



WILDLIFE



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'Electricity coupon property tax faulty'

By Getrude Mbago, Dodoma

THE government has admitted that the collection of property tax through purchase of electricity has loopholes and burdens people who are not the right persons to pay the bills.

Finance and Planning minister Dr Mwigulu Nchemba admitted in the National Assembly yesterday that the government had spotted the challenge and was designing the payments to address the shortcomings.

The Treasury will unveil improvements in property tax payments later this month, he said, affirming that the current modality will not proceed to the next financial year. Last August the government started collecting property tax by the Tanzania Revenue Authority (TRA) in tandem with the Tanzania Electric Supply Co. Ltd (TANESCO) to obtain the sums from electricity used by tenants.

This involved all types of electricity meters, enabled by amending the Local Government Authority Tax Act (Chapter 289) adopted by the legislature in 2021.

The provision asserts that owners and not tenants are required to pay the tax but by using electricity tokens to subtract property tax, the burden was shifted to tenants. Purchasing electricity has 1000/- pegged to the bill each month for a regular street house and 5,000/- monthly for multiple storey buildings.

Esther Matiko (Special Seats, opposition) sought an explanation as the charges collect property tax on all users of electricity even if one building has more than one meter. Tenants pay property tax while they are not owners of the buildings, which was inappropriate, and then the charges are multiplied for the same building, she said, underlining that it was unfair.

She demanded revisions in the property tax collection modality so that the tax is collected from owners of the buildings and not from tenants.

In his winding up remarks, Energy minister January Makamba urged TANESCO employees to start moving out of their comfort zone to heighten efficiency.

The government will train workers and equip them with new skills required by current technological changes, removing staff "who are not committed to bringing changes," he said.



Natural Resources and Tourism minister Mohamed Mchengerwa presents his ministry's Budget estimates for financial year 2023/2024 in the National Assembly in Dodoma city yesterday. Photo: Correspondent Ibrahim Joseph

Sharp upsurge: Domestic visits eclipse foreign tourist arrivals

By Getrude Mbago, Dodoma

TOTAL numbers of tourists visiting local attractions increased from 1.7m in 2021 to 3.8m by late last year, the government has stated.

Mohamed Mchengerwa, the Natural Resources and Tourism minister, made this observation in the National Assembly yesterday when tabling the ministry's estimates for fiscal 2023/24 financial year.

International visitors increased from 922,692 in 2021 to 1,454,920 in 2022, equal to a 57.7 percent increase while domestic tourists increased from 788,933 tourists in 2021 to 2,363,260 last year, roughly double the previous year.

Initiatives taken by the government and stakeholders, especially with the launch of 'Royal Tour' documentary starring Presi-

Awareness among locals has greatly increased as many are now turning out to visit tourist attractions. We are encouraging Tanzanians to participate in benefiting from the increasing tourism potential in the country

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Marburg over, 42 days mandatory wait elapses

By Guardian Correspondent, Bukoba

THE government yesterday ended all formal activities for monitoring the Marburg virus disease.

Health minister Umyy Mwalimu told a press conference here that the declaration of winding off Marburg scare activities relate to end of the mandatory 42 days since the last patient was discharge on April 19th.

The final set comes more than two months after the



Health Minister Umyy Mwalimu addresses journalists in Kagera Region yesterday. She said the deadly Marburg virus disease, which her ministry reported to have been detected in a village in Bukoba District on March 21, was now fully contained. Photo: Correspondent Titus Mwembeki

first case was confirmed in Kagera Region, with the minister, flanked by World Health Organization (WHO) officials and those of the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF), formally declared the Marburg virus threat to be over.

At the time the disease was reported nine cases surfaced, including a child and among health workers. Six people died including the child, she stated, expressing satisfaction

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WFP irked by Sudan looting of warehouse

GENEVA

THE World Food Program (WFP), the UN food relief agency, yesterday strongly condemned the looting of one of its logistics hubs in south-central Sudan.

The agency said in a statement that the at-

tack in El Obeid 'puts food assistance for 4.4m conflict-affected people at risk,' underlining that theft of humanitarian food and assets totally undermines these operations at a critical time for the people of Sudan."

Insisting that the practices must stop, it said

of El Obeid as among WFP's largest logistics hubs on the African continent, and it is a key lifeline for activities in Sudan and South Sudan.

Initial reports suggest that food and nutrition supplies, as well as vehicles, fuel and genera-

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Sharp upsurge: Domestic visits eclipse foreign tourist arrivals

FROM PAGE 1

dent Samia Suluhu Hassan had boosted tourist visitations, he said.

Improving infrastructures in national parks and game reserves, designing new tourist attractions will attract visitors from across the globe, he stated.

Local and international tourists who visited national parks and museums increased from 1,711,625 in 2021 to 3,818,180 tourists in 2022, a surge of 123 percent, he elaborated.

Tourism remains pivotal to economic growth, with a high foreign exchange contribution and high ranking in the gross domestic product (GDP), he specified.

To protect it and stimulate growth in the sector, the government is pursuing strategies to market the various tourist attractions in more parts of the world, he said, reiterating the five million foreign tourist arrivals target and revenues of \$6bn by 2025.

"Awareness among locals has greatly increased as many are now turning out to visit tourist attractions. We are encouraging

Tanzanians to participate in benefiting from the increasing tourism potential in the country," he said, noting that investors can chip in by initiating home stays and special residences (BnB hotels) for tourists.

Priority development projects to be implemented next financial year include the resilient natural resources management for tourism and growth (REGROW), another being support for combating poaching and illegal wildlife trade, he said.

Private forest plantations and value chain, capacity building in forestry and beekeeping, support to beekeeping value chain are other vital projects, he said.

The Tourism Development Project and Food Systems, Land Use and Restoration in Tanzania's Landscapes (FOLUR) will also be taken up, he stated.

The minister asked the House to approve a total of 654.7bn/- for the 2023/24 financial year, where 486.5bn/- is for recurrent expenditure and 168.17bn/- for development projects.



Zanzibar President Dr Hussein Ali Mwinyi attends prayers at Miembeni Friday Mosque in Zanzibar yesterday. To his right is Zanzibar Mufti Saleh Omar Kabi. Photo: Zanzibar State House

WFP irked by Sudan looting of warehouse

FROM PAGE 1

tors were looted, the agency said, not providing actual figures.

Noting that this was not the first time the WFP suffered such attack, it placed at \$60m the value of cumulative losses the agency has recorded since the violence broke out mid-April.

It appealed to all sides

in the conflict to ensure the safety and security of humanitarian assistance, warning that an estimated 2.5m people in Sudan will slip into abysmal hunger in the coming months due to the violence.

This would take acute food insecurity in Sudan to record levels with more than 19m people affected, implying upwards of 40 percent of the population.

FROM PAGE 1

with stakeholders' support in pushing to contain the disease.

Successes in containing disease outbreaks led to Tanzania being asked to build the capacity of health practitioners from nearby countries on how to contain such threats, she stated.

Prof Tumaini Nagu, the chief medical officer, said that out of 212 people traced, 85 were health officers who attended to

suspected patients, 117 patients' relatives while 15 were secondary school students present when the first reported patients were received in hospitals.

Of the 212 people traced, two showed symptoms and were confirmed to have contracted the disease, he said.

Regional Administrative Secretary Toba Nguvila praised the work of those involved in containing the outbreak, citing international organizations,

health practitioners and community health workers. The virus has a fatality rate of up to 88 percent, he stated.

The government confirmed the outbreak on March 2, four days after reports of a 'possibly contagious disease' that had emerged in Bukoba Rural district.

Five people died including a health worker, developing fever symptoms plus vomiting, bleeding from various body openings

and kidney failure.

Experts say the Marburg virus disease is highly virulent, causing haemorrhagic fever with a high fatality rate, being in the same family of viruses as Ebola.

The virus is transmitted to people from fruit bats and spreads among humans through direct contact with bodily fluids of infected people, plus contaminated surfaces and

materials.

The virus was first identified in 1967 after 31 people were infected and seven died in simultaneous outbreaks in Marburg and Frankfurt in Germany, and the then Yugoslav capital of Belgrade.

The outbreak was traced to African green monkeys imported from Uganda but the virus has since been linked to other animals.

Marburg over, 42 days mandatory wait elapses

'Construction of National ICT broadband backbone curbs connection charges'

By Getrude Mbago, Dodoma

CONSTRUCTION of the National ICT Broadband Backbone (NICTBB) has reduced the interconnection charges to 2/- per minute from the 157/- that was charged in 2015, the House heard yesterday.

Deputy Minister for Information, Communication and Information Technology, Kundo Mathew said that the NICTBB has greatly reduced the cost of backhaul transport bandwidth thus reducing the interconnection charges thus facilitating smooth communication services in the country.

He was responding to a question by Cosato Chumi, Mafinga Urban who wanted to know how the NICTBB will help reduce communications costs.

The deputy minister said the government is continuing with the construction of the NICTBB and related infrastructure in various areas in the

country and is this conducted in phases as per availability of funds.

"It is true that the presence of this infrastructure has improved communication services and helped reduce communication costs by reducing investment costs for service providers who were required to firstly build infrastructure like this to improve their services, but now the work is carried out by the government," he explained.

He added: "Through the national fibre, telecoms have decided to provide packages that allow users to make calls across all networks at an affordable price compared to 2015."

He further said the construction of the infrastructure has also led to the reduction of costs of communication end use to 30/- per minute in 2022 from 79.6/- per minute in 2009.

He also disclosed that the reduction in cost for communication services

has led to a huge increase in the number of mobile and internet users.

According to him, the government's aim is to ensure that it sends communication services in every corner of the country supplying residents with reliable communication services and thus contributing to the country's economic development.

He added that the fiber backbone infrastructure helps to stimulate economic growth by opening up opportunities for investors and users of local and foreign telecommunication services.

NICTBB helps to fulfill the increasing demands of information services, strengthen competitive abilities of domestic data and voice operators as well as bridging the digital divide. It is necessary in developing high speed broadband and helps to efficiently exploit the benefits from undersea submarine cables landing in Dar es Salaam.



Brenda Msangi (3rd-R), CEO of Dar es Salaam's CCBRT Hospital, CEO has a visibly good time moving to handle a child undergoing clubfoot treatment at the specialised facility yesterday as part of the run-up to the marking of World Clubfoot Day (June 3). Looking on are Catholic Relief Services Country manager (Tanzania) Kellie Hynes (2nd-R) and operations manager Rose Mugashe (R). Photo: Guardian Correspondent

50-km Mainland-Z'bar bridge: Government in advanced talks with Chinese construction firm

By Guardian Reporter and Agencies

THE government is planning to build a 50km bridge - the longest in Africa - between Dar es Salaam and Zanzibar, Geoffrey Kasekenya, Deputy Minister for Works and Transport, has said.

Eng Kasekenya said talks are on-going with China Overseas Engineering Group (COEG), a subsidiary of China Railway Group, to construct the bridge.

The Deputy minister said: "We have met with the prospective investors of COEG, and they have

shown interest in building the bridge. Talks about the project began in March this year and were at an advanced stage.

The government has estimated the bridge would cost \$2.7 billion to construct, and it intends to procure the work through a

public-private partnership, with some funding to come from the African Development Bank.

Once completed, the bridge would improve trade, tourism and investment opportunities in both Tanzania mainland and Zanzibar.



Dar es Salaam Special Zone Police Commander Jumanne Muliro pictured yesterday explaining how the recent donation of a Toyota Hilux is expected to boost road safety enhancement efforts by traffic office officers in the city. Second right (in blue) is the chairman of road safety chairpersons in the country, Iddi Mohamed Azzan. Photo: Correspondent Maulid Mmbaga

DEDs urged to issue loans to persons with disabilities

By Polycarp Machira, Dodoma

DISTRICT executive directors (DEDs) in the country have been directed to issue the councils ten per cent of revenue loans to persons with disabilities when they apply as individuals as they do not have to be in groups to access the facility.

Local government authorities are required by the law to set aside 10 percent of their budgets for the financial empowerment of groups of women, youth and people with disabilities (PwDs) at the 4:4:2 ratio.

Deputy minister of State in the President's Office, Regional Administration and Local Government, Deogratius Ndejemi gave the directive yesterday in Parliament in response to Special Seats MP, Stella Ikupa (CCM).

In her main question, Ikupa questioned why the councils are not giving loans to individual persons with disabilities despite amendments made to the loans criteria.

Responding further, the deputy minister told the councils to observe the regulations with amendment in dispensing the 10 percent loans to person with disabilities

He said the government recognises

and understands the importance of persons with disabilities economic empowerment thus the need to acquire the loans for their improved welfare and national economic development.

The Deputy Minister said in 2021 the government issued new guidelines on the council's women, youth and persons with disabilities which allowed the latter to access the funds as individuals.

The reviewed guidelines give room for people with disabilities to apply the loans as individual rather than group when applying for the council's loans.

He urged the members of Parliament to educate their voters on the opportunities available for the persons with disabilities through the 10-percent of the council's budget as free interest loans for improved economic status.

On different occasions, stakeholders have been complaining on non-recovery of loans saying they could deplete the revolving fund and that in order to attain the fund's aim and sustainability previous CAG recommendations should be implemented.

The calls for due diligence be performed before issuing loans to special groups and exert more efforts in collection of outstanding loans from these groups.

Samia expected to grace International Day of Cooperatives next month, says TCDC

By Polycarp Machira, Dodoma

PRESIDENT Samia Suluhu Hassan is expected to grace the International Day of Cooperatives next month, nationally to be held in Tabora Region, it has been revealed.

Tanzania will on July 1st, 2023 join the rest of the world in celebrating the 2023 International Day of Cooperatives, under the theme, 'Cooperatives for sustainable development'.

Addressing a press conference yesterday, the Tanzania Cooperatives Development Commission (TCDC)'s Registrar of the Cooperatives, Benson Ndiege said the day will be the climax of week-long

exhibitions.

He noted that the exhibitions that starts on June 26th to July 1st, 2023 at the Nane Nane Grounds -Ipuli is coordinated by the Tanzania Federation of Cooperatives (TFC) in collaboration with other members including the Tanzania Cooperative Development Commission (TCDC), COASCO, MOCU, Union, AMCOS, SACCOS as well as corporate stakeholders such as CRDB, NMB, TADB, TFS, among others.

He said the aim of the celebrations is to bring together cooperatives' stakeholders including leaders, unions, and government leaders dealing with cooperatives, among others, to showcase

their activities. It also provides the platform to share experiences and also discuss both financial and economic challenges and how to solve them.

Other social activities scheduled for the event include seminars, blood donations, health examination, essay competition, entertainment and sports and certificate awards.

"The day is to increase awareness of cooperatives as the event underscores the contributions of the cooperative movement to resolving the major problems addressed by the United Nations' Sustainable Development Goals(SDGs)" said Ndiege. He added that this year's celebration is in line with the coopera-

tive's seventh pillar, which among others aims at helping the needy in the society.

During the week, the cooperative's stakeholders will get an opportunity to visit orphanages, the sick in hospitals, participate in blood donation, among others. While inviting all members of the public to attend the event, the registrar said it also provides opportunities for entrepreneurs and the business community to provide services which help increase personal and national economies.

"The event also provides an opportunity for cooperatives development partners to learn about the existing investment prospects and business through

crops under cooperative unions", he added. Speaking about gains realized since the annual event was launched in the country, TFC's Executive Secretary and CEO, Alex Ndikile, noted that the number of cooperative members has increased from seven million to over eight million. He also cited increased employment as well as contribution to the national economy. "The annual event helps attract non-members to join the cooperative unions" he said.

On his part, TFC Chairperson, Charles Jishuli, observed that cooperatives movement is a tool that helps alleviate poverty, calling on more people to join

event, a lot of cooperative products are showcased and sold, and financial institutions also attend to provide public education on their services too.

Being one of the world's oldest and largest business networks, the cooperative movement was the first group of enterprises worldwide to endorse the SDGs and be recognised as a partner in achieving these goals.

The International Cooperatives Alliance (ICA) argues that as natural vehicles of collaborative partnership and prosperity for all, cooperatives contribute to economic, social, and environmental sustainability across regions and economic sectors.



Repair of damaged infrastructure for Dar es Salaam's Bus Rapid Transit road under way at the Ubungo Kibo section in Dar es Salaam earlier this week. Photo: Correspondent Sabato Kasika

Conservation, anti-poaching operations by govt bear fruit

By Getrude Mbago, Dodoma

CONSERVATION and anti-poaching operations by the government in collaboration with various stakeholders have produced positive outcomes following the increase of wild animals including black rhinos.

According to the government, the number of black rhinos has increased from 163 in 2019 to 238 in 2022, thus exceeding the National Strategy that aimed at conserving 205 rhinos by December, 2023.

Likewise, Tanzania has continued to lead the world by having a high number of lions that reach 14,912 as well as 24,000 giraffes.

Tabling budget estimates for the 2023/24 financial year in the National Assembly yesterday, Minister for Natural Resources and Tourism, Mohamed Mchengerwa said the government has continued to tighten efforts to improve the protection and conservation of natural resources by controlling poaching, illegal trade in trophies, illegal harvesting of forest products and bees as well as invasion in protected areas.

"These efforts, along with other factors, have also enabled the number of elephants to increase to 60,000 in 2023 from 43,330 in 2014, making Tanzania the third country in Africa to have a high number of elephants," he said.

He further said statistics show that during the period between July 2022 and April 2023, there was no wildlife death caused by poach-

ing that was reported.

He said the outcome confirms that wildlife poaching in the country has greatly decreased as a result of good planning and cooperation in conservation.

Mchengerwa said the increase of wild animals was the result of the efforts taken by the government and stakeholders to fight poaching which included crackdown on organised criminal networks involved in the illegal actions.

Form 281d

THE UNITED REPUBLIC OF TANZANIA
BUSINESS REGISTRATIONS AND LICENSING AGENCY
Advertisement of Winding-up Petition
Pursuant to section 281 of the Companies Act 2002

IN THE MATTER OF: MARLINK TANZANIA LIMITED

A Petition to wind up the above named Company, of:

Address: P.O BOX 105905, DAR ES SALAM, PLOT 25 NEW BAGAMOYO ROAD, DAR ES SALAM, TANZANIA.

presented on: 12TH MAY 2023

by: MARLINK TANZANIA LIMITED OF P.O BOX 105905, PLOT 25 NEW BAGAMOYO ROAD, DAR ES SALAM, TANZANIA.

claiming to be the Company,

will be heard at: HIGH COURT OF TANZANIA DAR ES SALAAM DISTRICT REGISTRY

on (date): 5TH JULY 2023

at (time): 09:00 AM

(or as soon thereafter as the petition can be heard)

Any person intending to appear on the hearing of the Petition (whether to support it or to oppose it) must give notice of his intention to do so to the petitioner or his Advocate in accordance with Rule 3.16 of the Companies (Insolvency Rules) 2003 by 16:00 hours on the business day before the date of the hearing given above.

The Petitioner's Advocate is: VICTOR KESSY, KESSY ADVOCATES P.O BOX 105630, PPF TOWER, 4TH FLOOR SAMORA GARDEN AVENUE, DAR ES SALAAM.

Dated 3RD JUNE 2023

Advocate for the Petitioner

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DAWASA establishes customer service desks to enhance provision of services to the people

By Correspondent Joseph Mwendapole

THE Dar es Salaam Water and Sanitation Authority (DAWASA) has established customer service desks at its various offices to enhance provision of services to the people.

At the DAWASA Mivumoni service region, a total of four desks have been introduced at Wazo, Kulangwa, Mivumoni CCM, and Muungano areas to ensure more citizens are reached and provided with clean water services.

DAWASA Mivumoni customer service officer, Neema Arthur said that presence of customer service desk has helped the authority to reach many people and increase the number of customers significantly.

"Many people have visited our desk seeking different services including connection to water services. With the desks, customers can easily be assisted and connected to clean water services," she said.

Kulangwa Street chairman, Husna Yasin urged residents to make use of the desks by getting all the information they need.

"We were waiting for this service; it has come at a right time where many people in our area are in need of water connection services. As leaders, we will continue to cooperate with DAWASA to ensure all the people get clean water services," said Husna

A resident of Wazo Street, Amina Juma explained the relief they get through the customer service desks,

urging people to make use of it.

"We are grateful to DAWASA for their decision to bring services closer to the people. Many people are now visiting the desk requiring information in regard to water connection services. DAWASA has served us from travelling to their offices in the city centre," said Juma.

Services offered at the customer service desks include new connections, issuance of a contract for instalment payments for those who have applied for the service, payment of water bills and listening to people's opinions in regard to the authority's offered services.



Many people have visited our desk seeking different services including connection to water services. With the desks, customers can easily be assisted and connected to clean water services.



Water deputy minister Maryprisca Mahundi (C) cuts the ribbon yesterday to launch the 471.8m/- Ntyuka Chimalaa water project in Dodoma Region yesterday. To her right is Dodoma regional commissioner Rosemary Senyamule. Photo: Correspondent Ibrahim Joseph

Chief medical officer challenges GCLA to include mathematics in next year's science subjects awards

By Correspondent James Kandoya

CHIEF Medical Officer, Dr Tumaini Nagu, has challenged the Government Chemist Laboratory Authority (GCLA) to include mathematics in next year's secondary school science subjects' awards.

Dr Nagu made the challenge on Thursday this week at a function to present awards to the best 36 students and six teachers who excelled in Form Four and Form Six national examinations in the 2021

and 2022 academic year.

During the ceremony, the best three female and male students in each subject were provided with different awards. The GCLA office has been awarding the best students and teachers excelling in science subjects for fifteen years consecutively.

She said science subjects are not complete without mathematics and therefore it was necessary to add the subject.

"I am aware that this event is

organized purposely for best students in biology, chemistry and physics, I commend efforts made by the GCLA but I would like to challenge the authority to add mathematics because it is a complement subject," she said

She said science subjects are one of the government priorities for future investment in technology, health and innovation cadres.

She also advised students to be careful and avoid any kind of evil to realize their educational

dreams. She urged them to behave and study hard to make sure they graduate with Bachelors.

GCLA board chairperson, Prof Esther Jason said the awards were presented to female and males who completed their Form Four and Form Six studies in the 2021 and 2022 academic years.

She said the GCLA handed over prizes to inspire more students to pursue science's subjects, to increase the number of experts and to motivate and inculcate a culture

of students to pursue science subjects, especially girls.

Chief Government Chemist Dr Fidelice Mafumiko, said that since its establishment in 2007, the authority has awarded 348 students and 36 teachers.

"We call on other stakeholders to join our efforts so as to inspire more students to learn science subjects including Physics, Chemistry and Biology," she said.

He said in this year's award; GCLA awarded 36 students and 6 teach-

ers. He said science is an important tool towards technological development adding that without it no country can develop.

In the award, the first four winners (Form Four) received 700,000/- while the second winners went home with 650,000/- and the third winners got 600,000/-.

For Form Six, the winner received 800,000/- while the second winner got 750,000/- and the third winner was handed with 700,000/-. Each of the teachers received 700,000/-.

'Government disbursed a total of 30.9bn/- to about 5,120 women groups in 1804 councils'

By Polycarp Machira, Dodoma

THE government has disbursed a total of 30.9bn/- to some 5,120 women groups in all the 1804 district councils in the country, in effort to help eliminate poverty at households.

Minister for Community Development, Gender and Special Groups Dr. Dorothy Gwajima said that the funds have been provided through the 2018 local government authority finance law.

She made the statement while officiating at the launch ANAWEZA, a gender program, here, on behalf of the Vice President, Dr Philip Mpango.

"Through the 2018 local government finance law, all councils in the country have been allocating 10 percent of their internal revenue to provide interest-free loans to special groups," she said.

She stated that up to April this year a total of 30.9bn/- have been lent to 5,120 women groups in 184 councils in the country.

Dr Gwajima said that through the Women's Development Fund (WDF) managed by her ministry; loans worth 664.5m/- have been provided to 104 women entrepreneurs in the period from July 2022 to April this year.

She said Tanzania is one of the countries that implement the international platform goals to promote gender equality where Dr

Samia is a leader in the implementation of the Forum, especially regarding justice and economic equality.

Dr Gwajima noted that Tanzania has developed a program implemented in collaboration between the Government and the private sector so that by the year 2026 the situation of women will be changed significantly.

"This program includes creating a better environment for early education and childcare at the community level, as well as ensuring that basic services such as water and electricity reach the villages in full to solve the challenges facing women," she said.

She explained that the ANAWEZA Program will contribute to the successful implementation of the program of an equal generation in this country and enable women to participate in various leadership positions.

"It is my expectation that the program will involve the private sector in this country to promote women's access to leadership positions and better jobs to stimulate economic growth in the country," she said.

"Research shows that closing the gender gap between the employment of men and women can increase the long-term GDP per capita by 4.8 percent" she added.



College of Business Education acting rector Prof Tandil Lwoga (C) briefs journalists in Dar es Salaam on Thursday on the start of 16 new courses at the college in the 2023/2024 academic year. She is with head of communications and marketing Leonidas Tibanga (L) and academic director Dr Shima Dauson. Photo: Correspondent Joseph Mwendapole

Zanzibar to continue sensitising people on importance, proper use of contraceptives

By Guardian Reporter, Zanzibar

ZANZIBAR Health minister, Nassor Ahmed Mazrui, said yesterday that the government will continue to sensitise people on the importance and proper use of contraceptives, being an effort to reduce women deaths and childhood mortality.

According to him, family planning helps to reduce children and women deaths by 30

per cent.

Mazrui made the remarks when tabling the ministry's budget estimates for the 2023/2024 financial year at the on-going meetings of the House of Representatives at Chukwani, Unguja. He said most of the women in the Isles are not aware of the importance of using family planning, hence the need to educate them.

"Using family planning con-

tributes to safe births as well as providing a good chance for the child to grow in good health," he said.

Mazrui said that in a period from July 2022 to March 2023, a total of 23,644 women were enrolled for various family planning methods. He said the number has decreased compared to 24,104 women registered for the plan in the same period in previous year.

He said contraception has

no health effects as the medicines focus on protecting the health of the mother and the child. He said contraceptives ensure a healthy growth for children.

"I would like to ask members of the House of Representatives to help us in taking the message on the use of contraceptives to the people in their respective areas. These methods help children to be born in good health," he

said. Mazrui said the ministry is planning to provide basic mental health services in the community whereas in a period from July 2022 to March 2023, a total of 754 mental health patients were registered and provided with medical services.

He said of the mentioned number, 438 patients were admitted while 91 have recovered and are now engaging in various activities.

The minister acknowledged the increase in mental health problems among youth, linking the problem with the use of drugs, including marijuana.

"We are facing a big problem with the increase in the numbers of patients with mental problems, most of them are young people engaging in the use of drugs," he said. Mazrui said that in strengthening mental therapy, the Ministry of Health is in the final stages

of construction of the Kinyasini hospital in Pemba, which will fully provide mental health medical services.

He said that mental health medical services have now improved in Unguja with services being provided at the Kidongo-Chekundu hospital. He said the government has also constructed a new ward that provides similar services to children.

'Govt is currently reviewing various laws governing the agriculture sector'

By Getrude Mbago, Dodoma

THE government is currently reviewing various laws governing the agriculture sector so as to transform the sector and bring productivity to farmers and the nation at large.

Deputy minister for Agriculture, Anthony Mavunde made the statement in the National Assembly that the government is committed and pioneered to bring major transformation in the agriculture sector to ensure small to large scale farmers benefits from the sectors.

Mavunde was reacting to a question by Oscar Kikoyo (Muleba South) who wanted to know when the government will improve to allow local traders who own processing factories to buy coffee directly from farmers.

He said that the government has established a system for selling and purchasing coffee from farmers through cooperative unions so as to eliminate coffee sale through informal systems that were affecting farmers.

He said the Coffee Industry Act, 2001 among the laws under review with an aim to make better provision for the regulation, improvement and development of the coffee industry.

Mavunde said that to ensure that the country achieves this and see the majority of farmers changing for the better, the government was working closely with the private sector to implement and achieve

the Agenda 10/30 which aimed to attain a 10 percent annual growth rate for the agriculture sector by 2030.

He said the government will work to stimulate and ensure that there is increased productivity, enhanced marketing level, value addition, farmer income, food and nutrition security and Gross Domestic Product.

This goes along with the implementation of the third-Five Year National Development Plan (FYDP-III) which supports efforts to build a competitive economy that is strong, middle-income and semi-industrialized, and able to compete effectively internationally while serving human development goals.

The FYDP-III's key objective is to transform the agricultural sector (crops, livestock and fisheries) towards higher productivity, commercialization level and smallholder farmer income for improved livelihood, food security and nutrition.



This goes along with the implementation of the third-Five Year National Development Plan (FYDP-III) which supports efforts to build a competitive economy that is



St Christina Secondary School student Alya Said participates in the 16th 'Chinese Bridge Chinese Proficiency Competition for Foreign Secondary School Students' held in Dar es Salaam yesterday. Photo: Correspondent Miraji Msala

Three JKCI specialists due to travel to Zambia next week to conduct capacity building training

By Correspondent Joseph Mwendapole

THREE specialist doctors from the Jakaya Kikwete Cardiac Institute (JKCI) will next week travel to Zambia to conduct capacity building training to the country's doctors on how to perform heart surgeries.

JKCI director, Dr Peter Kisenge, made the statement in Dar es Salaam yesterday when briefing journalists about one doctor from Zambia National Hospital, Ziwa Mudaniso who is at the JKCI to learn the basics in

heart surgery as their hospital prepares to start providing such medical services.

"Our cardiac specialist will conduct the training in Zambia to capacitate their local doctors for the hospital to be able to perform heart surgeries. The three doctors from Tanzania are from the anaesthesia, emergency, critical patients and surgeons department," said Dr Kisenge.

Dr Kisenge, who is a cardiologist, said the Zambian doctor has come to the country to learn as well

as to witness the huge investment done by the government at JKCI to enhance provision of medical services to people with various cardiac complications. Dr Kisenge said that President Samia Suluhu Hassan has invested heavily in the health sector, thus making experts from neighbouring countries opting to train and learn from the institute.

He said the foreign doctor is learning some of the important things that their hospital must install before they start to provide

heart surgery services.

"We signed a contract with the Zambia National Hospital in April this year, whereas among the agreement is for us to train their doctors as they prepare to start offering similar services," he said.

A children's heart surgeon at (JKCI), Dr Godwin Sharau said the foreign doctor' learning program has been facilitated by Israel's Save a Child's Heart Organization (SACH). The organization also provided similar support to doctors from dif-

ferent African countries.

Dr Godwin said he was happy to meet a doctor who was also trained in Israel ten years ago. He said they have shared experience and knowledge especially on how to conduct major heart surgeries to children.

He thanked the leadership of SACH for being part of the capacity building training to health experts from various African countries.

For his part, the Zambian doctor who is a heart surgeon for children, Ziwa Mudaniso said he had a good

time learning from JKCI doctors in providing heart surgery services for children. "I have come to JKCI to learn how these doctors work and I promise to do the same when I return to Zambia. I also learned the type of medical equipment needed in conducting heart surgery to children," said Mudaniso.

The doctor has been at the KKCI for one week after completing heart surgery training at the Wolfson Hospital in Israel through funding from SACH.



Shinyanga district commissioner Johari Samizi (L) pictured on Thursday cutting the ribbon to launch 24 toilet and special hygiene facilities at Mazinge Secondary School built by the Flaviana Matata Foundation. She is with FMF founder Flaviana Matata (2nd-L), FMF project manager Lineth Masala (R) and one of the school's students. Photo: Correspondent Marco Maduhu

Njombe Region set to host SIDO national exhibition

By Guardian Correspondent, Njombe

MORE than 800 entrepreneurs from within and outside the country are expected to participate in the 4th Small Industries Development Organization (SIDO) national exhibition to be held at Sabasaba grounds in Njombe Region. Njombe District Commissioner, Kissa Kasongwa told journalists yesterday that the exhibition will be held from October 21st to 31st, 2023. She called upon Njombe residents to cooperate with the regional administration to ensure successful exhibitions.

This year's exhibition theme is 'Let's jointly build industries for sustainable economic development and job creation'.

"We must fully participate in the coming exhibition as SIDO has decided to conduct them in our region this year. It is a continuation of similar exhibitions that have been held annually since 2018 in Simiyu, Singida in 2019 and Kigoma in 2021," said Kasongwa.

She said the exhibition will help promote the various business opportunities available in Njombe and neighbouring regions as well as promote economic activities.

SIDO Director General, Prof Sylvester Mpanduji said the coming exhibition is an opportunity for talented young entrepreneurs to showcase their various products

and look for markets outside Njombe.

He said entrepreneurs will meet their fellows from different regions and share business experiences and technology towards improving the quality of locally made goods.

"President Samia Suluhu Hassan has been encouraging people to establish industries; let's use the exhibition to learn on new technologies and share experiences. Our region should not remain a raw material producer, we must build industries to be able to sell finished products," said the SIDO DG, insisting on local manufacturers to ensure quality of the goods.

SIDO Njombe Region Manager, Isdory Kihenze said the exhibition will bring different technologies that will be used at the Mchuchuma mine to produce coal. He said produced coal is also suitable for cooking.

He said: "There will be various technologies and machines for oil extraction. We will bring new technologies that will help in adding value to our agricultural products since the region is rich in raw materials," said Kihenze, adding SIDO is mandated to plan, co-ordinate, promote and offer every form of services to small industries.

The organization is also responsible for formulating, coordinating and monitoring the policies and programmes for the promotion and development of small-scale industries.

Dar embarks on community awareness campaign to enrol more people into Improved Community Health Insurance

By Correspondent James Kandoyo

AUTHORITIES in Dar es Salaam Region have embarked on a community awareness campaign to enrol more people into the Improved Community Health Insurance (i-CHF) scheme.

Regional i-CHF coordinator, Yasin Kisawike said yesterday in Dar es Salaam that the awareness campaign will also involve human resources managers and workers representatives.

He said under the scheme, households contribute financially to support their ba-

sic healthcare needs towards achieving the government's goal of ensuring universal health coverage.

Kisawike said that despite its importance to the community, the number of Tanzanians enrolled to the scheme is still low, noting that only 11 percent of the city residents have been enrolled with i-CHF.

He said i-CHF serves the low income bracket of people living below the poverty line as it ensures a safety net guarding against the indignity of being helpless in the face of illness.

"We have invited human resources man-

agers and workers representatives to discuss the importance of having healthier families that are insured with insurance cover," he said, adding the target is to see more people enrolled in the community voluntary scheme.

According to him, the campaign targets to increase the number of insurance beneficiaries in Dar es Salaam region to ultimately improve the provision of health services.

"A number of health reforms have been designed to improve the functioning and performance of the health sector and ulti-

mately the health status of the city population," he added.

The coordinator said major aims of the reforms were to bring healthcare services closer to the people and make the health systems responsive.

Joseph Mabaga, a workers representative from TLL Printing and Packaging Company said that enrolling with the scheme guarantees medical treatment when a worker falls ill. He said with i-CHF, an individual can access medical service at any place.

i-CHF is a voluntary health insurance scheme administered by the President's

Office Regional Administration and Local Government (PORALG).

It emerged from district-level community health funds (CHF) which were originally established in the 1990s and launched in November 2014 with the aim of increasing access to quality healthcare for people in the informal sector, mostly rural and low-income groups.

Under the i-CHF people can enrol at public and private facilities that are being supported to offer better quality through training, equipment provision and infrastructure upgrading.

African experts: South-South cooperation ought better, strengthen reproductive health services

NAIROBI

EXPERTS from the eastern African region have called for the strengthening of South-South cooperation in order to improve reproductive health services.

The experts, who spoke at a forum in the Kenyan capital of Nairobi, underscored the critical role of regional cooperation in policy formulation and funding as a means to boost reproductive health outcomes.

The experts from Kenya, Uganda, Tanzania, South Sudan, Ethiopia, Rwanda and Burundi said the morbidity and mortality levels, especially of children and women, remain unacceptably high.

"There is a need for countries in the Global South with similar challenges to share and mainstream approaches that work for them," said Mohamed Sheikh, director general at the National Council for Population and Development of Kenya, during the 13th Eastern African Reproductive Health Network Coordination Meeting.

Sheikh observed that women, in particular, face increased health risks from teenage and unplanned pregnancies and limited birth spacing, hence the need to provide them with quality reproductive health services.

Jotham Musinguzi, the director-general of the National Population Council of Uganda, urged governments in the region to consider in-

creasing funding to help strengthen policies on reproductive health. Musinguzi noted that East African nations currently have weak policies that have led to low budgetary allocations toward reproductive health, adding that the solution lies with strengthened South-South cooperation.

Rose Oronje, director of Policy and Knowledge Translation at the African Institute for Development Policy, observed that countries in the eastern African region have enacted policies that promote access to quality reproductive health services.

Oronje said there is an urgent need to provide relevant information for women, girls, and adolescents on matters regarding reproductive health. She added that the relationship between health, population, and climate change dynamics provides a solid platform for developing more effective and sustainable solutions to achieve universal health coverage (UHC) and the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).

During the Nairobi forum, the experts urged governments to mainstream voluntary family planning and reproductive health in national policies and strategies. They pledged to develop actionable annual country-specific work plans and build member capacity through strengthened South-South cooperation for the attainment of UHC and the SDGs in the region.



Community Development, Gender, Women and Special Groups minister Dr Dorothy Gwajima opens a national meeting of stakeholders implementing the integrated programme on the education and early development of Tanzanian children in Dodoma city yesterday. Photo: Correspondent Peter Mkwavila

650 pupils in Temeke District trained about children's rights

By Beatrice Philemon

A total of 650 pupils at Keko-Magurumbasi primary school in Temeke District have been trained on children's rights and responsibilities as part of activities to commemorate the Day of the African Child that is celebrated every June 16th.

The training was made possible through Women in Social Entrepreneurship (WISE) with funding from a South Korean-based Charity organisation.

tion 'Holt Children's Services Incorporation'.

The trainer, Theresia Kibona said the aim was to increase children's awareness on their rights and protect them from the various forms of violence.

"As a trainer I was impressed to see pupils are aware of their rights as well as violence. Children know where to report such incidents including to local government leaders and teachers," she said.

She added: "We had time to explain to them on the various types of violence that comprise of maltreatment, physical punishment, rape, child sexual abuse and psychological violence among others. The bad thing is that some of these incidents happen at home and school. We want children to report them on time for the culprits to be held responsible and punished according to country laws."

Pupils were also interested to know what is Female Genital Mutilation

(FGM), how it affect girls, she said.

WISE executive director, Dr Astronaut Bagile said they decided to train pupils for purposes of protecting them and make sure they know and demand for their rights.

"Once pupils understand their rights and other forms of Gender Based Violence they can take actions and report the people who violates their rights to the community, police gender desk, parents and other authorities," she said

WISE also donated exercise books and other learning materials to the pupils.

She lauded 'Holt Children's Services Incorporation' for their financial support that in-turn has helped them to educate pupils at Keko-Magurumbasi primary and other schools.

Daha Berther, a teacher at Keko-Magurumbasi primary school, said with the training children will be able to report violence incidents and demand for their rights.

Right now, she said, children know their rights that include the right to get food, education, and health. She said children are aware that it is their right to give opinions and be listened to.

"The training was good, we are thankful to the trainer from outside the school. Pupils were happy and got chances to ask different questions relating to traditions and customary laws that contributed to infringe their rights," the teacher noted.



Dar es Salaam Water and Sanitation Authority (Dawasa) technicians replace a defective pipe to a sewage system in Dar es Salaam's Upanga West suburb yesterday. Photo: Correspondent Joseph Mwendapole

Government plans to conduct capacity building training to 600 state attorneys

By Guardian Correspondent, Dodoma

AS part of efforts to enhance professionalism and ensure productivity, the government plans to conduct capacity building training to over 600 state attorneys.

Solicitor General, Dr Boniface Luhende made the statement in Dodoma on Thursday when briefing journalists on the 5th anniversary of the office since its establishment in 2018.

He said the celebrations to be held on June 5th 2023 in the country's capital will be graced by Prime Minister, Kassim Majaliwa.

Dr Luhende said the government will offer such training to state attorneys from his office as well as those from the office of the Attorney General. The list will also include lawyers from government institutions, ministries, agencies and those from local government under the Prime Minister's Office, Regional Administration and Local government.

He said: "The office of the Solicitor General has invited 24 experts including Judges and retired Judges from the High Court of Tanzania, the Court of Appeal and other experts from various universities to train the attorneys."

Dr Luhende noted that trainers will share experiences and

knowledge with participants on a number of legal issues including preparation of contracts, for investments in different sectors including oil and gas as well as conflict resolution.

During the celebration, there will be various activities and exhibitions whereas Tanzanians are invited to visit available pavilions and learn on diverse legal matters, he added.

"We will also use the celebrations to evaluate performance of the office of the Solicitor General on how it executes its duties that includes giving advice to the government, conflict resolution and litigation and arbitration of civil cases on behalf of the government within and outside the country," he said.

He said the celebration and training are expected to be attended by various government officials, religious leaders and stakeholders. He said the Minister for Constitution and Legal Affairs, Dr Damas Ndambaro, the ministry Permanent Secretary, Mary Makondo and the Attorney General, Judge Eliezer Feleshi will attend the event.

Re-establishment of the office of the Solicitor General was part of the government initiatives to reform public service with a view of enhancing quality delivery of service.

EAC meet extends regional force mandate in DRC to September

By Mary Wambui

THE 21st Extraordinary Summit of the East African Community heads of state have extended the mandate of its regional force in the Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC) by six months from March 8th to September 8th this year.

A communiqué read by EAC Secretary General Peter Mathuki said the extension of the mandate of the East African Community Regional Force (EACRF) is aimed at consolidating the gains made by the force, which has contributed to the return of normalcy in the region, facilitated a two-month ceasefire be-

tween the local army FARDC and the dominant rebel group M23 and ensured the group's movement to its cantonment areas.

The meeting, which was attended by the Chairman of the ECA, General Évariste Ndayishimiye (Burundi), President William Ruto (Kenya), Dr Philip Mpango, Tanzania Vice President, Rwanda's Prime Minister Edouard Ngirente, Uganda's First Deputy Prime Minister and Minister for East African Community Affairs Rebecca Kadaga, South Sudan's Minister of Presidential Affairs Barnaba Marial Benjamin and the Deputy Prime Minister of the Democratic Republic of Congo, Minister of Foreign Affairs and Regional Integration, Léonard Okitundu also took note of the appointment of the new Force Commander, Major General Alphaxard Muthuri Kiugu.

The Heads of State instructed the regional force to support the orderly withdrawal of the M23 and other armed groups from the areas they are required to vacate.

Secure and maintain areas vacated by the M23 and support the return of internally displaced persons to areas vacated by armed groups.

The regional force was also directed to work with the Chiefs of Defence Forces, MONUSCO and all other stakeholders to visit and verify the suitability of Rumagambo, a base currently

occupied by the Kenya Defence Forces (KDF) and the South Sudan People's Defence Forces (SSPDF), as a cantonment area for M23 and other armed groups within three weeks.

It also directed that all communications with the M23 be handled by the facilitator of the peace process, former President of Kenya Uhuru Kenyatta.

The Summit reaffirmed that the security situation in eastern DRC can only be sustainably resolved through a political process and dialogue between the parties, and urged the DRC to work with the facilitator to identify appropriate dates for the resumption of the Inter-Congolese Dialogue, also known as the

Nairobi Peace Process.

The Heads of State also directed the establishment of a Civilian Head Mission to coordinate the political affairs of the regional force.

President Ruto said in a statement that the civilian officer will help insulate the East African Regional Force from political and public affairs. "This will enhance peace and security in the region," he added.

The heads of state also directed the East African Secretariat to form a technical committee by 15 June to evaluate the implementation of the force's mandate and report to the Central Council on Defence Cooperation within 90 days of the extension of the force's agreement.

Shanta Gold declares commercial production at new mine in Singida

By Guardian Correspondent and Agencies

SHANTA Gold Limited has declared commercial production at its new Singida gold mine effectively June 1st, 2023.

Eric Zurrin, Chief Executive said the move followed a rapid ramp-up after the first gold pour, with the mine achieving 30 consecutive days of mill throughput exceeding 95 per cent of nominal nameplate capacity of 1,000 tonnes per day.

"The mine delivered steady results against production KPIs including consistent gold production and higher-than-expected gold recoveries, cul-

minating in several successful gold shipments," he added.

Cash flow from Singida would allow Shanta financial flexibility over the rest of the portfolio, starting with an extensive drilling programme, said Zurrin.

A forecast for production for Singida will also be published this month alongside five-year guidance, with infill drilling to start shortly to upgrade the 885,000 ounces (oz) of resources currently under the reserve-based mine plan.

Singida's current ore stockpile totals 187,673 tonnes at 217 grammes per tonne gold containing 13,085oz.



The mine delivered steady results against production KPIs including consistent gold production and higher-than-expected gold recoveries, culminating in several successful



Simanjiro district commissioner Dr Suleiman Serera pictured at Mirerani township on Thursday speaking at the launch of Mining Queen Awards organised by the Tanzania Women's Mining Association (Tawoma). Photo: Correspondent Gift Thadey

'AfDB committed to partner with Africa's institutions to address development challenges'

SHARM EL-SHEIKH

THE African Development Bank Group (AfDB) is committed to partnering with Africa's regional and continental institutions to address the continent's biggest development challenges, said the bank's President, Dr Akinwumi Adesina.

During his recent meeting with heads of intergovernmental organisations and African development finance institutions in Sharm el-Sheikh, Egypt, Adesina reminded the meeting of the vital role African regional institutions play in promoting Africa's political, economic, and social development and stressed that the continent needs to achieve double digit annual economic growth to eradicate poverty.

The meeting, titled 'Mobilising capital for smart infrastructure and deeper integration', was the second of its kind organised by the Bank on the sidelines of its Annual Meetings and offered participants an opportunity to share their main concerns and discuss opportunities for cooperation.

"We must ensure that Africa is at the heart of debates worldwide. Africa must have its rightful place in leading international bodies. But in addition to having a place, we also need resources," he said.

He said the bank and regional and continental institutions must act together to achieve this. In particular, the African Continental Free Trade Area (AfCFTA), a market of 1.4 billion consumers with a combined GDP of \$3.4 trillion, should be put to work in creating value chains to change Africa's role as a provider of raw materials for other countries' development.

The Bank chief called on African regional organisations to work with individual countries to ensure that Africa benefits from the vast potential market for electric cars estimated at \$34 trillion.

Adesina pointed out it would cost less to produce lithium-ion batteries in Africa than in the United States or China.

Regional institutions, and especially regional economic communities and regional banks have welcomed the Bank's investments and are calling for more inclusive projects in the near term.

Albert Muchanga, African Union Commissioner for Trade and Industry, outlined the Union's expectations for funding, including for its specialised institutions.

"We are in the process of mobilising the private sector. We are working to set up the Association of African Stock Exchanges and, together with the African Development Bank we have launched a study of Africa's development drivers, which will identify key actions needed to achieve economic growth of 7-10 percent by 2063," he said.

Arab Maghreb Union Secretary-General Taieb Baccouche called for greater emphasis on young people to save them from the mirage of emigration. An agropastoral project is now being rolled out to create more jobs for young people in the Maghreb.

Baccouche said that abolishing visas would be a step forward for the proper functioning of the AfCFTA. Elias Magosi, Executive Secretary of the Southern African Development Community (SADC), said that infrastructure is a major concern for the SADC and in particular, energy infrastructure.

The Abidjan-Lagos Corridor Highway Development Project, the railway linking Tanzania, Burundi and the Democratic Republic of Congo, and the Kinshasa-Brazzaville Road-Rail Bridge Project are just a few examples of projects the

About 3,000 women countrywide suffer from fistula, says foundation

By Guardian Reporter, Mwanza

IT is estimated that about 3,000 women countrywide suffer from fistula, but only 2,000 among them seek proper medical treatment.

The trend has contributed to turning the disease into a threat as more than 1,000 are not treated.

The statement was made recently by country director, Dr Nguke Mwakatundu of the Americares Foundation Tanzania when speaking shortly after handing over equipment worth 234.2m/- for obstetric fistula surgery at the Bugando Zonal Referral Hospital in Mwanza City.

Dr Mwakatundu said fistula is still a challenge among women in the country, hence the need to put more effort into treating it.

"This is the reason why we have today decided to procure these special equipment for fistula surgery at Bugando Hospital. Our aim is to ensure the hospital continues to provide such service with more expertise and efficiency," he said, adding the foundation has been donating the equipment to restore smiles to women with the health challenge.

He said to be able to eradicate the disease by 2030, the foundation works closely with the government in supporting regional hospitals to be able to provide fistula treatment service. He said the efforts are done to ensure women get such services at nearby health facilities instead of travelling to Bugando hospital.

Director, Bugando zonal referral hospital, Fabian Masaga said there are people who are not aware of the disease and how it can be treated. He said to successfully eradicate the disease, efforts should be directed on provision of public education on how to control the disease.

He said education should also be given to nurses and midwives to ensure they provide quality reproductive care to women and expectant mothers.

Dr Masaga said the hospital receives between 300 and 400 fistula patients per year, saying the number of patients indicates that the problem is still a challenge among many women in Lake Zone regions, especially Geita and Shinyanga.

Speaking on behalf of the Mwanza Regional Commissioner, Nyamagana District Commissioner Amina Makilagu said the government will continue to work hand in hand with private organizations including Americares, including removing the tax on the equipment they provide for free in order to deal with the disease, the aim being to ensure that they work in a friendly environment in the country.



Hilala District Commissioner Edward Mpogolo (L) pictured in Dar es Salaam yesterday presenting a Jubilee Health Insurance donation of 45 desks to Kisutu Primary School head teacher Elizabeth Massawe. Right is the firm's director, Dr Harold Adamson. Photo: Correspondent Imani Nathaniel

'Tanzania has put in place strategies and policies for sustainable management of the environment and conservation activities'

By Guardian Reporter

MINISTER of State in the Vice President's Office (Union and Environment) Dr Selemeni Jafo said that Tanzania has put in place strategies and policies for sustainable management of the environment and conservation activities, including tree planting to deal with the negative impacts of climate change.

Speaking at the launch of the World Environment Week on Thursday in Dodoma Region, Jafo said the government has for

three consecutive years being prioritising environment conservation issues which include implementation of different environment campaigns and tree planting across the country.

Minister Jafo said Tanzania like any other countries has in recent days experienced the great effects of climate change that have affected various sectors of the economy and production.

He said negative impacts of climate change have contributed to increasing food prices, a

situation linked with drought that hit various parts of the country.

"We are all witnesses that most parts of the country received average and below average rain. In some areas, drought resulted in serious water shortages that led to deaths of livestock," said Jafo citing the case of Simanjiro, Longido and Kiteto districts in northern parts of the country.

Elaborating, Jafo noted that some areas in Nungwi and some parts of Pemba Island in

Zanzibar are now witnessing an increase in sea water levels that flows to people's homes.

He said such incidents pushed the government to enhance environmental conservation activities as well as emphasizing people to plant trees. He said various tree planting campaigns are being held at district, regional and national level.

According to him, every human being needs a clean and safe environment, hence the need to sensitize people

to conserve the environment. He said the government has directed local government authorities to make sure that building permits are issued together with instructions of planting trees.

"Issuing building permits should go together with the emphasis to plant trees; at a time construction activities are completed, one should also have a number of trees surrounding his compound," he said.

He said plans are to plant

nearly 276 million trees each year whereas every district must plant 1.5 million trees annually. He said in Dodoma, the goal is to plant 40 million trees, a unique set goal compared to other regions and districts.

"We appreciate efforts by local government authorities in managing these campaigns," he said.

Dodoma Regional Commissioner, Rosemary Senyamule commended the Office of the Vice President for continued cooperation to her office, not-

ing Dodoma is among regions that are doing well in the tree planting campaigns.

"We are thankful to President Samia Suluhu Hassan for launching the Dodoma green campaign. All the trees you see around resulted from her efforts when she served as the Vice President," said the RC.

Senyamule said the region has also put in place effective strategies to protect water sources, including the Mzake valley where a number of trees have been planted.

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**Taking A New Look
At The News**
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Take care for investment, political mood not to sour

A RATHER special survey has lately been conducted, being the second time such a survey is carried out, for issues that diplomatic missions could have assessed on their own, without needing to call a workshop on the findings. Holding a survey among companies of the Nordic countries is testament to the motion of what in 2007 was aired as the Economic Partnership Agreement (EPA) between Africa and Europe, and it largely failed. The survey is an indicator that its thrust remains, that a sort of community is being built, still.

The survey conducted by consultants from Nordic embassies in Dar es Salaam and the city think-tank, RE-POA, showed that a third of all Nordic firms (34 percent) find the current business environment to be more conducive than 12 months ago. What was more visible however was an astonishing shift of mood from the situation when the survey was first conducted back in 2019, showing impact of the vast changes taking place in policy under the sixth phase. All that was to be expected, thus the upbeat mood on business, politics was just in line.

Even then, the discussants did not lose focus in the warm environment, in taking note of the fact that political stability was top ranked by many Nordic firms operating here as a vital feature in evaluating the business environment. Even without actually citing detailed remarks, it can be figured out that this is a cancer in most African economies, as yet without institutions for amicable change of government. Institutional clashes become communal confrontations.

The seeds of a political breakdown aren't admittedly visible, as indeed this country has never had such a

situation, but there is an expression that 'there is always a first time.' For once, Tanzania was for 25 years used to a marginally constraining multi-party environment until opposition seemed to win too big a portion of the vote by adopting dissidents from the ruling party. And then the wide ranging freedoms were being misused, bureaucrats doing as they pleased.

One problem about the survey and indeed the wider analytical belief system that informs such exercises from an academic point of view is that they first agree to put side the theory, and just test sentiments to prove this or that impression. So there is no underlying concept in any research organisation - from the famed Institute of Social Studies at The Hague to REPOA - that can tell us under what conditions economic reform will bring about political stability. Nor is it assured that a top researcher will explain what reforms we need to get many more jobs.

With these big unanswered questions, we rely on our traditional consensus to expect that things will be well in the next general elections. We are also quite happy with broadening political freedoms and many in the REPOA audience may have been unhappy with the slow pace of real reforms. The media law that is contested is still in place and the government can't finish wondering at what point it stops, which options it prefers to retain, etc. For once, disquiet in the past especially in the southern part of the country was rapidly curbed thanks to low reporting or discussion, thus organised dissent shifted to Mozambique. It isn't the sort of thing that those who push for less executive power discuss.

The economics of conservation in agriculture is vital for SADC

A new report by the Southern African Development Community (SADC) has projected that 41.2 million people in 13 countries are estimated to be food insecure. The SADC 2019 synthesis report on the state of food and nutrition security and vulnerability in southern Africa shows that food insecurity has increased. The countries with the most significant increase in food insecurity compared to last year are Zambia, Zimbabwe, Eswatini, Mozambique and the Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC).

The increasing food insecurity is a warning that member states need to accelerate and scale up innovative approaches to strengthen the resilience of the population to climate-related disasters. Therefore SADC Secretariat's need to strengthen the regional approaches to disaster preparedness and response within the framework of the Regional Indicative Strategic Development Plan (RISDP).

The Secretariat should continue implementing and strengthening the capacities of member states in generating, disseminating and utilising vulnerability, food security, and climate information products to ensure better preparedness and response to disasters. Also the SADC Secretariat should develop a regional resilience strategy to provide a broad strategic framework towards the understanding and building of resilience in the region.

The Report warns that the most vulnerable households are expected to exhaust their crop harvest within zero to three months, compared to the average of three to five months, resulting in significant food consumption gaps, especially during the coming lean season.

The 2019 report reveals that problems of chronic malnutrition in all its forms have remained high in the region. It said, in 10 out of 16 member states, stunting prevalence is above

30 per cent. The report linked wasting and stunting with increased mortality in the particular areas.

The new report attributes the worsening food security, nutrition, and vulnerability situation to frequent and intense climate-related disasters, poor diets, economic hardships, pests and diseases, and conflicts.

Rains were delayed and erratic, resulting in reduced area planted, poor germination and wilting that resulted in reduced crop harvests, water levels and poor pasture conditions. Crop pests, particularly the Fall Armyworm, continued to affect crop production across the region. The level of impact varies between countries depending on the levels of farmer awareness and capacity to manage the pest.

The report also notes that a new strain of Foot and Mouth Disease has broken out potentially threatening the livestock industry in the region. The 2019 report recommends that national governments and development partners assist the food insecure populations with food and cash-based transfers and scale up shock-responsive social safety nets programmes to protect the vulnerable from recurrent severe climate-related shocks.

It also calls for greater efforts to build the resilience of the population against recurrent climate-related disasters, including creating employment in rural areas, and promoting conservation agriculture.

To improve nutrition, member states and development partners should implement high-impact nutrition interventions and step up efforts to encourage the consumption of variety and quantity of micronutrient-rich foods. It also calls for the rehabilitation and establishment of community watering points for livestock and crops in the areas affected by drought.

The Guardian Limited Key Contacts

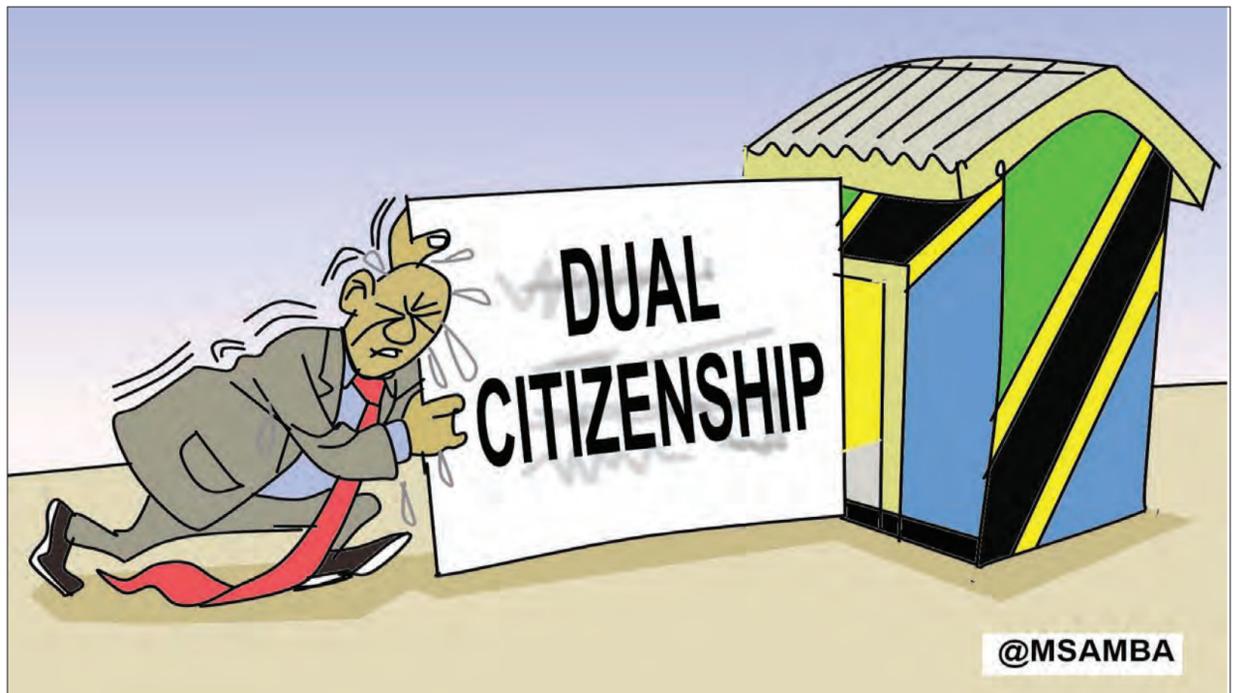
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Making sense of Muhammadu Buhari's eight years

By Ifeanyi Uddin

ABECEDARIAN? Much of the Muhammadu Buhari government's policy portmanteau was simply that. As were the subsequent cop-outs.

Concerned to repurpose the narrative, post-office, the Buhari administration's Pollyannaish interpretations of its time in office have consistently failed to connect the dots that matter. From the goals of public policies (invariably high-minded) to the intended outcomes, the last eight years have been a patchwork of unintended (and often adverse) outcomes. Arguably, the administration's most storied policy was the attempt... to swap old banknotes for new ones. The net effect was as if one peered into a malfunctioning kaleidoscope.

The Buhari administration has always loved a delightful story. For this reason, its swansong has been stuffed with Mother Goose-type myths. "Nigeria is favoured. We have people, land and weather. How many nations are so lucky as Nigeria in the world? Very few nations are as lucky as we are. So, closing that border, over 1,600km, from Lake Chad to Benin, and Nigerians insist that they have to impress their neighbours and other people, then they eat foreign rice. I said no rice. You either eat what you grow, you grow what you eat, or you die. I tried to make my point and later Nigerians appreciated it." Thus, now-former President Muhammadu Buhari justified his government's decision in August 2019 to close the nation's borders.

Two years after the border closure, and just before the government decided to reverse the decision, the flip that the policy had lent domestic productivity in the agricultural sector was evident in rising domestic food prices. If increased supply of agricultural produce, in result of the shuttered borders did not depress prices locally, it appeared to have had another unintended consequence. By 2021, the Republic of Benin had become the 9th biggest importer of rice globally. Causation is decidedly not correlation. But with only 12 million people, and its borders with Nigeria far more accommodating than a pre-owned bath-sponge, it is a fair bet where all that rice ended up.

Concerned to repurpose the narrative, post-office, the Buhari administration's Pollyannaish interpretations of its time in office have consistently failed to connect the dots that matter. From the goals of public policies (invariably high-minded) to the intended outcomes, the last eight years have been a patchwork of unintended (and often adverse) outcomes. Arguably, the administration's most storied policy was the attempt, early this year, to swap old banknotes for new ones. The net effect was as if one peered into a malfunctioning kaleidoscope. As a type of Rorschach tests, the ad-



ministration's policies have had no equivalent since the country's formation - existing as it were, in quantum superposition.

Awkwardly, the administration, head-in-the-sand like the proverbial ostrich, continued to ignore clear and present injuries to the economy from its benighted policies. Last week, the jury came in on much of that... According to the NBS, "In real terms, trade's year-on-year growth stood at 1.31% in the first quarter of 2023, which was 5.24% points lower than the rate recorded in the previous year at 6.54%, and 3.24% points lower than in the preceding quarter at 4.54% growth rate".

This feature of the government, incidentally, was not just about how the characterisation of the banknote replacement programme monstrously metamorphosed from a "swap" (a routine exercise) into "demonetisation", and finally into "cash confiscation". The accompanying somersaults in the administration's thought chambers were ugly. No sooner was the claim that somehow the quantity of cash-in-circulation in Nigeria exceeded the economy's legitimate need punctured, than the Buhari government rounded on a new target for the policy. Starved of cash by the policy, the stubborn northward trajectory of inflation was supposedly going to moderate. This, of course, didn't make sense. For it seemed to

suggest the possibility of eliminating price rises simply by scrapping cash.

Abecedarian? Much of the Buhari government's policy portmanteau was simply that. As were the subsequent cop-outs. By the end, the banknote policy had become a cash confiscation exercise designed to sanitise the forthcoming elections by removing the influence of moneybags.

Awkwardly, the administration, head-in-the-sand like the proverbial ostrich, continued to ignore clear and present injuries to the economy from its benighted policies. Last week, the jury came in on much of that. And according to the National Bureau of Statistics, "Nigeria's Gross Domestic Product (GDP) grew by 2.31% (year-on-year) in real terms in the first quarter of 2023. This growth rate declined from 3.11% recorded in the first quarter of 2022, and 3.52% in the fourth quarter of 2022. The reduction in growth is attributed to the adverse effects of the cash crunch experienced during the quarter". At more granular levels, trade numbers took a particularly nasty blow. According to the NBS, "In real terms, trade's year-on-year growth stood at 1.31% in the first quarter of 2023, which was 5.24% points lower than the rate recorded in the previous year at 6.54%, and 3.24% points lower than in the preceding quarter at 4.54% growth rate".

You could, then, argue that the conceptual distance between the

narrative and what was possible was an unwavering feature of the stories the Buhari government told while in office, and more so as it transitioned out. Still, even magical realist tales, as with every fable, yield a moral. In this case, the relevant lesson from the last eight years is how Buhari government tried too hard to do everything, despite its limited mental and fiscal resources.

Remember that trade numbers proxy for consumer spending, and recall the peripatetic lifestyle forced on the populace by the policy, and the forlorn look of many as they foraged for cash as would victims of a famine near a fresh rubbish bin, and it would have been surprising if these numbers came out any differently. You could, then, argue that the conceptual distance between the narrative and what was possible was an unwavering feature of the stories the Buhari government told while in office, and more so as it transitioned out. Still, even magical realist tales, as with every fable, yield a moral. In this case, the relevant lesson from the last eight years is how Buhari government tried too hard to do everything, despite its limited mental and fiscal resources.

Its successor could do no worse, given the same endowment, than to make it easier for the private sector to do more of the heavy lifting that the economy needs to make rapid progress.

Evidence of visual identification can be tricky in some circumstances

By Telesphor Magobe

LAST week, we briefly looked at 'mob justice' and saw how it often threatens the safety of innocent citizens. We gave an example of a person who was killed after the other person with whom he was and who was being hunted by the lynch mob, ran away. We also gave another example of another innocent person who was lynched after the person who was wanted ran away.

Eyewitnesses say if a person you know well, who could be your spouse, son, daughter, friend, colleague or neighbour, falls into the hands of the lynch mob and you happen to defend him or her that he or she is innocent, you too will be lynched with him or her. We concluded that in such awkward circumstances, none is safe for the lynch mob has no time to think intelligently or even follow legal procedures.

Today, I invite you to look at the evidence of a single witness in respect of identification. You might have come across some stories in which you take sides by reason of empathy with the narrator or the victim of a criminal incident, but in the eyes of the law the outcome of it could be quite different.

This was clear in a criminal appeal No 69 of 2020, originating from a criminal case No 185 of 2019 in the District Court of Moshi, Kilimanjaro Region. In the trial court, three accused persons were jointly indicted on the offence of unnatural offence contrary to section 154(1)(a) of the Penal Code (R.E. 2002).

It was alleged that on April 19, 2019 in Kirua Vunjo, Moshi District, the accused persons forced themselves on a person whom they undressed and one after another had carnal knowledge of that person against the order of nature. During evidence the victim said was able to recognise the accused persons' faces with the help of a light coming from a nearby house.

The victim had escaped, leaving behind his clothes and was then taken to hospital for medical examination. The doctor, who examined him, observed that he had bruises all over his body and was mentally retarded. The accused denied to have sodomised him, then



the prosecution called four witnesses and four other witnesses testified for the accused.

The trial court was satisfied with the evidence provided against the accused persons after it was proved at the required standard and each accused person was convicted of the offence and sentenced to 30-year imprisonment.

Aggrieved by the conviction and sentence, the three convicts appealed to the High Court of Tanzania on seven grounds, one of them being that the trial magistrate erred in law and fact in holding that there was proper identification of the appellants by the victim, tak-

ing into account that he was intoxicated and of unsound mind.

On this ground, the appellants argued that the court ought to have fully satisfied itself before relying on such evidence to eliminate the possibility of mistaken identity. Their argument went that "the trial magistrate's holding that 'the dark was not heavy' without properly analysing the intensity of light around was erroneous."

Looking at the evidence provided by both sides, High Court of Tanzania Judge B.R. Mtungi held that it was undisputed that the trial magistrate misdirected herself in convicting the appellants without analysing the evidence and eliminating all possibilities of mistaken identity.

He cited the case of Anthony Kiaodi v Republic, Criminal Appeal No 94 of 2005 (unreported) in which the Court of Appeal stated:

"regarding the evidence of visual identification, no court should act on such evidence unless all possibilities of mistaken identity are eliminated and that the evidence before it is absolutely water tight."

He said in *Waziri Amani v Republic* [1980] 250 the Court of Appeal had laid down conditions to be considered when assessing the issue of identification that: "The principle of identification is that where a witness is testifying about identifying another person in unfavourable circumstances like during the night he [or she] must give clear evidence which leaves no doubt that the identification is correct and reliable."

The Court of Appeal held further that: "To do so, [the witness] will need to mention all the aids to unmistakable identification like proximity to the person being identified, the source of light and its intensity, the length of time the person be-

ing identified was within view and whether the person is familiar or a stranger."

Judge Mtungi held that considering the victim's intoxicated mind and mental status, together with the sudden act, under such circumstances, the identification of the appellants was, therefore, unfavourable. He added that it was unfortunate that "the case revolved solely on the evidence of the victim, which in the circumstances, was insufficient."

In *Abdullah bin Wendo v Republic* (1953) 20 EACA 166, which the High Court Judge cited, it was stated that there was always a need for testing with the greatest care the evidence of a single witness in respect of identification. He then concluded that "the case against the appellants was not proved at the required standard. I hereby allow the appeal, the conviction

entered against the appellants is quashed and sentences set aside."

It suffices to say that there is a need to be well acquainted with the law if we want to benefit from the relief or legal remedies it provides. Otherwise, we might end up losing and be disappointed even if we had a chance of winning the case.

Today's proverb:
"Make every bargain clear and plain, that none may afterwards complain."

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

The Law and You



Food Systems Forum 2023: Economic opportunities and investment potential

By Hudson Kamoga

TANZANIA is set to host the highly anticipated Africa's Food Systems Forum 2023 Summit in Dar es Salaam this September. This event will not only position Tanzania as a hub for agricultural innovation and sustainable food systems but also unleash significant economic opportunities and attract valuable investments.

With its diverse agricultural landscape, commitment to sustainable practices and strategic location, Tanzania is poised to showcase its potential as a key player in Africa's food industry.

Showcasing Tanzania's agricultural potential

Tanzania boasts abundant natural resources and a favorable climate, making it an agricultural powerhouse in Africa. The Africa's Food Systems Forum 2023 Summit provides an ideal platform to showcase the country's rich agricultural potential, including its vast arable land, diverse crop production, and potential for agro-processing industries. With over 44 million hectares of fertile land available, Tanzania offers immense opportunities for agricultural investment and increased productivity.

Investment opportunities in agriculture and agribusiness

The hosting of the summit will attract a diverse range of stakeholders, including financial institutions, policymakers, researchers, investors, and entrepreneurs from across the continent and beyond. This convergence of experts presents an excellent opportunity for Tanzania to attract foreign direct investment (FDI) in agriculture and agribusiness sectors. Investments in areas such as modern farming techniques, agricultural infrastructure, research and development, value chain development, and agro-processing will create jobs, enhance food security, and drive economic growth.

Boosting value-added agro-processing industries

The Africa's Food Systems Forum 2023 Summit will emphasize the importance of value addition and agro-processing in promoting sustainable food sys-



tems.

Tanzania, with its vast agricultural resources, can leverage this opportunity to develop and expand its agro-processing industries. Value addition initiatives, such as food processing, packaging, and preservation, will not only enhance the value of agricultural produce but also create a robust agribusiness ecosystem and contribute to export diversification.

Strengthening supply chain and logistics infrastructure

Hosting the summit will draw attention to Tanzania's logistics and supply chain infrastructure, a crucial factor for efficient food systems. This event presents an ideal platform to showcase the ongoing investments and improvements in transport networks, cold storage facilities, and trade corridors,

strengthening Tanzania's position as a regional trade hub. Improved infrastructure will facilitate the movement of agricultural products within the country and enable seamless trade connections with neighboring countries and international markets.

Technology and innovation in agriculture

The Africa's Food Systems Forum 2023 Summit will

highlight the role of technology and innovation in transforming agriculture and promoting sustainable food systems. Tanzania, with its growing digital landscape and emerging technology startups, can seize this opportunity to showcase its innovative solutions in precision agriculture, farm management systems, market linkage platforms, and data-driven decision-making. This

will not only attract investments in agri-tech but also accelerate the adoption of modern practices and improve productivity in the sector.

Employment generation and poverty alleviation

The agriculture sector is a major employer in Tanzania, providing livelihood opportunities for a significant portion of the population, particularly in rural areas. The increased investments resulting from the summit will lead to job creation and income generation across the value chain. By fostering inclusive growth and empowering smallholder farmers, Tanzania can make significant strides in poverty alleviation and contribute to the overall socio-economic development of the country.

Unique opportunity

The Africa's Food Systems Forum 2023 Summit, to be hosted by Tanzania in September, offers a unique opportunity to showcase the country's agricultural potential, attract investments, and promote sustainable food systems. By leveraging this event, Tanzania can stimulate economic growth, enhance food security, and position itself as a regional leader in agriculture and agribusiness. The summit's outcomes will pave the way for transformative investments, technological advancements, and improved market linkages, ultimately benefiting Tanzania's economy and its people.

The author is Head of the Government Communication Unit in the Ministry of Agriculture.

Sri Lanka and Japan: The return of old friends

By Neville de Silva

ON May 24, Sri Lanka President Ranil Wickremesinghe arrived on a three-day official visit to Japan, his second visit to the country, having attended the State funeral of former prime minister Shinzo Abe last September.

This would also be President Wickremesinghe's second summit with Japanese Prime Minister Fumio Kishida, the first having been on the side lines of the Shinzo Abe funeral, signalling the importance of Japan in Sri Lanka's foreign policy re-thinking and a move away from over reliance on China.

President Wickremesinghe's visit has more significance than economic persuasion - trying to encourage Japanese investors to return to Sri Lanka after a couple or more bad experiences in recent years.

Under the Gotabaya Rajapaksa presidency, Colombo reneged on major projects agreed to, including a major Light Rail Transit (LRT) in Colombo for which the basic work had already begun.

Colombo dropped it without any prior notice to Japan and also went back on a tripartite agreement with Japan and India (and Sri Lanka) on the development of the Colombo port's east terminal.

At his meeting with Prime Minister Kishida, Wickremesinghe expressed regret over his country's past relations with Japan and said Colombo was ready to restart the dropped projects.

Wickremesinghe's visit however is more than to revive economic cooperation at a time when Sri Lanka is passing through hard times having declared itself bankrupt in April last year. It had to turn to the IMF for a rescue package that would help pull the country out of the economic morass into which it had fallen - or been pushed into it - by mediocre governance and incompetent advisers.

His new relationship with Japan covers a broader canvas that surpasses bilateral relations though to a struggling Sri Lankan people burdened right now by high taxes, increasing tariffs on utilities and unbearably steep prices on domestic commodities, day to day existence presents the immediate priority.

Meanwhile small industries and businesses are shutting up unable to bear operating costs such as huge electricity rates and higher water rates to come - throwing people out of jobs.

At the same time, professionals such as doctors, engineers, surveyors and IT and technically qualified personnel are quitting the country having found employment abroad or in search of fresh opportunities both in the developed and developing world.

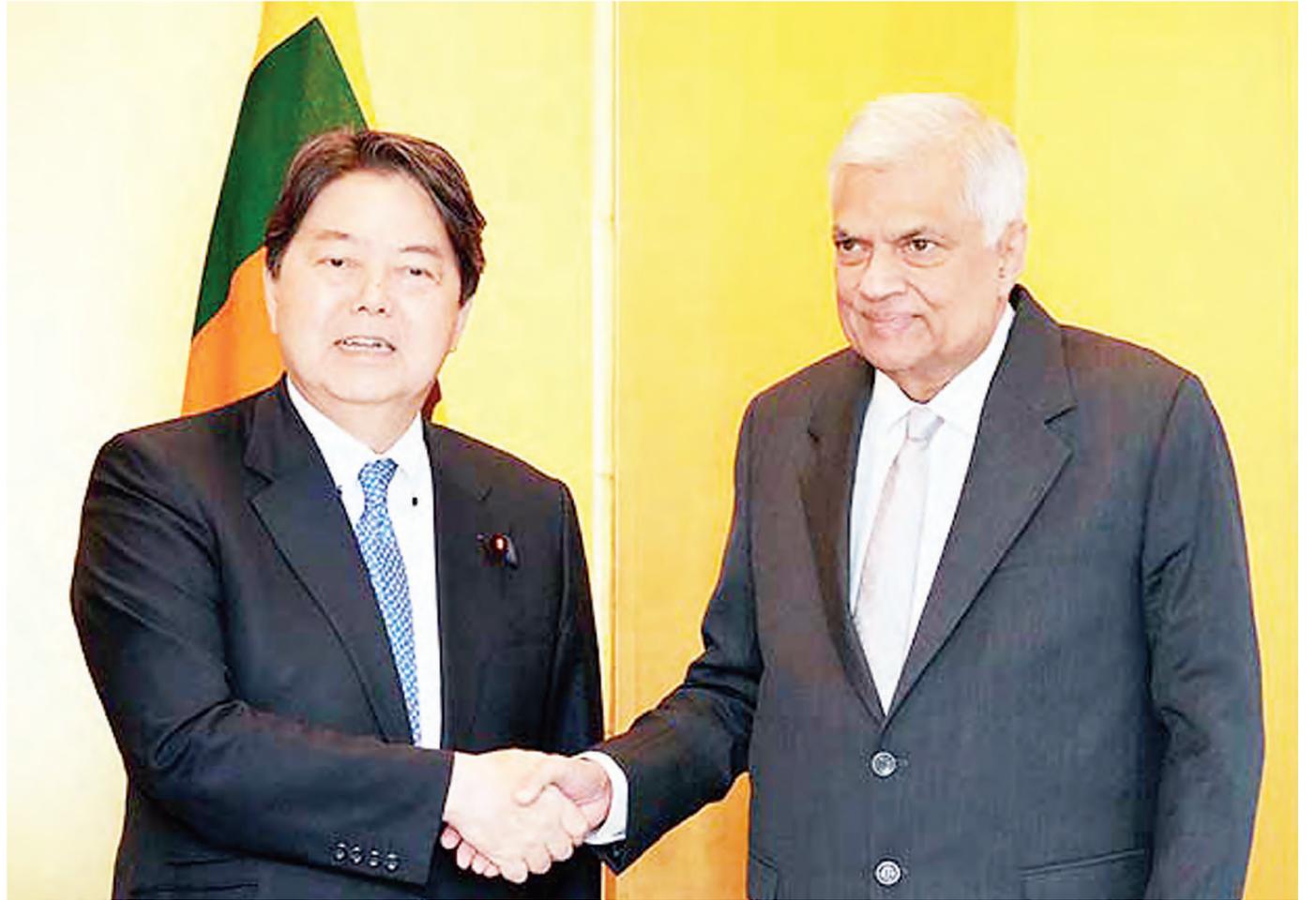
Japan has been particularly helpful in advocating Sri Lanka's case at the Paris Club on debt restructuring as called for in the IMF programme and has not joined hands with the west in castigating Sri Lanka at the UN Human Rights Council in Geneva as the US, UK, Canada and some European nations have done. Japan's approach has been more sober and benign.

Furthermore, Colombo, embroiled as it is in delicate diplomacy at a time when Indian Ocean politics is becoming more complicated and confrontational, sees Japan along with India and the west as a countervailing force to China's expanding naval activity and presence in the region.

But there are two other reasons that drive President Wickremesinghe's interest in establishing closer relations with Tokyo. One is national. The other personal though some might not see it that way.

The national motive is to create more distance in Sri Lanka's relations with China which had become too close for comfort under the Rajapaksas (both presidents Mahinda and Gotabaya) for a country that could find itself caught in a gathering geopolitical storm given its geostrategic location and China's continuing interest in widening its footprints and influence in Sri Lanka.

Xi Jinping and his ruling clan would rather see



On May 25, Hayashi Yoshimasa, Minister for Foreign Affairs of Japan, paid a courtesy call on Ranil Wickremesinghe, President of the Democratic Socialist Republic of Sri Lanka, who was visiting Japan to attend the Nikkei Forum May 28 on the "Future of Asia." Credit: Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Japan

the Rajapaksas back in the seats of power than Wickremesinghe who they consider pro-western in his thinking, especially pro-Washington.

Moreover, one may conclude that Wickremesinghe sees Japan as a more reliable friend and one without super power ambitions.

The other is the strong bond Japanese leaders have developed for and with Sri Lanka dating back to the 1951 San Francisco Conference when some 48 countries met to draft a post-war peace treaty for defeated Japan.

One wonders whether many modern-day observers realise the important role that Ceylon, as it was called then, played at that conference, largely due to the performance of Ceylon's then Finance Minister Junius Richard Jayewardene, popularly known as "JR".

Jayewardene, who earned the sobriquet "Yankee Dicky" at home for his pro-US proclivities and in 1978 was Sri Lanka's first executive president, was Ranil Wickremesinghe's uncle.

In an article former Sri Lanka Ambassador Bandu de Silva wrote some 8 years ago, he recalls the critical role Ceylon played at the time and an earlier meeting of the Commonwealth Foreign Ministers in Colombo that for the first time proposed that Japan be declared an independent nation.

Ambassador de Silva states that Wikipedia's account of the conference states Minister Jayewardene's

speech was received with resounding applause. Later, the New York Times wrote that "The voice of free Asia, eloquent, melancholy and still strong with the tilt of an Oxford accent, dominated the Japanese peace treaty conference today."

What is it that Minister Jayewardene said when the very future of Japan was being debated and discussed that has endured Japan's leaders and its people to a tiny Indian Ocean-island that itself suffered from Japanese air raids on Colombo in April 1942 and the British naval base in north eastern Trincomalee and had gained independence only three years earlier in 1948?

While some other nations called for curbs on Japan and demanded compensation for war-time damage Ceylon not only urged an independent Japan free to build its future and renounced its right to reparations from Japan.

"Hatred does not cease by hatred but by love", Jayewardene told the conference quoting the words of The Buddha. Interestingly Sri Lanka and Japan are both Buddhist countries though following two different schools.

Records show that when Japan offered to construct a new building for the Ceylon Embassy in Tokyo the Colombo government politely turned it down.

Perhaps the foundation of the friendship between the two nations is best set out by the Japanese ambas-

sador at the 50th Anniversary Commemoration of diplomatic relations held in Colombo in 2002.

Recalling JR Jayewardene's speech at the San Francisco Conference, Ambassador Seiichiro Otsuka said: "In the grim aftermath of the war, as Japan began to rise from the ashes and rebuild its nation, it was the government and people of Sri Lanka, then Ceylon, who extended their genuine hand of friendship to the Japanese people."

"Japan and the Japanese people have been indeed grateful to Sri Lanka for the friendship and magnanimity extended to us at the time of our difficulties by the government and people of Sri Lanka. It is in this spirit that Japan has stood firmly and steadfastly side by side with Sri Lanka as a true friend and a constructive partner for Sri Lanka's development. Indeed, 50 years of our cooperative bilateral relations has been guided, on our part, by this spirit which Mr Jayewardene spoke of at San Francisco on September 8, 1951...friendship and trust."

However, Minister Jayewardene's strong and clear support for Japan's independence might have had a setback for Ceylon elsewhere.

With the East-West Cold War beginning to get warmer, the Soviet Union proposed amendments to the Japan peace treaty that would have restricted Japan's freedom of action.

Ceylon's representative took upon himself to counter Soviet Union ob-

jections. At one point Jayewardene turned sarcastic saying the amendments with which the Soviet Union sought to "insure to the people of Japan the fundamental freedoms of expression, of press and publication, of religious worship, of political opinion and of public meeting - freedoms, which the people of the Soviet Union themselves would dearly love to possess and enjoy."

Some might well argue that Moscow took its revenge on Ceylon for Jayewardene's public rebuke by blocking Ceylon's admission as a member to the United Nations for some years, arguing that Ceylon was not an independent country as it had a defence treaty with the UK.

How Ceylon gained admission to the UN in 1956 is the result of a quid pro quo with Moscow. But that is another story.

Neville de Silva is a veteran Sri Lankan journalist who held senior roles in Hong Kong at The Standard and worked in London for Gemini News Service. He has been a correspondent for the foreign media including the New York Times and Le Monde. More recently he was Sri Lanka's Deputy High Commissioner in London.

CAPITAL RADIO

RATIBA YA VIPINDI JUMATATU - JUMAPILI

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

Tembelea mitandao ya kijamii ya CAPITAL RADIO



CAPITAL RADIO

Law making process is about consensus, says Dr Ndumbaro

IN recent years, the government has been making some of the notable changes in the judicial system to enhance justice dispensation. Our Correspondent Rose Mwalongo interviewed Minister for Constitutional and Legal Affairs Dr Damas Ndumbaro (pictured) on the government's stance in some of the burning issues within the legal framework. Excerpts.

Q: During the most recent Parliamentary session, your ministry was quoted to have said it was going to table a Bill for the amendment of the Marriage Act of 1971. However, a few days ago we saw a schedule of amendment without the Bill, any change of plans for your part?

A: The government is still collecting views in regard to the Marriage Act of 1971.

Last time we met with MPs, religious institutions, the Muslim Council of Tanzania, Sheikh Issa Ponda and others. We thought the process was complete during a national dialogue to discuss the Marriage Act but we received a lot of views from several stakeholders in the Parliament and they are still coming out. We cannot close our doors because if we rush they will say we denied them the chance to do so.

Q: What if the process takes ages let us say until next year what would the government do?

A: Law making process is about consensus and we need it especially in this law which is sensitive as it touches religious beliefs. As a government we will listen to each person and we will take aboard the majority views.

Q: There are several laws that are outdated, one being the Prisons Act of 1967. Any plans to



amend the same to allow members of the press to have access to news on prisons to tell the untold stories of prisoners some of whom could be innocent?

A: We need to ponder carefully in which context we want our laws on prisons to be. There are a lot of perspectives on prisons in the world, one being the US and UK who do not allow media to the prisons as well as the Scandinavian

countries which are liberal and allow prisoners to work outside and return to the cell at the end of the day. The prison is a restricted area no wonder the law is the way it is. Needless to say, the Ministry of Home affairs is the custodian of the law and will be in a better position to talk about it as we have 487 laws divided in various ministries and institutions.

Q: Tanzania still retains the death penalty in its country books. Any

plans to abolish the mandatory imposition of the capital punishment taking into consideration that there is enough evidence to show that not everyone in prison is a criminal and that some may be there simply because they failed to pay a good defense lawyer to defend them in court?

A: The law emanates not from the government's will but rather the society and what the society needs at that particu-

lar time. There has been so much pressure from stakeholders inside and outside the country to abolish the death penalty. Capital punishment has divided a lot of countries in the world. For instance, in the US, some states implement and some don't. We have people who want capital punishment and some who don't want it. The government listens to views from all sides, weighs them and takes aboard majority views. At the moment, capital punishment is still in our country's books.

Q: It is in the records that the Nyalali Commission made a recommendation for the country to abolish the death penalty. It is also on record that the Law Reform Commission was once assigned to collect public views in regard to the death penalty but its findings were never made public. During the Universal Periodic Review, the government was also quoted as saying that consultation was still in progress on whether to abolish or retain the death penalty. Any plans to do so in the near future?

A: The government still continues to improve our laws and has empowered the Law Reform Commission to work, review country laws and advise it accordingly. The Law Reform Commission has been engaging in research of various laws where it will advise the government on the best approach.

Zimbabwean smallholder farmers take up the baton to export peas

By Carolize Jansen

ZIMBABWEAN pea exporters are unable to meet the demand for peas from the UK and The Netherlands this season, which is why now would be a propitious time to open a vegetable packing facility to pack the export and local product of smallholder farmers.

In fact, the largest export packing facility in Southern Zimbabwe and arguably the largest packing facility for smallholder export growers in the country, according to Emmanuel Dube, an agronomist and Agricultural Value Chains Coordinator at Tech-

noserve, will open 350km from Harare near Chachacha growth point at the end of June or beginning July 2023.

Anglo-American, which aims to "re-imagine" mining at their Unki platinum mine in Zimbabwe's Midlands Province, funds the Takura project. For this purpose, the company contracted Technoserve as its implementing partner to upscale the activities of existing smallholder farmers in mining communities within the mine's zone of influence.

"We always try to keep as much wild vegetation around the project as we can. We have a policy to try

and reduce deforestation as much as possible. In addition we support all beneficiaries to plant trees around their fields/irrigation schemes for sustainability purposes," Emmanuel said.

Around 300 smallholder growers who used to grow maize (corn), cabbage, tomatoes and onions for local production, now in addition grow mangetout and sugar snap peas for export, with fine beans, chillies and baby corn possibly added next summer.

"A very big gap has opened in the pea export sector which represents an opportunity for small scale farmers

to get into the export markets," Emmanuel observes. "Currently we're unable to meet the demand."

The Technoserve technical team who have over 40 years' cumulative experience are responsible for the horticultural division of the project which, when this packhouse is finished, will be able to supply directly to clients in the UK and Europe.

The project encompasses seven irrigation schemes, some of whom benefit from load shedding exemption granted to winter wheat production in the same area.

Emmanuel remarks that electricity supply in Zimba-

bwe, even though they too have had load shedding for many years, is "way better" than in South Africa.

"We are looking for new markets to absorb products from smallholder farmers. We can grow a wide range of crops apart from peas, like fine beans, sweet corn, chillies, passion fruit, baby vegetables, depending on the market. We have a beautiful climate here in Zimbabwe and we try as much as possible to own the value chain."

He points out that export earnings from a piece of land as small as 0.05 hectare the economic outlook of a household is drastically

changed.

He explains that through exports, a small-scale grower can earn easily five times more than before and the new pack house will increase the returns even more.

"We've had very good success stories. One farmer Tendenda Gonye from the Gonye irrigation scheme, who is a beneficiary of the project, told me he was now able to send his daughter to university from the earnings gained from exporting peas."

The project's infrastructure remains in possession of the community when Technoserve or Anglo American withdraw through its own-

ership by the Takura Trust in which communities are directly represented.

Emmanuel notes that Harare is still the destination for airfreight produce. Maputo has "huge potential" as an alternative to sea freight exports through South Africa's ports.

"It would cut down on distance and costs. The road network from Windhoek in Namibia, running through Zimbabwe all the way to Maputo is very good. It is one of the best road networks in the country, funded by the Southern African Development Community and privately maintained," he says.

WHO: Grow food, not tobacco, to rein in TB

By Guardian Reporter

THE World Health Organisation (WHO) has urged countries to strengthen collaboration between Tuberculosis (TB) and tobacco control programmes with relevant sectors in planning and implementation of holistic people-centred services to reduce deaths and suffering due to TB and tobacco smoking.

Dr Tereza Kasava, Director of WHO Global Tuberculosis Programme said the WHO's End TB Strategy emphasises the need for action on TB and comorbidities, including tobacco smoking.

Nutrition and tobacco use are major determinants of TB globally.

In 2021, of the 10.6 million people who fell ill with TB, 2.2 million were attributable to under nutrition and nearly 0.7 million to tobacco smoking.

At the 2018 UN High Level Meeting on TB, member states committed to assuring health services that address tobacco use as part of a comprehensive package of TB services.

"This requires close partnership between TB programmes and tobacco control programmes, and the

engagement of all key stakeholders to scale up implementation of WHO recommendations on TB and on tobacco cessation to meet this commitment. The WHO Framework for collaborative action on TB and comorbidities provides guidance on strengthening people-centred services for TB and comorbidities, including tobacco smoking," said Dr Kasava.

People who smoke tobacco have double the risk of TB disease, slower recovery, and a higher risk of unfavourable TB treatment outcomes, including recurrence of TB, death, and post-TB pulmonary and cardiovascular disease.

Smoking cessation during TB treatment can improve treatment outcomes and has been shown to reduce the risk of TB infection and TB disease among household contacts as well. Improving food security and reducing tobacco smoking globally will therefore contribute significantly to the fight to end TB.

The theme of this year's World No Tobacco Day campaign was 'Grow food, not tobacco' provides an opportunity to highlight the critical role of these interlinked determinants of



health, including TB, and the need for collective multisectoral action to address them. The theme encourages governments to end subsidies for tobacco growing and use these savings to transform farming practices to contribute to improved food security and nutrition.

The upcoming second UN High-Level Meeting on TB provides an opportunity to reaffirm and strengthen these commitments and accelerate progress to end TB.

In the context of increasing global food insecurity due to climate change and international conflict, a shift from tobacco farming towards growing sustainable food crops can significantly impact the health and wellbeing of populations.

Sustained efforts to reduce tobacco smoking and improve global food security can contribute to ending TB and achieving Health for All, and to progress towards the Sustainable Development Goals. World No Tobacco Day is commemorated on May 31st to draw global attention to the tobacco epidemic and the preventable suffering, disease, and deaths it causes.

45 pct of South Africans feel unsafe in public places - survey

JOHANNESBURG

ABOUT 45 percent of South Africans feel "most unsafe" in outdoor public spaces while 7 percent feel "not safe at all" in their homes, ac-

ording to a survey made by the Automobile Association of South Africa.

Only 31 percent of South Africans feel either "mostly safe" or "completely safe" in the country, the association said in its latest state of security report released Tuesday.

The association said they conducted the survey in March and April this year with 1,438 respondents to determine direct feedback on personal security in South Africa. About 76 per-

cent of the respondents reported being a victim of a crime in South Africa, according to the findings.

About 88 percent of the respondents said they believe crime will increase in the future, with many spend-

ing money on personal security such as more burglar bars, alarm systems and security cameras at their homes, said Willem Groenewald, chief executive officer of the association.

Official data released Tuesday by

the South African police authority showed that a total of 6,289 people were murdered in the country in the first quarter of 2023, a 3.4-percent increase from the level recorded in the same period last year.

What sub-Saharan African nations can teach the US about black maternal health

By Ifeanyi Nsofor

NEW research shows that Black mothers in the United States disproportionately live in counties with higher maternal vulnerability and face greater risk of preterm death for the fetus, greater risk of low birth weight for a baby, and a higher number of maternal deaths.

While poor maternal outcomes among Black women in the U.S. is not new, improving it is imperative. U.S. policymakers can look to sub-Saharan Africa for guidance on reversing this trend.

The problem of poor maternal health for Black women in the U.S. is dire. Too many Black women die during pregnancy and childbirth due to preventable causes. For instance, the 2020 maternal mortality data rates released by the U.S. Centers for Disease Control showed overwhelming maternal deaths among Black women compared to other women over a 3-year period (2018 - 2020).

To put it in context, maternal deaths among Black women in the U.S. is worse than African countries like Namibia, Botswana, South Africa, Libya, Tunisia and Egypt.

Further, according to the Kaiser Family Foundation, maternal and infant health disparities are symptoms of broader underlying social and economic inequities that are rooted in racism and discrimination.

In a previous piece, I wrote about the way that institutionalized racism is keeping Black Americans sick. Therefore, healthcare providers and policymakers across the U.S. must ensure respectful maternity care for all women during pregnancy, childbirth and afterwards.

The United Nations Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights says respectful maternity care "encompasses respect for women's basic human rights, including recognition of and support for women's autonomy, dignity, feelings, choices, and preferences, such as choice of companionship wherever possible."

Unfortunately, there is overwhelming evidence that Black American women face disrespect and profound indignity during pregnancy and childbirth. Tennis player and businesswoman Serena Williams almost died due to blood clots after giving birth because her nurse refused to listen to her cry for help. That clot could have led to a stroke. Her doctor eventually listened to her, and this saved her. If one of the most influential and most powerful women can have such a near-death experience, what is the fate of other Black American women who are not as privileged? Respectful maternity care is a way to ensure equity irrespective of class and race.

These are three lessons American policymakers can learn from successful maternal health projects across countries in sub-Saharan Africa as they try to save Black American lives.

First, is the continuum of care - prevention of postpartum hemorrhage project, implemented by Pathfinder International in Nigeria. It was a novel project that deployed several evidence-based interventions to prevent excessive bleeding after childbirth across the country.

These included the use of misoprostol to ensure adequate uterine contraction after the delivery of the baby; use of a plastic sheet with a pouch for blood loss estimation and active management of the third stage of labor to ensure the placenta is properly separated after the baby is delivered. These interventions led to a reduction in women who bled excessively after childbirth and improved the overall survival of women in participating health facilities.

For example, a new study on the efficacy of the plastic sheet carried out in 80 hospitals across 4 African countries, showed a reduction in the number of women experiencing severe bleeding by 60%.

A second example is the maternal nutrition program, implemented by Garden Health International in Rwanda. Adequate nutrition during pregnancy is imperative for the wellbeing of the unborn child.

The first 1000 days of life are even more crucial. Through the Maternal Nutrition curriculum, pregnant women are encouraged to attend antenatal classes at



While poor maternal outcomes among black women in the U.S. is not new, improving it is imperative. U.S. policymakers can look to sub-Saharan Africa for guidance on reversing this trend. Credit: Ernest Ankomah/IPS

least four times in health facilities where they are educated on how to address the factors that can contribute to malnutrition. Women are taught how to prepare a balanced meal, the importance of hygiene and food safety in preventing malnutrition, the importance of the timely introduction of breastfeeding and complementary feeding, and postnatal care.

For instance, through the "one pot, one hour" cooking initiative, families are taught to use readily available foods

to prepare nutritious meals is a core component of this program. Its success led to its adoption by the Rwandan Ministry of Health and it was implemented by 44,000 community health workers across the country.

A last example is the Kangaroo Mother Care for very low birth weight infants in South Africa. Very low birth weight infants are prone to hypothermia - a significant and potentially dangerous drop in body temperature.

According to the WHO, Kan-

garoo Mother Care involves infants being carried, usually by the mother, with skin-to-skin contact. If the mother is unable to fulfill the role, the father or other members of the family can take on the responsibility of skin-to-skin contact and provide warmth for the infant. A study of Kangaroo mother care of 981 very low birth weight infants admitted at Charlotte Maxeke Johannesburg Academic Hospital over a six-year period showed increased weight gain, lower rates of com-

plications of prematurity and low overall mortality. A multi-country study by the World Health Organization showed that in Ethiopia, government leadership; an understanding by health workers that kangaroo mother care is the standard of care; and acceptance of the practice from women and families helped improve the implementation of kangaroo mother care. Institutionalized racism over many decades has put Black Americans in the most vul-

nerable counties in the U.S. Health policymakers, healthcare providers, donors, non-profit organisations and all stakeholders involved in maternal healthcare in the U.S. must implement interventions that are shown to save lives. The African continent is a great place to look.

Dr Ifeanyi M. Nsofor, MBBS, MCommH (Liverpool) is Senior New Voices Fellow at the Aspen Institute, Senior Atlantic Fellow for Health Equity at George Washington University, 2006 Ford Foundation International Fellow



RADIO One

RATIBA YA VIPINDI

JUMATATU - JUMAPILI

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



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BUSINESS



The OPEC logo pictured ahead of an informal meeting between members of the Organization of the Petroleum Exporting Countries (OPEC) in Algiers

OPEC+ unlikely to cut oil supply at June 4 meeting

LONDON/DUBAI

OPEC and its allies are unlikely to deepen supply cuts at their ministerial meeting on Sunday despite a fall in oil prices toward \$70 per barrel, four sources from the alliance told Reuters.

OPEC+, which groups the Organization of the Petroleum Exporting Countries and allies led by Russia, pumps around 40 percent of the world's crude and supplies around 60 percent of the oil export market, meaning its policy decisions can have a major price impact.

As the economic outlook worsened, several members of OPEC+ in April pledged voluntary cuts starting from May and to continue to the end of the year.

This was in addition to a 2 million barrels per day (bpd) cut agreed in early October to output targets versus an August 2022 production baseline. It brought total output cuts to 3.66 million bpd, or about 4% of global consumption.

The group of late has cut by more than its targets mainly because of capacity limitations in West African producers Nigeria and Angola.

A Reuters survey found the two countries missed their output targets by a combined 600,000 bpd in May, while outages in the Kurdistan Region of northern Iraq meant the country produced 220,000 bpd below its target last month.

The surprise announcement in April helped to drive benchmark Brent crude prices about \$9 per barrel higher to above \$87 over the days followed, but Brent has since lost those gains to trade below \$73, under pressure from concerns about global economic growth

and its impact on fuel demand.

Last week, Saudi Energy Minister Prince Abdulaziz bin Salman told investors he said were shorting the oil price to "watch out," which many market watchers interpreted as a warning of additional supply cuts.

Russian Deputy Prime Minister Alexander Novak subsequently said he did not expect any new steps from OPEC+ in Vienna, Russian media reported.

The Kremlin on Thursday did not comment on the meeting's outcome, but Kremlin spokesman Dmitry Peskov said relations with Saudi Arabia were "constructive, based on mutual understanding, mutual respect, mutual trust". "At this precise time, no change for the meeting but as usual, depending on the mood of some, everything can change," one OPEC+ source said. This view was echoed by three other sources, all of whom asked not to be named.

Two other sources said it was too soon to be sure of the meeting's outcome.

Beyond the unexpected April decision, the group has surprised markets several times in recent years.

In March 2020, it abandoned production quotas altogether, launching a Saudi-Russian price war at the onset of the COVID-19 pandemic that sent oil prices 25% lower.

It quickly re-established quotas with its biggest output cut to date of about 10 million bpd, agreed in April, 2020.

HSBC said in a note on Wednesday it did not expect OPEC+ to change its policy, but that the group may cut output later if an expected market deficit in the second half of the year does not materialise and prices remain below \$80 per barrel.

KQ averts loss of Sh310 million aircraft deposit

NAIROBI

Kenya Airways (KQ) has secured an extension of the validity period for a Sh310 million non-refundable deposit to Boeing, helping the national carrier avoid another hit to its bottom line.

KQ chief executive Allan Kilavuka, on Thursday, executed the extension that will last for at least a year.

The move has helped the national carrier avoid a further dent in its books at a time KQ slid into a full-year loss of Sh36.26 billion in the year ended December.

Kenya Airways made the deposit to the US plane maker to buy new crafts and boost its fleet amid stiff competition from continental rivals mainly, Ethiopian Airlines.

"Yes we have agreed to an extension with Boeing," Kilavuka told Business Daily.

"The extension would be for at least one year to mid-next year. The extension is not limited to new aircraft but for any service or good from Boeing."

KQ had in its annual report for last year said it risked losing the money given deposits made for plane purchases are not refundable if a carrier fails to make the buy.

The deposit had risen from Sh280 million in 2021, although KQ did not disclose whether the increase was due to additional cash being put in or due to exchange rate movements of the shilling against the dollar.

KQ more than doubled its loss from Sh15.87 billion in the year to December 2021 at the back of skyrocketing fuel prices and debt, further making it hard for the airline to buy new aircraft.

Kilavuka, however, declined to reveal the number of new aircraft that KQ is eyeing and the timelines amid growing losses that have placed the airline in a shaky financial state.

Rivals such as Ethiopian Airlines have been on an ambitious plan to grow their fleet and maintain an edge in Africa's aviation industry by offering passengers new experiences.

Ethiopian Airlines last year converted existing orders of A350-900 for the A350-1000 model, making it the first African carrier, yet again to own the largest variant of the Airbus A350 models further pulling clear of KQ.

Ethiopian Airlines has the largest fleet in Africa, including Boeing and Bombardier planes and remains keen to further grow the fleet.

NFRA's food stocks now deep to 33 months low

By Guardian Reporter

Food stocks held by the National Food Reserve Agency (NFRA) decreased to 63,808 tonnes by April this year, the lowest in 33 months, according to data released on the Bank of Tanzania (BoT) monthly economic review for May.

The NFRA say the decrease resulted from ongoing supply of foods to councils with food shortages at subsidized prices to ensure stability of prices and accessibility of food.

In April 2023, the agency said it sold a total of 16,315 tonnes of maize to the district councils facing the shortages, which has resulted into price spiral of food commodities.

NFRA started the year with 124,736 tonnes of food stocks, the lowest than 207,899 tonnes recorded during the start of last year.

According to the report by the ministry of investment, industry and trade the wholesale price of maize reached 108,048/- per 100 kilogramme in April this year, compared with 62,542/- recorded during similar month last year.

The price of rice also increased during the period reported to 300,067/- per 100 kilogramme from 188,079/- respectively, while the wholesale price of the same quantity of beans also jumped to 278,991/- from 185,343/- respectively.

According to the ministry's re-



port, the wholesale price of sorghum went up to 148,010/- in April 2023, compared with 116,560/- recorded during similar month of last year while the price of round potatoes increased to 98,158/- from 76,241/- respectively.

However, the central bank re-

ports that there has been an improvement of food supply amid harvest season, although this has not much reflected to retail prices.

Food inflation, inclusive of non-alcoholic beverages, slowed down to 9.1 percent in April 2023

from 9.7 percent in the preceding month, reflecting improvement in food supply situation, according to BoT.

"Prices of all selected major food crops, except rice and round potatoes, eased compared with prices in March 2023," it says.



Minister of agriculture Hussein Bashe

Seeds agency, ministry work to reducing wheat shortages

By Correspondent Valentine Oforo, Makete

THE Tanzania's wheat sub-sector is inching towards good era following a move by the Tanzania Agricultural Seeds Agency (ASA) to enter into a special production cooperation with the Makete District in Njombe region for the mass production of the economic cash crop.

In the timely working tie, which primarily eyes to bridge availability of the crop in the country, in this growing season, ASA has rolled out at least 80 tons of improved wheat seeds, worth at 340mn/- to support the growers in the district to heighten their production and productivity.

Speaking to The Guardian on the sideline of a brief signing ceremony of the vital development, ASA's seeds

production manager, Dr. Justin Ringo, expressed that the state-owned seed Agency, ASA, was working to help the county to curtail shortage of wheat, the daily common consumed food item.

"Knowing that our core responsibility is to multiply improved seeds varieties, we thought it was prudent for us to venture into a specific project to support the wheat sector in Njombe district, as we formally did in the other few regions," he said.

Impeccable data from the National Bureau of Statistics (NBS) shows that Tanzania's annual domestic wheat consumption is estimated at more than 1 million tonnes per year, while total annual production stands at around 93,184 tonnes.

This means that Tanzania imports about 90 percent of the wheat it consumes.

However, to cement the move, the ministry of agriculture had specifically embarked on a fresh move aimed to revive and improve production of wheat in the country.

Being among potential economic cash crops within the country, wheat has been mostly grown by the smallholder farmers in the North regions, specifically in Kilimanjaro, Arusha, and Manyara.

According to the Agriculture Minister, Hussein Bashe, the ministry is working teeth and nail to help support improvement of the vital economic sector.

He said, being at the ministry's wheat major pilot project, the agricultural experts from the Sokoine University of Agriculture (SUA) are teaming up with their counterparts from the Tanzania Agricultural Research Institute (TARI) in conducting professional

soil testing at Makete District, Njombe region.

"The undergoing process focuses to determine areas within the district where wheat can thrive," he informed.

He moreover said the exercise will see a huge number of farmers within the district imparted with the best agronomic principles for the professional cultivation of the crop.

"The major focus of the strategy is to ensure we make effective use of all areas within the country where wheat can flourish. After Makete, we're focusing to end the intervention into further areas," he stated.

He detailed that, Tanzania has been endowed with numerous areas where wheat can flourish in abundant, but the economic cash crop has been produced poorly in some few regions.

Uganda gov't to clampdown on underweight bread

KAMPALA

The government has announced a countrywide clampdown on the sale and production of underweight bread.

According to the Uganda National Bureau of Standards (UNBS), the measure is in a bid to control unfair business practices and protect the consumers in the country.

"We urge all producers to check on what is going out of their production lines to ensure that it conforms to the quantities on the packaging label," Lawrence Kitimbo, the senior legal metrologist for Uganda National Bureau of Standards (UNBS) said.

"If we find anybody displaying or transporting bread that is underweight or does not conform to the quantity or grade displayed on the package, we shall be taking action against you, including instituting disciplinary measures in courts of law".

He said the development comes following countrywide complaints regarding quantities being sold on the Ugandan market.

He said while there have also been complaints regarding the weights of other products



such as maize flour, snacks, and cement, "the most notorious ones are bread makers".

"We want to minimize underweight because it not only goes against the law but it also creates unfair competition," he said.

He was speaking during a stakeholder engagement meeting regarding prepackaging at the entity's headquarters in Bweyogerere in Kampala on Tuesday.

Some of the stakeholders in attendance at the event included manufacturers, importers, and traders of pack-

aged food and non-food products.

Pre-packaged goods are items that have been prepared, weighed, and packed in the absence of the customer, for sale.

Kitimbo said while the bread produced in the supermarkets complies, the ones that are "packed and sold elsewhere, including small retail businesses, are not complying."

When contacted, some players acknowledged the problem and

noted it is used as a way to gain unfair advantage and cheat customers, others said sometimes the bread ends up on the market inadvertently due to the high moisture content in bread.

"To counter that (underweight problem), sometimes we make sure that what comes out of the oven is over and above the stipulated weight on the packaging," said Livingstone Kalyowa, a manager at Everbrown Bread and

Cakes.

He said unlike the bread manufactured in supermarkets, their bread is made to last longer on the shelf, which results in it shrinking not only in size but also in weight.

Deus Mubabagizi, the manager of National Metrology Laboratories, said that sometimes the underweights come from manufacturers not seeking routine calibration of the weighting equipment used in the

production as required under the law.

He urged producers to do so as this is in their interest and also helps to protect the public against the consequences of inaccurate readings.

"If you are, for example, using the thermometer in a hospital, it will ensure what you are trying to diagnose is what you intend to treat," he said during the meeting on Tuesday.

He added: "If you are saying, for example, that a human being should be 37 degree Celsius, then you bring faulty equipment, and it reads 38 degrees, he said, adding that through calibration they ensure that the measurements are in the accurate range and safeguard health and safety.

Dr Leticia Namubiru, the Manager of Legal Metrology at UNBS, called for the amendment of the Weights and Measures Act, noting that it has outlived its usefulness.

She said the old law which was produced in 1965 has a limited scope, and cannot, for example, cover areas such as health.

He says, as a result, hospitals and health centres that send

their equipment are doing so voluntarily, yet it is very crucial to ensure that the equipment that takes measurements is accurate.

"We have the Legal Metrology Bill that is in Parliament, which we are optimistic that the president will assent to so it can become law," she said, adding that the law will promote environment and health safety.

UNBS is charged with enforcing Weights and Measures Act Cap 103 in what is known as Legal Metrology.

The role of UNBS is to maintain a uniform measurement system in line with globally accepted standards in verification results.

It is an important aspect of compliance and conformity assessment.

Tesla quietly increases EV discounts in US

NEW YORK

Tesla (TSLA) has once again whittled away its prices on US inventory vehicles to entice consumers, with some discounts for Model 3 vehicles doubling. TSLA shook off early losses and jumped Thursday moving just below a buy point.

The global EV company is now offering discounts of up to around \$2,680 on rear-wheel-drive Model 3 new inventory vehicles in the US. The new deal is double the \$1,300 discount Tesla began offering almost two weeks ago.

A base rear-wheel-trim Model 3 in the US currently has a starting price of \$37,830, according to Tesla's website. Tesla also resumed a \$600 discount on some Model Y options Wednesday.

Tesla stock fell early before advancing 1.8 percent to 207.52 Thursday during market trade. Shares reversed higher Wednesday on the possibility Tesla would unveil an upgraded Model 3 at its Shanghai plant.

Tesla has recently tried to work through its supply of unsold vehicles, offering deals on its US Model 3 lineup. Calling the moves "inventory discounts," Tesla contends they are not official price cuts. However, the moves point to surplus in unsold vehicles and the effect on profit margins is the same.

On May 19, TSLA started offering discounts of around \$1,300 on new rear-wheel drive Model 3 inventory in the US. The EV company extended discounts of up to around \$2,800 for some all-wheel-drive Model 3 vehicles. However, the vast majority of AWD Model 3 cars had discounts of \$250.

This comes after Tesla reported a big first-quarter earnings decline while revenue missed views. Profit margins for the global EV giant also fell below 20 percent as the company executed an aggressive price-slashing strategy in the first part of 2023.

The EV company's total gross profit came in at \$4.5 billion, with Tesla's profit gross margin at 19.3 percent, down from 23.8 percent in the fourth quarter and 29.1 percent a year earlier.

Auto gross margins, excluding regulatory credits and leases, skidded to 18.3 percent from 23.8 percent in the fourth quarter. That remains below the 20 percent gross margin "floor" Tesla previously targeted.

Musk told TSLA shareholders the company has been cutting vehicle prices to match demand in 2023.

China's yuan may slip further to aid recovery - analysts

SHANGHAI/SINGAPORE

China's yuan has skidded to six-month lows against the dollar and analysts say it could weaken further as investors fret over a bumpy pandemic recovery in the world's second-largest economy.

Disappointing economic data, widening yield differentials with the United States, upcoming corporate dividend payments and continued capital outflows through foreign selling of stocks and bonds have combined to drag the currency down to levels last seen in November.

The yuan has depreciated more than 5 percent against the surging dollar since the highs hit in January, when global markets embraced China's border reopening, and is one of the worst performing Asian currencies this year. It last traded at 7.0585 per dollar on Friday.

"The yuan suffers as China's reopening story is less appealing than before, and there is no sign of further stimulus," said Gary Ng, senior economist for Asia Pacific at Natixis.

"A weaker currency at the current juncture can help export performance, especially as global trade is shrinking this year."

Exports have been one of the few bright spots for the Chinese economy over the past few years but new orders have been falling in recent months amid softening

global demand.

Sources told Reuters that the commerce ministry has asked exporters, importers and banks recently about their currency strategies and how a weakening yuan could affect their businesses.

To be sure, the central bank has ample policy tools to prevent excess currency movements. The People's Bank of China (PBOC) said last month that it will resolutely curb large fluctuations in the exchange rate and study the strengthening of self-regulation of dollar deposits.

"Expectations of financial institutions, enterprises and residents on the exchange rate are generally stable, which is a solid foundation and strong guarantee for the smooth operation of the foreign exchange market," the central bank said in the statement.

However, despite the yuan's quickening tumble over the past month, traders have only reported a few occasions when state banks have been suspected of stepping in to support the currency.

The PBOC did not immediately respond to Reuters request for comments.

"The PBOC essentially appears content to let the rising U.S. dollar buoy USD/CNY higher, amid China's fading growth momentum," said Alvin Tan, head of Asia FX strategy at RBC Capital Markets.

"After all, currency deprecia-



tion is a form of monetary easing," Tan said, maintaining his forecasts for the yuan to trade at 7.1 at the end of the third quarter before finishing the year at 7.05.

Tommy Wu, senior China economist at Commerzbank, also said the central bank "appears to tolerate a weaker yuan," noting its recent daily official yuan midpoint guidance rates have all come in line with market expectations.

Still, economists and analysts don't expect sharp falls from here on. Among half of a dozen of global investment houses surveyed by

Reuters this week, all said they don't foresee the yuan weakening beyond 7.3 this year, the lows hit in 2022 as strict anti-virus curbs battered the economy.

"A weaker yuan helps exporters when they convert the dollar receivables to yuan," said Barclays FX strategist Lemon Zhang. "But a weak currency expectation going forward is not helping capital flows, as investors are concerned about FX losses when they look at yuan-denominated assets."

A weaker yuan might also temper deflationary pressures being

seen in parts of the economy due to weak domestic demand.

However, implied volatility for the currency, an options market gauge of future volatility, has been fairly stable. The one-month tenor stood at 4.5, the highest since April. And six-month yuan traded in forwards market was priced at 6.96 per dollar.

Some market watchers suspect the PBOC could set a cap on dollar deposit rates, a move that could encourage companies to liquidate their large dollar positions to ease downside pressure on the yuan.

I&M injects 8,219,000 in Ugandan subsidy to shore up capital

NAIROBI

I&M Group last year invested an additional Sh821.26 million in the Uganda unit, pointing to the continued focus on complying with the revised minimum capital requirements.

The group says in the latest annual report that it made a direct additional investment of Sh538.89 million and a further Sh282.4 million through the conversion of preference shares in I&M Uganda into paid-up capital.

The additional investment made last year adds to the Sh995.84 million that the group put in the Uganda unit a year earlier, coming in the period the banking regulator made changes requiring banks to raise capital levels.

The Bank of Uganda, which

is the regulator, last year issued the Financial Institutions (Revision of Minimum Capital Requirements) instrument 2022 requiring banks to have the minimum paid-up cash capital at Ushs120 billion (Sh4.4 billion) by December last year and Ushs150 billion (Sh5.5 billion), by the end of June next year.

The regulations also required banks to close last year with the minimum core capital—capital funds unimpaired by losses—at Sh4.4 billion and raise it to not less than Sh5.5 billion, by the end of June next year.

The two transactions, when added to the Sh3.29 billion that I&M Group in April 2021 paid for a 90 percent stake in I&M Uganda (formerly trading as Orient Bank Uganda), raised the cumulative investment to Sh5.11 billion.

The change in capital requirements in Uganda however left the Uganda unit in breach of the core minimum capital at the end of the year.

I&M Uganda closed last year with a core capital equivalent of Sh2.7 billion against the required minimum of Sh4.4 billion, translating to a Sh1.69 billion breach.

The requirement for the minimum core capital to be at 5.5 billion by the end of June next year means I&M Group will have to put in an additional investment of UShs76.06 billion (Sh2.79 billion).

The group discloses that the Uganda unit submitted a capital restoration plan to the regulator, committing to accelerate recoveries of significant bad loans, organically grow capital reserves

and inject fresh capital to ensure compliance by the end of this month.

"The actions were approved by the board of directors on February 13, 2023, and submitted to the Bank of Uganda on February 14, 2023. Bank of Uganda issued a non-objection to the bank's capital restoration plan on February 20, 2023," says the group.

I&M Bank Uganda closed last year with over 75,000 customers served by 11 branches and returned a profit after tax of Sh288 million last year, marking a turnaround from a net loss of Sh373 million a year earlier.

The improved performance in Uganda, Mauritius, and Rwanda helped I&M Group's net earnings to grow from Sh8.6 billion to Sh11.58 billion despite the loss in Tanzania.



Germany bids to rebuild Berlin's buzz for startups

BERLIN

Rising rents, less venture capital and a shortage of talent are taking the shine off Berlin as a hub for startups.

"The one single thing more difficult to find in Berlin than an apartment is a programmer," said Avitosh Sawhney, 36, who moved his tech startup Ynertia to the German capital from Paris in 2020 but found it did not offer the plentiful space, funding and workers that had once made the city so attractive.

The government has taken note, and is drawing up legislation to ensure the country and its capital stay attractive for entrepreneurs to help drive the economy of Europe's industrial powerhouse.

But Finance Minister Christian Lindner's proposals, which include tax allowances for shareholders in a bid to entice more startups, face headwinds from members of the ruling coalition. The Greens say the plans help the rich at the expense of those less well off.

Greens lawmaker Katharina Beck told Reuters that Lindner "cannot ask others to save and



then propose millions in tax cuts himself if he wants to draw up a serious budget for a sustainable Germany."

The German capital took off as a hub for startups after the fall of the Berlin Wall in 1989, when it offered lots of cheap living and office space, as well as a buzzing social scene that welcomed newcomers.

Berlin still has its attractions. A survey of would-be entrepreneurs by Startup Heatmap Eu-

rope showed 37% wanted to set up a business in Berlin, giving it the No. 1 popularity rank, although London is still top in overall rankings when taking into account everything from funding to talent availability.

London generated \$2 billion in venture capital funding in the first quarter of 2023, compared to Berlin's \$800 million, a DEEP Ecosystems analysis of Dealroom data showed.

In 2022, 501 startups were

founded in Berlin, a fifth of Germany's total.

But the city is now a tougher place for those trying to kick off a new business. Room rents rose faster last year than any other European city, hitting 800 euros (\$880) in the first quarter of 2023 up from 600 euros a year earlier, HousingAnywhere data showed.

With the average price of a one-bedroom apartment now 1,700 euros, it is just 11 euros below Paris. Higher rents drive away workers

and raise wage costs for startups, in a nation already facing an acute labour shortage.

"Today in Berlin, renting office space and salary costs place large financial burdens on companies, which makes it harder to continue to grow their technology," said Maximilian Tayenthal, who was a co-founder of N26, a digital bank that took off in Berlin a decade ago. A Manpower survey showed 86 percent of German companies reported trouble filling vacancies, the highest share among European countries and above the average of 77 percent. About a fifth of openings at startups were vacant and more than half were struggling to fill posts, German Startups Association said.

German banks, like other European institutions, have become more cautious in what the European Central Bank has described as the fastest net tightening of credit since 2011. In Germany, it has been accompanied by the sharpest contraction in venture capital funding in Europe in the past 12 months, down 42 percent.

"There is new caution and restraint on the part of venture capital investors, even if their current funds are still fundamentally well filled," German Startups Associa-

tion Managing Director Christoph Stresing said.

The funding crunch is hitting Germany's push to encourage the growth of new renewables businesses, given manufacturing startups are particularly capital intensive.

"As you scale very fast, you find yourself quickly in a situation in which the next climate tech facility you want to build has a value that's bigger than your own company's worth," said Tobias Lechtenfeld, spokesperson for the Tech for Net Zero Alliance, a network of climate tech startups and investors.

Chancellor Olaf Scholz's government aims to offer incentives to improve access to credit and talent with the Future of Financing Act. It will include proposals to simplify listing and post-listing requirements for startups and to digitalise capital markets. It also wants to increase the tax allowance for employee share ownership to 5,000 euros from 1,440 euros.

Startups particularly welcome the share ownership move, according to a Bitkom survey, as it would help attract talent when they are not able to offer high salaries.



Europe's unused coal heads to new shores in post-crisis glut

AMSTERDAM

Traders are seeking buyers for piles of unused coal before it becomes worthless after the fuel was hoarded to save Europe's economy from running out of power last year.

As concern over energy shortages eased following the continent's mild winter, imported thermal coal started to be re-loaded at European harbors for markets such as Morocco, Senegal and Guatemala – a reversal in the fossil fuel's usual flows.

All told, 1.12 million tons have been shipped out of Europe from Spain, the Netherlands and other ports this year, including a cargo of more than 145,000 tons to India in April. Smaller shipments have been sent on routes that would have been improbable in recent years.

"Some of this coal has been lying there for more than a year, and storage is precious," said Guillaume Perret, a coal market analyst at Perret Associates. After sitting open to the elements for months in outdoor storage, coal starts to degenerate and eventually becomes unusable.

The dynamic shows the ripple effects of Europe's energy crisis after the continent implemented emergency measures to counter the Kremlin's moves to slash gas supplies. As mothballed coal plants were brought back into service, traders jumped at the chance to buy fuel – much of it from Russia – to produce the continent's electricity.

But an influx of liquefied natural gas and mild winter temperatures meant most of it wasn't needed. In the end, the European Union actually burned 11% less coal compared to the previous winter, according to think-tank Ember.

The turnaround from scarcity

to glut has caused prices to deliver coal to the ports of Amsterdam, Rotterdam and Antwerp to tumble to just \$90 per ton, less than a quarter of last year's spike.

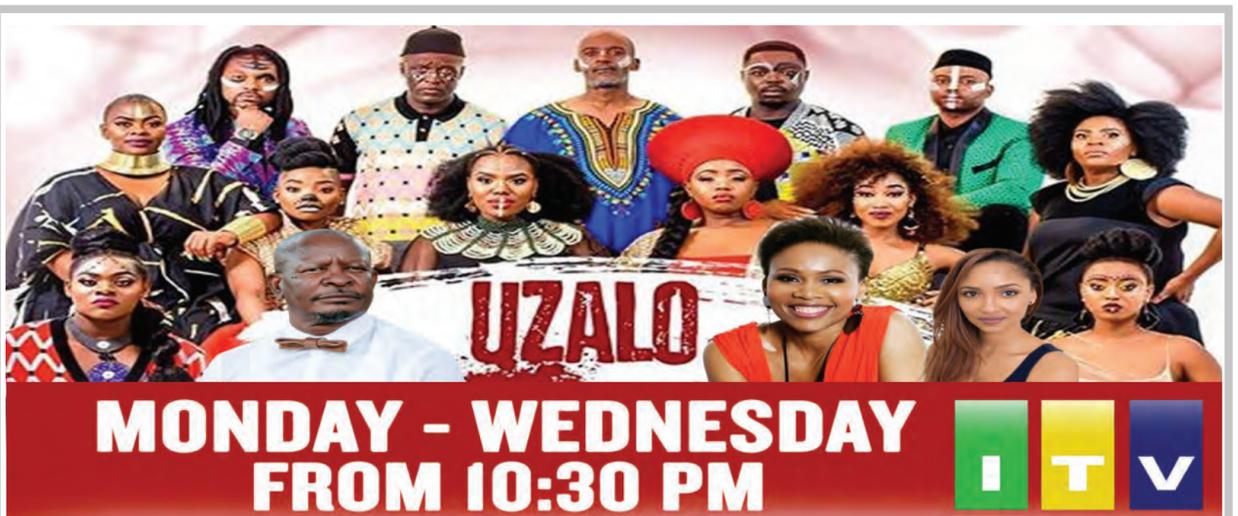
After running mines at full throttle and redirecting coal away from domestic power generation, suppliers as far away as Colombia, South Africa and Indonesia flooded Europe, which is still a strong net importer of coal despite the outflows. Buyers in the region were willing to pay a premium to keep the lights on – ignoring climate targets in the process. That same coal is now heading to new destinations.

"What is very unusual is to see flows from the Netherlands to Morocco and Spain to India," said Alex Claude, chief executive officer of analytics firm DBX Commodities in London and a former coal trader. "It's a sign there's less demand down the Rhine and more outside of Europe."

Selling on coal imported at sky-high prices into a depressed market may seem like a loss-making trade. But some who locked in prices using swaps, or cashing in on hedging the so-called dark spread, may still make a tidy profit.

The swaps involve securing revenues on the imported coal with counterparties, while utilities may pocket the difference from advance contracts sold for the power their coal was supposed to produce and paying current cheaper prices for the electricity.

The outflows are also a small supply boon for coal-hungry India and China, which on its own accounts for more than half of global consumption of the fuel. Despite analysts dialing down expectations of China's economic recovery, the country is on track to import a record of 360 million to 380 million tons this year.



IITV

MONDAY 29 May

5:00 Soap 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: In Love with Ramon rpt

9:55 Habari za saa
10:00 Watoto wetu
10:55 Habari za saa
11:00 ITV Top Ten
11:55 Habari za saa
12:00 Al Jazeera
12:30 Jungu Kuu
12:55 Habari za saa
13:00 Mjue Zaidi
13:40 Art and Lifestyle
13:55 Habari za saa
14:00 Art and Lifestyle
14:15 Soap rpt: Slay Queen
14:55 Habari za saa
15:00 Meza huru:
16:30 Watoto Wetu
17:00 Music: The Base
18:00 Jiji Letu
18:15 DW: Afrimaxx
18:45 Kipindi Maalum: Brela
19:00 Afa ya Jamii
19:30 Soap: In Love with Ramon
20:00 Habari
21:05 Dakika 45
22:00 Bundesliga na DW
22:15 Igizo: Mizengwe
22:30 Soap: Uzalo
23:00 Habari
23:30 Music: The Base
00:30 Al Jazeera
02:00 DWTV

TUESDAY 30 May

5:00 Soap 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: In Love with Ramon
10:00 Watoto wetu
10:25 Kipindi maalum: REA rpt
10:55 Habari za saa
11:00 Chetu ni chetu
11:35 Igizo: Mizengwe
11:55 Habari za saa
12:00 Al Jazeera
12:30 Soap: Uzalo
12:55 Habari za saa
13:00 Mjue Zaidi
13:40 Art and Lifestyle
13:55 Habari za saa
14:00 Art and Lifestyle
14:15 Soap rpt: Slay Queen
14:55 Habari za saa
15:00 Meza huru:
16:30 Watoto Wetu
17:00 Music: The Base
18:00 Jiji Letu
18:15 DW: Afrimaxx
18:45 Kipindi Maalum: Brela
19:00 Afa ya Jamii
19:30 Soap: In Love with Ramon
20:00 Habari
21:05 Dakika 45
22:00 Bundesliga na DW
22:15 Igizo: Mizengwe
22:30 Soap: Uzalo
23:00 Habari
23:30 Music: The Base
00:30 Al Jazeera
02:00 DWTV

WEDNESDAY 31 May

5:00 Soap 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: In Love with Ramon
10:00 Watoto wetu
10:25 Kipindi maalum: TMDA rpt
10:55 Habari za saa
11:00 Hawavumi lakini wamo rpt
11:55 Habari za saa
12:00 Al Jazeera
12:30 Bundesliga na DW rpt
12:55 Habari za saa
13:00 Dakika 45 rpt
13:55 Habari za saa
14:00 Kipindi maalum: NSSF rpt
14:15 Chetu ni chetu rpt
14:55 Habari za saa
15:00 Meza huru
16:30 Watoto Wetu
17:00 Music: The Base
18:00 Jiji Letu
18:15 Igizo: Mizengwe
18:30 Jarida la wanawake
19:00 Kipindi maalum: BOT
19:30 Soap: In Love with Ramon
20:00 Habari
21:05 Albu Yako
21:10 Kipindi maalum: Tanesco
21:40 Kipindi maalum: Pesa Fasta
21:50 Kipindi maalum: Mkulazi Holding
22:05 Ripoti maalum
22:30 Soap: Uzalo
23:00 Habari
23:30 Music: The Base
00:30 Al Jazeera
02:00 DWTV

THURSDAY 1 June

5:00 Soap 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: In Love with Ramon
10:00 Watoto wetu
10:30 Shamba lulu
10:55 Habari za saa
11:00 Ripoti maalum rpt
11:55 Habari za saa
12:00 Al Jazeera
12:30 Jarida la wanawake rpt
12:55 Habari za saa
13:00 Kipindi maalum rpt: BOT
13:30 Kipindi maalum: Brela
13:45 Shamsam za pwani rpt
13:55 Habari za saa
14:00 Shamsam za pwani rpt
14:55 Habari za saa
15:00 Meza huru
16:30 Watoto wetu
17:00 The Base
18:00 Jiji Letu
18:15 Mapishi
18:30 Kipindi maalum: TMDA
19:00 Usafiri Wako
19:30 Soap: In Love with Ramon
20:00 Habari
21:05 Malumbano ya hoja
23:00 Habari
23:30 Music: The Base
00:30 Al Jazeera
02:00 DWTV

FRIDAY 2 June

5:00 Soap 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: In Love with Ramon
10:00 Watoto wetu
10:30 Usafiri Wako
10:55 Habari za saa
11:00 Kipindi maalum: Mkulazi Holding rpt
11:20 Jungu kuu
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

13:55 Habari za saa
14:00 Shikabamba
14:15 Igizo rpt: Slay Queen
14:55 Habari za saa
15:00 Meza Huru
16:30 Watoto wetu
17:00 Music: The Base
18:00 Jiji Letu
18:15 Mapishi
18:30 Kipindi Maalum: Sema na Mahakama ya TZ
19:30 Soap: In Love with Ramon
20:00 Habari
21:05 Kipindi Maalum: Maisha ni Nyumba
21:30 Kipindi Maalum: NSSF
21:45 Chetu ni chetu
22:30 Soap: Uzalo
23:00 Habari
23:30 Music: The Base
00:30 Al Jazeera
02:00 DWTV

MONDAY - WEDNESDAY FROM 10:30 PM

CAPITAL TV

Wed 31 May

06:00 Al Jazeera
07:00 Morning Jam (Via Capital Radio)
09:00 Dw
11:00 Al Jazeera
11:30 Tomorrow Today rpt
12:00 Dw News Africa rpt
12:30 Our Earth
13:00 Telenovela rpt The Three Sides of Ana
14:00 Club 101 (via Capital Radio)
16:00 Business Edition Rpt
16:30 Culinary delight rpt
17:00 Innovation rpt
17:30 Meza huru
19:00 Sports Gazette
19:30 Chetu ni chetu
20:00 Monday Agenda Rpt
20:45 Telenovela: The Three Sides of Ana
21:30 Capital Prime News
22:00 Dakika 45:
22:45 The Décor
23:15 Al Jazeera

Thurs 01 June

06:00 Al Jazeera
07:00 Morning Jam (Via Capital Radio)
09:00 Dw
11:00 Al Jazeera
11:30 Spots gazette
12:00 Innovation
12:30 Culinary
13:00 Telenovela rpt: The Three Sides of Ana
14:00 Club 101 (via Capital Radio)
16:00 Tomorrow Today
16:30 Business edition rpt
17:00 In good shape
17:30 Meza huru
19:00 Out & About Rpt
19:30 Eco@Africa
20:00 Our Earth Rpt

Frid 02 June

06:00 Al Jazeera
07:00 Morning Jam (Via Capital Radio)
09:00 Dw
11:00 Al Jazeera
11:30 Spots gazette
12:00 Innovation
12:30 Culinary
13:00 Telenovela rpt: The Three Sides of Ana
14:00 Club 101 (via Capital Radio)
16:00 Tomorrow Today
16:30 Business edition rpt
17:00 In good shape
17:30 Meza huru
19:00 Out & About Rpt
19:30 Eco@Africa
20:00 Our Earth Rpt

Sat 03 June

06:00 Al Jazeera
09:00 Rpt rpt
09:30 Jagina 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 Al Jazeera
14:30 Telenovela rpt The Three Sides of Ana
17:15 Eco@Africa
17:45 Bundesliga kick off
18:15 Capchat rpt
19:15 Mizengwe
19:30 The Decor
20:00 Ripoti Maalum
20:30 Tomorrow Today
21:00 Out n'About
21:30 Music Club 101 rpt
23:00 Capchat Rpt
01:00 Al Jazeera

Sun 04 June

08:00 Al Jazeera
09:00 In good shape
10:00 Capchat rpt
11:00 Sports Gazette rpt
11:30 Dw
12:00 Jagina rpt
12:30 Bundesliga Kick Off rpt
13:00 In good shape rpt
13:30 Dw
15:15 Albu yako
15:30 Rev rpt

WORLD

Harry - first British royal in 130 years to give evidence in court

LONDON

PRINCE Harry will become the first senior British royal to give evidence in court for 130 years when he testifies next week in his lawsuit against a newspaper group he accuses of unlawful behaviour.

Harry, King Charles' younger son, will appear in the witness box at London's High Court as part of the case he and more than 100 other celebrities and high-profile figures have brought against Mirror Group Newspapers (MGN), publisher of the Daily Mirror, Sunday Mirror and Sunday People.

It will be the first time a senior royal has given evidence since Edward VII testified as a witness in part of a divorce case in 1870 and 20 years later in a slander trial over a card game, both before he became king.

Harry, who is fifth-in-line to the throne, has barely been out of the headlines in the last six months over his legal rows with the British press and the release of his memoir and Netflix documentary series in which he accused other senior royals of colluding with tabloid newspapers.

His appearance in court is likely to attract worldwide attention.

David Yelland, a senior communications adviser and a former editor of Rupert Murdoch's Sun tabloid newspaper - a publication Harry is also suing - said the royal family had long sought to avoid court cases, because they were not in control of the situation.

"These cases are often a case of mutually assured destruction. I don't think anyone will get out looking great," he said.

More than 100 people are suing MGN, with Harry and three others selected as test cases.

The trial, which began last month, has been told MGN journalists or private investigators commissioned by them carried out phone-hacking on an "industrial scale", and committed other unlawful acts to obtain information about the prince and the other claimants.

This was done with the knowledge and approval of senior editors and executives, the claimants' lawyer David Sherborne has said. MGN is contesting the allegations and says senior figures denied knowing anything about hacking and had any wrongdoing concealed from them.

'Ultimate interview'

The court was told by a journalist and



Britain's Prince Harry, Duke of Sussex leaves after attending the coronations of Britain's King Charles III and Britain's Camilla, Queen Consort, at Westminster Abbey in central London on May 6, 2023. AFP

biographer of Harry that one of those who knew about hacking was former editor Piers Morgan, now one of Britain's most high-profile broadcasters and an outspoken critic of the prince and his wife Meghan.

Morgan, who has denied any involvement in unlawful behaviour and has accused Harry of invading his own family's privacy, left his job as a presenter on a TV breakfast show after making outspoken remarks about Meghan.

"It's hard to escape the notion that he's using the courts, because he knows that when he is in the witness box, he will be believed," Yelland said. "It is the ultimate interview to be cross-examined by a hostile barrister in the witness box."

At the start of the trial, MGN, now owned by Reach (RCH.L), apologised in court documents and admitted that on one occasion the Sunday People had unlawfully sought information about Harry and that he was entitled to com-

penation.

But it has rejected his other allegations, saying he had no evidence for his claims. Instead, Buckingham Palace is likely to feature prominently in Harry's cross-examination, with MGN arguing that some information had come from royal aides.

MGN's documents say one story about Harry came when his father's former deputy private secretary and Morgan were having "regular meals and drinking sessions together".

Harry has said that his family and their aides had been complicit in leaking negative stories to protect or enhance their own reputations. The palace has not commented.

This week's appearance will be the second time this year that Harry has attended the High Court in London, after joining singer Elton John and others for hearings in March over their lawsuit against the publisher of the Daily and Sunday Mail tabloids. **Agencies**

One-on-one meetings with PM Modi facilitated agreements with India, says Nepal PM

NEW DELHI

NEPAL Prime Minister Pushpa Kamal Dahal stated that one-on-one discussions with Prime Minister Narendra Modi (pictured) were helpful in easing the situation that was heading for complications, according to the Kathmandu Post.



Speaking to Nepali journalists in New Delhi yesterday morning, Dahal stated that after three one-on-one meetings with his Indian counterpart, the atmosphere of the talks became comfortable. Dahal emphasised that despite the pressure to perform, the environment improved as a result of the Indian Prime Minister's initiative.

Prime Minister Dahal said that there were some doubts that the environment for the talks would be complicated after reaching the Indian capital on Wednesday, Kathmandu Post reported.

The Kathmandu Post is Nepal's English-language daily which has a reputation for reliability, veracity and breaking news. The Post's political, business, sports, and arts and culture reporting are supplemented with opinions from some of Nepal's, and the wider world's, leading intellectuals and analysts.

"When we arrived, we had some doubts about the occurrence of complexities during the bilateral talks as we had come with certain expectations and preparations," said Dahal.

Dahal said that although the situation on Wednesday evening was a bit complicated, the atmosphere got easier from Thursday morning, Kathmandu Post reported.

"The situation was different on Wednesday evening but the atmosphere gradually became positive from Thursday and we got the results from the Hyderabad House," Dahal said.

"Several Memoranda of Understanding and agreements were signed and because of it this visit has become historic."

Dahal, during the interaction, said he was doubtful about the progress to be made with India upon reaching the Nepali Embassy after arriving in New Delhi on Wednesday, Kathmandu Post reported.

"I had three one-to-one meetings with Modi which eased the situation. A lot of hard work was done," said Dahal. "At one point I was worried and under pressure that we would not be able to deliver what we had come for. I see Modi ji's initiative in easing the pressure."

Dahal, who is on a four-day official visit to India, also said that he did not raise the issue of the Eminent Persons Group report during his meeting with Modi as it would have an unfavourable effect on the talks environment, Kathmandu Post reported.

ANI

US remarks about New START have nothing to do with real causes of this crisis – diplomats

WASHINGTON

THE US administration's remarks about Russia's non-compliance with the New START treaty have nothing to do with the real reasons behind the current crisis around the agreement, the Russian Embassy in the United States said on Wednesday.

"We have noted the fact sheets on New START published by the State Department on June 1st which reiterate accusations of Russian violation of the Treaty," the embassy said in a statement, posted on its Telegram channel. "We once again emphasize that US statements have nothing to do with the real causes of the crisis around the agreement."

"We have repeatedly explained in public fora and through diplomatic

channels the reasons for Russia's suspension of its participation in the Treaty. We have provided exhaustive legal justification for our decision, which is fully consistent with the Vienna Convention on the Law of Treaties.

The Administration's stubborn refusal to recognize the supremacy of international law is quite telling. Legal voluntarism has always been characteristic of Washington," Russian diplomats said.

The US Department of State claimed on Thursday that "the Russian Federation's purported suspension of the New START Treaty is legally invalid." "As a result, Russia remains bound by its New START Treaty obligations, and is violating the treaty by failing to fulfill many of

those obligations," it said.

According to a statement, issued by the department on Thursday, the US authorities will stop providing Russia with information about its strategic weapons that fall under the New START treaty starting from June 1 and will revoke visas issued to Russian specialists who were to inspect US facilities in line with the agreement. It will also stop providing telemetric information on launches of US intercontinental ballistic missiles (ICBM) and submarine-launched ballistic missiles (SLBM).

Washington and Moscow inked the document, officially known as the Treaty between the United States of America and the Russian Federation on Measures for the Further Reduction and Limitation of Strategic

Offensive Arms (New START Treaty), in 2010.

The document stipulates that seven years after its entry into force, each party should have no more than a total of 700 deployed intercontinental ballistic missiles (ICBMs), submarine-launched ballistic missiles (SLBMs) and strategic bombers, as well as no more than 1,550 warheads on them, and a total of 800 deployed and non-deployed ICBM launchers, SLBM launchers and strategic bombers.

The deal was to expire on February 5, 2021, but Russia and the US extended the treaty for a maximum period of five years in February 2021.

On February 21, Russian President Vladimir Putin announced that Russia was suspending its participation

in the New Strategic Arms Reduction Treaty (New START) but is not withdrawing from it.

The president stressed that before returning to the discussion of the extension of the New START treaty, the Russian side wants to understand how the treaty will take into account not only the United States' arsenals but also stockpiles of other NATO nuclear powers, namely the United Kingdom and France. On March 1, the president signed a law on the suspension of Russia's participation in the New START.

Agencies

UN voices concern over Black Sea grain shipments slowdown

UNITED NATIONS

THE United Nations on Thursday voiced concern about the slowdown of grain shipments under the Black Sea Grain Initiative, which allows the export of Ukrainian grain and other agricultural products from Black Sea ports.

"We are concerned about the continuous slowdown of the implementation of the Black Sea Initiative observed particularly in the months of April and May," said Stephane Dujarric (pictured), spokesman for UN Secretary-General Antonio Guterres.

In May, 33 vessels departed Ukrainian ports, half of the number compared to April. Only three of those departed from

the port of Pivdennyi in Yuzhny, Odessa province, one of the three Ukrainian ports covered in the initiative. Exports in May stood at 1.3 million metric tons of grains and other foodstuff, less than half of the previous month, he said.

Russia has informed of its decision to limit registrations to the port of Pivdennyi as long as Russian ammonia is not exported, said Dujarric.

Since May 24, the number of inspection teams at the Joint Coordination Centre has been reduced from three to two, and the limited registrations and reduced inspection teams contributed to the drop in the average daily inspection rate to three, said the spokesman.

The UN Secretariat has put forward practical suggestions to all parties at the strategic and operational level, and the world body will continue its intense engagement with the parties toward the full resumption of operations and continuation of the initiative, he said.

"In particular, we are looking for commitments on unconditional access of vessels to all three ports under the initiative, increased number of successful inspections



completed per day and predictable registrations to avoid undue delay of vessels, exports of fertilizers, including ammonia, and the resumption of the Togliatti-Odessa ammonia pipeline," said Dujarric.

The Black Sea Grain Initiative was signed separately by Russia and Ukraine in Istanbul with Türkiye and the United Nations in July 2022. The export of Russian ammonia was referred to in the initiative.

The initiative, initially in effect for 120 days, was extended in mid-November 2022 for another 120 days till March 18, 2023. At that point, Russia only agreed to extend the deal for 60 days, till May 18, 2023. On May 17, Russia agreed to extend the deal for another 60 days.

Agencies

China to write new stories of harmony between humanity, nature

CHINA is one of the most biodiverse countries in the world.

It has two national botanical gardens, the China National Botanical Garden in Beijing and the South China National Botanical Garden in Guangzhou, south China's Guangdong province, which serve as the country's biodiversity conservation bases, reserves of strategic plant resources and important platforms for botany communication.

The two national botanical gardens play a vital role in the protection of biodiversity and

mirror China's firm resolution and concrete actions to turn Earth into a beautiful and biodiverse homeland.

The China National Botanical Garden is home to over 17,000 plant species, including nearly 1,000 rare and endangered ones. In particular, it has introduced 24 species of spruce from across the world, more than half of all the varieties in the world. "Niche" plants in the botanical garden, including the Chinese fringetree, beauty bush and cornus kousa, have become popular in the botanical garden these

days.

More than 2,000 kilometers away, the South China National Botanical Garden has introduced more than 1,100 plant species since 2022. It now houses a total of over 17,500 conservative plant species, ranking among the top five globally.

Biodiversity makes Earth full of vigor and vitality, and lays the foundation for human survival and development. Protecting biodiversity helps protect Earth, the homeland shared by all, and contributes to humanity's sustainable development.

China has made unprecedented efforts to advance ecological progress and attached high importance on biodiversity conservation in recent years.

It has continuously strengthened biodiversity mainstreaming, applied a system of ecological conservation red lines, established a protected areas system with national parks as the mainstay, carried out major biodiversity protection projects, and conducted most stringent enforcement and supervision. A large number of rare and endangered species have been

placed under effective protection, and the diversity, stability and sustainability of the ecosystem have kept improving. The country has found a path of biodiversity protection with Chinese characteristics.

The Chinese path to modernization is a process of modernization of harmony between humanity and nature. Respecting, adapting to, and protecting nature is essential for building China into a modern socialist country in all respects.

In 2021, an epic trek of an herd of wild Asian elephants

from southwest China's Yunnan province attracted global attention. Recently, new information about these animals has been released.

The elephants are healthy and new members have joined the herd, known as the "short-nose family." It has split into two groups and explored different areas.

While the number of Asian elephants is on a decline globally, the expanding population of them in China marks a significant achievement of the country in ecological progress and

biodiversity conservation.

Besides, the status of wild giant pandas in China has been downgraded from "endangered" to "vulnerable," and the population of crested ibises, a rare bird species, has increased from seven in 1981 to more than 9,000 at present. Today, it's not rare anymore to see the migration of Tibetan antelopes or Yangtze finless porpoise swimming in the river.

These stories exactly indicate the new progress made by China in biodiversity conservation.

People's Daily

BRICS commits to bring about reforms in UNSC

CAPE TOWN

THE BRICS Ministers of Foreign Affairs and International Relations met on 1 June 2023 in Cape Town, South Africa. The Ministers of foreign affairs of the participant countries exchanged views on major global and regional trends and issues, the Ministry of External Affairs (MEA) said in a statement.

The Ministers expressed concern about the use of unilateral coercive measures, which are incompatible with the principles of the Charter of the UN and produce negative effects notably in the developing world. They reiterated their commitment to enhancing and improving global governance by promoting a more agile, effective, efficient, representative and accountable international and multilateral system.

The Ministers recalled UN General Assembly (UNGA) Resolution 75/1 and reiterated the call for reforms of the principal organs of the United Nations. They recommitted to instil new life in the discussions on the reform of the UN Security Council (UNSC) and continue the work to revitalise the General Assembly and strengthen the Economic and Social Council.

They reaffirmed their commitment to strengthening the framework of BRICS cooperation under the three pillars of political and security, economic and financial, and cultural and people-to-people cooperation upholding the BRICS spirit featuring mutual respect and understanding, equality, solidarity, openness, inclusiveness, and consensus.

The Ministers reiterated their commitment to strengthening multilateralism and upholding international law, including the purposes and principles enshrined in the Charter of the United Nations (UN) as its indispensable cornerstone, and the central role of the UN in an international system in which sovereign states cooperate to maintain peace and security, advance sustainable development, ensure the promotion and protection of democracy, human rights and fundamental freedoms for all, and promoting coop-

eration based on the spirit of solidarity, mutual respect, justice and equality.

They recalled the 2005 World Summit Outcome document and reaffirmed the need for a comprehensive reform of the UN, including its Security Council, with a view to making it more representative, effective and efficient, and to increase the representation of the developing countries so that it can adequately respond to global challenges.

China and Russia reiterated the importance they attach to the status and role of Brazil, India and South Africa in international affairs and supported their aspiration to play a greater role in the UN.

The Ministers reaffirmed the importance of the G20 to continue playing the role of the premier multilateral forum in the field of economic cooperation that comprises both developed and developing countries where major economies jointly seek solutions to global challenges. They looked forward to the successful hosting of the 18th G20 Summit under the Indian G20 Presidency.

They noted the opportunities to build sustained momentum for change by India, Brazil and South Africa chairing the G20 from 2023 to 2025 and expressed support for continuity and collaboration in their G20 presidencies and wish them all success in their endeavours.

The Ministers called for the implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development in its three dimensions - economic, social and environmental, in a balanced and integrated manner by mobilising the means required to implement the 2030 Agenda.

They highlighted in this regard that the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) Summit, to be held in New York in September 2023, constitutes a unique opportunity for renewing international commitment to the implementation of the 2030 Agenda.

The Ministers recognised the impact on the world economy from unilateral approaches in breach of international law and they also noted that



External Affairs Minister S Jaishankar poses for a picture with Chinese Foreign Minister Wang Yi, Russian Foreign Minister Sergei Lavrov, and others at the BRICS Foreign Ministers' meeting on the sidelines of the 77th session of the United Nations General Assembly (UNGA), in New York on Thursday. ANI

the situation is complicated further by unilateral economic coercive measures, such as sanctions, boycotts, embargoes and blockades.

The Ministers expressed their support for the free, open, transparent, fair, predictable, inclusive, equitable, non-discriminatory and rules-based multilateral trading system with the World Trade Organisation (WTO) at its core, with special and differential treatment (S&DT) for developing countries, including Least Developed Countries. They stressed their support to work towards positive and meaningful outcomes on the issues at the 13th Ministerial Conference (MC13).

They committed to engaging constructively to pursue the necessary WTO reform with a view to presenting concrete deliverables to MC13. They called for the restoration of a fully and well-functioning dispute settlement system accessible to all members by 2024, and the selection of new Appellate Body Members without further delay.

They condemned unilateral protectionist measures under the pretext of environmental concerns such as uni-

lateral and discriminatory carbon border adjustment mechanisms, taxes and other measures.

They supported a robust Global Financial Safety Net with a quota-based and adequately resourced International Monetary Fund (IMF) at its centre. They called on continuing the process of IMF governance reform under the 16th General Review of Quotas, including a new quota formula as a guide, to be completed by 15 December 2023.

The Ministers emphasised the importance of financial inclusion so that citizens can reap the benefits of economic growth and prosperity and welcomed the many new technological instruments for financial inclusion, developed in BRICS countries, that can contribute to ensuring the citizens' full participation in the formal economy.

Ministers underscored the importance of encouraging the use of local currencies in international trade and financial transactions between BRICS as well as their trading partners.

The Ministers emphasised that ensuring energy security is a crucial foundation for economic development, social stability, national security, and the wel-

fare of all nations worldwide. They called for resilient global supply chains and predictable, stable energy demand to ensure universal access to affordable, reliable, sustainable, and modern energy sources.

They also stressed the importance of enhancing energy security and market stability by strengthening value chains, promoting open, transparent, and competitive markets, and ensuring the protection of critical energy infrastructure. They strongly condemned all terrorist attacks against critical infrastructure, including critical energy facilities, and against other vulnerable targets.

The Ministers reiterated that the objectives, principles and provisions of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) and its Paris Agreement, in particular, the principles of common but differentiated responsibilities and respective capabilities (CBDR-RC) in the light of different national circumstances, must be honoured.

They reaffirmed their national and joint efforts to promote the implementation of the Paris Agree-

Ukrainian regime behaves like terrorists, and terrorists must be done away with – Medvedev

MOSCOW

DMITRY Medvedev, the deputy chairman of Russia's Security Council, has described the Ukrainian regime's actions as terrorism, pointing out that the only way to counteract terrorists is to destroy them.

"This is an act of terrorism, and there is no other way to qualify it. If it is an act of terrorism, there is only one way to respond to it. No country can afford to negotiate with terrorists, terrorists must be destroyed," Medvedev said, commenting on the Ukrainian regime's actions. He posted on his Telegram account a video showing his conversation with military servicemen at the combined arms training ground Prudboy in the Volgograd Region.

"It is clear to everyone that it was an absolutely terrorist attack, it was not a military battle, not military action. It does not even fit in with any rules of warfare," Medvedev said. He wondered what purpose such an attack could have.

"To cause damage to the civilian population and only that, because those means of destruction, those drones that were used, they cannot damage either military facilities or public administration buildings," he said. "The aim was simple - to cause damage, to harm to the civilian population somehow," Medvedev reiterated.

"And the fact that our enemy is already behaving as a terrorist characterizes in a very specific way both the Ukrainian regime and those who are behind it - first of all the Americans and the Europeans, who, in fact, have got on the warpath with us," Medvedev stressed. In his opinion, "terrorist acts must entail the harshest retaliation possible."



Agencies

Swiss parliament votes down proposal to re-export arms to Ukraine

GENEVA

DEPUTIES in Switzerland's National Council (larger chamber of the Federal Assembly, or Swiss parliament) rejected a legislative proposal by the Security Policy Commission to permit the re-export of weapons to Ukraine, contrary to the Alpine nation's traditional neutral stance, with 98 deputies voting against the initiative, and 75 lawmakers for it, the Federal Assembly press office reported.

"There will be no law allowing

the re-export of Swiss weapons to Ukraine. The National Council rejected a parliamentary initiative submitted by the [security] commission by a vote of 98 to 75," the statement said.

"Adopting this initiative would have been a step in favor of one side," said Jean-Luc Addor, a member of parliament for the right-wing conservative Swiss People's Party (SVP), which is part of the current government and has the largest faction in parliament.

Earlier, the smaller parliamen-

tary chamber, the Council of States, had expressed its opposition to the initiative.

Given its neutral status, Switzerland does not export weapons to Ukraine and prohibits the re-export of Swiss-made weapons sold to other countries to conflict zones. On March 10, the country's federal government reaffirmed the re-export ban.

At the same time, the issue has long been debated in parliament. In particular, the proposal by the National Council's Security Policy Commission to allow

the re-export of weapons to a country involved in a conflict, if the UN Security Council or General Assembly declares by a two-thirds vote that the other party to the conflict has violated international law, has been the subject of debate.

Lifting the re-export ban has been advocated mainly by members of left-wing parties.

Last November, the SVP and its political allies began gathering signatures for a referendum in favor of tightening the policy of neutrality and instituting a con-

stitutional ban on imposing any sanctions that have not been approved by the UN Security Council.

In November 2022, the Swiss government did not allow Germany to re-export ammunition for Gepard self-propelled anti-aircraft guns to Ukraine. Spain was also denied permission to re-export weapons.

In 2022, Denmark also received a negative response to a re-export request to supply Kiev with 20 Swiss-made Piranha III multipurpose wheeled armored

vehicles.

Switzerland, a non-NATO and non-EU member, supports the EU sanctions against Russia in connection with the special military operation in Ukraine. Last March, the Russian government approved a list of foreign countries and territories that have committed unfriendly acts against Russia, or Russian companies and citizens.

The Swiss Confederation is included in the list of such countries.

Agencies

Bangladeshi girl named after 'China' exchanges letters with President Xi Jinping

DHAKA

ON the eve of International Children's Day, a 12-year-old Bangladeshi girl, Alifa Chin, received an extraordinary gift - a reply letter from Chinese President Xi Jinping.

When the girl was born in 2010, her mother suffered a difficult delivery due to a severe heart problem.

At that time, the Chinese naval hospital ship Peace Ark just sailed to Bangladesh, where it provided free medical services to locals. Upon learning of the emergency, Chinese doctors from the Peace Ark hurried to the local hospital to perform a cesarean section on her mother. The mother and daughter were saved. To express gratitude to the Chinese doctors, the child's father, Anwar Hossen, named his child "Chin," which means "China" in Bengali.

LETTER FROM GRANDPA XI

Earlier this year, Chin wrote a letter to President Xi. In the letter, Chin described her special connection with China and expressed her hope of becoming a China-Bangladesh friendship messenger when she grows up. And, President

Xi wrote back, saying that her story is a good example of the friendship between the two countries.

"I am so happy to receive the reply letter from Grandpa Xi. It's a special day today," Chin said. "I want to share my story and happiness with my friends." Hossen, Chin's father, said he was thrilled to receive Xi's letter.

"Chinese military doctors saved my wife and ensured the safe birth of my daughter. For that, we will always be grateful." Since it was commissioned in 2008, the hospital ship of the Navy of the Chinese People's Liberation Army has mainly carried out disease diagnosis, treatment and professional training.

China's Peace Ark's mission is to spread the notion of peace across the oceans. So far, it has sailed more than 260,000 nautical miles and has completed multiple overseas missions providing free medical services to more than 250,000 people in 43 countries and regions.

The ship's hospital equipment is on par with some top medical facilities in China. The crew includes some of China's leading medical experts and professionals in neurology, gastroenterology,



Alifa Chin reads a reply letter from Chinese President Xi Jinping in Dhaka, Bangladesh, on May 29, 2023. Xinhua

physiotherapy, traditional Chinese medicine, infectious diseases, reconstructive surgery and burns.

CHINESE MOTHER

In 2013, when the Peace Ark arrived in Bangladesh for the second time, China's military doctors conducted a comprehensive check-up on Chin.

In 2017, Sheng Ruifang, the anesthesiologist who participated in the surgery for Chin's mother, met

Chin during a visit to Bangladesh with a Chinese naval formation.

At that time, Chin called Sheng her "Chinese mother" for the first time. "It was the Chinese mother who helped me come into this world then. Today, uncles and aunts from China are still showing long-term concern for my

growth," Chin said.

"Many thanks to all of them." In his letter, Xi encouraged Chin to study hard, pursue her dream and carry forward the traditional friendship between China and Bangladesh. "I will use this as motivation to study hard and grow up healthily," Chin beamed.

"I want to share with my teachers and classmates what I have personally witnessed in China, and I want to tell more people in Bangladesh my story and about the friendship of China," said Chin who visited China in 2019.

After reading Xi's letter, Hossen said he was "extremely happy and grateful" that Xi remembered Chin "despite his busy schedule." Hossen said he will "provide good conditions" for Chin's growth and encourage her to study hard and even learn Chinese.

TRADITIONS OF FRIENDSHIP

In his reply, Xi said since ancient times, the Chinese and the Bangladeshi have been close neighbors and good friends, whose friendly exchanges date back over a thousand years.

The two countries have also witnessed progress in their ties during their joint fight against the COVID-19 epidemic.

At the invitation of the Bangladeshi government, the Chinese government immediately dispatched a medical expert team to support Bangladesh's epidemic prevention and control efforts. China was also one of the first countries to provide vaccine assistance to Bangladesh.

When COVID-19 hit, the Chinese side supported the country in protecting the health of its people. Chinese Vice Foreign Minister Sun Weidong, who attended the hand-over ceremony of the reply letter, said Xi's response to Chin's letter on the eve of International Children's Day reflects his high regard for the friendly relations between China and Bangladesh, expectations for the enduring friendship between the two countries and hope for the success and well-being of the country's youth.

Sun said young people are the key to fostering friendly cooperation between China and Bangladesh, hoping that mutual communication and learning by the youth of the two countries can be promoted.

"Together, they can contribute their enthusiasm and passion to the cause of China-Bangladesh friendship," Sun said. Chin has expressed her aspirations of studying in China in the future.

"I hope I have the chance to go to one Chinese university in the future and study medicine there," Chin said, "and become a doctor to heal the wounded and rescue the dying, just as my Chinese mother did."

Xinhua



Christopher Oruchum.

Namungo FC defender confirms interest from former Zambia champions

By Correspondent Nassir Nchimbi

NAMUNGO FC center-back Christopher Oruchum has confirmed that former Zambia Super League champion, ZESCO United, is interested in acquiring his signature during the 2023/24 transfer window.

The central defender, a Kenyan international, is currently with Namungo FC, popularly known as 'Southern Killers', having joined the Lindi-based club in July 2022 from his home country's side, Tusker FC.

Oruchum has played under the current ZESCO United Technical Director, Honour Janza, at Namungo FC, an outfit the Zambian gaffer coached between December 2021 and December 2022.

The player revealed that ZESCO United has not given up on the chase for his signature having missed it in the January transfer window.

"ZESCO United was keen on signing me in January but the deal fell through. I can confirm that they have contacted my agent again to seal a deal in the off-season window," he disclosed.

Oruchum's decision to ditch Kenyan champions Tusker FC for Namungo FC, a team that is barely five years old, was viewed as a downgrade in his career.

The footballer, a University of Nairobi student, was part of Tusker FC, the winner of the Kenyan Premier League (KPL) top honour in the 2020/21 season, and played a crucial role in the club's impressive run in a campaign that was annulled by the Football Kenya Federation (FKF).

He revealed Namungo FC's deal was too sweet to reject and thus, the player had to cut ties with the brewers who were willing to extend his contract.

Oruchum noted: "Many people, including close friends, questioned my decision to leave Tusker FC for Namungo FC. Some felt that by remaining at Tusker FC I would win more titles."

"I had similar thoughts but whatever Namungo FC placed on my table made the difference. As a business student, numbers matter a lot," he pointed out.

Oruchum, also a former Thika

United defender, lifted the lid on the drama he witnessed at the negotiation table as Tusker FC attempted to entice him from crossing the border by increasing his salary.

However, Namungo FC, which has close ties with Prime Minister Kassim Majaliwa, returned with a lucrative offer that proved the tiebreaker. The club has six commercial partners.

The footballer disclosed: "When I got the first offer from Namungo FC, I approached Humphrey Mieno (Tusker FC captain) for advice. He told me to take it but Tusker FC was willing to extend my contract and upscale my salary."

"At some point, I was tempted to renew my stay at Tusker FC. Namungo FC however sealed the negotiation by rocketing their offer, financially," he said.

"(Tusker FC) coach Robert Matano and the rest of the team blessed the move. I remain grateful to Tusker FC for the platform they offered me and, more importantly, for believing and signing me when I was half-fit," he stated.

Oruchum moreover issued his take on life in the NBC Premier League, noting: "Their (Mainland Tanzania) league is heads and shoulders above ours. Teams here have sound structures and play attractive football."

The footballer said: "It is all about entertaining the fans who back the teams courtesy of their policy to regionalize the game."

"My first weeks were a little bit tough as I had been accustomed to the power play. Whatever I learned at Thika United when I was starting came in handy as their systems and style of play is similar to that of Namungo FC," he revealed.

Meanwhile, Oruchum, also a former player at Kenya's other soccer giant AFC Leopards, weighed in on allegations that insinuate that sorcery is deeply rooted in Tanzanian football.

"I do not believe in black magic and neither does it help when it comes to football. I might have seen some random and uncanny practices but I am never keen on them. I respect what others believe in," he said.

Oruchum intends to transition into management once he hangs up his boots.

Simba SC goalie tipped to scale great heights

By Correspondent Nassir Nchimbi

FOUR epic matches for Simba SC's young goalkeeper, Ally Salim, have officially introduced him to football lovers in Tanzania that he is the next big thing in domestic football.

Such an exciting journey for the promising shot-stopper started in the 2022/23 NBC Premier League tie between Simba SC and Yanga, popularly known as 'Dar Derby', played on April 16.

The goalie went on to keep a clean sheet as Simba SC defeated Yanga 2-0.

He avoided committing mistakes after starting before goalkeepers, Aishi Manula who was injured, and Beno Kakolanya who is known to be closing in on moving to Singida Big Stars.

It is interesting that Salim is on the rise and is following in Manula's footsteps. It was March 19, 2014, in the second round game of the Premier League between Yanga and Azam FC, played at Benjamin Mkapa Stadium.

Mwadini Ally was Azam FC's number-one goalkeeper at that time. Toward the game, Ally asked for permission to attend a funeral at his family's home in Zanzibar.

He was allowed and left but Azam FC leaders keenly monitored the situation given they wanted to satisfy themselves whether there was a funeral at Ally's house.

They sent someone to go and confirm. He arrived but he did not find any funeral at either Ally's family or neighbours' house.

When the information reached Azam FC leaders, they took the shot-stopper out of the match schedule.

The then Azam FC head coach Joseph Omog was involved, he said there is no problem. The side's goalkeeping coach, Idd Abubakary, said: "Young Manula is ready for the game."

When the matchday arrived,



Simba SC's third-choice goalkeeper, Ally Salim.

Manula was allowed to feature in the clash. This was a very important game for Azam FC in the race for the top flight's silverware, as, by then, Azam FC was leading the league, boasting a four-point margin with closest challengers, Yanga.

If Yanga was to win this game, it would mean that the club would have reduced the points gap to one and put pressure on the league leader.

Azam FC nevertheless, were not afraid of all that, they trusted young Manula and he did not let the club down, given he did a really good job.

He saved many shots from Yanga's fearsome attackers, Khamis Kiiza and Didier Kavumbagu, the noticeable exploit the shot-stopper enjoyed was a penalty save, in which he kept Kiiza at bay.

The game ended in a 1-1 draw and Azam FC maintained the points margin.

Manula, from then on, became Azam FC's number-one goalkeeper until he left the club in 2017 to join Simba SC. Since Manula went to Simba

SC that year, he has been the club's number-one goalkeeper despite being presented with several challenges, including the arrival of Beno Kakolanya, who is respected by many for his competence.

On April 16, 2023, something strange happened at the squad, a 20-year-old keeper from the side's junior outfit, as was the case with Manula during his spell at Azam FC, garnered a chance in Simba SC's match against Yanga.

He put on a stellar performance and created buzz from his employers to the side's fans on the street.

The young shot-stopper garnered the opportunity due to the absence of the number one goalkeeper who was supposed to be in the match.

It is no secret Azam FC and Simba SC have different demands- Manula had time to prosper at Azam FC because he had no pressure from the fans who allowed him to grow.

Salim- as opposed to Manula- has so much pressure on his back from Simba SC members

and followers.

Football fans believe he still has a long way to go, following a few mistakes he made in the reverse fixture of this season's CAF Champions League quarterfinals pitting Simba SC against Morocco's Wydad Casablanca.

In big games and occasions, inexperienced players can be easily seen due to their decision-making.

As a young goalkeeper Salim was on numerous occasions spotted making wrong decisions between the posts.

So far with a lot of trust invested in him by the team, the sky is the limit for him.

The goalie is playing with two wonderful goalkeepers he has trained with for a long time.

With the experience Salim has garnered from fellow goalies, he ought to be a good goalkeeper if he works hard.

Will Salim emulate Manula?, hold sway, and become the number one shot-stopper at Simba SC and the national side?

Ihefu SC assesses threat facing key players' retention

By Correspondent Nassir Nchimbi

IHEFU SC is aware of the threat the side faces in retaining key players ahead of next season.

Several footballers now serving the outfit have been linked to joining other Premier League teams after showcasing impressive performances.

The Mbeya-based team that has, this season, displayed good football in the league, stands to lose numerous players who are hunted by some top-tier teams.

So far five players have been linked to being on a move- Yahya Mbegu and Nicolas Wadada (Singida Big Stars and Simba SC), Raphael Daud (Geita Gold FC), and Andrew Simchimba and Mwaita Gereza (Kagera Sugar).

Ihefu SC Manager Lulanga Mapunda said they have heard the information but the technical bench has not ignored it, stressing they continue to fight to ensure they keep their players.

He said that they are trying to convince their outstanding players who showcased solid displays to remain with the team next season, as well as submitting proposals to the management to extend the contracts for players that are nearing free agency.

"We want to build a strong team with our top players to stay with us next season, we believe we will succeed because we live well with them, basi-



Ihefu SC's players celebrate after grabbing a goal in one of the club's 2022/23 NBC Premier League games that took place at Highland Estate Stadium recently.

cally talking to the management to make sure no one leaves and strengthen their financial demands," Mapunda pointed out.

The manager noted that after a short break, the team has already returned to training to continue preparations for the remaining two matches, adding they are determined to win the fixtures.

"We gave the footballers a three-day break and we have already resumed training since Friday to finish the remaining two league matches, we need a win to end the league on a high

note after enduring a rough start," the manager noted.

With two games left, Ihefu SC has played 28 games and posted 33 points from 10 wins, three draws, and 15 losses.

Ihefu SC has lost three games in a row since assuring itself of maintaining its position in the Premier League for next season.

The outfit's assistant coach Zubeir Katwila noted it is unacceptable and they should change quickly.

The tactician noted: "We know that it is not going to be easy but losing three games in a

row is not acceptable, my players are determined to win the upcoming matches."

"We have the best players who managed to record victories when the team came up against big guns, we surely believe we will do the same in the remaining games," Katwila stated.

Ihefu SC has two games left slated to be played at its home venue, Highland Estate Stadium, coming up against Geita Gold FC on June 6 and later playing against Kagera Sugar on June 9.

'Robbery' as organisers charge \$680 to see Messi in China

BEIJING

CHINESE football fans will need to shell out up to \$680 to see Lionel Messi lead Argentina against Australia in a Beijing friendly, organisers said Friday.

The game on June 15 at the 68,000-capacity Workers' Stadium is a rematch of Argentina and Australia's meeting in the last 16 of the Qatar World Cup.

Messi, who is set to leave Paris Saint-Germain this summer, scored in a 2-1 win for Argentina and they went on to lift the World Cup.

Tickets ranging from 580 yuan (\$82) to 4,800 yuan will go on sale in two batches, on June 5 and 8, organisers said.

Disgruntled fans online quickly decried the prices for the exhibition game.

"I'm reporting you for robbery," one user on the Twitter-like Weibo commented on the organisers' official account.

"For 4,800, will Messi carry us on his back while he plays?" wrote another.

It will be Messi's first visit to China since 2017.

Strict steps are being taken to prevent scalping, with spectators required to provide identification information and show ID cards or passports to enter the stadium.

But merchants on China's Taobao shopping platform immediately began offering booking services for the tickets, with one seller charging 18,000 yuan for what they claimed was access to VIP seats.

International sport has only just begun to return to China after Beijing abruptly ditched strict virus curbs late last year.

Meanwhile, With Lionel Messi's time at Paris Saint-Germain drawing to a close, the Argentine forward will soon reveal his future -- but hopes of a romantic return to Barcelona are fading.

Messi, who turns 36 in June, is Barcelona's all-time record goalscorer and biggest icon and was forced to wave a tearful goodbye in 2021 at the end of his contract, with the club unable to afford to keep him.

Coach Xavi Hernandez has been pushing hard for the World Cup winner to come back, but Messi's camp has told Spanish media no offer from Barcelona has arrived yet.

"For me there is no doubt that if Messi comes back he will help us on a footballing level, that's what I've let the president know," Xavi told Spanish daily Diario Sport.

Barcelona are waiting for La Liga to approve a financial viability plan ahead of spending in the summer transfer window.

"At the moment it seems difficult for Messi to return to Barca," said La Liga president Javier Tebas in April.

"Barca are not like PSG, who have a fuel tap and money for a big salary."

La Liga's financial fair play rules currently limit Barcelona to spending 40 percent of any savings made through salary cuts or player sales, because of the club's losses.

Even if they bring in enough new income to break free of the league's financial handcuffs, what they can offer Messi would be modest.

By contrast, elsewhere Messi will be paid a king's ransom, into the hundreds of millions.

A source close to the deal told AFP in May the forward has an agreement to move to the Saudi Arabian league, joining his former Real Madrid sparring partner Cristiano Ronaldo in the Gulf state.

- Risks -

Many Barcelona fans and coach Xavi would like Messi to add a much-needed coda to a story left incomplete by his shock departure.

The forward arrived at Barcelona at 13 years old and departed without a proper goodbye to supporters, who at that point were still shut out of stadiums because of the pandemic.

Messi showed by leading Argentina to World Cup glory in Qatar that he can still deliver at the elite level when motivated.

The forward is favourite to win the Ballon d'Or and remains sublime at breaking down stubborn defences, something Barca have struggled with even on their way to winning La Liga this season.

His return would be costly in terms of wages but, without a transfer fee, could still represent good value for a club hungry for short-term success.

"Reclaiming" Messi's legacy is a positive in its own right, ensuring he finishes his career at the club where he spent two decades.

The romance of a fairytale return and chance to seal his glorious chapter in the club's history are tempting, but with Barcelona moving forward and transforming, it could be a mistake for both club and player to turn back to the past.

Some believe Barca should not direct a significant chunk of their limited financial resources towards an ageing great when there are clear areas where the squad needs improvement.

Xavi has said replacing veteran holding midfielder Sergio Busquets, who is departing, is the key to any success next season.

Barcelona also need a first choice right-back, a back-up for striker Robert Lewandowski and a left winger.

Some fans are worried a return for Messi may tarnish his brilliant legacy at Barcelona and hamper the team's progress at the same time.

Messi may consider that in terms of his legacy there is more to lose than gain by returning to Barcelona.

French champions PSG host Clermont in their final Ligue 1 match of the season on Saturday, with Messi's future set to take centre-stage after that.

Guardiola puts Man City on red alert as United threaten treble bid in FA Cup final

LONDON

PEP Guardiola has warned his Manchester City stars that Manchester United are capable of wrecking their treble dreams in today's FA Cup final.

City will arrive at Wembley this weekend hoping to complete the second part of their incredible bid to win the Premier League, Champions League and FA Cup in a single season.

Guardiola's side clinched a fifth Premier League title in six seasons with three games to spare, giving the City boss an opportunity to rest key players and fine-tune his tactics ahead of the two matches that will define their season.

After facing bitter rivals United in the first all-Manchester FA Cup final, City travel to Istanbul to play Inter Milan in the Champions League final on June 10.

Guardiola's sole focus this week has been United, who stand in the way of the club's attempt to emulate their neighbours' historic treble triumph in 1999.



Erling Haaland will lead Manchester City's challenge when they face Manchester United in the FA Cup final today. (Agencies)

United are the only other English club to have won all three major trophies in one campaign and Erik ten Hag's men would dearly love to stop City moving closer to matching their achievement.

United's treble winners only secured the title with a win against Tottenham on the last day of the season and needed an astonishing late fightback to beat Bayern Munich in the Champions League

final.

Those victories tested the nerves of everyone associated with Alex Ferguson's team and City could be about to experience the most fraught part of their own treble chase.

Inter, who are third in a relatively weak Serie A, will be underdogs against City next week.

But United should pose a sterner threat and Guardiola is well aware Ten Hag's team have enough quality to

hurt them if they are not at their best.

Guardiola personally watched United's recent 4-1 rout of Chelsea, while memories of City's 2-1 defeat at Old Trafford in January still haunt the Spaniard.

"I am more focused on United right now. I saw their game against Chelsea. I was really impressed and I have started to review a little bit what they did to us in the game at Old Trafford," Guardiola said.

"As in the past, we have to be careful. I would be careful anyway but after Thursday and their games recently, we are going to prepare the best we can."

- 'Special game' -

Despite Guardiola's caution, Abu Dhabi-backed City have become English football's first dynasty since United's Ferguson era and have every reason to believe they will lift the FA Cup for the second time in the Spaniard's reign.

City, who thrashed United 6-3 in October, reeled off a blistering streak of 12 successive league victories to land a third consecutive title.

Last weekend's 1-0 loss at Brentford, in which City fielded a weakened team, was their first defeat in 26 games in all competitions.

Inevitably, Erling Haaland will be City's key man at the end of a brilliant first season in England.

The Norway striker has scored 52 goals in all competitions, including a single-season record 36 in the Premier League.

United are among Haaland's victims after he hit a hat-trick against them in October, but Ten Hag came up with a plan to hold him goalless in the rematch.

That was another notable achievement in an impressive first season for Ten Hag, who ended United's six-year trophy drought with a League Cup final victory against Newcastle in February.

Ten Hag is only the second manager in United's history to win a major trophy in his first season and adding City's scalp at Wembley would underline the vast improvement under the Dutchman.

United, who finished third in the Premier League, are relishing the opportunity to ruin City's treble hopes, even without injured forward Anthony Martial.

"Of course, we know it's a big final, a special game. We've been the whole year fighting to be in that position to win titles. We will try absolutely everything to try to win," United keeper David De Gea said.

AFP

'Proud' Mourinho leaves Roma fans fearing summer exit

ROMA

JOSE Mourinho told his Roma players that there was no need to cry after a long, emotional Europa League ride ended in defeat at the final hurdle, but fans will shed a tear should the Portuguese leave this summer.

Roma and Mourinho were denied a second European crown in as many years when his exhausted, injury-ravaged team lost on penalties to Sevilla, but he gave a rousing post-match speech on the pitch before thanking the army of Roma fans who made it to Budapest.

His message was one of pride, which is what he has restored at Roma, a team which has one of Italy's largest, most passionate fan bases but has won little of note since being founded in 1927.

Last season's Europa Conference League win, the fifth major continental trophy of Mourinho's career and the first in Roma's history, had supporters believing that a winning mentality could be instilled in what has often been a basket case club.

"You can lose a match, but you must never lose your dignity," Mourinho later told reporters.

"We lost a match but we didn't lose our dignity. I've won five finals but I didn't go home any prouder than I will today. Happier, obviously, but not prouder."

Those comments, and calling referee Anthony Taylor a "disgrace" in the Puskas Arena's car park for not awarding Roma a second-half penalty for handball, were lapped up by supporters who in Mourinho see their representative in the dugout.

- Future in doubt -
The 60-year-old's con-



Jose Mourinho (C) has created a deep bond with Roma's players and supporters. (Agencies)

tract expires at the end of next season but rumours about his future beyond the end of this month have been swirling since the end of last year.

He has yet to sit down with Roma's billionaire American owner and president Dan Friedkin, but Mourinho said on Wednesday that he and his team "deserve more", saying that he was "too tired to do the job as a coach, as a spokesman of the club".

"I want to stay but with the possibility of giving more," he added.

That has been taken as a hint that he wants more public backing and more money in the transfer kitty to challenge and potentially win the Serie A title like Napoli did this season.

Wednesday's defeat means that Roma will not compete in the Champions League next season. A seven-game Serie A winless run has killed their hopes of the top four and the increase in revenue that comes with Europe's top club competition.

Roma are sixth in Italy's top flight with one match left this season and could yet be overtaken by Juventus who sit just a point back in the Conference League

spot.

Roma host Spezia, who are scrapping for their Serie A lives, and will have to deal with the physical and mental toll of losing such a gruelling final.

But the Spezia match will be little more than a backdrop for another outpouring of emotion from the Stadio Olimpico stands to the team and Mourinho in a hopeful bid to keep their coaching icon in the Italian capital.

Meanwhile, Refereeing body PGMOL has condemned the "unjustified and abhorrent" abuse hurled at Anthony Taylor after the official was harassed by angry fans at Budapest Airport

following his controversial display in the Europa League final.

Video footage on social media shows Taylor and his family trying to evade a furious mob as they walked through the airport after he refereed Sevilla's victory against Roma in Hungary on Wednesday.

Taylor booked 13 players, seven of them Roma players, while the game was littered with delays due to the unusually high number of fouls.

A chair and a bottle were thrown in the direction of the referee and his group.

Taylor and his family were eventually led out of a cafe and into a secure area by airport

security.

The English official was also targeted by Roma boss Jose Mourinho, who was seen gesticulating at Taylor and calling him a "disgrace" in a profanity-laced tirade in the stadium car park after the match.

Responding to the incident at the airport, the Professional Game Match Officials Limited (PGMOL) said in a statement: "PGMOL is aware of videos circulating on social media showing Anthony Taylor and his family being harassed and abused at Budapest Airport.

"We are appalled at the unjustified

and abhorrent abuse directed at Anthony and his family as he tries to make his way home from refereeing the UEFA Europa League final.

"We will continue to provide our full support to Anthony and his family."

Refsupport UK added: "This is so, so worrying to see and we hope Anthony and his family are ok.

"This is why we believe organisations like the LMA, Managers and the PFA as well as the WeAreTheFSA need to come out and condemn such behaviour in this country.

"Managers' comments and players' behaviour encourage this and it is on a worrying rise where a serious incident or murder is just around the corner."

UEFA is awaiting Taylor's report before deciding whether to take action against Mourinho for his rant.

Taylor booked Mourinho during the game, which finished 1-1 after extra time before Sevilla won on penalties.

It was Sevilla's seventh Europa League triumph and the first European final defeat of Mourinho's managerial career.

AFP

Gwiji by David Chikoko



SPORT

Guardiola puts City on red alert as Man United threaten treble bid in FA Cup final

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TONIGHT @ 9:00

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 SSELECT
17:55 Kurasa
18:00 eNewz
18:30 Bongo Hit
19:00 EATV SAA 1
20:00 DADAZ (r)
21:00 SSPORTS LIVE
22:00 Zote kuntu
23:00 Kurasa (r)
23:05 EATV SAA 1 (r)

SSports
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 SSports.

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

Dar artists colour Italy's National Day celebrations

By Correspondent Joseph Mchekadona

MORE than 50 artists in Tanzania and others from outside the country are today expected to display their works at the residence of Italy's Ambassador to Tanzania in Dar es Salaam.

The artists' displays are part of celebrations of Italy's National Day.

Italy's Ambassador to Tanzania Marco Lambardi said his country had celebrated its National Day yesterday and the occasion is known as Festa della Repubblica.

He said the day is celebrated to commemorate the institutional referendum of 1946 when Italians were called to take a vote and decide the form of government.

The ambassador said to celebrate Festa della Repubblica there are several activities the embassy has lined up that include the artists' displays.

Other events are the Kalascima concert involving an Italian band held at Slipway in Dar es Salaam on Thursday and, two days later, the concert will be held at Shambaland in Zanzibar.

The celebrations will also see the launch of The II Perugia Exhibition in Dar es Salaam on June 15 and the launch of 'Tumia Akili' game on June 22.

"We celebrate our National Day on June 2 every year, so this year we have lined up several activities including performances and exhibitions," Lambardi revealed.

The envoy pointed out: "Tanzania and Italy have had a strong and effective bilateral relationship, for the past 62 years, we have enjoyed the long-term relationship."

"Italy is one of the first countries to open their embassies here, our missionaries arrived here in 1920... they did excellent work and created development cooperation between the two countries with strong support from Tanzania's first President, Mwalimu Julius Kambarage Nyerere," Lambardi added.

"Our bilateral relationship goes back 100 years, we also have Non-Governmental Organizations (NGOs) doing a lot in the country," he said.

“

We celebrate our National Day on June 2 every year, so this year we have lined up several activities including performances and exhibitions

Yanga out to stun USM Alger in 2022/23 CAF Confederation Cup final rematch



Tanzania's Yanga winger, Tuisila Kisinda (L), outfoxes Algeria's USM Alger defender Haithem Loucif when they faced each other in the first leg of the 2022/23 CAF Confederation Cup final which took place in Dar es Salaam on May 28. PHOTO: COURTESY OF YANGA

By Guardian Correspondent

TANZANIA'S Yanga needs nothing short of a comprehensive victory over USM Alger of Algeria when the two clubs take on each other in the 2022/23 CAF Confederation Cup final rematch in Algiers today.

The Algerian outfit previously defeated Yanga 2-1 when they faced each other in the first leg of the final in Dar es Salaam on May 28.

If Yanga makes a successful comeback and comes out victorious in the rematch against USM Alger, it will be the first club in the East Africa region to clinch the top honour in the newly-formatted second tier of CAF inter-club tournaments.

The Tanzanian club should be clinical in front of USM Alger's goal, as well as putting solid performance defensively, should there be an opportunity for the side to get the better of the opponents.

The side wasted several good scoring chances in the first tie, which could have seen it win convincingly and inch closer to achieving a rare feat.

Yanga's Team Manager, Walter Harson, revealed in an interview with the outfit's on-

line Television during training last week that the players are focused and positive much as they conceded a loss in the first leg duel.

The official noted they believe they can rectify errors that brought about the loss in the previous clash and get good results in the rematch.

The Team Manager said Yanga's technical bench officials, as well, feel the same way, stressing they are optimistic they will fully cooperate with the footballers to work on the weaknesses and do well in the coming fixture.

Harson also pointed out that the coaches analyzed the previous tie's performance, sought to rectify mistakes, and impart tactics to players, seeing to it they are in good shape ahead of the rematch.

The official revealed morale was high in the training camp, given footballers

and officials have high hope they will bounce back and overturn the results so they can fulfil the plan to bring CAF Confederation Cup silverware back home.

The Team Manager was adamant Yanga was ready to regroup, prepare well, and see to it they defend Tanzania's prestige.

The Jangwani Street side's goal-getter, Fiston Mayele, will further be closing in on lifting this season's CAF Confederation Cup top goal scorer's prize, with the attacker currently leading the race after scoring seven goals.

The goal-getter sensationally netted his seventh goal when Yanga came up against USM Alger last week, expertly drilling in a right-foot shot off an assist by midfielder, Mudathir Yahya, a few meters from USM Alger's penalty area.

Ghanaian winger, Bernard Morrison, initiated

the move that led to Yanga's only goal in the tie, negotiating his way past several USM Alger's players outside the penalty box, lifting the ball over the latter to find Yahya that executed a downward header for Mayele.

Mayele made no mistake with the assist, bringing the ball down with his right foot and quickly beating USM Alger's keeper Oussama Benbout with a fierce right-foot effort to win noisy cheer from scores of supporters that attended the duel.

The Congolese striker's closest challenger, South Africa's Marumo Gallants attacker Ranga Chivaviro, dropped out of the race for the prize following his side's elimination from the continental showdown's semi-final.

Chivaviro ended with six goals, netting his last goal when Marumo Gallants faced Yanga in the 2022/23 CAF Confederation Cup

semi-final rematch at Royal Bafokeng Stadium in South Africa on May 17, which ended with Yanga grabbing a 2-1 victory.

Yanga notched an aggregate 4-1 drubbing of Marumo Gallants to make it to the final, having garnered a 2-0 victory in the previous tie in Dar es Salaam on May 10.

The Jangwani Street squad garnered impressive outcomes in the Group Stage of the continental showdown, finishing top and booking a place in the quarterfinals.

Yanga got off on the wrong foot, conceding a 2-0 loss to Union Monastirienne in Tunisia and later reorganized to hammer DR Congo club, TP Mazembe, 3-1 in Dar es Salaam.

Mali's Real Bamako lost 2-0 to Yanga in the following clash that took place in Dar es Salaam. The Jangwani Street squad went on to wallop Union Monastirienne 2-0 in the city.

Yanga eventually wrapped up the Group Stage in grand fashion, edging TP Mazembe 1-0 in DR Congo.

The quarterfinals witnessed Yanga again notching good results against Nigerian outfit, Rivers United, winning 2-0 in the first leg and notching a 0-0 draw in the rematch to book a place in the semi-finals.

South African club Marumo Gallants was Yanga's opponent in the last four, in which the latter notched a 2-0 win in the first leg at home and later won 2-1 away.

Before knockout matches the Jangwani Streets outfit allowed four goals in Group Stage, including losing 2-0 away to US Monastir.

Dar tennis player shines in ITF World Tour Junior

By Correspondent Joseph Mchekadona

TANZANIA'S junior tennis star Shana Mao has impressed in the just-ended J30 International Tennis Federation (ITF) World Tour Junior played in Kampala, Uganda.

Coach Nicolas Leringa who accompanied the performer said she partnered with Ghanaian, Sisu Makena Tomegah, and the duo emerged winners in Girls' doubles category.

He said the pair triumphed 7-6, 6-2 over Indians Shanvitha Nukala and Pia Mistri in the tournament which took place from May 24-26.

The coach further said before winning the Girls' doubles category, Shana reached the semi-finals in the Girls' singles category.

He described the junior tennis ace's performance in the showdown as very impressive.

"This is a rare achievement and I'm very impressed with her performance, the

J30 World Tour attracts the cream of players from around the world so to win in the Girls' doubles category is a big achievement not only for her but also the whole country," he said.

Meanwhile, six Tanzania female tennis players left for Rwanda on Thursday to take part in Billie Jean King Cup scheduled for Monday to Sunday.

Tanzania Tennis Association (TTA) president Francis Thomas who has bankrolled the team said he is confident of witnessing the players garnering good results in the tournament.

The players who made the trip are Esther Nankulange, Naitoti Singo, Barbara Mollé, Shana Mao, Nasha Singo, and Edna John.

In a telephone interview, Edna, the squad's skipper, said they are well prepared for the tournament. She thanked TTA president for sponsoring the team's trip to



Shana Mao

Rwanda.

"We are ready for the tournament, everyone is looking forward to it and our aim is to win am sure we will do that," she said.

The 2023 ITF World Tennis Tour Junior Finals will take place at the Sichuan International Tennis Center, Chengdu, China on October 16-22, 2023.

The event showcases the

best junior players from the past 12 months within the ITF World Tennis Tour Juniors, which provides opportunities for players aged 18 and under to compete internationally.

In partnership with the Chinese Tennis Association, Chengdu Sports Bureau, and Chengdu Shuangliu District Bureau of Culture, Sports, and Tourism, the event will resume in Chengdu following successful events that took place between 2015-2019.

Previous participants include 2022 US and French Open finalist Casper Ruud, and current US No.1 Taylor Fritz.

The reigning Wimbledon champion Elena Rybakina and 2021 US Open finalist Leylah Fernandez also make the list.

Previous champions include Andrey Rublev (2015), Marta Kostyuk (2017), Holger Rune (2019), and Diane Parry (2019).

The Finals will consist of

the top eight boys and girls in the ITF World Tennis Tour Junior Finals Qualification Rankings.

They will consider results achieved in the 52 weeks up to September 11, 2023.

If no Chinese player finishes in the top eight, the final place in each draw will be reserved as a wildcard for any Chinese player who finishes in the top 25.

If no Chinese player finishes in the top 25, the eighth place will revert to the qualification rankings list.

New for 2023, an alternate player will be awarded for the Boys and Girls events.

For 2023, this player will be a Chinese player provided they are ranked in the Top 100 in the final qualification rankings.

The current qualification rankings can be found here and will be updated each Monday, until the final list is published on September 11, 2023.

Flexibles by David Chikoko

THERE ARE 3 KIND OF PEOPLE. THOSE WHO KNOW HOW TO COUNT AND THOSE WHO DON'T!

