanese Government was glad to work with FAO in addressing food security challenges in Eastern Africa, where the livelihoods of millions people are highly dependent on agriculture.

Protecting African heritage sites under threat from climate crisis

A World Heritage Site is a landmark or area with legal protection by an international convention administered by the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organisation (UNESCO). World Heritage Sites are designated by UNESCO for having cultural, historical, scientific or other form of significance.

The sites are judged to contain 'cultural and natural heritage around the world considered to be of outstanding value to humanity'.

To be selected, a World Heritage Site must be a somehow unique landmark which is geographically and historically identifiable and has special cultural or physical significance.

As of July 2021, a total of 1,154 World Heritage Sites (897 cultural, 218 natural, and 39 mixed properties) exist across 167 countries. Sites are demarcated by UNESCO as protected zones.

The World Heritage Sites list is maintained by the international World Heritage Programme administered by the UNESCO World Heritage Committee, composed of 21 'states parties' that are elected by their General Assembly.

AS the effects of climate change continue to cause significant damage across the globe, recent research led by the University of Cape Town's (UCT) African Climate and Development Initiative (ACDI) revealed that heritage sites of "outstanding and universal value" located along the African coast are at threat of rising sea levels.

The global team of climate risk and heritage experts - led by Dr Nicholas Simpson, a postdoctoral research fellow at the ACDI - have presented their first comprehensive

assessment that details how African cultural and heritage sites are exposed to extreme high sea levels, as well as erosion associated with accelerating sea levels. Their research was published in a leading peer-reviewed scientific journal Nature Climate Change this week.

The team spent a full year identifying and methodically mapping the boundary of 284 African coastal heritage sites. Thereafter, Dr Simpson explained, the team modelled the exposure of each site using future global warming scenarios.

According to Simpson, researchers uncovered several ground-breaking findings.

Fifty-six sites surveyed, including the iconic ruins of Tipasa in Algeria and the North Sinai archaeological Sites Zone in Egypt, are at risk of being affected by once-in-a-century-type extreme high sea levels. By 2050, the number of exposed sites is expected to triple.

About 191 sites are likely to be affected by moderate emissions and 198 by high emissions.

Further, he said at least 151 other natural and 40 cultural sites are also at risk of being exposed to rising sea levels from 2050 onwards. "There are several countries projected to have all their coastal heritage sites exposed to the 100-year extreme coastal event by the end of the century," Simpson said.

The countries and territories affected include Cameroon, the Democratic Republic of the Congo, Djibouti, Western Sahara, Libya, Mozambique, Mauritania, and Namibia.

He said worst case scenario, Côte d'Ivoire, Cabo Verde, Sudan and Tanzania could also be affected.

The Guardian Limited Key Contacts

MANAGING EDITOR: WALLACE MAUGGO
CIRCULATION MANAGER : EMMANUEL LYMO

Newsdesk

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

Advertising

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



@MSAMBA

Why is it so hot? Climate change is here

BY BOB WARD

HEAT is the clearest signal of climate change - and deadly heat will get even worse over the next 30 years as we struggle to act

Heatwaves are growing in frequency and intensity around the world due to climate change.

Scientists have been warning for some time that the rise in global average temperature, as greenhouse gas levels mount in the atmosphere, is causing an increase in the risks of hot weather.

The threat of heatwaves will carry on climbing while greenhouse gas levels continue to accumulate.

As 2050 is the earliest target date currently being discussed for global emissions to be cut to net zero, that means extreme weather, including heatwaves, will become ever more severe for at least the next 30 years.

Countries that already experience high temperatures are having to adapt to even more fierce episodes of heat.

Some are beginning to pay more attention to a combination of heat and humidity that prevents the human body from staying cool through sweating.

A so-called 'wet bulb temperature' equivalent to 35 degrees Celsius with 100% relative humidity would make it dangerous for even healthy people to spend extended periods outdoors, particularly if they are carrying out physical activities.

Many hot countries already recognise that people are less productive in extreme heat, and so those employed in sectors such as construction and farming avoid working outside during the hottest parts of the day.

But countries that are unused to scorching temperatures are struggling to cope. A heatwave in late June 2021 in northwestern North America resulted in hundreds of deaths and contributed to extreme wildfire conditions.

Western Europe has an even worse track record of dealing with extreme hot weather. A heatwave in August 2003 is estimated to have killed more than 70,000 people.

In the UK, hundreds of people die every summer during summer heatwave conditions.

Almost all who die are elderly and have underlying health conditions, particularly respiratory illnesses. As a result, the health impacts of heatwaves have been largely hidden and under-appreciated.

Death certificates often do not record the role of heat, and the true scale of the loss of life only becomes apparent when spikes in mortality during hot days emerge from the analysis of public health statistics, usually several months later.

Playing games with the Liberian people

By Special Correspondent

LAWMAKERS on Capitol Hill are feasting in cash withdrawn from the national coffers and disbursed thru covert accounts, while ordinary citizens continue to die due to lack of drugs in hospitals and basic services across the country.

In a country that lacks running water, effective health services and electricity, it is highly inhumane and selfish that less than 200 legislators would collect US\$30,000 each that they had appropriated unto themselves from the national budget for so-called "engagement" with

their constituents without accountability.

What is even hurting more is the game-play that has evolved between the House of Representatives and the Liberian Senate over the dishing out of the cash that totals more than US\$300 million with one side confirming the disbursement, while the Senate is in complete denial.

This matter would not have gained magnitude if it had not come from ruling Coalition for Democratic Change Lawmaker Moses Acarous Gray, who revealed here that said cash was deposited in a bulk account at an undisclosed

commercial bank, from where they have been having access to the money.

Rep. Gray insists that the Senate receives its share of the booty, but the Liberian Senate says that at no point in time did its members receive US\$30,000.00 each for Legislative Engagement in the 2022 National Budget. However, let it be made clear that Rep. Gray did not say the money came thru a budget line item.

The Chair and Co-Chair of the Senate Statutory Committee on Ways, Means, Finance and Budget, Bomi and Bong County Senators Morris Saytumah and Prince Moye maintain there is a strict

mandate from Senate Plenary not to have any budget line for said amount in the current budget.

Members of the 'House of Wisdom' seem to be taking the Liberian people for granted because not placing the amount in the current budget does not mean it cannot be covertly sourced and disbursed.

Besides, there is no way that members of the House of Representatives would receive said amount each, and their colleagues in the Senate are left out of the booty. No, absolutely no way! Previous disbursements or records prove the con-



Many lives could have been saved if more attention had been paid to prevent overheating in homes.

People who are vulnerable to high temperatures often die inside buildings that are significantly hotter than outside.

The British Government recently responded to the threat of overheating in buildings by tightening building regulations so that issues such as ventilation are properly addressed.

But many existing homes need to be retrofitted to stop them becoming dangerously warm. Preventing overheating is as important as improving insulation and energy efficiency.

However, the population also needs to be educated to take proper precautions, for instance by closing windows and blinds to keep out hot air and sunshine during the warmest parts of the day.

And a better social support network needs to be created so that those who are vulnerable and live alone are not left to perish in their homes.

The effects of heat can kill much more quickly than cold does. Many people who die during hot weather do not manage to alert the emergency services or reach hospital.

Livelihoods and the economy suffer as well during hot weather because workers are less productive in overheated offices.

An increasing reliance on air conditioning is not a solution. It can be expensive to instal and operate, making it unaffordable for poor people. And it creates the risk of power cuts through surges in electricity usage.

People who live in cities are particularly exposed to the risks of heatwaves due to the urban heat island effect.

Built-up areas usually consist of dark man-made surfaces that soak up the sun's energy and turn it into heat instead of reflecting it. As a result, they are usually several degrees warmer than surrounding countryside.

Many of the challenges are similar for cities in both rich and poor countries. The city of Ahmedabad in India

introduced a Heat Action Plan after a heatwave in 2010 killed 1344 residents.

The plan includes an early warning system for high temperatures and better health support services.

London's response to the rising risk of heatwaves includes the establishment of 'cool spaces' where residents and workers can take refuge on hot days.

Some cities, including Athens, Miami and Freetown have sought to improve their preparedness by appointing chief heat officers.

All around the world, companies, cities and communities need to recognise that our current and future climate is not the same as that of the past. The risks from extreme heat are rising and will continue to do so for many decades.

Bob Ward is policy and communications director at the Grantham Research Institute on Climate Change and the Environment at the London School of Economics and Political Science

By Telesphor Magobe

LAST week we briefly looked at environmental destruction, particularly environmental pollution, and said every person in Tanzania has a right to a clean, safe and healthy environment [Section 4(1) of the Environmental Management Act, 2004] as well as a duty to protect and conserve the environment (Section 6).

We also said the way land resources - soil, water and biodiversity - are mismanaged and misused threatens the health and continued survival of many species on earth, including "our own".

We concluded that it is only through environmental protection and conservation that we are sure of minimising environmental pollution consequences and of living in a clean, safe and healthy environment. Therefore, we must take first care of nature if we want it to take care of us.

Today, I invite you to look at divorce and its painful legal consequences. We all feel happy when we hear that a relative, friend, colleague or neighbour wants to marry and we are often supportive of our relative, friend, colleague or neighbour who finds a fiancée or fiancé of his or her choice to marry.

We do so believing that through marriage spouses find a family and live together happily to the end. Yet, contrary to expectations, married persons do not always experience love, peace and harmony in their marriage. Sometimes their marriage becomes so unbearable that they decide to separate or divorce each other. What a painful experience to reach such an un-

The Law and You



ward end!

We might have come across some spouses who, although they first loved each other and lived a happy life, have nevertheless decided to separate or divorce. Some married persons have finally petitioned for divorce after frequent hardships such as quarrels and beatings, cheating on each other or occasional death threats because the love that used to bind them together is gone. In some families married persons don't even greet or talk to each other although they still sleep in the same house and even in the same bedroom. Each of them just minds his or her business!

So, divorce although may appear necessary in certain circumstances, it nevertheless leaves divorcees in an awful experience of regret for the rest of their lives. Because of this, each has to start from scratch to get another fiancée or fiancé if they decide to remarry or they may stay unmarried for the rest of their lives if they decide to do so or because of their age it may not be possible to remarry. In any case, if the divorcees are blessed with children, they too are left in uncertainties and may lack parental care.

Section 12 of the Law of Marriage Act, 1971 (as amended 2019) provides for

the duration of marriage. It states that "a marriage contracted in Mainland Tanzania or elsewhere, shall for all

purposes of the law of Mainland Tanzania subsist until determined by a) the death of either party thereto, b) by a decree declaring that the death of either party thereto is presumed, c) by a decree of annulment, d) by a decree of divorce or e) by an extra-judicial divorce outside Tanzania, which is recognised in Tanzania under the provisions of Section 92", which provides for the recognition of extraterritorial divorce.

Section 99 provides for the right to petition for separation or divorce. It states that, "any married person may petition the court for a decree of separation or divorce on the ground that his or her marriage has broken down, but no decree of divorce shall be granted unless the court is satisfied that the breakdown is irreparable."

The law further provides that no person shall, without leave of the court, petition for divorce before the expiry of two years from the date of the marriage which it is sought to dissolve [Section 100(1)], except where it is shown that exceptional hardship is being suffered by the person applying for such leave [Subsection (2)].

However, Section 101 provides for a requirement to refer a matrimonial dispute to a conciliation board before a spouse petitions for a decree of divorce. It states that "No person shall petition for divorce unless he or she has first referred the matrimonial dispute or matter to a board and the board has certified that it has failed to reconcile the parties..."

Section 111 provides for the effect of a decree of separation, which relieves the parties of the duty to cohabit and render each other help and companionship and, except so far as the decree otherwise provides, of the duty to maintain each other, it shall not dissolve their marital status. Section 112 provides for the effect of a decree of divorce.

The decree of divorce dissolves the marital status of the parties as from 30 days from the date of the decree, if no appeal or notice of appeal, as the case may be, has been filed within that time, or in any other case, on the final determination of the appeal or, where a second or subsequent appeal lies, on the final determination of that appeal or on the expiration of the time for giving notice of appeal.

After a marriage is dissolved, the court has power by virtue of Section 114(1), when granting or subsequent to the grant of a decree of separation or divorce, to order the division between the parties of any assets acquired by them during the marriage by their joint efforts or to order the sale of any such assets and the division between the parties of the proceeds of sale. The court has also power to order a spouse

to maintain his wife or her husband or former wife or husband as stipulated in Section 115(1).

Subsections (1) & (2) of Section 120 provide for the right of any divorced woman to receive maintenance from her former husband or any divorced man to receive maintenance from his former wife respectively and this right ceases on remarriage. The law provides for custody and maintenance of children (if there are any) in Section 125. Section 129 further provides for the duty to maintain children.

Subsection (1) states that "it shall be the duty of a man to maintain his children, whether they are in his custody or the custody of any other person, either by providing them with such accommodation, clothing, food and education as may be reasonable having regard to his means and station in life or by paying the cost thereof.

By virtue of Subsection (2), a divorced woman too is duty bound to maintain or contribute to the maintenance of her children if their father is dead or his whereabouts are unknown or if he is incapable of maintaining them.

It suffices to say that although fundamentally marriage is meant to last until the death of either party thereto there are circumstances in which it can be dissolved before that. What is important is for the married persons to engage in soul-searching before they petition for divorce so that they may be well-informed about the legal consequences of divorce for them.

Today's proverb: "All is well that ends well."

The author is a lawyer based in Dar es Salaam. He can be reached at tmagobe@gmail.com

By Guardian Reporter

ON Wednesday, President Samia Suluhu Hassan unveiled a 12-member team tasked to assess performance, investigate and advise the government on how to reform key state organs to improve efficiency.

The bodies now set for shake-up are the Tanzania Police Force, the Directorate of Public Prosecution (DPP), the Prevention and Combating of Corruption Bureau (PCCB), the Tanzania Prisons and the Drug Control and Enforcement Authority (DCEA).

By this move, the President has bravely touched the elephant in the room. Like a metador, she has grabbed the bull by the horn and the excited spectators—good citizens—are anxiously waiting but are prepared to jump and cheer.

For, these organs deal with maintaining public order and safety, enforcing the law, preventing, detecting, and investigating criminal activities; confinement of suspects and convicts as well as busting corruption and illicit drugs in the country.

These bodies are critical because we citizens expect them to deliver justice for all, make Tanzania a safe place to live and work, and above all, uphold high standards of human rights.

With weak police for instance, security becomes a commodity for sale to the highest bidder; corruption becomes commonplace and investigating officers tip criminals on authorities' next course of action.

If police police-civilian ratio is not maintained and officers lack required training and equipment, criminals take over the streets and businesses get looted, people fear to go out and peace and security get compromised.

When criminals such as the Dar es Salaam's notorious Panya Road terrorise law-abiding citizens, it is a sign that it's high time we strategized and came up with better policing arrangement to make our country safe 24 hours throughout the year.

What happens in weak policing environment is that the powerful and the rich enjoy protection of police officers and private security guards on one hand and the poor are left to rely in machetes to fend off armed criminals.

It is the hope of good citizens that the team will look at best practices around the world and come up with recommendations on how to improve integrity of our

Samia did well to initiate reforms in police and other key state organs



President Samia Suluhu Hassan



Former Chief Justice Mohammed Chande Othman

police. In every corruption index, police have refused to lose their number one spot.

Caesar's wife must be above suspicion, right? But our police have not been only suspected; they have been accused and convicted of corruption and other crimes. Some are currently in court, accused of stealing from and killing a civilian.

The DPP is the sole authority vested with the power and responsibility to exercise control over the prosecution of all criminal matters. If prosecutors and investigators do a shoddy job, courts are left with no choice but set criminals free. Yes, it is the job of investigating officers and prosecutors to prepare watertight charge sheet and avail credible evidence and witnesses to enable the courts make convictions beyond reasonable doubt.

The way our DPP handled plea bargaining agreements during the fifth phase government left a lot to be desired. Public prosecutors' rate of getting convictions is not impressive either.

After implementation of the anticipated reforms, it is the hope of Tanzanians that headlines of PCCB officials being arrested for corruption will disappear from our newspapers.

For, nothing erodes integrity of law enforcement organs like when their officers are accused of conspiring and or committing the very same crimes they are trained and employed to prevent.

DCEA have their work cut out for them. The 2021 International Narcotics Control Strategy Report by the US Bureau for International Narcotics and Law Enforcement Affairs says Tanzania remains a significant transit country for illicit drugs, enabling their movement to Kenya, Uganda and Europe.

It is hoped that the committee chaired by former Chief Justice Mohammed Chande Othman former Chief Secretary Ambassador Ombeni Sefue as vice chairman will advise well on to make DCEA more effective.

Drug use and addiction has never been good news anywhere. Experts say that substance-abusing youth are at higher risk than nonusers for mental health problems, including depression, conduct problems, personality disorders, suicidal thoughts, attempted suicide, and suicide.

Economy also suffers dearly as a lot of money is lost in low or non-productivity mainly due to labour participation costs, treatment, incarceration and premature death.

Allowing drug traffickers to operate in a country is dangerous because drug dealers normally don't like strong institutions of justice. They bribe, weaken and subvert institutions.

Leaders in Mexico for instance find little time to concentrate on anything else but dealing with billionaire drug cartels. According to a July 2020 US Congressional Research Service (CRS) report, between 125,000 and 150,000 homicides were organized crime-related from 2006 to 2018.

Enrique Peña Nieto, who was Mexican president from 2012 to 2018, continued the fight started by

President Felipe Calderon against the cartels and drug-related violence. A huge victory for his administration was the 2014 arrest of Joaquin "El Chapo" Guzman, the boss of one of Mexico's most powerful drug trafficking operations, the Sinaloa cartel.

And Mexican drug cartels take in between USD19 billion and USD29 billion annually from drug sales in the US alone. With the might of their economies, the US and Mexico don't seem close to declaring victory against the cartels.

The lesson for Tanzania is that we should not allow our version of El Chapo or Sinaloa to thrive in this land. Tanzanians will be waiting on the recommendations of committee.

Well done President Samia for the bold action and all the best Othman and your team.

By Peter Fabricius

Zambia on the brink of historic debt relief deal

RESEARCHERS and journalists in South Africa tend to portray sexual violence as an ever-worsening crisis, focusing on either the latest police statistics or the most violent and horrific recent incidents. Since the late 1970s, the media has displayed a near obsession with reporting rape numbers and gruesome case details.

Since taking office in August 2021, Zambian President Hakainde Hichilema (HH) has been wrestling with the huge and sometimes secret foreign public debt he inherited from his spendthrift predecessor, Edgar Lungu. It's officially calculated at \$14.1-billion but could be higher. In 2020, Lungu's Zambia became the first African country to default on its foreign debt, failing to service its Eurobonds.

Part of HH's campaign has been to cancel public projects costing more than \$2-billion. He has also tabled the Public Debt Management Bill to strengthen Parliament's oversight of borrowing and limit it to 65% of GDP. Isaac Mwaipopo, executive director of Lusaka's Centre for Trade Policy and Development, told ISS Today. He said HH had set up a debt-management office to ensure future debt was sustainable and launched an audit to ensure services purchased by the state were value for money.

At the heart of the government's debt-management strategy is the provisional \$1.4-billion loan it negotiated with the International Monetary Fund (IMF) last December. This should help pay off its debt and maintain social services.

But the loan is conditional, depending mainly on the government negotiating some debt relief under the G20-Paris Club Common Framework for Debt Treatments. This was adopted in 2020 to help highly indebted countries like Zambia out of the Covid-19-induced financial crisis.

It has taken time for HH's government to assemble its multitude of creditors. Some blame China, saying it's been the most reluctant to restructure debt because it is the biggest creditor. The China Africa Research Initiative in Washington DC calculated that 18 major and minor Chinese financiers have provided loans to Zambia and its state-owned enterprises since 2000. It says Zambia's debt to China totals about \$6.6-billion - almost twice what Lungu's government publicly acknowledged.

Lungu's secretive borrowing from China made it impossible for other creditors to establish the scale of the loans. As a result, they were wary of offering any debt relief to Zambia for fear that the government would use the money saved to secretly service its Chinese loans.

But now all Zambia's creditors - governments and private - are negotiating debt restructuring together. As the biggest lender, China is co-chairing the creditors committee, established under the Common Framework, which first met last month. France is the other co-chair and South Africa is vice-chair. The committee met again on Monday and was expected to announce a deal this week.

The G20 launched the Common Framework after it became apparent that its 2020 Debt Service Suspension Initiative - which deferred debt service payments of struggling countries so they could tackle Covid-19 - would not be enough for all countries. The Common Framework enables more flexible and extensive debt service deferrals for those facing liquidity problems. For countries like Zambia with unsustainable debt, it also allows for a deeper restructuring of loans to make them more sustainable.

Clear plans and 'haircuts'

Mwaipopo says Zambia has asked for some government debt to be cancelled, some interest rates to be reduced, and some repayment times to be extended. He noted, for instance, that private creditors would probably not be prepared to "take a haircut" - i.e. cancel some of the debt - but government creditors might.

Mwaipopo praised HH's efforts, including the IMF deal and his assurances that Zambia remained committed to repayments. "But beyond restructuring public debt, we would want to know what other plans the government has to unlock economic potential, as well as how they can support some of the low-hanging fruit, the sectors that can help deliver on jobs as well as poverty alleviation, especially in the short term." He said Zambia needed "a clear plan for economic recovery".

The IMF has indicated that the debt-restructuring deal expected this week would be enough to officially ratify the \$1.4-billion loan to Zambia. However, Neo Simutanyi, head of the Centre for Policy Dialogue in Lusaka, says the IMF would also need assurances that HH's government has a credible plan to fix the mess Lungu also left in the copper mining industry.

Playing to the public gallery, Lungu took on the international copper miners, liquidating or nationalising mines and thereby hobbling an industry that Zambia depends on to earn foreign exchange. Simutanyi said HH hasn't clarified how he would resolve the problem. Though he was a businessman who no doubt believed in privatising mines, he seemed constrained by the unpopularity of foreign mining companies among many Zambians.



Zambian President Hakainde Hichilema speaks at the United Nations General Assembly in New York City on 21 September 2021. File photo

Simutanyi believes the IMF would need assurances that HH could revive copper mining. This is vital to make the money required to repay its IMF loan and its debts, and cover salaries for 40,000 new public servants - mainly teachers and health workers.

Test case

Zambia bears a wider responsibility in restructuring its debt as it has become a test case for the Common Framework. And so Mwaipopo says its creditors are wary of giving too much away at the start and creating costly precedents. Ethiopia and Chad are next in line, having also entered the framework and begun negotiations.

Other African - and non-African - countries seem likely to follow soon. IMF managing director Kristalina Georgieva recently warned that a global economy heading downstream would aggravate the crises of the 30% of emerging-market countries and 60% of low-income nations already in or near debt distress.

Read more in Daily Maverick: "Zambia leaves South Africa choking in its dust at the 2022 Mining Indaba"

Beyond other IMF actions such as 2021's release of \$650-billion in Special Drawing Rights, "decisive action by all involved is urgently needed to improve and implement the G20's Common Framework for debt treatment", she said.

"Large lenders - both sovereign and private - need to step up and play their part. Time is not on our side. It is critical that creditor committees for Chad, Ethiopia and Zambia deliver as much progress as possible at their meetings this month." **DM**

By Peter Fabricius

South Africa a growing conduit for Islamic State funds, says new UN report

SOUTH Africa is continuing to provoke international concern because of its allegedly expanding role as a conduit of funds from the leadership of the Islamic State in Iraq and the Levant (Isil) to its affiliates in Africa. This emerged from a new United Nations report this week which says that after Isil's loss of its territorial caliphate in Syria and Iraq in 2016, its affiliates in Africa have emerged as among its most important battlegrounds.

The report to the UN Security Council by a team of experts monitoring Isil and Al-Qaeda says one UN member state "highlighted the emerging importance of South Africa in facilitating transfers of funds from Isil leadership to affiliates in Africa. The Monitoring Team is aware of several large transactions totalling more than \$1-million."

The experts assess that "the most vigorous and best-established Isil regional networks are those with hubs in Afghanistan, Somalia and the Lake Chad Basin."

Although the most violent and deadly jihadist group in Somalia, Al-Shabaab, is an Al-Qaeda affiliate, the report says Isil's Al-Karrar office in Somalia is active, covering Somalia, Mozambique and the Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC).

The Ahlu-Sunna Wa-Jama'a (ASWJ) jihadist insurgency in Mozambique's Cabo Delgado province has been affiliated with Islamic State (IS) for the past three years but the precise organogram is not clear. The US has previously described ASWJ - as well as the Allied Democratic Forces (ADF), which operates mainly in the DRC but also in Uganda - as affiliated with IS through "Islamic State - Central Africa Province".

However, this week's UN report suggests a different lineage through Somalia. But the UN authors agree with most analysts that it remains unclear whether the IS hierarchy commands and controls the ASWJ and ADF and other affiliates or whether they operate largely independently.

Farhad Hooper

The UN report's citation of South Africa as a growing conduit for IS funding echoes similar concerns by the US and may reflect the same circumstances. In March this year, the US slapped sanctions on four individuals in South Africa for various activities in support of IS, including financing

its affiliates elsewhere in Africa. It said one of the four, Farhad Hooper, was a recruiter, trainer and the leader of a Durban-based IS cell who "raised funds through kidnap-for-ransom operations and extortion".

It added that Hooper "was in contact with members of Isis-Democratic Republic of the Congo ... and Isis supporters throughout South Africa".

Hooper was charged in 2016 with leading an IS cell that attacked a Shi'a mosque in Verulam, Kwa-Zulu-Natal, killing one man; planting incendiary pipe bombs in shops and kidnap-for-ransom and other offences. A magistrate later withdrew the case because it was poorly presented.

Questions have also been raised even inside the South African government about the ability and determination of the country's law enforcement agencies to fight terrorist financing.

The Financial Intelligence Centre reported to Parliament in February that the government's reluctance to acknowledge the existence of terrorism in South Africa "indirectly impacts on their ability to investigate and prosecute potential [terrorist financing], including to identify financing networks and other financing activities. [SA] has failed to demonstrate that [it is] effectively identifying the specific roles played by terrorist financiers."

Isil and Al-Qaeda attacks have noticeably decreased in Europe and other regions globally over the past few years. And the UN report notes indeed that "The threat from Isil and Al-Qaeda remains relatively low in non-conflict zones."

But it adds that the threat "is much higher in areas directly affected by conflict or neighbouring it." And it underscores that IS and Al-Qaeda have both decentralised many of their operations to Africa.

That includes the Sahel and Somalia but increasingly also Mozambique and the DRC.

Mozambique intervention forces

In Mozambique, the report notes that since the deployment of the Southern African Development Community (SADC) and Rwandan intervention forces in July 2021 which disrupted ASWJ's leadership, there has been "a chaotic proliferation of smaller-scale violent attacks in remote villages throughout Cabo Delgado Province. ASWJ fighters are regrouping into smaller, more mobile groups, carrying out attacks along the key corridor in Macomia that connects Macomia town to the provincial capital, Pemba."

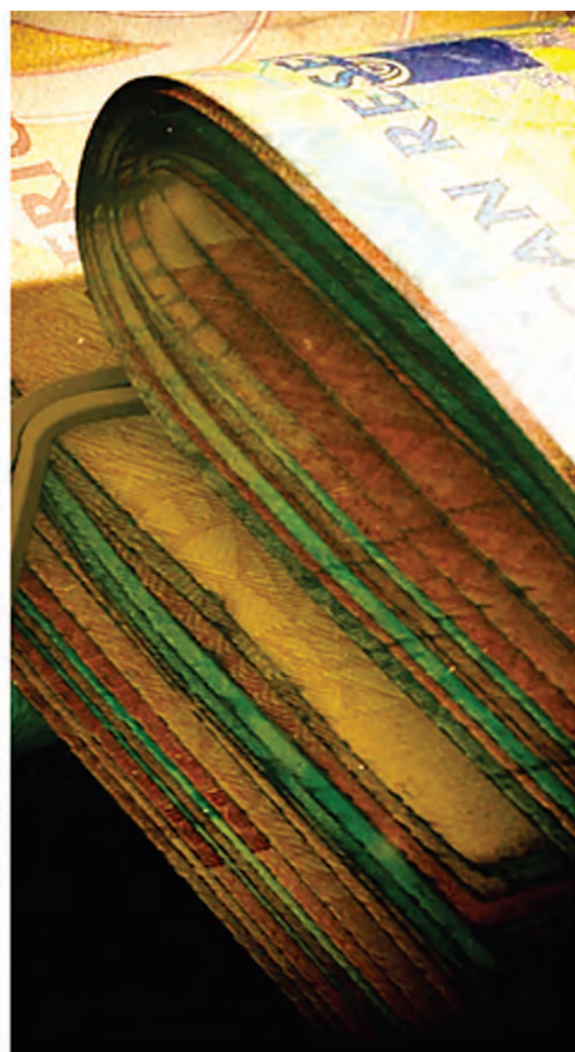
"At the start of 2022, insurgents withdrew from Niassa Province, focusing their attacks on the northern districts of Macomia, Meluco and Mueda, with Nangade becoming the epicentre of attacks in

Cabo Delgado.

"Constant attacks on villages, killings, beatings, abductions, looting and the destruction of property have caused a mass displacement of the local population, with more than 800,000 internally displaced persons seeking refuge in neighbouring districts." The report notes that ASWJ has also increased its attacks across the border into Tanzania.

Despite ASWJ pledging allegiance to the new global leader of Isil, Abu al-Hassan al-Hashimi al-Qurashi, in April this year, "there is no clear evidence of 'command and control orders' from Isil over ASWJ," the report says, adding that, "Isil has recently referred to ASWJ as a separate affiliate, Isil-Mozambique."

The report says that ASWJ "lost considerable momentum in April and May" this year, for various reasons, including "impending famine as insurgents retreat in search of food and provisions, inclement weather and the Mozambique authorities calling on terrorists operating in Cabo Delgado to lay down their weapons in exchange for leniency, which led to large numbers of fighters surrendering to local forces." **DM**



From left: A large group of insurgents - presumed to be from the Isis-affiliated Al Sunnah wa Jama'a group, attacked the town of Mocimboa da Praia in the northernmost province of Cabo Delgado in March 2020. Abu Hurayra poses with an AK-47 in this photograph. Afghan Army soldier uses his weapon among smoke and rubble after an attack by IS militants in Chapahar district of Nangarhar district, Afghanistan, 21 May 2017. File photos

Ambassador Chen Mingjian grants written interview to 'The Guardian'

THE Chinese ambassador to Tanzania, Chen Mingjian (pictured) recently gave an exclusive interview to The Guardian on issues relating to practical cooperation between China and Africa. Excerpts:



H.E. Chen Mingjian, Ambassador of China to Tanzania

Question: In what areas have China and Africa conducted practical cooperation?

A: Since my arrival over 6 months ago, through my exchanges with President Samia Suluhu Hassan and people across the field, I can feel the eagerness of Tanzania to achieve independent development.

The 8th FOCAC Ministerial conference was successfully held in November, 2021. At its opening ceremony, Chinese President Xi Jinping announced that China and African countries have jointly prepared the China-Africa Vision 2035. Under the first three-year plan of the Vision, China will work closely with African countries to implement nine programs including the medical and health program, the poverty reduction and agricultural development program, the trade promotion program, etc. The nine programs are a response to the urgent need of African countries for development, and aims at supporting African countries in nurturing home-grown development capability, which is the latest embodiment of China-Africa practical cooperation and has been warmly welcomed and supported by the Tanzanian side. The nine programs are being implemented in Tanzania in a steady way, reflected in the following:

First, high-level strategic guidance. In March this year, Chinese State Councilor and Foreign Minister Wang Yi held a meeting with Tanzanian Foreign Affairs and East African Cooperation Minister Liberata Mulamula, when both sides agreed to strengthen cooperation under the framework of FOCAC, push for the implementation of the nine programs in Tanzania, and produce more concrete results. Moreover, the two sides are also discussing about the holding of the 6th meeting of the Joint Economic and Trade Commission to inject new energy to the implementation of the nine programs.

Second, initiative of the Chinese side. According to the new requirement of high-quality development of China-Tanzania cooperation, I have had many meetings with Tanzanian ministers for health, communication and education to renew China-Tanzania friendship, expand bilateral cooperation, especially in the new areas of health, digital economy, green and low-carbon development, and vocational

education, and promote the launching and implementation of more small livelihood projects in Tanzania that can benefit the people.

Third, importance attached by the Tanzanian side. Tanzania is now implementing its Development Vision 2025, and President Samia Suluhu Hassan has an ambitious plan of reinvigorating Tanzania, thus having great expectation on China-Tanzania practical cooperation under the nine programs. From the end of 2021 to June this year, the Tanzanian side has provided two editions of the project list, which shows the importance it has attached to the nine programs.

Q: What's the latest progress of China-Tanzania practical cooperation?

A: At present, the implementation of the nine programs in Tanzania has seen its early harvest. The new batch of 3 million doses of Covid-19 vaccines donated by China arrived in Tanzania on July 14th. Up to now China has donated 5,610,000 doses of Covid-19 vaccines to Tanzania. The Kagera Regional Vocational Training and Service Center built with the assistance from China has completed technical project acceptance and will be handed over to the Tanzanian side soon. The National Occupational Standards Review and Development Project was launched in June, in which China will participate in the development of occupational standards and related talent development plans.

For the next step, China will maintain close communication and coordination with the Tanzanian side, focus on the implementation of the nine programs, and facilitate launching of more cooperation projects in Tanzania. China will also develop small but beneficial projects such as Juncao technology cooperation to promote economic development and livelihood improvement in Tanzania, and work for the upgrading and improvement of China-Tanzania cooperation. We will join hands, under the guidance of the TAZARA Spirit, to build China-Africa community with a shared future in the new era.

Q: Talking about China-Tanzania friendship, one can easily call to mind the Tanzania-Zambia Railway

(TAZARA). Recently, Chinese President Xi Jinping said that we should carry forward the TAZARA spirit, keep it updated in accordance with the trend of the times, and make TAZARA an important transportation channel in the region. In your opinion, what is the TAZARA spirit? What is the essence of the spirit for the younger generation of China and Tanzania?

A: Chinese State Councilor and Foreign Minister Wang Yi expounded TAZARA spirit in 2015, which is a spirit about mutual respect and equality, about tenacity and perseverance, and about selfless internationalism.

The TAZARA spirit embodies those memorable moments of friendly exchanges between China, Tanzania and Zambia. It included the story of the 13 visits of President Julius Nyerere to China through which he developed deep friendship with the old generation of Chinese leaders like Mao Zedong, Liu Shaoqi and Zhou Enlai. It included the story of 50,000 plus Chinese people travelling thousands of miles to Tanzania and forged deep friendship through hard work and sacrifice for building the railway. It included the story of China supporting Southeast African people in their struggle to break away from colonial rule and win national independence and liberation in the 1960s. I believe that those memorable stories, together with the TAZARA Spirit, will always be remembered in the history of China-Tanzania and China-Africa friendly exchanges.

Since its completion, TAZARA has gone through nearly 50 years of vicissitudes, and it is still in operation today. The railway has played an important role in enhancing regional connectivity, promoting the economic and social development of the regions along the line, and bringing conveni-

ence to people's life. More importantly, the younger generations of China and Tanzania have carried forward the TAZARA spirit and keep it updated in accordance with the trend of the times.

China and Tanzania have always followed the principle of mutual respect and win-win cooperation in developing their relations. The two countries have rendered each other firm support in their respective efforts to independently explore a development path suited to their national conditions, and on the issues relating to their respective core interests and major concerns.

Both China and Tanzania are faced with the arduous tasks of economic and social development. Under the leadership of the Communist Party of China (CPC), China has maintained sustained fast economic growth; and socialism with Chinese characteristics has demonstrated its great vitality on the Chinese land. As the governing party in Tanzania over the years, the CCM is implementing the Tanzania Development Vision 2025 and working hard to improve infrastructure and livelihood. The two countries are making unremitting efforts to meet people's aspiration for a better life.

As typical developing countries, China and Tanzania firmly safeguard solidarity and common interests of developing countries in multilateral affairs, and support multilateralism and the role of the United Nations.

The two countries are working together with other countries to contribute their strength to the building of a community with a shared future for mankind. I am confident that the TAZARA spirit of mutual respect, tenacity and perseverance, and selfless dedication will radiate with more splendor in the new era.



Chinese and Tanzanian workers jointly built the Tazara railway in the 1970s. (File Photo)

TARI Naliendele to introduce Tanzania for use in Tanzania international market

By Correspondent Gerald Kitabu

THE Tanzania Agriculture Research Institute (TARI) Naliendele centre is expected to enter into the market new groundnuts high yielding improved variety called Tanzanut 2016.

The variety suitable for the local and international market for the farmers is expected in this year's 2022/23 agricultural season.

Speaking at the just ended 46th Dar es Salaam International Trade Fair, Agriculture research officer at TARI Naliendele Happy Daudi said the new variety which is resistant to diseases such as groundnut rosette causes stunting growth of the plant and can cause up to 100 percent yield loss.

Dr Happy who is also National Coordinator of groundnut research said the variety that was released in 2018 is also resistant to moderate drought and it is very good for export.

"This variety is the new one and sweet. Under good agronomic practices, it can produce from 1.2 tonnes per hectare," he said.

She said that the new variety is expected to have great impact to the farmers due to its unique qualities and production capacity per hectare.

She called on the farmers who wish to increase production to opt for the new variety saying in recent years many of them face the problem of lack of high yielding improved varieties due to challenges of diseases and problems associated with climate change.

"Besides Tanzanut, TARI Naliendele is also proud of another variety called Naliendele 2016 released in 2016. The characteristics of this variety are high oil content, resistant to diseases, big in size, red in color and already in the market. It is grown in all high rains areas in Tanzania. It was introduced in the market in 2012/22 growing season," she said.

The variety is well grown in the Lake Zone regions, western zone regions, and Southern highlands zone regions. It has higher oil content.

Giving an example she said last agricultural season had low rains and the impact of climate change was real. Many varieties were affected by the disease and drought except for Naliendele 2016.

We have also Mtwara nut 2016 which is not yet in the market. This variety is expected in the market after two years of agricultural season.

She said all researches conducted at TARI Naliendele centre and the related technologies meet local and international markets.



Phoenix Assurance CEO, Ashraf Musbally (L) speaks at the launch of BimaPlus, a new insurance mean for commercial vehicle owners and transporters.

Insurance firm launches 'BimaPlus' for transporters

By Guardian Reporter

PHOENIX Assurance together with Mauritius Union Assurance (MUA) has launched BimaPlus, a new insurance aimed for commercial vehicle owners and transporters. It covers the commercial vehicle, goods and employees all-in-one protection.

Phoenix Assurance Chief Executive Officer, Ashraf Musbally, said yesterday in Dar es Salaam at the launching of a new product, "the new innovation aims to expand their services in the country."

According to him, BimaPlus will protect a transporter from daily risks associated with commercial operations such as road and personal accidents and dam-

ages caused by piracy or theft, and even weather damages.

"You can get a cover of up to 2m/- each for the driver, loader and policy holder spouse. Naturally, if you are planning on transporting your goods, it is only logical to have BimaPlus as a solid choice," he said, noting that BimaPlus offers recovery and towing services, riot and strikes cover, increased repair unit as well as loss of goods coverage which helps to avoid massive losses when faced with accidents.

It contributes to the loan repayment and loss of income while the vehicle is immobilized during repair after an accident.

He continued to explain that many transporters in the country

face a lot of challenges and risks while carrying out their daily operations without an insurance cover on the services.

"We saw a gap in the market for commercial vehicle owners (transporters) who often face challenges while on the road resulting to huge losses and we believe as a responsible insurer, it is our obligation to offer solutions to our customers," he said.

Frank Shanghai from TIRA said: "We commend Phoenix Assurance's effort to bridging the gap between the challenges and solutions in the market. We continue to support of innovative insurance products and its contribution to the economy," adding that, "Our Company con-

tinues to undergo significant transformations; changes which will no doubt firmly place us for remarkable growth and development. As Phoenix Assurance, we remain committed to delivering a high degree of professionalism for the benefit of our customers. This desire for us to do more is what pushed us to launch BimaPlus, having noticed a gap in the market for transporters."

"We aim to be the insurer of choice in all of Tanzania, by providing the most innovative and comprehensive protections against a full range of business and everyday risks for individuals and organizations. Phoenix has been a pioneer of innovation of existing products as it was the

first to come up with innovation such as RoadSide Assistance service namely UTULIVU."

"Still, in the spirit of giving peace of mind to our clients, Phoenix Assurance is pleased to inform you that our service is now available 24/7 all year round. So, our clients can contact us anytime they feel like it."

Buzema said the new product assured the securities of the businessmen.

Tanzania Insurance Regulatory Authority (TIRA) Eastern Zone manager Frank Fred commended Phoenix Assurance for establishing the new product in the market and believe will solve challenges for the transporters

UN to host over 190 world leaders and delegates – despite threats from a deadly new Covid-19 variant

UNITED NATIONS

THE United Nations is planning to host a high-level “in-person” General Assembly session, September 20-26, with over 190 world leaders and delegates listed to speak, including heads of state, heads of government, high-ranking ministers and senior officials.

The world body is apparently on a risky path, with hundreds of delegates due in New York for the opening of the 77th session—and, most worryingly, at a time when a new Covid-19 variant BA.5 is sweeping across the United States, including New York.

In a letter addressed to the President of the General Assembly, E. Courtenay Rattray Chef de Cabinet, says “while there is strong support for the return to a pre-pandemic General Debate, as reflected by the level of inscriptions by Member States in the provisional list

of speakers— and an improvement in the environment as compared to the last two years— we also recognize that we are not free from the Coronavirus and its impact.”

“As such, there is a need to be prudent in our facilitation of the General Debate and High-level Week.”

Under a business-as-usual scenario, occupancy at UN Headquarters will increase significantly this September, particularly in meeting rooms and in the General Assembly and Conference buildings.

“With a view to mitigating this impact, our planning assumptions reflect an emphasis on basic protective measures and a decrease in the number of attendees, as much as reasonably possible”, the letter said.

On July 21, White House Press Secretary Karine Jean-Pierre formally announced that US President Joe Biden, who is scheduled to address the General Assembly on September 20, tested positive for COVID-19.

“He is fully vaccinated and twice boosted and experiencing very mild symptoms. He has begun taking Paxlovid. Consistent with CDC guidelines, he will isolate at the White House and will continue to carry out all of his duties fully during that time,” she added.

In a July 20 report, Cable News Network (CNN) said “in the United States, BA.5 has become the dominant strain and is driving a significant spike in cases – more than 120,000 a day, according to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), though experts say that number may be more like 1 million, given the underreporting of home test results.

Europe, meanwhile, has seen a tripling of new Covid-19 infections over the past six weeks, with nearly 3 million reported last week, accounting for almost half of all new cases worldwide. Hospital admissions in Europe over the same



The UN's empty corridors when the world body went into a lockdown mode because of the Covid-19 pandemic beginning March 2020. File photo

** United Nations departments and offices will not be hosting or co-hosting in-person side events or luncheons during the high-level week.

** Bilateral booths will be available with seating for 2 principals and 6 advisers (3 per side).

** Permanent Missions are encouraged to manage COVID-19 cases and determine any subsequent action regarding case exposures among their own attendees and guests, including notification to other delegations or to the President of the General Assembly.

** United Nations staff who are not required to be on-site to support the proceedings will be mandated to work remotely for the full week.

Further information, including the number of access cards provided for the General Assembly Hall, will be contained in an Information Note for delegations that will be issued as A/INF/77/4.

“The Organization will continue to closely monitor the COVID-19 metrics in New York City. Therefore, the steps outlined above remain subject to modification should conditions change, as the Secretariat continues to ensure that the work of the Organization is conducted as safely and effectively as possible,” letter said.

After several on-again, off-again pandemic lockdowns, the United Nations returned to near-normal beginning March 2022.

A circular from Guterres said “based on the new guidelines, we are now able to institute associated changes in our workplace, returning to full operational capability while still prioritizing the health and safety of personnel, and balancing the operational needs of the Organization”.

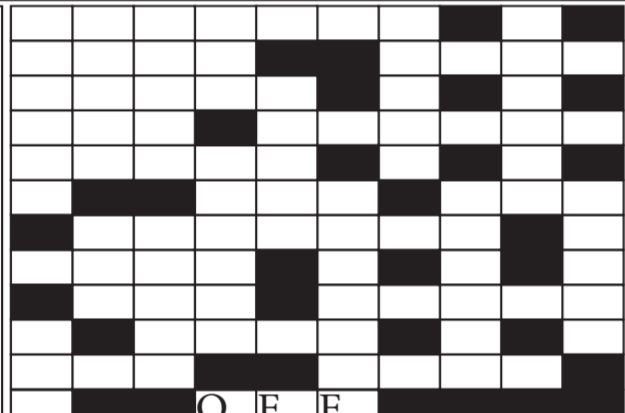
Guided by the Senior Emergency Policy Team and the Occupational Safety and Health Committee in New York, mask use was voluntary throughout the UN building and Civil Society Organizations (CSOs), mostly denied entry since March 2020, were given access to the UN premises.

** Apart from a limited number of high-level side events, for which preparations are well under way, side events are to be conducted virtually or off-site.

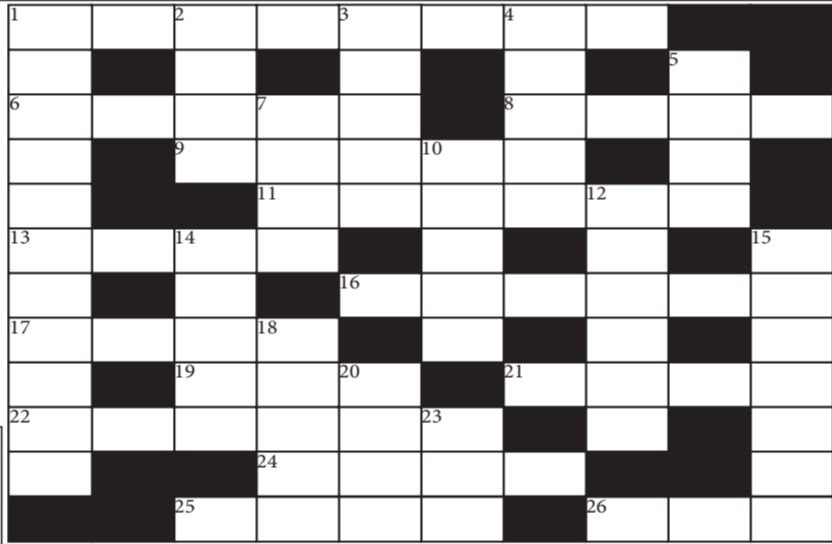
IPS

THE GUARDIAN SIMPLE WORD FIT // THE GUARDIAN CROSSWORD --00 329 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



- 3 letters BUA, KAA, BEN, TRY, ONE, AIL, DUE, ADD
- 4 letters ROBE, NOUN, MAST, LEER, DELE
- 5 letters ROGUE, ABEAM, AGENT, THANA BEMBA, ENEMY, YOUNG, ASIDE STAIN,
- 6 letters GRABBY, LUGGER, HOMAGE, BOTTLE
- 7 letters TAMALE,
- 8 letters GRABBLE, KATANGA, ONESELF,



- CLUES: Across
- 1 First President of Kenya
 - 5 Tripoli is her Capital
 - 8 behave uncontrollably and disruptively
 - 9 a fertile spot in a desert
 - 11 set the value of a tax
 - 13 assert to be the case
 - 16 progress through life
 - 17 the sixth month of the year
 - 19 United Nations University
 - 21 indicating the point in space or time at which a journey starts
 - 22 someone who does surprise attack on people
 - 24 a derogatory term for a white man
 - 25 crush with a sharp blow from a flat object
 - 26 matt
- CLUES: Down
- 1 highest mountain in Africa
 - 2 mountain where Moses saw the promised land from afar
 - 3 gather
 - 4 tempt sexually
 - 5 a defeat in sport
 - 7 a friendly form of address in India
 - 10 the religion of the Muslims
 - 12 direct vehicles in a correct side
 - 14 listlessness and dissatisfaction arising from boredom
 - 15 a brass musical instrument
 - 18 give property to
 - 20 Union of European Football Associations
 - 23 mouse

WORD-FIT

CROSSWORD

SOLUTIONS

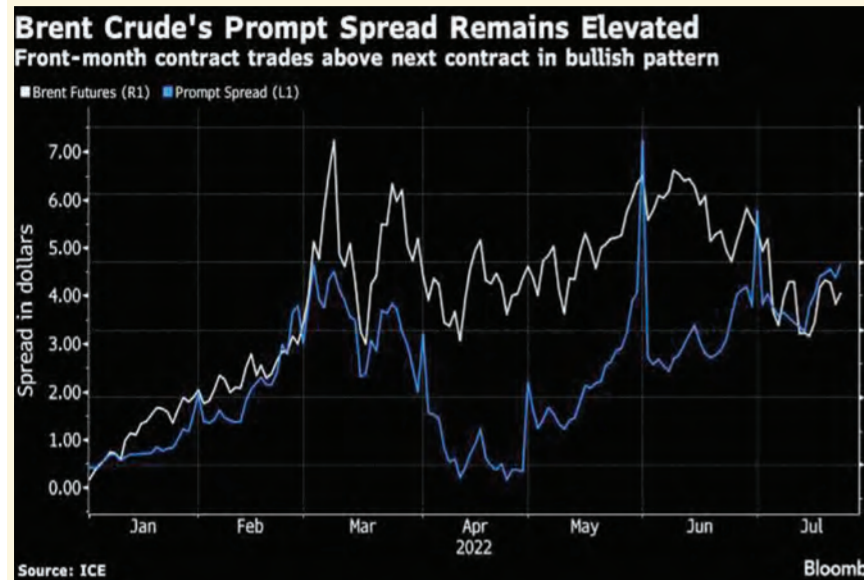
U H U R U F R E E M A N D E L A M
 Z E N O V O H A R I A A N
 L E V E N O E S H A R I A A N
 A V A M E N C S U N B L A T
 C U R I O U S N O R A N G E T L
 O N K H I D E W L A C A F E
 S E V E R E E P A S T O R E
 G O D A T I A R P E N H Y A N K
 R A O R A R E L E D G E O C
 A S C R E A M A U O R A N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

RATIBA YA VIPINDI

JUMATATU - JUMAPILI

MONDAY TIME PROGRAMME	TUESDAY TIME PROGRAMME	WEDNESDAY TIME PROGRAMME	THURSDAY TIME PROGRAMME	FRIDAY TIME PROGRAMME	SATURDAY TIME PROGRAMME	SUNDAY TIME PROGRAMME
05:00 AM HALI YA HEWA / KUMEPAMBAZUKA I 06:00 AM AMKA NA BBC 06:30 AM NIPASHE 06:50 AM MATANGAZO 07:00 AM NEWS BULLETIN 07:10 AM MATANGAZO 07:15 AM TAARIFA ZA BARABARANI 07:25 AM UDONDOZI WA MAGAZETI 07:40 AM KUMEPAMBAZUKA I 08:00 AM HABARI NYEPESI 08:10 AM HABARI ZA BIASHARA 09:00 AM HABARI ZA BIASHARA 09:10 AM MATANGAZO 09:20 AM BRAND TALK 10:00 AM NEWS BRIEF 10:03 AM DEATH ANNOUNCEMENTS 10:10 AM YALIVOMO YAMO 13:00 HRS NEWS BULLETIN 13:10 HRS DEATH ANNOUNCEMENTS 13:30 HRS DJ SHOW 16:00 HRS NEWS BRIEF 16:03 HRS DEATH ANNOUNCEMENTS 16:30 HRS HOJA YA LEO 18:30 HRS DIRA YA DUNIA BBC 20:00 HRS NEWS BULLETIN 20:10 HRS HADJO ONE DOCTOR 21:00 HRS NEWS BRIEF 21:05 HRS DAKIKA 45 22:15 HRS AFRO TIZI 23:00 HRS NEWS BRIEF 23:03 HRS AFRO TIZI 01:00-05:00HRS MUZIKI (MCHANGANYIKO)	05:00 AM HALI YA HEWA / KUMEPAMBAZUKA I 06:00 AM AMKA NA BBC 06:30 AM NIPASHE 06:50 AM MATANGAZO 07:00 AM NEWS BULLETIN 07:10 AM MATANGAZO 07:15 AM TAARIFA ZA BARABARANI 07:25 AM UDONDOZI WA MAGAZETI 07:40 AM HABARI NYEPESI 08:00 AM HABARI NYEPESI 08:10 AM KUMEPAMBAZUKA II 09:00 AM HABARI ZA BIASHARA 09:10 AM MATANGAZO 09:20 AM BRAND TALK 09:30 AM KUMEPAMBAZUKA SHERIA 10:00 AM NEWS BRIEF 10:03 AM DEATH ANNOUNCEMENTS 10:10 AM YALIVOMO YAMO 13:00 HRS NEWS BULLETIN 13:10 HRS DEATH ANNOUNCEMENTS 13:30 HRS DJ SHOW 16:00 HRS NEWS BRIEF 16:03 HRS DEATH ANNOUNCEMENTS 16:30 HRS HOJA YA LEO 18:30 HRS DIRA YA DUNIA BBC 20:00 HRS NEWS BULLETIN 20:10 HRS HADJO ONE DOCTOR 21:00 HRS NEWS BRIEF 21:05 HRS DAKIKA 45 22:15 HRS AFRO TIZI 23:00 HRS NEWS BRIEF 23:03 HRS AFRO TIZI 01:00-05:00HRS MUZIKI (MCHANGANYIKO)	05:00 AM HALI YA HEWA / KUMEPAMBAZUKA I 06:00 AM AMKA NA BBC 06:30 AM NIPASHE 06:50 AM MATANGAZO 07:00 AM NEWS BULLETIN 07:10 AM MATANGAZO 07:15 AM TAARIFA ZA BARABARANI 07:25 AM UDONDOZI WA MAGAZETI 07:40 AM HABARI NYEPESI 08:00 AM HABARI NYEPESI 08:10 AM KUMEPAMBAZUKA III 09:00 AM HABARI ZA BIASHARA 09:10 AM MATANGAZO 09:20 AM BRAND TALK 09:30 AM KUMEPAMBAZUKA MICHEZO 10:00 AM NEWS BRIEF 10:03 AM DEATH ANNOUNCEMENTS 10:10 AM YALIVOMO YAMO 13:00 HRS NEWS BULLETIN 13:10 HRS DEATH ANNOUNCEMENTS 13:30 HRS DJ SHOW 16:00 HRS NEWS BRIEF 16:03 HRS DEATH ANNOUNCEMENTS 16:30 HRS HOJA YA LEO 18:30 HRS DIRA YA DUNIA BBC 20:00 HRS NEWS BULLETIN 20:10 HRS HADJO ONE DOCTOR 21:00 HRS NEWS BRIEF 21:05 HRS DAKIKA 45 22:15 HRS AFRO TIZI 23:00 HRS NEWS BRIEF 23:03 HRS AFRO TIZI 01:00-05:00HRS MUZIKI (MCHANGANYIKO)	05:00 AM HALI YA HEWA / KUMEPAMBAZUKA I 06:00 AM AMKA NA BBC 06:30 AM NIPASHE 06:50 AM MATANGAZO 07:00 AM NEWS BULLETIN 07:10 AM MATANGAZO 07:15 AM TAARIFA ZA BARABARANI 07:25 AM UDONDOZI WA MAGAZETI 07:40 AM HABARI NYEPESI 08:00 AM HABARI NYEPESI 08:10 AM KUMEPAMBAZUKA II 09:00 AM HABARI ZA BIASHARA 09:10 AM MATANGAZO 09:20 AM BRAND TALK 09:30 AM KUMEPAMBAZUKA UKIMWI 10:00 AM NEWS BRIEF 10:03 AM DEATH ANNOUNCEMENTS 10:10 AM YALIVOMO YAMO 13:00 HRS NEWS BULLETIN 13:10 HRS DEATH ANNOUNCEMENTS 13:30 HRS DJ SHOW 16:00 HRS NEWS BRIEF 16:03 HRS DEATH ANNOUNCEMENTS 16:30 HRS HOJA YA LEO 18:30 HRS DIRA YA DUNIA BBC 20:00 HRS NEWS BULLETIN 20:10 HRS HADJO ONE DOCTOR 21:00 HRS NEWS BRIEF 21:05 HRS DAKIKA 45 22:15 HRS AFRO TIZI 23:00 HRS NEWS BRIEF 23:03 HRS AFRO TIZI 01:00-05:00HRS MUZIKI (MCHANGANYIKO)	05:00 AM HALI YA HEWA / KUMEPAMBAZUKA I 06:00 AM AMKA NA BBC 06:30 AM NIPASHE 06:50 AM MATANGAZO 07:00 AM NEWS BULLETIN 07:10 AM MATANGAZO 07:15 AM TAARIFA ZA BARABARANI 07:25 AM UDONDOZI WA MAGAZETI 07:40 AM HABARI NYEPESI 08:00 AM HABARI NYEPESI 08:10 AM KUMEPAMBAZUKA III 09:00 AM HABARI ZA BIASHARA 09:10 AM MATANGAZO 09:20 AM BRAND TALK 09:30 AM KUMEPAMBAZUKA KISWAHILI 10:00 AM NEWS BRIEF 10:03 AM DEATH ANNOUNCEMENTS 10:15 AM MIWANI YA MAISHA 11:00 AM MATAA WA MAGOMA 13:00 HRS NEWS BULLETIN 13:10 HRS DEATH ANNOUNCEMENTS 13:30 HRS CHAGUO LAKO 15:00 HRS MUZIKI NA MICHEZO 16:00 HRS NEWS BRIEF 16:03 HRS DEATH ANNOUNCEMENTS 16:15 HRS MIDUNDO MOTOMOTO 18:00 HRS BONGO TEN 19:30 HRS SPOTI LEO 20:00 HRS NEWS BULLETIN 20:15 HRS CHEMISHA BONGO 21:00 HRS NEWS BRIEF 21:05 HRS MAMBO MSETO 22:00 HRS NEWS BULLETIN (24 HRS) 22:15 HRS WEEK END SHOW II 23:00 HRS NEWS BRIEF 23:03 HRS WEEK END SHOW III 01:00-05:00HRS MUZIKI (MCHANGANYIKO)	05:00 AM HALI YA HEWA / KUMEPAMBAZUKA I 06:00 AM AMKA NA BBC 06:30 AM NIPASHE 06:50 AM MATANGAZO 07:00 AM NEWS BULLETIN 07:10 AM MATANGAZO 07:15 AM TAARIFA ZA BARABARANI 07:25 AM UDONDOZI WA MAGAZETI 07:40 AM HABARI NYEPESI 08:00 AM HABARI NYEPESI 08:10 AM KUMEPAMBAZUKA I 09:00 AM HABARI ZA BIASHARA 09:10 AM MATANGAZO 09:20 AM BRAND TALK 09:30 AM KUMEPAMBAZUKA KISWAHILI 10:00 AM NEWS BRIEF 10:03 AM DEATH ANNOUNCEMENTS 10:15 AM MIWANI YA MAISHA 11:00 AM MATAA WA MAGOMA 13:00 HRS NEWS BULLETIN 13:10 HRS DEATH ANNOUNCEMENTS 13:30 HRS CHAGUO LAKO 15:00 HRS MUZIKI NA MICHEZO 16:00 HRS NEWS BRIEF 16:03 HRS DEATH ANNOUNCEMENTS 16:15 HRS MIDUNDO MOTOMOTO 18:00 HRS BONGO TEN 19:30 HRS SPOTI LEO 20:00 HRS NEWS BULLETIN 20:15 HRS CHEMISHA BONGO 21:00 HRS NEWS BRIEF 21:05 HRS MAMBO MSETO 22:00 HRS NEWS BULLETIN (24 HRS) 22:15 HRS WEEK END SHOW II 23:00 HRS NEWS BRIEF 23:03 HRS WEEK END SHOW III 01:00-05:00HRS MUZIKI (MCHANGANYIKO)	

BUSINESS



Crude oil climbs as traders weigh demand signals

NEW YORK

OIL rose, erasing a weekly loss, as investors weighed the demand outlook and tracked disruption to a key North American pipeline.

West Texas Intermediate advanced toward \$98 a barrel in the final session of a volatile week in which prices have swung in a range of about \$10.

While US data this week showed rising gasoline stockpiles and stalling consumption, market signals including time spreads point to still-robust physical demand.

Traders are monitoring the impact of disruption along the Keystone pipeline. TC Energy has reduced operating rates on a segment running from Canada's oil sands to the hub at Cushing, Oklahoma, by about 15 percent following a power-supply glitch. Cushing is the delivery point for WTI futures.

While crude remains more than a quarter higher this year, the bulk of the gains triggered by Russia's invasion of Ukraine have been reversed.

Central banks including the Federal Reserve have been raising interest rates to quell soaring inflation, triggering concerns of a slowdown that'll sap demand for commodities including energy.

That's hurt investor interest in crude oil, even though the market's pricing structure continues to point to signs of scarcity.

"Both Brent crude and WTI futures curves remain in backwardation," said Jeffrey Halley, a senior market analyst at Oanda Asia Pacific Pte, referring to near-term prices trading above longer-dated ones. That pattern "says that prompt physical supplies of oil in the real world look as tight as ever. For that reason, I do not see oil prices materially falling from here yet."

To ramp up the pressure against Russia, the US is aiming to get an agreement on a price cap for the country's crude. The market hasn't yet priced in the impact of European Union sanctions aimed at Russian supplies, which adds impetus to the price-cap plan, a US Treasury Department official said.

In a phone call on Thursday, Saudi Crown Prince Mohammed bin Salman and Russian President Vladimir Putin discussed continued cooperation within OPEC+, the broad group that comprises the Organization of Petroleum Exporting Countries and its allies.

"It was emphasized that a further coordination within OPEC+ is important," according to a statement from the Kremlin.

Cargo handling volume at airports hit 7,441 tons in 2022, says TCCIA

By Guardian Reporter

THE volume of cargo handled by airports in Tanzania mainland increased to 7,442 tons during the first quarter of this year from 6,226 tons recorded during similar quarter last year, Tanzania Civil Aviation Authority (TCAA) data have shown.

"These developments were due to improving the business environment both domestically and globally as both domestic and international flight movement registered sharp increase" reports the Consolidated Zonal Economic Performance report.

The major increase was recorded in Dar es Salaam zone whereby cargo handled increased to 6,026 tons from 4,759 tons respectively, accounting for the largest share of cargo handled in all airports in Tanzania mainland.

During the quarter ending March 2022, international flights movements nearly doubled to 6,217 from 3,956 respectively while domestic flight move-

ment increased to 21,396 from 17,677 during the reviewed periods respectively.

International flight movement at the Julius Nyerere International Airport (JNIA) increased to 4,113 from 2,880 in 2021 while domestic movement at the busiest airport in Tanzania increased to 8,599 from 7,876 respectively.

In the Northern zone, volume of cargo handled increased to 717 tons from the previous quarter 748 tons.

In the Lake zone, the volume of cargo handled increased to 411 tons from 410 tons. International flights movements have grown to 294 from 97 movements the whole quarter.

In the Central zone, cargo handled decreased to 135 tons compared to 150 tons.

Data shows in southern highlands, cargo handled slowed to 126 tonnes during the first quarter of this year from 145 tons recorded during similar quarter of last year.

Dr Biteko gives one month for nickel explorer to comply with mining laws

Adela Madyane - Kigoma

THE Kapalagulu nickel exploration firm Lift Energy Metal Resources located in Uvinza district Kigoma region was yesterday given one month to comply with license requirements, before further government decision on whether to allow it proceed with the project or terminate the license.

This decision was made by Minister of Minerals Doto Biteko when he visited the site and finds unsatisfactory compliance, since the license was issued in 2015, as nothing have been done to show the progress of the project.

"The explorer claim to have raised \$1.8 million for the project and yet the spending is not stated anywhere; so, we do not want to place our country in unnecessary debts; I ask for employed Tanzanian within this project to be careful when the project will begin its implementation," the minister said.

He further revealed that the investor claims to have an office in Austria, but the headquarters are in Mauritius, and the company has not provided financial reports on quarterly basis, as required by the law.

"The mining law states that every quarter the investor must submit a report on the exploration progress, but this investor has never given any report, which is against the law. So, to proceed with the project, they must follow the procedures and laws, if they are real investors. They must also raise funds for the project or transfer to other investors who have funds for further investment," the minister ordered.

Minister Biteko insisted that the



Kapalagulu nickel exploration firm Lift Energy Metal Resources project manager Harry Wilhelmij responds to Minerals minister Doto Biteko (8th left), during the latter's visit at the site in Kigoma yesterday. PHOTO/CORRESPONDENT ADELA MADYANE

basis of investors looking for funds must be on truth, giving an example on how they used children image to raise funds, a situation that would damage the image of the country.

"What they publish in their website is not equivalent to what is actually happening on the ground," he said.

"What is on the ground is not what is published on their website, it is not vivid, like they once took pictures of children with torn clothes

and published for the sake of raising funds; it is not right and this must not happen again. If they really need the project they must follow the government instruction," the minister said.

On his side of project manager Harry Wilhelmij admitted to have some irregularities in implementation of the project and promised to fix everything in a given period by looking for strategic investors.

Wilhelmij said he is also

seeing the opportunity in nickel as its prices has risen by 50 percent in the world market, adding that will sure to start implementing the directives regardless the challenges he is facing, which include poor road infrastructures at a 11km road from main road to where the project is located.

The project coordinator Ashery Lomelo, said although the project has yet reached the level of commercial mining, they have

played part in Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) programmes including donating iron sheet for Kamatandala school.

Uvinza district commissioner Hanafi Msabaha said Tanzanians should not be misused and they should take care and protecting the country's resources.

Kapalagulu nickel project has the deposits of estimated metric 56 tones that can be mined between 27 and 30 years.

Govt, Vietnam enters talks on cashew processing factories



A farmer dries his raw cashew before selling them. Tanzania currently exports most of its cashew nuts raw. PHOTO:FILE

By Correspondent Joseph Mwendapole

THE Tanzania Investment Centre (TIC) has said that the government of Tanzania is in talks with the government of Vietnam to collaborate with local investors to construct a cashew nut processing factories.

TIC said the government is no longer interested to sell raw cashew nut to Vietnam and other part of the world, but now is looking for investors who will invest in building processing industries to add values of the precious nut.

TIC, Acting Director General Revocatus Rasheli revealed this yesterday during Tanzania-Vietnam Investment Forum held at the Mwalimu Nyerere International Conference Center (JNICC) in Dar es Salaam.

The investment forum attended by

cashew nut business community from Vietnam and Tanzania, representatives from TIC, Export Processing Zone Authority (EPZA), Tanzania Ports Authority (TPA) Tantrade, Tanzania Agriculture Research Institute (TARI), Tanzania Private Sector Foundation (TPSFP), Cereal and other produce board.

He said for a very long time Vietnam government has been buying raw cashew nut from Tanzania and processing them in their industries before selling them in various international markets.

Rasheli said Vietnam government has shown interest to build cashew nut processing factories in Tanzania in collaboration with local investors to ensure the added value of the nut, before exports.

He said Vietnam has registered only six projects at TIC in the area of tour-

ism, communication and real estate, but their total investment is \$1.5 billion and which have created over 200,000 jobs to Tanzanians.

"Vietnam has been in a historical relationship with Tanzania since 1960s and we have been doing business, they have registered very few projects, but the value of the project is very high compared to other countries with many projects. But we at TIC, care much about foreign direct investment and employment to our people," Rasheli added.

The Acting Director of Cashew nut Board (TCB), Francis Alfred, said Vietnam and India are potential markets of Tanzania cashew nuts, as they have been buying at least 90 percent of all cashew nut produced in Tanzania.

He said TCB plan to increase the cashew nut production from the

current 250,000 tons to 700,000 tons in the year 2025/2026, adding that the investment forum has availed opportunity to meet with cashew nut buyers.

"We have challenges in cashew nut especially value addition; we have some industries but they cannot do enough and some of them were complaining that they don't have enough supply for processing as we have allowed them to buy directly from farmers," he said

Either, he said the market for raw cashew nut is very limited compared with the finished product that is why the government is creating conducive environment to introduce cashew nut processing industries.

He said valued addition in cashew nut will enable the government to sell in it various market all over the world and create employment to Tanzanian.

Small miners pumped 622bn/- into the economy in 2021/2022, minister says

By Correspondent Adela Madyane

SMALL scale mining activities contributed a total of 622bn/- to the Gross Domestic Product (GDP) during FY-2021/22, an increase of 44 per cent compared with 587bn/- injected in 2020/2021, minerals minister Dr Dotto Biteko (pictured) has said.

In 2019/2020, the minister said, small scale mining activities injected 186bn/- to the economy.

The minister said this week during the meeting with small scale miners held here to discuss different issues related to mining sector.

The minister said the increased contribution of small scale mining activities to the economy resulted from the changes in the mining laws and policies in 2016/17, as the current government is continuing to emphasize on responsible mining activities.

"Small-scale miners should not be harassed; they

should be treated fairly without bureaucracy and must be protected and supported because they play an important role in taxes generation as well stimulating economic growth and job creation among Tanzanians," the minister said.

The minister insisted that Kigoma region should improve the capacity of small scale miners to increase the contribution to the economy, as currently its share is still low compared with other regions, despite of having abundant mineral resources.

Speaking on the region's mining contribution to the GDP, the regional minerals officer Pius Lobe said a total of 743mn/- injected in 2021/22, an increase of 73mn/- from 670mn/- recorded in 2020/21 and 379mn/- in FY of 2019/20.

Lobe said the region has a total of 429 licenses for small scale miners, two for medium salt mining, nine large-scale mineral exploration, eight minerals

broking licenses and 11 large-scale mining.

He said Uvinza district has 250 licenses, Kasulu has 93 licenses, Kigoma has 27 licenses, Kakonko has 29 licenses, Buhigwe has 15 licenses and Kibondo has 15 licenses.

He said during the past fiscal year, the region managed to sell minerals outside the country worthy 7billion/-, with limestone being the most sold.

The Kigoma regional commissioner Thobias Andengeny, said in order to increase the income, the region is planning to construct a minerals trading centre starting from the end of this year.

Secretary of the Association of Miners in Kigoma Region (KIGOREMA) Lister Balegelea mentioned some challenges facing small scale miners, which need government attention including lack of equipment and machinery and lack of credits of finances and expand mining operations.



African, Americans agriculture ministers to enhance cooperation on agrifood input price

SAN JOSE / NAIROBI

MINISTERS of Agriculture, national senior officials in the fields of environment, science and technology, heads of international organizations and private sector representatives will meet this month during the first Summit of Africa and the Americas, seeking to enhance cooperation between the two continents on Agrifood Systems amid global threats to food security. The high-level meeting "Building Bridges for Cooperation in Agrifood System Transformation" will take place at the headquarters of the Inter-American Institute for Cooperation on Agriculture (IICA) in San Jose, Costa Rica, from 27 to 29 July.

The Summit is being organized by IICA, the African Union Development Agency - New Partnership for Africa's Development (AUDA-NEPAD) and AGRA, who agree that both continents face common challenges in advancing agrifood system transformation and will benefit from sharing of experiences to foster collaboration within the framework of South-South Cooperation.

Dr. Agnes Kalibata, President of AGRA; Manuel Otero, Director General of IICA; and Nardos Bekele-Thomas, Executive Director of AUDA-NEPAD, will open the ministerial meeting on July 27.

The Summit will take place at a time when a partnership between Africa and the Americas is more important than ever: the Russia Ukraine Conflict has destabilized world commodity markets and global trade flows, leading to an increase in global food and input prices. The Conflict has also negatively impacted recovery from the Covid-19 pandemic in many countries in Africa and the Americas, where food security has worsened and is expected to continue deteriorating. The hybrid Summit is the most important event within the framework of joint efforts between leaders of Africa and the Americas to align their priorities based on productive, environmental, cultural and historical similarities and common challenges with respect to agrifood systems.

At the Summit, ministers and officials will identify areas of joint work and cooperation between the two regions, as well as the operational and financial mechanisms required to mobilize the necessary resources to increase the productivity, inclusion, and sustainability of agrifood systems.

India-African trade hits a record \$89.5bn in 2020/2021



NEW DELHI

TRADE between India and Africa reached a new record of \$89.5 billion in the 2020/2021 financial year ended on March 31, 2021 from \$56 billion during 2019-/2020, the Indian Minister of External Affairs Subrahmanyam Jaisankar has revealed.

"With cumulative investments of \$ 73.9 billion from 1996-2021, India is among the top five investors in Africa. Through the Duty-Free Tariff Preference (DFTP) Scheme that extends duty-free access to 98.2 percent of India's total tariff lines, India has opened its market to African countries. So far 33 LDC African nations have been entitled to get benefits under this scheme," he said at the 17th CII-EXIM Bank Conclave on India-Africa Growth Partnership.

The Indian diplomat added that the implementation of the African Continental Free Trade Area (AfCFTA) would help Indian companies boost their presence on the continent.

India and Africa "can work together for mutual benefit" when it comes to

self-reliance in sectors like food security and energy security and avoid being "held hostage by the vagaries and uncertainties of international markets," he added.

He further pointed out that India is one of the top five investors in Africa with cumulative commitments reaching \$73.9 billion between 1996 and 2021.

India has also extended over \$12.26 billion of concessional loans to the continent, he continued.

In his address at the conclave, Commerce secretary BVR Subrahmanyam called for a free trade agreement between Africa and India.

"The time has come for India and Africa to also start talking (on) how they can engage in a Comprehensive Economic Partnership or a free trade agreement," he said.

According to reports from Indian media, some 40 African ministers from 17 countries, including Cameroon, Ethiopia, Gabon, Equatorial Guinea, Ghana, and Nigeria, attended the 17th CII-EXIM Bank Conclave on India-Africa Growth Partnership.

Global Education Link offers interest-free educational loans

By Guardian Correspondent

THE Global Education Link, the international student recruitment agencies in Tanzania has said is facilitating interest-free education financing to parents and guardians who wish to send their children to abroad universities but faces financial difficulties.

This was revealed yesterday by GEL, Loan Officer Musa Sultani, when speaking to parents and students during an ongoing universities exhibition at Mnazi Mmoja in Dar es Salaam.

He said the loans are provided to students who wish to study certificates, diplomas, degrees and PhDs, adding this comes after GEL entered agreement with Amana bank for such financing.

He said the program to provide loan for students studying abroad started in 2018 and they provide loans ranging from 50 to 70 of annual costs of the training programme to applicant.

He said loans repayment has been positive as they have of recorded any default.

He said in 2018 they received 150 loan applications, but only 80 qualified because of some were lacking proper documentation.

"We are happy to announce that majority of our

loan beneficiaries pay back their loan smoothly, so we invite others applicants who have financial difficulties to take this opportunity to finance their child education abroad," he said

He said if the applicant form is well filled, the loan is issued within 48 hours.

Amana bank Public Relation Officer, Aziz Sangali, said the bank attended the exhibitions to inform the general public, among other things but the existence of such financing opportunity.

He said for those who need the loan they are required to meet GEL officials for all procedures for applying, including necessary documents required.

"Parent or guardian must approach GEL officials for consultations on type of courses they need their children to study, which university and country they prefer to go and if the required documents are complete, they will be forwarded to Amana Bank for loan access," he said.

He said most of applicants have been applying for loans up to 25mn/- whereby the bank allow them to repay by installments within eight month and they are given grace period of two month after loan is delivered.

"The loan is insured with life insurance so if the beneficiary gets permanent disability or death the insurance cover the risks," said Sangali.





AGRA chairman calls for the hastening of Africa's recovery of food security

By Guardian Correspondent, LUSAKA

AGRA board chair Hailemariam Dessalegn, a former Ethiopian prime minister, has urged Africa's leaders to collaborate in addressing the triple-threat problem - climate change, COVID-19, and the Russia Ukraine Conflict - that has recently worsened the continent's food security situation.

He was speaking during the fourth Mid-Year Coordination Meeting of the African Union, Regional Economic Communities and Regional Mechanisms, in Lusaka, Zambia on Sunday.

Citing the latest Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) report, which showed that 60 percent of the world's poor now live in Africa, Dessalegn highlighted the need for quick action.

"There is a sense of urgency here if we are to transform the continent's agriculture and food systems, we need to join forces across countries and regions. We need to build systems and institutions that can deliver the agriculture sector, markets, and trade to our farmers with the strong capacity and expertise to match" he said.

He further urged Africa's institutions and development organizations to team up and together support the solutions needed to lift the continent out of the rut that it is currently stuck in.

"We need better coordination among our organizations, with dedicated capacity for RECs (Regional Economic Communities) and between the African Union Commission and the Africa Union Development Agency (AUDA-NEPAD) to be able to respond to the challenges at hand," he said, while offering AGRA's support, which comprises over 200 experts from 29 African countries to support the process.

Dessalegn met with President Hakainde Hichilema to discuss his country's progress in transforming the national pathways to food systems established during last year's UN Food Systems Summit and strategies for a sustainable transition.

The conversation also addressed Zambia's role in regional food trade and the support required of AGRA. Dessalegn further used the opportunity to invite H.E. Hichilema to the AGRF 2022 Summit, set for September 5 - 9 in Kigali, Rwanda.

Gold price slips as traders evaluate growth concerns

SYDNEY

BULLION is heading for its first weekly advance - albeit a marginal one - in six weeks as a gauge of the greenback retreated from a record high on July 14.

Fears of a recession are mounting as data has showed jobless claims at an eight-month high and a slump in one regional factory out-

look. One index of leading economic indicators is pointing to a contraction.

"We are finally starting to see some weakness in the US dollar index, as gold bounces off an oversold level, recovering above \$1,700 for now," said John Feeney, business development manager at Sydney-based bullion dealer Guardian Gold Australia. "We now expect this initial flight to the US dollar to start rotating back into gold as investors search for a true and reliable hedge against inflation."

Investors will closely watch the Federal Reserve's meeting on July 26-27 for clues on its monetary policy path. On Thursday, the European Central Bank raised its key interest rate by 50 basis points, the first increase in 11 years, as it confronts surging inflation.

Traders were also monitoring President Joe Biden's condition after he tested positive for Covid and showed mild symptoms. Spot gold declined 0.3% to \$1,713.81 an ounce at 12:46 p.m. in Singapore. Prices rose 1.3 percent Thursday after first dropping to the lowest intraday level since March 2021.

The Bloomberg Dollar Spot Index rose 0.2 percent to pare a weekly decline. Silver fell, while platinum was little changed and palladium climbed.

We are finally starting to see some weakness in the US dollar index, as gold bounces off an oversold level, recovering above \$1,700 for now

Airtel Kenya splits mobile money business on sale of minority stake

NAIROBI

TELECOMMUNICATIONS firm Airtel Networks Kenya has split its mobile money business into a separately run entity known as Airtel Money Kenya Limited following the entry of minority shareholders into the venture.

The new entity took over the operations of the firm's money services effective Thursday.

"We wish to inform ... the general public that to better serve our customers, we have separated and transferred the Airtel Money Business from Airtel Networks Kenya Limited to Airtel Money Kenya Limited," the company said in a notice.

"Following this business separation, Airtel Money Kenya Limited will take over and continue the provision of the Airtel Money Services, in collaboration with the licensed telecommunications network of Airtel Networks Kenya Limited."

The company added that the two businesses will continue to share customer data and that continued use of

We wish to inform ... the general public that to better serve our customers, we have separated and transferred the Airtel Money Business from Airtel Networks Kenya Limited to Airtel Money Kenya Limited

the mobile money service will be deemed as proof of a customer's acceptance of that fact.

The spinoff comes after London-listed Airtel Africa Plc sold a 25.77 percent stake in its local mobile money business as part of a continental deal that has seen it raise \$550 million (Sh65.2 billion) from four institutional investors.

The multinational's interest in Airtel Money Kenya Limited dropped to 74.23

percent in the year ended March from 100 percent a year earlier.

Similar changes in ownership of the mobile money businesses were also witnessed in markets such as Rwanda, Tanzania, and Zambia.

Airtel Money Kenya will now be run and regulated by the Central Bank of Kenya as a standalone business but clients' user experience is not expected to change.

Safaricom has also faced calls to separate its mobile money business. Legislative efforts to this end have, however, not succeeded. The company has said that it would prefer not to spin off the business, saying the service benefits from the existing synergies with other offerings including voice, SMS, and data. Mobile money services in the country were rooted in the use of hand-held devices and connection to telecoms infrastructure through a SIM card.

But new technologies including apps allow the roll-out of such services without the need for the traditional telecoms infrastructure.



ITV	WEDNESDAY 27 July	FRIDAY 29 July	CAPITAL	
<p>SATURDAY 23 July</p> <p>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 12:40 Usafiri Wako rpt 13:10 Korean: Jumong rpt 13:50 Soap: I Plead Guilty rpt 14:10 Igizo: Mizengwe 16:30 Igizo: Rebecca 17:00 Shamsam 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: Tatu Mzuka 21:15 Igizo: Rebecca 21:40 Art and Lifestyle 22:10 ITV TOP 10 22:50 Hawavumi lakini wamo 23:40 Soap: Uzalo rpt 01:15 DWTW</p> <p>SUNDAY 24 July</p> <p>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: I Plead Guilty rpt 11:50 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: Rebecca 20:00 Habari 21:05 Kipindi maalum: Biko 21:10 Kipindi maalum: Reflexology 21:15 Kipindi maalum: Soka Bet 21:25 Igizo: Mizengwe 21:40 Mjue Zaidi 22:15 Bongo movie: 23:30 Soap: Uzalo rpt 02:05 Al Jazeera</p> <p>MONDAY 25 July</p> <p>5:00 Igizo rpt: Uzalo 5:30 Uwanja wa Mazoezi 6:00 HABARI 6:40 Kumekucha 7:30 HABARI 8:00 Kumekucha Michezo 8:55 Habari za saa 9:00 Kumekucha Kishindo 9:30 Soap rpt: I Plead Guilty</p>	<p>9:55 Habari za saa 10:00 Watoto wetu 10:05 Habari za saa 11:00 ITV Top Ten 11:55 Habari za saa 12:00 Al Jazeera 13:00 Mjue Zaidi 13:40 Art and Lifestyle rpt 13:55 Habari za saa 14:00 Art and Lifestyle rpt 14:15 Soap rpt: Rebecca 14:40 Igizo rpt: Mizengwe 14:55 Habari za saa 15:00 Meza Huru 16:30 Watoto Wetu 17:00 The Base 18:00 Jiji Letu 18:10 Aibu yako rpt 18:15 Mapishi 18:30 DWTW: Kesho leo 19:00 Afa ya Jamii 19:30 Soap: I Plead Guilty 20:00 Habari 21:05 Dakika 45 22:00 Kipindi Maalum: DCB 22:15 Bundesliga na DW 22:30 Soap: Uzalo 23:00 Habari 23:30 The Base 00:30 Al Jazeera 02:00 DWTW</p> <p>TUESDAY 26 July</p> <p>5:00 Igizo rpt: Uzalo 5:30 Uwanja wa Mazoezi 6:00 HABARI 6:40 Kumekucha 7:30 HABARI 8:00 Kumekucha Michezo 8:55 Habari za saa 9:00 Kumekucha Kishindo 9:30 Soap rpt: I Plead Guilty 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 Afa ya jamii 12:55 Habari za saa 13:00 Ripoti Maalum 13:40 Shikabamba 13:55 Habari za saa 14:00 Shikabamba 14:15 Igizo rpt: Rebecca 14:40 Kipindi Maalum rpt: Brela 14:55 Habari za saa 15:00 Meza Huru 16:30 Watoto wetu 17:00 The Base 18:00 Jiji Letu 18:15 Igizo rpt: Mizengwe 18:30 Kipindi Maalum: Sema na Mahakama ya TZ - Live 19:30 Soap: I Plead Guilty 20:00 Habari 21:05 Kipindi Maalum: Maisha ni Nyumba 21:30 Kipindi Maalum: NSSF 21:45 Chetu ni chetu</p>	<p>22:30 Soap: Uzalo 23:00 Habari 23:00 The Base 00:30 Al Jazeera 02:00 DWTW</p> <p>WEDNESDAY 27 July</p> <p>5:00 Igizo rpt: Uzalo 5:30 Uwanja wa Mazoezi 6:00 HABARI 6:40 Kumekucha 7:30 HABARI 8:00 Kumekucha Michezo 8:55 Habari za saa 9:00 Kumekucha Kishindo 9:30 Soap: I Plead Guilty 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 Bundesliga rpt 12:55 Habari za saa 13:00 Dakika 45 rpt 13:55 Habari za saa 14:00 Chetu ni chetu rpt 14:40 Kipindi Maalum rpt: DCB 14:55 Habari za saa 15:00 Meza huru 16:30 Watoto wetu 17:00 The Base 18:00 Jiji Letu 18:15 Mapishi rpt 18:30 Jarida la wanawake 19:00 Kipindi Maalum: TMDA 19:30 Soap: I Plead Guilty 20:00 Habari 21:05 Aibu Yako 21:10 Kipindi Maalum: Tanesco 21:40 Kipindi maalum: Watumishi Housing ya TZ 21:55 Ripoti Maalum 22:30 Soap: Uzalo 23:00 Habari 23:30 The Base 00:30 Al Jazeera 02:00 DWTW</p> <p>THURSDAY 28 July</p> <p>5:00 Igizo rpt: Uzalo 5:30 Uwanja wa Mazoezi 6:00 HABARI 6:40 Kumekucha 7:30 HABARI 8:00 Kumekucha michezo 8:55 Habari za saa 9:00 Kumekucha kishindo 9:30 Soap rpt: I Plead Guilty 10:00 Watoto wetu 10:30 Shamba lulu 10:55 Habari za saa 11:00 The base 11:55 Habari za saa 12:00 Al Jazeera 12:30 Jarida la wanawake rpt 12:55 Habari za saa 13:00 Kipindi Maalum: TMDA 13:30 Igizo rpt: Rebecca</p>	<p>13:55 Habari za saa 14:00 Igizo rpt: Rebecca 14:20 Kipindi maalum rpt: NSSF 14:40 Kipindi maalum: Watumishi Housing rpt 14:55 Habari za saa 15:00 Meza Huru: 16:30 Watoto Wetu 17:00 The Base 18:00 Jiji Letu 18:15 Jagina 18:45 Kipindi Maalum: Brela 19:00 Usafiri Wako 19:30 Soap: I Plead Guilty 20:00 Habari 21:05 Malumbano ya hoja 23:00 Habari 23:30 The Base 00:30 Al Jazeera 02:00 DWTW</p> <p>FRIDAY 29 July</p> <p>5:00 Igizo rpt: Uzalo 5:30 Uwanja wa Mazoezi 6:00 HABARI 6:40 Kumekucha 7:30 HABARI 8:00 Kumekucha Michezo 8:55 Habari za saa 9:00 Kumekucha Kishindo 9:30 Soap rpt: I Plead Guilty 9:55 Habari za saa 10:00 Watoto wetu 10:30 Usafiri Wako 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 Kipindi Maalum rpt: Sema na Mahakama ya TZ 13:55 Habari za saa 14:00 Kipindi Maalum rpt: Sema na Mahakama ya TZ 14:30 DWTW rpt: Kesho leo 14:55 Habari za saa 15:00 Meza Huru 16:30 Watoto Wetu 17:00 The Base (DJ Show) 17:30 Kisiam 18:00 Jiji Letu 18:15 Igizo: Mizengwe 18:30 Uchumi wetu 19:00 Shamba lulu 19:30 Soap: I Plead Guilty 20:00 Habari 21:05 Kipima Joto 23:00 Habari 23:30 The Base 00:30 Al Jazeera 02:00 DWTW</p> <p>SATURDAY 30 July</p> <p>5:30 Uwanja wa Mazoezi 6:00 HABARI 6:40 Kumekucha 7:00 Habari 8:00 Al Jazeera 9:00 Watoto wetu</p>	<p>10:00 Shika Bamba 5 10:30 Mjue Zaidi rpt 11:10 Chetu ni chetu rpt 11:50 Hawavumi lakini wamo 12:40 Usafiri Wako rpt 13:10 Korean: Jumong rpt 13:50 Soap: I Plead Guilty rpt 14:10 Igizo: Mizengwe 16:30 Igizo: Rebecca 17:00 Shamsam 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: Tatu Mzuka 21:15 Igizo: Rebecca 21:40 Art and Lifestyle 22:10 ITV TOP 10 22:50 Hawavumi lakini wamo 23:40 Soap: Uzalo rpt 01:15 DWTW</p> <p>Sat 23 July</p> <p>08:00 Al Jazeera 09:00 Rev rpt 09:30 Turning the Spotlight rpt 10:00 Culinary delight rpt 10:30 Innovation rpt 11:00 Out n' about rpt 11:30 Sports Gazette rpt 12:00 Shamba Lulu rpt 12:30 Our Earth rpt 13:00 Business edition rpt 13:30 Korean Drama rpt: Hwarang 14:30 Telenovela rpt: Laws of love 17:15 EcoAfrica 17:45 Bundesliga kick off 18:15 Capchat rpt 18:30 Mizengwe 19:30 The Decor 20:00 Korean Drama: Hwarang 21:00 Out n' About 21:30 Music: Club 101 rpt 23:00 Series rpt: Lies that Bind 01:00 Al Jazeera</p> <p>Sun 24 July</p> <p>08:00 Aljazeera 09:00 In good shape 10:00 Capchat rpt 11:00 Sports Gazette rpt 11:30 Korean Drama rpt: Hwarang 12:00 12:30 Bundesliga Kick Off rpt 13:00 In good shape rpt 13:30 Series rpt: Lies that Bind 15:15 Aibu yako 15:30 Rev rpt 16:00 Dakika 45 rpt 16:45 Mizengwe rpt 17:00 The Decor rpt 17:30 Meza huru 19:00 Turning the Spotlight rpt 19:30 Cookery pgm: Culinary Delights 20:00 Korean Drama: Hwarang 21:00 Dw News Africa</p>

WORLD

Crisis-hit Sri Lanka swears in new PM

COLOMBO

SENIOR Sri Lankan lawmaker Dinesh Gunawardena was sworn in yesterday as the new prime minister, his office said, a day after the swearing-in of a new president as the Indian Ocean nation grapples with its worst economic crisis in decades.

The event came just hours after security forces raided a protest camp on government grounds in the main city of Colombo and cleared part of it, with at least nine arrests, as the new administration moves to crack down on protesters.

A former minister from the Podujana Peramuna party, Gunawardena took the oath of office in the presence of Wickremesinghe, seated in front of uniformed military officers in a room packed with lawmakers and officials.

The rest of the cabinet is expected to be sworn in later yesterday.

Sri Lanka's crisis, the result of economic mismanagement and the fallout of conflict in Ukraine, sparked months of mass protests and eventually forced then president Gotabaya Rajapaksa to flee the country.

Wickremesinghe declared a state of emergency while seeking a bailout from the International Monetary Fund.

Sri Lankan security forces raided an

anti-government protest camp in the commercial capital Colombo early on Friday, two protest organizers said, a sign that the country's new president was cracking down a day after his swearing-in. Media footage from the site showed soldiers armed with assault rifles trying to tear down the camp as dozens of police watched on.

As daylight broke, dozens of troops in riot gear marched through the area and rows of protest tents that stood on both sides of the main road that passes in front of the president's secretariat completely cleared out.

Protesters had feared a crackdown was imminent under new President Ranil Wickremesinghe, an ally of his ousted predecessor, Gotabaya Rajapaksa.

Protest organizers said hundreds of security personnel surrounded the "Gota Go Gama" protest camp, mockingly named after Rajapaksa, after midnight and then took apart a section of it.

At least 50 protesters were injured, the organizers said, including some journalists who were beaten by security forces. Hospital sources said two were hospitalized.

"It was a systematic and premeditated attack," protest organizer Chameera Dudduwa told Reuters. "They actually brutally attacked people. What has hap-



Sri Lankan President Ranil Wickremesinghe (left) swears in Dinesh Gunawardena as Sri Lanka's new prime minister at the prime minister's office in Colombo yesterday. AFP

pened is a very cheap show of power."

Police and army spokespeople did not immediately respond to calls from Reuters.

Sri Lanka is under a state of emergency imposed by Wickremesinghe on Sunday when he was acting president. Previous emergency regulations have been used to give powers to the military to detain and arrest protesters, and curtail the right to protest.

Wickremesinghe, the former prime minister, was sworn into office on Thursday after winning a parliamentary vote this week, following the resignation of Rajapaksa who fled to Sri Lanka in the wake of massive public protests triggered by the country's worst economic crisis in seven decades.

After surrounding the protest camp, security personnel moved in front of the presidential secretariat, started dismantling some tents and assaulted protesters, protest organizer Manjula Samarasekara said.

Security forces appeared to have taken control of the entire secretariat, with many more personnel visible inside the building perimeter that was earlier this month seized by protesters, along with the president and prime

minister's official residences. The residences were later handed back to government authorities.

Dedduwa said protesters had planned to hand over the presidential secretariat to government authorities on Friday afternoon.

"The various steps being taken including declaring an emergency and calling out the troops, raises serious concerns this government is taking on fundamental rights and the rule of law in Sri Lanka," said Bhavani Fonseka, a senior researcher at Colombo-based think tank Center for Policy Alternatives.

"The excessive force and the violence used to remove protesters is a marked difference from what Sri Lanka needs right now, especially when the protesters had already said they will vacate the premises."

Diplomats also expressed concern.

"Very concerned about reports from the Galle Face protest site," Sarah Hulton, the British High Commissioner to Sri Lanka, said in a tweet.

"We have made clear the importance of the right to peaceful protest."

AU seeks to deepen China-Africa ties further

ADDIS ABABA

CHAIRPERSON of the African Union Commission on Wednesday reiterated the AU's keen interest to further deepen the already strong and long-standing China-Africa partnership.

Moussa Faki Mahamat made the remarks as he received the letter of appointment from Hu Changchun, the new head of the Chinese Mission to the AU, at the AU headquarters in the Ethiopian capital of Addis Ababa, the Chinese Mission to the AU said in a statement.

During their meeting, the two sides held cordial and friendly talks on further deepening China-Africa relations.

Mahamat, who spoke highly of the traditional friendship between China and Africa as well as the achievements of practical cooperation with the AU, termed the relations between Africa and China as the exemplar of the times.

The AU is ready to work closely with China to speed up the implementation of the outcomes of the Eighth Ministerial Conference of the Forum on China-Africa Cooperation and Belt and Road cooperation so as to bring more benefits to the African and Chinese peoples, he said.

Hu meanwhile acknowledged the AU's important role in leading Africa's integration, coordinating a united continental fight against the COVID-19 pandemic and tackling regional hotspot issues.

China attaches great importance to developing its relations with the AU and is willing to deepen strategic mutual trust and practical cooperation between the two sides and push the China-AU relations to a new level, he said.

Japan's planned state funeral for ex-PM Abe sparks protests

TOKYO

THE Japanese government said yesterday it would hold a state funeral for former Prime Minister Shinzo Abe on Sept 27, amid street and social media protests that the state shouldn't fund ceremonies for Japan's longest-serving, but divisive, premier.

Abe, prime minister for more than eight years over two terms and hugely influential in the ruling Liberal Democratic Party even after leaving office, was gunned down two weeks ago at a campaign rally, an incident that deeply shocked Japan.

His funeral was held soon after, but the cabinet decided on Friday that a state funeral will be held on Sept 27 at the Nippon Budokan in central Tokyo.

"We made this decision, as has been said before, due to Abe's record as the longest-serving prime minister, during which he exerted leadership skills distinctive from others and bore heavy responsibility for dealing with a number of serious domestic and international issues," Chief Cabinet Secretary Hirokazu Matsuno told a news conference yesterday.

The funeral will be fully paid for by state funds likely to be taken from the budget reserve, he said.

The last state funeral for an ex-prime minister paid for fully by state funds was in 1967, with successive funerals paid for partly by the state and partly by the LDP.

The current plan has triggered growing disquiet. Around 200 people gathered near the PM's office in Tokyo to protest the decision, according to the Kyodo news agency, and on social media objections ranged from the use of taxpayer funds, to complaints the government may seek to make political capital of Abe's death and cement his legacy.

On Thursday, 50 people filed for an injunction in a Tokyo court seeking a halt to the use of public funds for the event, saying there should have been more discussion before making a decision.

Only 49 percent supported the idea of a state funeral in a recent public opinion poll by public broadcaster NHK, and the topic was trending on social media on Friday.

On Twitter, a user with the handle 'Yuki no Imogai' posted, "(Prime Minister Fumio) Kishida always bragged he listens to the people, so why isn't he doing it now?"

Others contrasted the plan with the government response to the COVID-19 pandemic, with new cases surging to record levels in Japan this week.

"Given they're doing next to nothing about the pandemic, how did they manage to decide this so quickly?", posted Twitter user 'Heron'.

"Take the money you'll use for the funeral and do something about the coronavirus."

We made this decision, as has been said before, due to Abe's record as the longest-serving prime minister, during which he exerted leadership skills distinctive from others and bore heavy responsibility for dealing with a number of serious

Envoy at Aspen: Take steps to avoid new Cold War

WASHINGTON

LOOKING at China as a threat is picking the "wrong fight", and the United States should look at its differences and commonalities with the country to defuse tension, with the bilateral relationship at a "critical juncture", China's ambassador to the US said Wednesday.

"Shall we walk on the dead alley of 'zero-sum' game or on the bright path of win-win cooperation? When the world's entering a new period of instability and transformation, we have more challenges requiring cooperation between China and the United States," Ambassador Qin Gang told the Aspen Security Forum in Colorado.

The annual three-and-a-half day conference in Aspen, which opened on Tuesday, is laden with China-related topics in discussions including, "China's Backyard? US Strategy in the Indo-Pacific", "How the World Views Conflict with Russia and Competition with China" and included a "fireside chat" with Qin.

When asked if the US and China are entering a new Cold War (a period of geopolitical tension between the US and the Soviet Union following World War II), Qin said people are worrying that history would repeat itself, and that the Cold War is coming back because some people have a Cold War mentality.

He went on at length to tell the audience that China is not the former Soviet Union, and that its ruling party, the Communist Party of China, is not the Communist Party of the former Soviet Union.

The CPC has adhered to its founding mission of putting people at the center. It has led the efforts to lift 800 million people out of poverty over the past four decades, accounting for 70 percent of global poverty reduction.

"China is the only country to include peaceful development in its Constitution," Qin said. "China never exports ideology. On the contrary, China is working hard with other countries to build up a community with a shared future for mankind."

The envoy noted that US President Joe Biden has said many times that the US is not looking for a new Cold War with China.

"The key is to honor the words with actions," Qin said, in an apparent reference to the fact that Washington has been pursuing bloc politics and ramping up military alliances in a clear attempt at countering China.

The ambassador said China hopes the US side will make reassurances about its strategic intention on China, remove Cold War elements from its policies, and not engage in a "democracy versus authoritarianism" narrative, geopolitical confrontation, decoupling, or an arms race.

"Only by doing so can we prevent US-China relations from sliding into a new Cold War, which we all hate to see," Qin said.

Qin, who assumed the ambassador's post nearly a year ago, said US-China relations have remained strained from the previous administration and face mounting challenges. Although the Biden admin-



Chinese Ambassador to the US Qin Gang.

istration has made "very serious commitments" about bilateral relations, it has yet to translate its "positive" words into deeds.

Like his predecessor Cui Tiankai, Qin pointed out that the most essential question is whether the US can accept the development of China, a country that is very different from the United States historically, politically, and culturally.

"We have differences. But don't forget, we have huge common interests and shared responsibilities, not only for the people of our two countries, but also for the peace, security and the prosperity of the world," Qin said.

During the discussion about the Russia-Ukraine conflict, Qin said there had been a "double standard" in talking about sovereignty and territorial integrity.

He said he was "puzzled" that over the more than 100 days since the crisis, some people keep challenging China's principled position on sovereignty and territorial integrity without looking at the root causes for the conflict.

"Actually, there's a double standard when talking about sovereignty. On Ukraine, people emphasize the principles of sovereignty, but on China, they are doing damage to China's sovereignty and territo-

rial integrity, particularly on Taiwan, on Xinjiang, and on Hong Kong," he said.

Borrowing a line from US President Abraham Lincoln, "A house divided cannot stand", Qin said Lincoln's famous words explain everything - what some Western countries are saying and doing to China's Xinjiang and Hong Kong regions, and what China is doing.

"We are both trying to prove that President Lincoln was correct, but from opposite angles, out of different purposes. One thing we can reassure you is that the house of China will stand united, firm and strong," the ambassador said. **Agencies**

Digital technologies help improve rural living environment

By Dou Hanyang, Su Bin

DIGITAL management has been employed by local governments in China to improve rural living environment and build a green countryside over the recent years.

Guizhou province in southwest China is home to a considerable number of mountainous villages. The disposal of domestic waste in the province's rural areas is quite challenging as waste storage facilities are scattered far away from each other.

Liu Ping, a garbage truck driver

in Liuzhi special region, Liupanshui of Guizhou, is responsible for the transportation of domestic waste at over 30 local waste storage facilities.

Thanks to the application of digital management methods, the man is quite confident in making efficient work plans despite the huge workload.

Checking the latest updates of these waste storage facilities on a mobile application on his smart phone is the first thing on his work routine every day. Every time he sees a warning sign on the screen, he would drive to the spot according

to the recommended route planned by the application.

"The digital terminal has largely improved the efficiency of garbage disposal," he said.

To improve rural living environment and build a countryside that is beautiful and pleasant to live in is an important task in pushing forward all-round rural revitalization.

China has further enhanced its efforts to make the countryside better since a three-year rural living environment upgrade campaign was launched in 2018.

In 2020, the usage rate of rural

sanitary toilets in the country grew to over 68 percent, and over 90 percent of administrative villages had domestic waste disposal facilities. In addition, sanitation campaigns were launched in more than 95 percent of the country's villages.

As a result, the countryside has become beautiful and the rural living environment has been largely improved.

To improve rural living environment calls for upgrading of infrastructure, as well as upswings in intelligent and digital "software." Digital technologies and informa-

tion platforms are a strong force driving the improvement of rural living environment.

In January this year, China's Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Affairs, and nine other departments jointly issued an action plan to advance the construction of digital countryside between 2022 and 2025, which proposes to build intelligent and green villages, and improve rural living environment governance through digital applications.

Today, virtual reality-enabled glasses are helping with patrol missions along rural rivers, and big data

technology can generate transportation routes for domestic waste to be disposed of. Besides, digital management methods are also monitoring and controlling water supply facilities to ensure water safety.

Enhancing information connectivity between the user and management ends through the internet, mobile applications, QR codes and other digital methods, China will achieve further progress in improving rural living environment and ecological protection.

Russia expects EU to facilitate grain exports, diplomat says

MOSCOW

MOSCOW expects that the European Union's steps in the field of food security will create conditions for the unhindered export of grain and fertilizers, Russian Foreign Ministry Spokeswoman Maria Zakharova said in a statement.

"A document released by the Council of the European Union announces plans to expand exemptions from earlier sanctions in a bid to avoid a possible negative impact on global food and energy security.

Unfortunately, we know that there is a huge gap between the intentions that the European Union declares and the steps that it takes.

We expect that the EU's actions in the field of food security will help enhance it and create conditions for the unhindered export of grain, fertilizers and components for their production," she pointed out.

"In a press release dedicated to new sanctions, the Council of the European Union made another attempt to escape responsibility for triggering and exacerbating global food and energy crises. However, the facts speak for themselves," Zakharova added.

According to her, "the West's short-sighted economic and energy policies are the main reason for a rise in the prices of agricultural products and hydrocarbons, along with the coronavirus pandemic."

Agencies



Saudi-Iran pragmatic talks seen good for region

EFFORTS in the Middle East for restoration of relations between Saudi Arabia and Iran should be considered a rational initiative and a geopolitical necessity, analysts said, citing an opportunity to bring stability to the region amid Washington's waning influence.

At the recently concluded Gulf Cooperation Council-led summit in Jeddah, Saudi Arabia's Foreign Minister Prince Faisal Bin Farhan told reporters that the talks between his country and Iran have been positive, and that Saudi's hand is extended to Iran to achieve normal relations.

And, "Iraq had an important and fundamental role in pushing the negotiations forward in a way that makes us able to continue with these talks," the Saudi foreign minister was quoted as saying by Rudaw, a media group in the Kurdistan Region of Iraq.

Dina Yulianti Sulaeman, director of the Indonesia Center for Middle East Studies, told China Daily that the Saudi leaders "are being more rational this time" as they realize that the United States' hegemonic power no longer works as well "as before".

The United States has "even forced the European countries to pay the price" of the Ukraine conflict, she noted.

"That is why the GCC summit did not produce the results that the US wanted. There were no



A handout picture provided by the Saudi Ministry of Sports on March 18, 2021, shows the circuit design for the Jeddah Street Circuit. (PHOTO / AFP)

strong statements about Iran and no agreement to form a defense pact against Iran," said Sulaeman, who is also a lecturer in international relations at Padjadjaran University in Indonesia.

"This condition will open opportunities for closer relations between Iran and Saudi Arabia, especially since both countries have mutual interests," she added.

In a meeting between the US and Saudi Arabia on July 15 during US President Joe Biden's first official visit to the Middle East region, both countries agreed on the importance of stopping Iran from obtaining nuclear weapons, of which Iran has said no intention.

During Biden's Israel trip, the US president and Israel's

caretaker prime minister, Yair Lapid, signed a declaration affirming their commitment to that goal.

In a video interview with CNN that was aired on July 17, Prince Faisal, the Saudi foreign minister, reiterated that all six countries of the GCC – Saudi Arabia, the United Arab Emirates, Qatar, Oman, Kuwait and Bahrain – were unified in supporting negotiations with Iran, and that Saudi Arabia wants to resolve its differences with Iran through diplomacy.

In an interview with US magazine The Atlantic in March this year, Saudi Crown Prince Mohammed bin Salman said that his country and Iran are neighbors that cannot get rid of each other and that the solution was coexistence.

Mohammad Salami, a Middle East analyst and associate researcher at the International Institute for Global Strategic Analysis, or IIGSA, in Pakistan, told China Daily that it is natural that Saudi Arabia and Iran "will need each other" due to the geopolitical situation, including the war in Yemen, which he said cannot be resolved without Iran's help.

"Second, Saudi Arabia is moving towards an "economy first". Riyadh has ambitious plans for an oil-free economy, decarbonization and moving towards green energy, becoming a tourism hub, attracting foreign capital, attracting foreign companies with advanced technologies and a smart economy. For all this, it needs to have a safe space in the first place," said Salami.

Civil war in Yemen broke out in 2014, after the Houthi rebels' seizure of the capital Sanaa, forcing out the internationally recognized government of President Abd-Rabbu Mansour Hadi. Saudi Arabia led a military coalition into Yemen the following year, but it has struggled to take out the rebels.

Mehmet Rakipoglu, a Gulf analyst and researcher at Sakarya University Middle East Institute in Türkiye, said Saudi Arabia has been "eager to normalize its ties with Teheran" since Biden took office.

"Therefore, the statements of Saudi Arabia ... rejecting the idea of (an) 'Arab NATO' is more about Saudi's doubts on Biden. Saudi Arabia has some hesitancy towards Biden in terms of dealing with Iran," said Rakipoglu.

Agencies

Trump watched Capitol riot unfold on TV, ignored pleas for peace

WASHINGTON

DONALD Trump sat for hours watching the attack on the US Capitol unfold on live TV on Jan 6, 2021, ignoring pleas by his children and other close advisers to urge his supporters to stop the violence, witnesses told a congressional hearing on Thursday.

The House of Representatives Select Committee used its eighth hearing this summer to detail what members said was Trump's refusal to act for the 187 minutes between the end of his inflammatory speech at a rally urging supporters to march on the Capitol, and the release of a video telling them to go home.

"President Trump sat at his dining table and watched the attack on television while his senior-most staff, closest advisors and family members begged him to do what is expected of any American president," said Democratic Representative Elaine Luria.

The panel played videotaped testimony from White House aides and security staff discussing the events of the day.

Former White House counsel Pat Cipollone was asked question after question in the recorded testimony about Trump's actions: did he call the secretary of defense? The attorney general? The head of Homeland Security? Cipollone answered "no" to each query.

"He's got to condemn this shit ASAP," Trump's eldest son, Don Jr., appealed in a text message to Trump's chief of staff, Mark Meadows. "They will try to fuck his entire legacy on this if it gets worse."

The onslaught on the Capitol, as then vice-president Mike Pence met with lawmakers, led to several deaths, injured more than 140 police officers and delayed certification of Democratic President Joe Biden's victory in the November 2020 election.

Representative Adam Kinzinger, one of two Republicans on the committee, said Trump had no interest in calling off the rioters.

"The mob was accomplishing President Trump's purpose, so of course he didn't intervene," Kinzinger said.

Trump remains popular among Republican voters and continues to flirt with the possibility of running for president again in 2024.

But a Reuters/Ipsos poll concluded on Thursday found his standing among Republicans has weakened slightly since the hearings began six weeks ago. Some 40 percent of Republicans now say he is at least partially to blame for the riot, up from 33 percent in a poll conducted as the congressional hearings were getting underway.

Trump denies wrongdoing and continues to claim falsely that he lost because of widespread fraud. "These hearings are as fake and illegitimate as Joe Biden – they can't do anything without a teleprompter," Trump spokesperson Liz Harrington said in a post on his Truth Social social media site during the hearing.

Officers feared for their lives

Scheduled during the evening to reach a broad television audience, the hearing was shown on most of the major US television networks. Another round of hearings will begin in September, said the panel's Republican vice chairperson, Representative Liz Cheney.

Witnesses in the room were Matthew Pottinger, a deputy national security adviser under Trump, and Sarah Matthews, a deputy press secretary in his White House. Both resigned in the hours following the riot.

"If the president had wanted to make a statement and address the American people, he could have been on camera almost immediately," Matthews testified. "If he had wanted to make an address from the Oval Office, we could have assembled the White House press corps within minutes."

The panel of seven Democratic and two Republican House members has been investigating the attack for the past year, interviewing more than 1,000 witnesses and amassing tens of thousands of documents.

It has used the hearings to build a case that Trump's efforts to overturn his defeat by Biden in 2020 constitute dereliction of duty and illegal conduct, far beyond normal politics.

Agencies

Putin discusses international agenda with Security Council

MOSCOW

THE international agenda and the results of Foreign Minister Sergey Lavrov's trips are to be discussed at an operational meeting with permanent members of the Security Council, President Vladimir Putin said yesterday.

"We will discuss some issues on the international agenda today. But first I wanted to ask [Foreign

Minister] Sergey Viktorovich Lavrov to talk about the results of his trips abroad," the president said. "I have read your written reports, but I would ask you to share with your colleagues the results and impressions of your trips," Putin added.

The meeting was also attended by Prime Minister Mikhail Mishustin, Federation Council Speaker Valentina Matviyenko, Deputy Head of the Security Council Dmitry Med-



vedev, Presidential Administration Head Anton Vaino, Federal Security Service Director Alexander Bortnikov, and Special Presidential Representative for Environmental Protection, Ecol-

ogy and Transport Sergey Ivanov.

On July 8, Lavrov participated in the G20 Foreign Ministers' Meeting on the Indonesian island of Bali. The top diplomat also held a series of bilateral meetings there. Also, during his trip abroad in early July, the Russian minister visited Mongolia and Vietnam, where he held talks with his counterparts and was received by senior government officials.

Agencies

'To promote equality, mutual learning, dialogue, and mutual accommodation between civilisations'

"I still vividly remember President Xi Jinping's visit to the ancient Egyptian capital of Luxor though it's been more than six years," said Mamdouh Mohamed Gad Eldamaty, archaeologist and former antiquities minister of Egypt, in a recent interview with People's Daily.

Chinese President Xi Jinping paid a state visit to Egypt from Jan. 20 to 22, 2016. Eldamaty accompanied him twice during the Chinese President's stay in the African country.

On Jan. 21, President Xi attended a celebration of the 60th anniversary of China-Egypt diplomatic relations and the opening ceremony of the China-Egypt Cultural Year 2016, together with President Abdel-Fattah al-Sisi of Egypt at the ancient Square of Luxor Temple.

"I was the guide for the two heads of state at the Luxor Temple," Eldamaty recalled, saying at the temple, the two leaders talked about the characteristics of the ancient Chinese and Egyptian civilizations and reviewed the long history of mutual learning between them.

President Xi noted that both China and Egypt are ancient civilizations, so it's necessary for them to strengthen people-to-people and cultural exchanges, deepen non-governmental friendship, and consolidate public support for bilateral cooperation, so as to promote the common development and prosperity of both sides.

"What President Xi said mirrored his insight into history and his strategic vision," Eldamaty told People's Daily.

On the next day, President Xi visited the ruins of the ancient Egyptian civilization in Luxor. Again, he was accompanied by Eldamaty.

"While watching the heritages, President Xi communicated with me. He showed a deep interest in the ancient Egyptian civilization," Eldamaty recalled. "He shook my hands to express his thanks when the visit was over. His erudition, horizon, passion for culture, and humility left a deep impression on me," Eldamaty said.

During President Xi's visit to Egypt, he delivered an important speech titled Work Together for a Bright Future of China-Arab Relations at the Arab League Headquarters in Cairo.



Chinese Ambassador Liao Liqiang and Egyptian Higher Education Minister Khaled Abdel-Ghaffar, who is also temporarily in charge of the Egyptian Health Ministry, attend a hand-over ceremony for China-donated COVID-19 vaccines in Cairo, Nov. 3, 2021. (Photo courtesy of the Chinese Embassy in Egypt)

Eldamaty said the speech left a lasting impression on him. "President Xi's speech offered guidance for the cultural exchanges and mutual learning between Egypt and China, and between the Arab world and China," he noted.

"I agree with President Xi's proposal to promote equality, mutual learning, dialogue, and mutual accommodation between civilizations. We need to replace estrangement with interaction and sharing, replace conflict with harmonious co-existence, and replace a sense of superiority with respect for diversity," Eldamaty told People's Daily.

Citing a proverb in Arabic that "Seek knowledge even if you have to go as far as China," Eldamaty noted that the ancient Silk Road witnessed the common prosperity of the Arab and Chinese civilizations, which was the result of close exchanges and mutual learning. The land and maritime Silk Roads, as a bridge linking the East and the West, promoted the progress of human civilization, he added.

"Today, the Belt and Road Initiative (BRI) proposed by President Xi has revitalized the ancient Silk Road, and is bringing closer China and Arab countries in economy, trade, culture, and

other sectors," Eldamaty remarked, saying the initiative is building a new paradigm of international cooperation featuring win-win results, guided by the principle of extensive consultation, joint contribution, and shared benefits.

During the interview, Eldamaty highlighted a series of China-Egypt cooperation outcomes. According to him, a joint archaeological team consisting of Chinese and Egyptian scientists has unearthed a number of buildings and valuable relics buried in ruins at the Temple of Montu, Luxor; two Luban Workshops were launched at Egypt's Ain Shams University and Technical School for Advanced Maintenance Technology, Cairo, which marked further steps of vocational education cooperation between the two countries.

Besides, steady progress is being made in the construction of the central business district in Egypt's new administrative capital, and the China-Egypt TEDA Suez Economic and Trade Cooperation Zone had attracted over 120 enterprises as of the end of 2021. The cooperation zone was considered an industrial park with the best environment, the highest density of investment, and maximum production output per unit in Egypt.

People's Daily

Standard Chartered: Hong Kong economy to remain flat this year

THE Hong Kong economy will remain almost flat this year but may expand at an accelerated rate of 4.5 percent next year, Standard Chartered Hong Kong said on Friday.

Speaking at a Friday news conference, Kelvin Lau Kin-heng, Standard Chartered Hong Kong senior economist, said the city's economic data in the second quarter have drastically improved. Assuming that there will not be a sixth wave of the COVID-19 pandemic, the city's unemployment can be expected to decrease to the previous 3.9 percent level, he said.

"Amid the external environment challenges such as the possibilities that the American and European economies may have technical economic recessions by the end of this year, Hong Kong's export sector may be affected. Hence, Hong Kong even more needs robust domestic consumption to support economic growth this year," Lau cautioned.

Lau said he expects the Hong Kong economy to grow a merger 0.2 percent in 2022 when an economic rebound in the second half of this year will recoup the majority of losses in the first half.

In 2023, the city's economy will register 4.5 percent growth due to the lower base of comparison last year, and the expected further relaxation of social distancing measures that can boost cross-border travel, the economist added.

The Hong Kong economy contracted 4 percent year-on-year in the first quarter this year because of slower growth in global demand, and because pandemic-induced cross-boundary transportation disruptions posed significant drags to exports.

The fifth wave of the pandemic and resultant restrictive measures also weighed heavily on a wide range of economic activities as well as economic sentiment.

Regarding the interest rate trend, Lau anticipates the United States Federal Reserve will raise interest

rate by a combined 125 basis points at its July and September meetings. Hence, he expects the Hong Kong Interbank Offered Rate (HIBOR) will shoot up sharply in the short term.

"When interest rate hikes become more stable, the HIBOR will reach to the zenith level in the fourth quarter this year, and therefore the pressure for the Hong Kong dollar to depreciate further may lessen," Lau said.

"When the aggregate balance of the Hong Kong banking system drops to the level below HK\$100 billion (\$12.74 billion), the HIBOR will rise sharply to narrow the US dollar-HK dollar widening spreads due to interest rate hikes in the United States. Therefore, market equilibrium can be restored, and it is very unlikely that the aggregate balance will exhibit endless declines," Lau said.

Since the US Fed kicked off interest rate hikes this year to contain soaring inflation, the widening HK dollar-US dollar yield spreads keep the spot Hong Kong dollar exchange rate on the weak-side convertibility guarantee level of 7.85, forcing the HKMA to passively buy Hong Kong dollars from the market.

As of Thursday, the aggregate balance – the key gauge of cash in the city's banking system – had fallen to HK\$176.6 billion following the currency intervention.

Currency intervention also leads to a rise of the mortgage-linked one-month HIBOR, soaring for a seventh day to 1.01 percent as of Friday, the highest since June 2020.

As part of the automatic adjustment process under the linked exchange-rate system, when the widening HK dollar-US dollar yield spread (due to US interest rate hikes) triggers the Hong Kong dollar to reach the weak-side convertibility level, the Hong Kong Monetary Authority will sell US dollars and buy Hong Kong dollars, drawing down excess interbank Hong Kong dollar liquidity.

Tanzania's Yanga, AC Milan and other top European clubs boasting of unbeaten run

By Correspondent Nassir Nchimbi

TANZANIA'S NBC Premier League champion Yanga concluded the 2021/22 season with an unbeaten run after winning their last league fixture in June.

The top flight giant wound up its campaign with a 1-0 victory over Morogoro's Mtibwa Sugar in Dar es Salaam and joined other sides across the world with an unbeaten stint in the record books.

The Jangwani Street club's boys needed a second-half goal netted by midfielder Denis Nkane to defeat the visiting side at Benjamin Mkapa Stadium.

By doing so, Yanga ended the season without losing a match and also ended their four-year wait to wrestle the top flight title from age-old rival Simba SC.

The Guardian takes a look at clubs across Europe that achieved an 'invincible' season.

AC Milan - (1991/92)

Under manager, Fabio Capello, AC Milan ran through the entire 34-game league season in Italy unbeaten.

It was a rare feat in footballing history (equaled in Serie A only by Juventus in the 2011/12 season, and Perugia in 1978/79, although the latter failed to win the Serie A title).

The team's unbeaten run totaled 58 matches between 1991 and 1993, a record in Italian football, encompassing the next season as well.

For their achievements, the 1991/92 AC Milan received the Italian nickname 'Gli invincibili' ('The invincibles', in English) in the media.



Yanga players and the club's officials pose with the NBC Premier League silverware shortly after facing Mbeya City FC in the top-flight match that took place in Mbeya on June 25. PHOTO: COURTESY OF YANGA

Arsenal - (2003/04)

Arsenal under manager Arsene Wenger regained the England Premier League without a single defeat.

Over the 38 games played, their league record stood at 26 wins, 12 draws, and no defeat.

The unbeaten run was threatened six matches into the campaign against Manchester United, as striker Ruud van Nistelrooy missed a penalty in injury time, the match then ended 0-0.

At the turn of the calendar year, Arsenal, alias 'The Gunners', won nine league matches in a row to consolidate the first position.

Juventus - (2011/12)

Under the tutelage of former captain and fan favourite Antonio Conte, Juventus ended the season without any losses, breaking a record for the 20-team league format in Italy.

They finished the season on 84 points, four more than AC Milan, and their unbeaten season was confirmed on the final matchday

against Atalanta which ended with Juventus winning 3-1.

In total, they won 23 matches, drew 15, and suffered no loss.

Celtic - (2016/17)

The Scottish Premier League club, alias 'Bhoys', won all three domestic tournaments, completing a domestic treble (the 11th in Scottish football) while going undefeated in 47 domestic games and were nicknamed the 'Invincibles'.

Under manager Brendan Rodgers, Celtic completed a full 38-match season without losing, becoming the first team to go an entire Scottish top-flight season without a defeat since Rangers FC in 1898/99 (when 18 league matches were played).

They finished the season with 106 points, 34 wins, no defeats, 106 goals scored, and a title-winning points margin of 30 points.

Rangers FC - (2020/21)

With a 4-0 win over Aberdeen on the final day of the season, Rangers sealed an undefeated league season and became the first club since Celtic

in 2016/17 to reach the 100-point milestone.

Rangers won all 19 of their home games at Ibrox and equaled the league record of 26 clean sheets in the campaign.

The outfit, famously referred to as 'Gers', was under the tutelage of Liverpool legend Steven Gerrard when it set a new British record by conceding only 13 goals in their 32 wins, and six draws.

Yanga - (2021/22)

The Jangwani Street outfit lifted their 28th Premier League title with a game to spare last month.

Yanga had another mission namely to finish the season unbeaten and the outfit under head coach Nasreddine Nabi achieved the target as they defeated Mtibwa Sugar in their final fixture of the season.

In the process, Yanga amassed 71 points from 29 matches, 11 more than their rivals Simba SC, who finished second.

The Jangwani Street club managed 21 wins, eight draws, and zero defeats.



Dar es Salaam's Mjomba Band acrobats display their skills during the 17th Exhibitions for Higher Education, Science, and Technology at Mnazi Mmoja ground mid this week. PHOTO: CORRESPONDENT JUMANNE JUMA

Tanzania Prisons seeks reinforcement ahead of 2022/23 season

By Correspondent Cheji Bakari, Tanga

TANZANIA Prisons assistant coach Shabani Mtupa has noted that the team expects to register either eight players or more under the requirement.

He noted the players who are needed to strengthen the Mbeya-based NBC Premier League squad are midfielders, strikers, and defenders.

He further pointed out that during this pre-season preparation, the outfit's technical bench is doing all it can to analyze the acquisition of new players.

The gaffer revealed the new footballers will be registered when the club is either releasing footballers or loaning out a section of performers in the squad.

Mtupa pointed out that the objective

is to reform the squad seeking to ensure it turns into the best club in the 2022/23 NBC Premier League.

The 2022/23 NBC Premier League season is expected to start between August 17 and August 18 this year.

He stated: "Honestly, the number of players that would be left is the leadership's secret but I want to assure you that we need about eight players to reform our squad."

Mtupa revealed: "Currently all players have been given one week to relax but are expected to arrive at the camp that will resume early next week, the camp will be here in Mbeya."

The gaffer said: "We need to retain our legacy, we need to be the best squad that will bring competition as was the case the previous season."

Dar jogging club to host swimming course

By Correspondent Joseph Mchekadona

THE Dar Jogging Club in conjunction with Kimimba Swimming Promotions will at the end of this month host a five-day swimming course at Navy Beach at Mwalimu Nyerere University in Kigamboni.

The outfit's Chairman Ramadhan Namkoveka said the free-of-charge swimming course will take place from July 26-30 and they expect more than 100 people to attend the course.

He said the main aim of the course is to offer water safety and awareness to society.

Namkoveka said World Health Organization (WHO) rates water calamities as a major cause of death in Africa, especially in East Africa, and they are the 10th main cause of death in the world.

He said the swimming course is part of 20 years celebration of Dar Jogging Club.

Namkoveka said the course will moreover help Tanzania Swimming Association (TSA) to select swimmers for open water swimming and the national swimming team.

The official revealed: "Dar Jogging

Club in conjunction with Kigamboni-based Kimimba Swimming Promotions will conduct a swimming course at Navy Beach which is situated at Mwalimu Nyerere University in Kigamboni."

"It's free of charge course, people interested should register for the course and bring their swimming attires during the course period," he said.

Namkoveka noted the 20 years celebrations of Dar Jogging Club will be held next month and the club has extended an invitation to Zanzibar and Mainland Tanzania regions namely Coast Region, Morogoro, Lindi, Mtwara, Mbeya, Iringa, Dodoma, Shinyanga, Tanga, and Arusha.

The leader said the club is looking for 12, 540,000/- to successfully host the celebrations, he appealed to well-wishers and jogging lovers to help the club.

Dar Jogging Club is the second jogging club to be registered by National Sports Council (NSC).

Namkoveka called on well-wishers to help his outfit with finances to ensure that the celebrations live to their billing.

The club is based in Temeke District, it was formed to promote good health among people in the country.



Dar es Salaam's junior athletes take part in drills at Benjamin Mkapa Stadium in Dar es Salaam recently in preparation for Inter-Secondary Schools Games (Umisseta) that will take place in Tabora next month. PHOTO: CORRESPONDENT JUMANNE JUMA

Nabi all out to value discipline at Yanga

By Guardian Correspondent

YANGA head coach Nasreddine Nabi has said that he will continue to be strict with his players in terms of discipline during the 2022/23 season to achieve the goals of defending the Premier League silverware and excelling in the CAF Champions League.

The top flight defending champion was set to officially start the pre-season camp in Dar es Salaam yesterday once the players arrived at the camp on Wednesday.

The Jangwani Street club will begin the 2022/23 season by taking on age-old rival Simba SC in Community Shield tie on August 13.

Coach Nabi noted he believes discipline is the biggest weapon that should be valued by his players, so, the latter have to every time use it to achieve their plans.

"I have always believed in discipline for players, each one respecting himself and respecting the basics of the team, I believe we will succeed, that's what I want Yanga to be," the gaffer disclosed.

The coach said: "If the players fail to respect themselves and recognize the value of this club, it will be difficult for us to defend the top flight silverware and other top honours we won in the 2021/22 season."

Nabi stressed: "Therefore, the first weapon we should deploy to protect our titles is for each of us to be disciplined."

"Next season will be very difficult for us because the opposing teams are preparing and they will need to play better than us."

"They will be keen on frustrating our unbeaten feat, it is our responsibility to recognize that by encouraging each other to

continue to do well."

Before starting the 2022/23 season, Yanga will play an international friendly tie at the climax of the outfit's participation in philanthropism, known as 'Wananchi Day', at the Benjamin Mkapa Stadium in Dar es Salaam on August 6.

Meanwhile, Tanzanian forward Simon Msuva has thanked the country's soccer stakeholders after completing his plan to find a new club.

Msuva has completed a move to Saudi Arabia's Al Qadsia after winning his case against Morocco's Wydad Athletic Club, run by FIFA for more than six months.

The attacker issued a heartfelt appreciation to Tanzania's football stakeholders given the latter cooperated with the player when he was facing difficulties.

Msuva pointed out: "I would

like to take this opportunity to say thank you, I had problems with my previous club Wydad Athletic Club and I returned home to rest while I was waiting for my fate on the problems between me and the leadership of the club."

"I also thank all Tanzanians who were with me during the difficult times that I was going through."

"I thank my mother and father for the kind words that gave me strength every time I wake up, without forgetting my whole family, friends, and all people who were praying for me to succeed in my problems."

"I promise my fans that I will be with you until the end. I will please you and show you my efficiency as was the case earlier."

"I love them and I am ready to start the fight again on a new challenge," Msuva disclosed.

Mane wins second African Player of the Year award

RABAT

SADIO Mane was crowned African Player of the Year in Rabat on Thursday for the second time.

The Senegal forward first won the honour in 2019 while he was at Liverpool.

The 30-year-old left the Premier League club last month after signing a three-year deal with Bayern Munich.

"I am really honoured and highly delighted to receive this award again," Mane said.

"Thanks to my coaches, my club and national team colleagues and those friends who stood by me during difficult times."

Mane was in the Moroccan capital to receive the award after a dash across the Atlantic having converted a penalty for his new club in a 6-2 pre-season friendly win over DC United in Washington on Wednesday.

It was the second successive continental player of the year award for Mane after the coronavirus pandemic forced the cancellation of the last two editions.

He won ahead of former Liverpool teammate Mohamed Salah from Egypt and fellow Senegal international and Chelsea goalkeeper Edouard Mendy.

Mane and Salah played pivotal roles last season with Liverpool, who lifted the FA Cup and English League Cup and finished runners-up in the Premier League and Champions League.

Salah has since signed a new contract at Anfield while Mane opted for a move, with Bayern reportedly paying an initial 32 million euros (\$32.5 million) that could rise to 41 million euros.

The transfer fee was a far cry from the four million euros Red Bull Salzburg paid Metz in 2012 when Mane made his first move in Europe.

- Decisive penalties -

In February, Mane converted the decisive fifth penalty to give Senegal a 4-2 shootout victory over Egypt and a first Africa Cup of Nations title after the final ended 0-0 in Yaounde.

A month later, Mane was once again the shootout match-winner against Egypt, this time in a World Cup play-off near Dakar after a 1-1 aggregate stalemate.

Salah did not get a chance to take a penalty in the Cup of Nations decider while he blazed the first Egyptian kick wide in the play-off that secured a World Cup place in Qatar this November for Senegal.

Born in a village nearly 400 kilometres (250 miles) from Dakar, Mane attracted the attention of Metz having played for local second-tier club Generation Foot.

After enhancing his reputation at Salzburg, Mane joined Southampton, where his feats included scoring a record-breaking 176-second Premier League hat-trick against Aston Villa.

In mid-2016 the Senegalese signed for Liverpool and went on to form a fearsome front three with Salah and Brazilian Roberto Firmino.

As Mane moved to Bayern, Liverpool manager said Jurgen Klopp said: "My only criticism of Sadio is that maybe at times he is the only one not to realise just how good he is."

Nigerian Asisat Oshoala won the Women's Player of the Year a record fifth time, overtaking compatriot Perpetua Nkwocha.

The 27-year-old Barcelona forward was forced to miss the ongoing Women's Africa Cup of Nations in Morocco due to an injury.

(AFP)

Lewandowski, Benzema set for duel as Barcelona-Real meet in Vegas 'Clasico'

LAS VEGAS

BARCELONA take on Real Madrid in a pre-season Clasico friendly in Las Vegas today that promises to offer a glimpse into the future of the Spanish giants' iconic rivalry.

The gaudy gambling capital in the Nevada desert is more commonly associated with hosting blockbuster heavyweight boxing contests than clashes between members of European football's aristocracy.

But for one night at least, just a stone's throw from the shimmering neon lights of the Vegas Strip, the beautiful game will take top billing as Barca and Real face off at the 65,000-capacity Allegiant Stadium, home of the Las Vegas Raiders NFL team.

The friendly looks set to provide a taste of what the next chapter of Barcelona and Real Madrid's rivalry may look like.

With the likes of Lionel Messi and Cristiano Ronaldo long gone from Barcelona and Real respectively, a slew of new signings will be in the spotlight when the two teams take to the field for a game that kicks off at 8pm local time (0300 GMT Sunday).

The friendly could mark the first Clasico confrontation between Real's veteran French star Karim Benzema and Barcelona's new attacking recruit Robert Lewandowski.

Benzema has joined up with Real in Los Angeles this week after being granted an extended vacation by the club.

Benzema's talismanic performances -- and goals -- were largely responsible for helping Real win a record 14th European Champions League crown in May.

Although earlier reports suggested Benzema would play no part in Saturday's Clasico, manager Carlo Ancelotti picked the striker to lead the line in a practice game at the UCLA Campus on Thursday, alongside Federico Valverde and Brazilian star Vinicius.

Ancelotti is also likely to give a run-out to new signings Antonio Rudiger, who joined from English club Chelsea, and former Monaco midfielder Aurelien Tchouameni.

(AFP)

Why Cristiano Ronaldo should leave Man United, go to Real Madrid (again)

By Gabriele Marcotti, Senior Writer, ESPN FC

WHAT you're about to read is pure speculation. It's an exercise in what might happen, in trying to find logic in a game (football) that has little and a summer rite of passage (the transfer market) that often has even less. With Cristiano Ronaldo's future seemingly up in the air with few options, it could lead to a momentous return for one of the greatest players in the history of the game.

Last year, Ronaldo's summer ended with his agent, Jorge Mendes, going on a virtual roadshow of European clubs to see if there was a deal to be struck. From Paris Saint-Germain to Manchester City and, eventually, his return to Old Trafford, where he signed for Manchester United in the final hours of the transfer window.

As preparations go, it was suboptimal for everybody concerned. His previous club, Juventus, were dealing with a summer of budgetary and sporting uncertainty. United, and then-manager Ole Gunnar Solskjaer, drew up a blueprint to play a certain way, working on it all summer, only to rip it up when Ronaldo landed because, especially at this stage of his career, he is unlike anybody else who plays the game. Both clubs endured disappointing seasons and while the previous summer's uncertainty wasn't the only reason -- far from it -- it certainly didn't help.

United now have a new manager, Erik ten Hag, and they're beavering away in Australia on tour, coming to grips with his style of play, while Ronaldo remains in Portugal, dealing with a personal matter. It doesn't take a genius to figure out that once again, we're in sub-optimal territory.

Ten Hag was presumably hired on the basis of the football he played with Ajax, a proactive, fast-paced 4-3-3 based around pressing and possession. Stylistically, for United it represents a 180-degree turn from what they played most of last season. Ten Hag himself said it would take a while to get where he wants them to be.

On the surface, Ronaldo fits this approach about as well as Kylie Jenner fits into a UFC Octagon. With a ton of patience, preparation and prayer, it might just work, but of those 3 P's, you're realistically going to get only the last one. Ten Hag has been answer-



Cristiano Ronaldo

ing questions about this all summer -- usually with all the enthusiasm of a man making his way to the proctologist -- and has said what you expect him to say: that Ronaldo is a "top player," that "top players" can "contribute" and that he is "capable" of fitting into his system. What else is he supposed to say?

The reality is that barring brief and quickly abandoned experiments under Maurizio Sarri and Andrea Pirlo at Juventus, and under interim boss Ralf Rangnick at United, Ronaldo hasn't played for a team that plays the way Ten Hag supposedly wants to play for many years. StatsBomb data suggests Ronaldo ranked dead last or second to last in every possible pressing or counter-pressing metric last season,

among Premier League forwards and wingers who played at least 1,800 minutes. In fact, including his time at Juventus and Real Madrid, that's where he has ranked in every season since 2015-16, when that data set begins. Let's be clear. It's not because he's unfit or lazy; it's just not what he has been asked to do for most of his career. Most coaches Ronaldo has worked with figured it was best to let him do his own thing up front (aka "score industrial quantities of goals") and build the team around him. Can he reinvent himself at 37 years of age? Sure, stranger things have happened, but you wouldn't bet on it. Not in a World Cup year. Not without a full, uninterrupted preseason. Not on a team that's rebuilding from the ground up.

That's why the drums have been beating all summer suggesting a move away from Manchester United, though there are two fundamental hurdles here.

One is money. It's tight (almost) everywhere, and even with the 25% reduction in wages that automatically kicked in when United failed to qualify for the Champions League last year, and even with the option of United letting him move for free, his annual salary would remain in the \$25m range, which simply means he'd be out of reach for most. Still, with a bit of bullet-biting, that can be overcome.

The other is tougher. Most top clubs have, for lack of a better word, "system" managers at the helm and most employ many of the concepts Ten Hag wants to employ, from Pep Guardiola at Manchester City to Julian Nagelsmann at Bayern Munich and Jurgen Klopp at Liver-

pool. These are guys with long-term vision who stick to what got them there: they're not going to disassemble their setup and change to a system that gets the best out of Ronaldo.

There are actually very few potential landing places, clubs that employ more pragmatic managers and might, at a stretch, have the means to afford him. PSG, with Christophe Galtier newly installed as coach and Luis Campos as sporting director might have been one, but not with Kylian Mbappe staying alongside Neymar and Lionel Messi. Ronaldo has been linked with Atletico Madrid, possibly because of Mendes' ties to the club, but they already have plenty of options (Alvaro Morata, Antoine Griezmann, Joao Felix, Matheus Cunha) in the striker department and in any case, the marriage of Ronaldo and Diego "Cholo" Simeone seems a stretch.

So why not take the process of elimination to its natural conclusion and suggest ... a return to Real Madrid?

Ronaldo would get Champions League football and therefore an even bigger stage. He spent a decade at the club and was very open to rejoining them last summer. There's genuine affection between him and coach Carlo Ancelotti, and Ancelotti himself is a pragmatist who isn't wed to any one system. It's not the ideal tactical fit, but if there's a guy who can make it work, it's Ancelotti. And, of course, between the club missing out on Mbappe last month and Gareth Bale leaving, there's cash available. Ronaldo's relationship with club president Florentino Perez has been up and down over the years, but

Florentino isn't the type of guy who holds grudges (just ask Ancelotti). Ronaldo might not get to start every game, but with a World Cup in November coming up (and the post-World Cup fallout), that might suit him just fine. Karim Benzema might have to adjust his game a little bit, dropping deeper when Ronaldo comes inside, but if last season is anything to go by, that's certainly not a problem for him. (Plus, it's what he did for years playing Robin to his Batman when they were teammates.)

These days, Ronaldo is at his best starting out wide with a hardworking central striker through the middle. Benzema's backups -- Mariano Diaz and Borja Mayoral, assuming the latter stays -- are nothing to write home about and obviously can't do much of what Benzema does, but in a pinch they can offer the grunt work in order to let Ronaldo do his thing.

Vinicius might have to switch flanks, but at his age, that's not a big ask. It would take away from the minutes destined for the trio of Rodrygo, Eden Hazard and Marco Asensio, but that's not a big deal and would have happened anyway if Mbappe had signed. Besides, Rodrygo is still just 22, Hazard's fitness is a perpetual doubt, and Asensio, who has a year left on the deal (and funny how these things work out, is also represented by Mendes), could be on the move anyway.

It's just a scenario, something that would be fun to see as a fan. If it happens, expect it to come at the very end of the window. If United start well under Ten Hag (or if they're terrible), if Ronaldo takes a pay cut and agrees to a short-term deal ... why not?

Perhaps the world's new

Why free agents no longer have much power in the transfer market

By Mark Ogden, Senior Writer, ESPN FC

THERE is one out-of-contract Premier League footballer who has played in the Champions League, who is waiting for a £10 million signing-on fee before committing to a new club this summer, sources have told ESPN. But with just over two weeks to go before the start of the new season, there have been no takers.

Argentina forward Paulo Dybala, meanwhile, has just completed a free transfer to Jose Mourinho's Roma after running down his contract at Juventus. Sources said that the 28-year-old was hoping for a move to the Premier League or LaLiga, but he priced himself out of the market to the extent that he has instead switched from Italy's fourth-best team, and a Champions League campaign, to a club which finished sixth in Serie A last season and are preparing for a year in the Europa League.

Paul Pogba at least secured Champions League football by leaving Manchester United, England's sixth-best team last season, for Juventus. But having done little to dampen speculation that he wanted to move to Real Madrid, a return to a declining Juve,

six years after leaving in a then-world record £89.3m transfer, is hardly an example of cashing in on free agency status.

Ever since the Bosman Ruling was introduced in 1995, after Belgian footballer Jean-Marc Bosman won a legal case to overturn a club's ability to retain control of a player's career even after their contract had expired, there is huge value placed on free agency status in the transfer market. The clubs get to sign a player without having to pay a transfer fee, while the player can negotiate a higher basic salary with their new side because their arrival hasn't impacted the spending budget.

But a free transfer is anything but a free transfer due to the increasing demands for escalating signing-on fees and inflated wages. Sources have told ESPN that this summer is seeing, in financial terms, a correction in the market. "Agents and players are getting greedy," a senior Premier League executive told ESPN. "We know of one free agent asking for a £10m signing-on fee, but clubs aren't interested in caving in to those demands. "Clubs are trying to pay less in terms of transfer fees but they're also looking to cut wage bills too,

so the days of free agents being able to negotiate big signing-on fees and salaries are over. Only the very top players can do that.

"There are a lot of free agents still out there this summer, but they all want silly money. This is why you will probably see some surprisingly big-name moves to Saudi Arabia or Qatar next month."

Some leading players have already completed free transfers this summer. Dybala and Pogba are two of the highest profile, but Gareth Bale (LAFC), Christian Eriksen (Manchester United), Angel Di Maria (Juventus) and Antonio Ru-

diger (Real Madrid) have moved, too. Alexandre Lacazette (Lyon), Nemanja Matic (Roma), Divock Origi (AC Milan), Andreas Christensen and Franck Kessie (both Barcelona) have also found new clubs.

Of those players mentioned, only Eriksen and Rudiger could argue that they have taken a step up. The rest have either moved sideways or backwards. But at least they have found a club. Jesse Lingard, Juan Mata, Edinson Cavani, Isco, Luis Suarez, Andrea Belotti, Adnan Januzaj and many others have been searching for a new team since June 30 with no success thus far.

It is perhaps no surprise that Lingard, Mata and Cavani, who is speaking to Villarreal, have yet to find new teams given they were paid handsomely during their time at United. Leaving the Old Trafford payroll for a less wealthy club will require them to substantially lower their salary expectations, and the same will apply to Suarez (Atletico Madrid) and Isco (Real Madrid). Meanwhile, Ousmane Dembele, who had been out of contract at Barcelona, chose to avoid that level of uncertainty by signing a new two-year deal at Camp Nou on reduced wages.

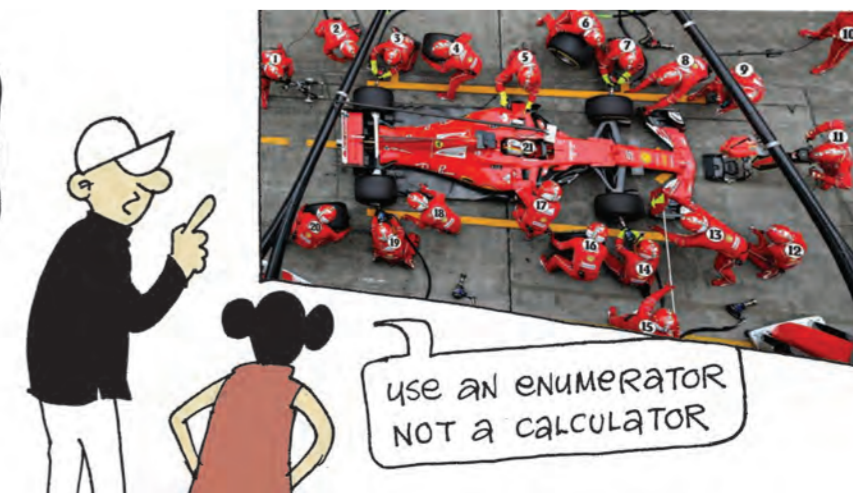
Perhaps the world's new

financial reality amid the COVID-19 pandemic and the rising cost of living is beginning to sink in with some players. ESPN has been told that the player wanting a £10m signing-on fee began the summer wanting a four-year contract worth £180,000-a-week -- a package totalling £47.4m over the course of that contract -- but is now prepared to accept £150,000-a-week.

That would still amount to £41.2m over four years, but the potential new club would be saving more than £6m. The price drop hasn't worked so far, however, because the player continues to be unemployed.

Gwiji by David Chikoko

How Many People Does it Take to Change a F1 Tyre?



SPORT

Mane wins second African Player of the Year award

PAGE 19

Taifa Stars take on Somalia in 2022 CHAN qualifiers' match today



Taifa Stars' players take part in the squad's training session in Dar es Salaam recently to shape up for African Nations Championship qualifiers' tie against Somalia that will take place in the city on Saturday. PHOTO: COURTESY OF TFF

By Correspondent Michael Mwebe

SENIOR national soccer squad, Taifa Stars, made up of home-based footballers will take on Somalia in the first leg of the 2022 African Nations Championship qualifying double header tie at Benjamin Mkapa Stadium in Dar es Salaam today afternoon.

The first leg tie is scheduled to kick off at 4 pm with the reverse encounter set to be played at the same venue next Saturday due to Somalia lacking an approved stadium to host international matches.

Speaking ahead of the game, Taifa Stars head coach Kim

Poulsen raised complaints about his squad being denied training sessions at the Benjamin Mkapa Stadium. He also called for senior players to take responsibility in the game to avoid an upset.

Poulsen stated: "We start the CHAN qualification campaign and technically we are playing away because it is Somalia-Tanzania and next Saturday we are playing the second game Tanzania-Somalia."

"For the CHAN there are two rounds, round one where we

have to play Somalia and the winner of round one moves on to round two where we already know that the winner has to play Uganda. The winner of round two qualifies for CHAN finals."

"When we started this camp, a week or nine days ago, the players were coming on holiday. It was a bit of a challenge to find the balance between the amount of intensity of training making them fit without making them fatigued."

"We had to find the right bal-

ance between training and recovery so that everybody can be fit for the game. Preparation is a very important thing in football, one huge part of preparation is training."

The tactician pointed out: "I am wondering and cannot understand when we are the Taifa Stars, playing CHAN qualifications, an important game but are not allowed to do training at the Benjamin Mkapa Stadium except for one session."

Poulsen stated: "If the pitch at Benjamin Mkapa Stadium

was in a bad situation, I am wondering why the U-20 team from France has been allowed to do training."

The gaffer revealed: "We are not allowed to do training even on the final day before the match at the Benjamin Mkapa Stadium. I don't understand this priority, why we are not allowed while U-20 teams are allowed to do training and play three games at the stadium."

The CHAN showdown was first announced by the Confederation of African Football (CAF) back in September 2007.

It is open only to players who ply their trade on the African continent and is held on even-numbered years, alternating with the more high-profile Africa Cup of Nations (AFCON).

The first tournament was held in 2009 in Ivory Coast and was won by DR Congo, who defeated Ghana 2-0 in the final.

It featured just eight teams including Tanzania who failed to make it past the group stage.

The current qualification format assigns slots to each region of the continent in the following manner (including the host nation), two slots each for North Zone and Zone West A, three slots each for Zone West B, Central Zone, Central-East Zone, and Southern Zone.

5 EATV Sports MONDAY
11:00 DADAZ LIVE
12:00 Weekend Movie (r)
14:00 SKONGA (r)
14:30 Planet Bongo (r)
15:00 Funguka
15:30 AKILI & Me (r)
16:30 #HASHTAG
17:00 55LEKET
17:55 Kurasa
18:00 eNews
18:30 Bonga Hit
19:00 EATV SAA 1
20:00 DADAZ (r)
21:00 5SPORTS LIVE
22:00 Zote kuntu
23:00 Kurasa (r)
23:05 EATV SAA 1 (r)

TONIGHT @ 9:00
Sports

5Sports
The week's local and international sporting events as well as in-depth analysis of the biggest sporting highlights of the week are covered on 5sports.

eastafrika RADIO
06:00 Supa Breakfast
10:00 MAMAMIA
12:00 Kipenga Xtra
13:00 Planet Bongo
16:00 EA Drive
20:00 Kipenga
21:00 The Cruise

88.1FM DAR ES SALAAM

Azam FC sends strong squad for pre-season training in Egypt

By Correspondent Michael Mwebe

AZAM FC has taken a strong squad for a pre-season training camp in Egypt, including their new players signed in this transfer market season and a host of youngsters promoted from the club's academy.

New signings Nathaniel Chilambo, Cleophace Mkandala, Tape Edinho, Kipre Junior, James Akaminko, and Isah Ndala are all included in the squad.

Senegalese defender Malickou Ndoeye and Comoros national team goalkeeper Ali Ahamada will link up with the team in Egypt from their respective countries.

Defender Lusajo Mwaikenda, striker Abdulhamis Suleiman 'Sopu', and left full-back Pascal Msindo are not part of the squad as they are with Tanzania's national team, Taifa Stars, for the African Nations Championship qualifiers' clash against Somalia.

Youngsters Wilbol Maseke, Zubeir Foba, and Twalibu Mohamed have also been included in the touring party. Maseke was promoted to the senior team and was given a run of games towards the end of last season after first-choice goalkeepers Mathias Kigonya and Ahmed Salula were dropped following high-profile errors.

Other players Azam FC has made available for transfer such as Never Tigere, Paul Katema, and Charles Zulu have not been included. It is understood Katema and Tigere are likely to be loaned out to the newly promoted side Ihefu SC.

The journey to prepare for the upcoming season began on Monday when players reported at Azam Complex for a three-day closed-door training program before setting out for Egypt on Friday afternoon. The ice cream makers will be in El Gouna which is a modern resort town on Egypt's the Red Sea, for a 20-day training camp under head coach Abdihamid Moallin.

Apart from Moallin, Azam FC's technical bench is made up of other coaches, Omary Nasser, who is an assistant, strikers' coach Kali Ongala, fitness coach Mikel Guillen and goalkeeping coach, Dani Cadena.

Goalkeepers consist of Ali Ahamada (Comoros), Wilbol Maseke, Ahmed Salula, and Zubeir Foba, defenders include Abdallah Kheri, Daniel Amoah (Ghana), Malickou Ndoeye (Senegal), Twalibu Mohamed, Bruce Kangwa (Zimbabwe), Edward Manyama, and Nathaniel Chilambo.

Midfielders are Kenneth Muguna (Kenya), Sospeter Bajana, Issah Ndala (Nigeria), Idd Suleiman 'Nado', Kipre Junior (Ivory Coast), Tepsie Evance, Ibrahim Ajibu, Cleophace Mkandala, Tape Edinho (Ivory Coast), James Akaminko (Ghana), Ayoub Lyanga, Ismail Aziz and Yahya Zaydi, strikers are made up of Shaban Chilunda, Idris Mbombo (DR Congo), Rodgers Kola (Zambia) and Prince Dube (Zimbabwe).

Jiuzhou Annadil Burhani to confront Horizon Teleports DCC in 2022 DC Caravans Cup opener

By Guardian Reporter

DAR ES SALAAM outfit, Jiuzhou Annadil Burhani, will face Horizon Teleports in the 2022 Petrofuel DC Caravans Cup tournament's opening tie at Annadil Burhani ground in the city today.

The two clubs are some of the showdown's Group A competitors that also include All Season Lions, DTB Gymkhana, Harab Motors Pak Stars, and I&M Aurobindo Aga Khan SC.

Pigabet Estim, Azania Bank Stars, Novum Strikers, Black & Decker Upanga SC, Aruti Aces, and the host Alliance Caravans make Group B.

The draw for the competition was conducted during the official launching ceremony held at Johari Rotana Hotel mid this week.

The match that is set to attract plenty of fanatics this weekend is the one between Aruti Aces and Black & Decker Upanga Club to take place at Dar es Salaam Gymkhana Club oval.

Aruti Aces side was the runner-up of last year's Petrofuel DC Caravans Cup, in which the club conceded a loss to I&M Aurobindo Aga Khan SC in the final.

The remaining matchups of the weekend see DTB Gymkhana lock horns with Jiuzhou Annadil Burhani, whereas All Seasons Lions will confront Harab Motors Pak Stars.

Hosts Alliance Caravans will not be playing on the opening weekend of the tournament.

The title sponsor of the 2022 DC Caravans Cup is Petrofuel Limited, whereas the showdown's co-sponsors are Alliance Insurance, Colourflex, and Pepsi.

Other sponsors are Flashnet,

Ashton Media, Rotana, Aura Suites, Bank of India, Datamanics, Samaki Samaki, A One Bottlers, and GI Security.

The competition, which is an annual feature, is hosted by Caravans Club in cooperation with Dar es Salaam Cricket (DC) in a bid to improve the promotion of the

sport at the domestic level.

The DC Caravans T20 Cup tournament, which has participating outfits locking horns in 20-over formatted duels, brings together the country's best cricket teams.

It is the only cricket competition organized by a private entity under

the affiliation of the Tanzania Cricket Association (TCA) and DC.

The showdown is regarded as the country's biggest T20 tournament and it is usually held during the last quarter of the year.

The competition is backed by several companies in the country which support the initiative as part of their Corporate Social Responsibilities.

Previous editions of the tournament have been graced by government officials and foreign envoys.

They include the then Minister for Information, Culture, Arts, and Sports Harrison Mwakyembe, the then ministry's Deputy Juliana Shonza, and Director of Sports Development in the ministry, Yusuph Singo.

The then India's High Commissioner to Tanzania, Sandeep Arya, and top officials from various firms are other dignitaries that have graced the competition's previous editions.



Captains of teams set to play in the 2022 Petrofuel Dar es Salaam Cricket (DC) Caravans Cup competition pose for a photo at the launching of the showdown that took place mid-this week. PHOTO: COURTESY OF CARAVANS CRICKET CLUB

Union SC in pursuit of 2022 DC SiSi Cup 30 Overs Div B League top honour

By Guardian Reporter

UNION Sports Club cricketers will be all out to add more silverware to their trophy cabinet as they confront the Caravans B squad in the 2022 Dar es Salaam Cricket (DC) SiSi Cup 30 Overs Division B League's final tomorrow.

The showdown, hosted by the regional cricket body, brought together 16 outfits seeking to improve the promotion of the game domestically.

A lot is expected in the showdown's final considering both Union Sports Club and Caravans B squad will be determined to prove their worth and remain as some successful sides in club competi-

tions at the domestic level.

Caravans B squad garnered progression to the final after notching a 76-run win over K&P Constructions outfit in the last four's clash that took place on July 10.

Union Sports Club nailed a place in the showdown's final having stunned one of the showdown's favourites, Aruti Aces B outfit, by seven wickets in the last four on July 17.

Tanzania Cricket Association (TCA) information officer Atif Salim disclosed: "Union Sports Club has, on the one hand, once again entered the final after having a disappointing stint in the T10 Seife Cup showdown held early in the

year."

Salim stated: "However, silverware is what has been missing in their trophy shelf in the past few years."

The TCA official noted that Caravans B squad has qualified for as many as four finals in the DC-organized leagues in the past three years and has been the losing side on all occasions.

Salim stated that this is an extremely crucial tie for Union Sports Club, particularly since it turns out to be a 30-over final.

The official stated: "Caravans B side, on the other hand, has exceeded expectations with its performances this year in T10 Seife

Cup showpiece and DC SiSi Cup 30-Over League."

Salim noted: "It is an outfit consisting of a mixture of youthful cricketers and their experienced counterparts and the combination happened to have worked wonders for the side in the league."

According to the official, with Caravans Cricket Club, the senior side, lifting the 2022 DC SiSi Cup 50 Overs Division A's League title, the Caravans B side anticipates adding silverware to the trophy cabinet as well.

This season's DC SiSi Cup 30-Over Division B League is sponsored by SiSi Dawat.

Flexibles by David Chikoko

IF YOU WAIT FOR THE WAITER...

...YOU BECOME THE WAITER

