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TANZANIA

TUESDAY 28 FEBRUARY, 2023

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superbrands in EA awards

By Guardian Correspondent

THE Guardian Limited and ITV-Independent Television have once again recognized as among Tanzania's leading brands, with spectacular performance in service delivery.

The Guardian has previously been named a 'superbrand' in the East African region eight times, from its first award in 2005, and then in 2011, 2012-2014, 2015, 2016, 2017 and 2022. At an award ceremony in Dar es Salaam yesterday, Superbrands East Africa director Jawad Jaffer said the awards are tied with surveys that show the companies' performance during the preceding year. Companies which have demonstrated high performances are the ones being recognized

and awarded," he said. Companies not making it in the current awards have to increase efforts and invest in issuance of quality services.

Jaffer said though there are many challenges of running



Companies which have demonstrated high performances are the ones being recognized and awarded

firms, companies should put more efforts in improving their products and brands locally and international level. The Guardian Ltd feature editor Alex Songa, upon receiving the super brands award, expressed satisfaction with the gesture of recognition, saying that the award reflects the hard work and quality products the newspaper

groups seeks to give out on a

daily basis.

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The Guardian, ITV named superbrands Samia warns on repeated ministerial disagreements



Tanzania Cooperative Development Commission chairman Abdulmajid Nsekela addresses an open meeting in Dar es Salaam yesterday called primarily to enable stakeholders to brainstorm on the modalities and strategies to deploy in strengthening cooperatives. The commission is mandated with the regulation and promotion of cooperative sector development across the country. It is meant to grow into a leading organisation in Africa fostering the development of modern commercial cooperative societies meeting global standards and the demands of the cooperative movement. Story on Page 15. Photo: Guardian

By Henry Mwangonde

Suluhu Hassan yesterday mentioned disagreements between ministers, deputies and with permanent secretaries had contributed to the need for reshuffles in a wide range of positions in the government.

She made this observation in brief remarks after swearing in the newly appointed ministers, deputy ministers, permanent secretaries and their deputies, along with regional commissioners.

The president cautioned that this is the last time she uses disagreements to make changes, and next time she will simply relieve both disputants of their responsibili-

"I do not like to talk about disagreements between top govern-

ment officials, but the scenario keeps being repeated. I will not use this as a reason to make changes next time, what I will do is to sack both of you," she affirmed.

Disagreements tween ministers and their deputies and similarly with their permanent secretaries derail service delivery, she state, noting that failing to understand one another among ministers implies that they had both failed to fit in the given tasks, she stated.

Another reason for the changes among permanent secretaries was to improve efficiency and service delivery by having people with more ability in the specific sector, she

The president directed newly appointed Live-

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The Guardian features editor Alex Songa (R) and ITV programmes director Pius Paul hold Super Brand awards after the newspaper (a publication of The Guardian Limited) and the TV station. both IPP media outlets, yet again emerged winners following research conducted across last year by Super Brand East Africa. This was at a prize-presentation ceremony held in Dar es Salaam yesterday. Superbrands EA identifies and pays tribute to exceptional brands by recognising, rewarding and reinforcing leading brands across the East Africa region. Photo: Correspondent Shifaa Lyimo

FLOUR YOU LOVE,

BRT III's completion slated for March 2024

By Guardian Reporter

Rapid Transport (BRT-III) project along ...building the road THE work pace for Phase III of Bus Nyerere Road in Dar es Salaam is satisfactory, the government has stated.

Prof Makame Mbarawa, the Works and Transport minister, expressed this feeling when inspecting work by the contractor, Sinohydro Construction users. It has to be Corp. of China in the city yesterday, asking it to ensure that the work is completed by March next year.

He urged city residents in the city centre to Gongo la Mboto suburb, beyond the international airport, to exercise patience as construction proceeds. Road congestion will be eased along

goes in tandem with beautifying the city, by creating a friendly environment for road attractive in line with improvements available with currently available applications

the road leading to the outer reaches of the Julius Nyerere International Airport (JNIA), he said, urging that the project proceeds rapidly.

Motorists along the road have to follow contractors' setting of space to enable construction work along with ensuring the safety of passengers, he said.

He said the Tanzania National Roads Agency (TanRoads) has to ensure that vehicles are well directed in the morning and evening rush hours during the project period, to avoid traffic jams or accidents.

He similarly urged TanRoads to prioritise people in the vicinity in recruiting casual labour for the project. Those em-

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Key US firm to buy 17,000t of graphite yearly from 2025



By Guardian Reporter

TESLA Inc., a leading electric car manufacturer, has signed an accord with an Australian firm mining graphite in Tanzania, to buy 17,000 tonnes annually from early 2025.

Tesla is a firm headed by US billionaire Elon Musk, holding vast manufacturing interests in China. It signed an agreement with

Energy Technologies for the purchase, linking it with Magnis subsidiaries Uranex (T) Ltd and Magnis Technologies (T) Ltd (MTT) for the supply of graphite. The accord targets purchasing graphite and any anode active materials, on the basis of a media statement availed to the media.

Under the agreement, Tesla

Australian firm Magnis

The long term aspirations of Magnis is to turn Tanzania into a pivotal center for the production of graphite but also to improve lives and living conditions ...

will purchase a minimum of 17,500 tonnes per annum of the material starting from February 2025, envisaging a maximum of 35,000 tonnes yearly for a three-year period at a fixed price, it

The deal arrives at a critical juncture for both companies. More importantly Tanzania is set for unprecedented benefits from the deal. Uranex is a subsidiary

company operating under the Australian miner Magnis Energy Technologies and its Nachu graphite project in Lindi Region is among leading graphite deposits globally, it said. Uranex holds a special mining license No. 550/2015 under the Minerals ministry with Magnis Technologies

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Key US firm to buy 17,000t of graphite yearly beginning 2025

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(T) Ltd granted a license to operate within a special export zone for a 10year period, renewed in May 2021. Tesla is recognized as a US automotive and clean energy company known for its leading role in accelerating the world's transition to sustainable energy with electric cars. solar panels and integrated renewable energy solutions. Tesla will buy graphite and processed anode material based on the graphite for its batteries, the statement noted, affirming that Uranex will oversee the Nachu mining project to yield high quality natural flake graphite concentrate.

The project based in Ruangwa district provides graphite with a unique crystal structure and low impurity, hence not requiring expensive and environmentally toxic chemicals for purification.

For the government, the strategic partnership provides an opportunity to reap first hand environmental, economic and strategic rewards from a

pected to make Tanzania a leading participant in the global push for greener and sustainable renewable energy storage.

The world class facilities and infrastructure set out in the special economic zone will capture leading industrial technologies matching the ever growing ambition and demand of the global market, it said.

Magnis will add to improving the livelihoods of Tanzanians by job opportunities, pushing economic growth and social uplift via social corporate responsibility programs, the statement indicated.

"The long term aspirations of Magnis is to turn Tanzania into a pivotal center for the production of graphite but also to improve lives and living conditions of Tanzanians through giving jobs, building roads, electrification of homes in the community and improving social services as well as complying with rules of the country," it asserted.

Magnis Energy Technologies Ltd is a vertically integrated lithium-ion battery technology and materials company in the Lithium-ion battery supply chain. The firm's US subsidiary Imperium3 New York, Inc. (iM3NY) operates a gigawatt scale Lithium-ion battery manufacturing plant in Endi-

leading brand. The Nachu project is excott, New York.



The Vatican's Ambassador to Tanzania, Bishop Angelo Accattino, presents his letters of credence to President Samia Suluhu Hassan at Chamwino State House in Dodoma Region yesterday. Photo: State House

BRT III's completion slated for March 2024

FROM PAGE 1

ployed need to exercise patriotism and shun acts of sabotage, he emphasised.

BRT project manager Barakaeli Mmari said the 231.3bn/project will have 32 bus stops and two terminals, along with a pedestrian crossover.

TanRoads is well mobilized

enable the completion of the project in time, at the required standards, he stated.

Harun Senkuku, the Tan-Roads regional manager, said that building the road goes in tandem with beautifying the city, by creating a friendly environment for road users. It has to be attractive in line with improvements available with cur-

to supervise the contractor to rently available applications, he

Phase III of the BRT project is 23.6km long basically linking the Nyerere Road from the outer reaches of the city centre to Gongolamboto, while a section of the project branches via Uhuru Road by a stretch to Tazara that is extended to the Kariakoo-Gerezani BRT terminal, he stated.

He further noted that phase 4 of the project takes up a 16.1-kilometre stretch along Bagamoyo Road up to Tegeta, with the central business district terminal at Bibi Titi Road, via Sam Nujoma

DART is a mass transit bus system linking major suburbs of Dar es Salaam to the central business district, to cut the number of commuter buses and Gerezani terminals.

Road.

plying routes to the city centre, with its operations taking off May 2016.

Construction of the \$154m first phase was completed late 2015, financed by the African Development Bank (AfDB) and the World Bank, in part.

Phase I took up 21 kilometres road stretches from Kimara via Ubungo to Kivukoni, Morocco



Danieli Amulike (R), director of the Kigoma-based Trolle Messle factory, pictured in Kigoma-Ujiji municipality yesterday showing Prime Minister Kassim Majaliwa samples of palm oil as one of the products produced there. The PM was on a visit to the facility. Photo: PMO

EAC secures funds for feasibility

Samia warns on repeated ministerial disagreements

she added.

FROM PAGE 1

stock and Fisheries minister Abdallah Ulega to work on complaints being directed at the ministry.

"You should now go and work on these issues because at first I know you will say that you failed to implement them because you were under someone," she said.

The president said she has been appointing people from the private sector to get different perspectives, noting that their experience was helpful to During the ceremony, confirmed appointing

improve service delivery. the president also Yahya Samamba to the Mining Commission as executive secretary. "I thought the team I had was enough to take me to the Promised Land but in life changes happen,'

Earlier. Prime Minister Kassim Majaliwa underlined accountability among the newly appointed ministers and officials to ensure quality service delivery. In the recent changes, President Samia dropped Mashimba Ndaki as Minister of Livestock and Fisheries, replacing him with Abdallah Ulega. She also appointed Ramadhani Kailima, who directed the general elections in 2015, and may now likely manage the 2025 general election. He replaces Dr Wilson Mahera, appointed by fifth phase president Dr John Magufuli to head the directorate in 2019. He becomes deputy permanent secretary in the President's Office (Regional Administration and

Local Governments).

study on the northern corridor **By Special Correspondent** THE East African Community (EAC) has secured over 1.5 billion/- (\$1.4 million) for a feasibility study on a key section of the northern transport corridor linking Kenya and Uganda.

> ture deputy Secretary General Steven Mlote said the funding from the African Development Bank - is for conducting a feasibility study on the 256km multinational Kisumu-Kisian-Busia/ Kakira - Malaba-Busitema-Busia expressway project.

EAC Planning and Infrastruc-

Mlote said that part of the funding would also be for the feasibility studies for upgrading the Malaba, Busia and Lwakhakha border posts along the Kenya-Uganda border.

He stated that the Secretariat

had also secured a commitment nia and Burundi to implement for traffic originating and termiof €10 million (1.3 billion/-) from Germany in December 2022 for purposes of financing feasibility studies towards upgrading trade infrastructure in the region.

Mlote spoke during the opening session of the EAC Sectoral Council on Transport, Communications and Meteorology (SCTCM) in Bujumbura, Burundi.

Speaking during the opening session, the chairperson of the meeting, who is also Burundi's Minister for Infrastructure Dieudonne Dukundane, emphasised the importance of introducing performance indicators in the TCM report in future as a way of assessing progress in the implementation of the directives of the

sectoral council. The SCTCM directed Tanzathe EAC Roaming Framework by August 30, 2023, and provide the status of implementation to the next Summit of the EAC Heads of

The meeting also further directed Tanzania to make the necessary amendments towards the implementation of the 16th Summit directives (issued on July 15, 2015), with respect to roaming and surcharges on traffic from partner states.

In addition, the ministers directed Tanzania to ensure that the amendments are done in the wholesale tariff like the interoperator tariff, to be capped at \$0.07/Min for traffic originating and terminating within EAC and retail tariff which shall be capped at \$ 0.10/Min inclusive of taxes,

nating within EAC.

There will also be no charges for receiving roaming calls originating within the EAC, in addition to the removal of surcharges for international traffic originating

and terminating within the EAC. The EAC roaming framework or one network area was meant to harmonise mobile and data roaming charges across the region, and make affordable calls starting from and ending within the region, in addition to enhancing intra-regional trade.

The framework-imposed price caps on roaming charges and called for the removal of surcharges on cross-border telecommunications traffic originating and terminating within the EAC.

The Guardian, ITV named superbrands

"This award will stimulate our efficiency drive in enabling us to maintain the quality level we seek to attain each day," he said.

Pius Paul, the programmes director at ITV, meanwhile made an assurance that the station was striving to improve its programs to meet expectations of its audience and clients. "This is the sixth time we are receiving this award. We thank Super Brand (East Africa) Co. and the client base for recognizing our work and trusting us," he stated.

representative Jimmy Kiwelu said that the award encourages greater innovation to produce quality products affordable to everyone.

Red Gold, Petro Group, Whitedent and Azam TV were other companies cited for the superbrands nomination and award, organisers said.

Super Brands is a marketing firm playing a key role as an independent arbiter of branding and recognition of competitive brands.

It identifies and pays tribute to exceptional brands by recognising, rewarding and reinforcing leading brands from all

over the world. since 1995. "What started as an industry award has become a globally recognised barometer of the region's strongest brands," the regional director intoned.

Dr Mwinyi hails commitment by AfDB to support Isles' government projects

By Guardian Reporter, Zanzibar

ZANZIBAR President Dr Hussein Mwinyi has hailed the African Development Bank (AfDB) for its commitment to support the Isles government in implementing projects in health, infrastructure and transport sectors.

Dr Mwinyi made the remarks when he met and held talks with a high level delegation of the bank which was led by its President Dr Akinwumi Adesina, at the State House in Zanzi-

President Mwinyi used the opportunity to explain to the bank's delegation of the achievements that his government has made in administering sectors under the blue economy saying the tourism sector contributed 30-percent to the national economy. Another sector under the blue

economy policy was the fisheries sector where he said needed a revamp as fishermen still use the old systems of fishing.

The president also said another sector which needed a boost was sea-

weed farming saying there is need to support women who are mostly involved in the cultivation of the crop with necessary equipment to maximize their produce.

Dr Adesina said the bank will support Zanzibar in construction of roads and the whole infrastructure sector adding that currently the bank was also supporting construction of Bububu-Mahonda road, Mkokotoni, Tunguu-Makunduchi to Chakechake.

He said the bank will also support construction of Pemba airport and other projects including water markets adding that the bank has also set aside \$15 million to support sectors under the blue economy policy.

Zanzibar archipelago will upgrade Pemba Airport to an international one so as to boost tourism.

Pemba Island is less visited than Zanzibar Island, but is popular for having exotic and pristine white sandy beaches and tourist sites such as Jozan Forest Reserve, home of flying fox.



Zanzibar President Dr Hussein Ali Mwinyi has an audience at Zanzibar State House yesterday with a Tanzania Ithnashariya Community delegation led by Maulana Sheikh Hemed Jalala Mwakindenge. Photo: Zanzibar State House

Majaliwa rallies for oil palm

cultivation in Kigoma region

By Guardian Reporter

PRIME Minister Kassim Majaliwa has called on regional commissioners, district Commissioners and leaders of political parties to use their platforms to mobilise for oil palm cultivation in order to increase its production.

Majaliwa made the call on Sunday as he was addressing stakeholders of oil palm cultivation in Kigoma.

The stakeholders included oil palm farmers, seedlings producers, palm oil extractors, and village executives, officials from financial institutions and regional, and local government officials.

He convened the meeting to discuss challenges facing the oil palm sector and look for ways to develop the crop aimed at freeing the coun- country by initiating huge transfortry from palm oil imports.

He called on RC and DC with areas fit for the crop's cultivation to address the challenges as apart from earning money to farmers, the sector can create employment opportunities for the youth.

In regard to the country's edible oil consumption, Majaliwa said:

"As for now the country's edible oil demand stands at more than 650,000 tonnes a year while production is estimated at 290,000 tonnes only. Hence about 360,000 tonnes or55.4 per cent of the demand is imported costing the country 470bn/of its foreign reserves every year."

In order to address the challenge, Majaliwa said the government vows to solve the edible oil demand in the mation in the edible oil production sector including palm oil.

"The transformation will go in tandem with planting new improved seedlings. Hence Kigoma residents should take steps to plant oil palm seedlings in earnest," he stressed.

The government took a deliberate step to include oil palm crop in its list of the strategic crops, others are cotton, tobacco, coffee, cashew nuts, tea, sisal, grapes and sunflower.

Earlier, welcoming the PM, Deputy Agriculture Minister Anthony Mavunde said the efforts continue with the production of quality Tenera seeds that produces three times the amount of oil than the Dura type that is grown by about 90 per cent of



REQUEST FOR EXPRESSIONS OF INTEREST (CONSULTING SERVICES)

MULTINATIONAL TANZANIA – BURUNDI – DRC CONGO SGR PROJECT PHASE I

THE CONSTRUCTION OF THE TANZANIA/BURUNDI (UVINZA - MUSONGATI -**GITEGA) SGR SECTION**

> TENDER NO.: PA/154/HQ/AFDB/202-23/C/01 **FOR**

CONSULTANCY SERVICES FOR REVIEW OF DESIGN AND SUPERVISION OF **WORKS FOR CONSTRUCTION OF A ELECTRIFIED STANDARD GAUGE** RAILWAY (SGR) UNDER DESIGN AND BUILD ARRANGEMENT

- The Governments of the United Republic of Tanzania and the Republic of Burundi have applied for financing from the African Development Bank toward the cost of The Construction of the Tanzania/Burundi (Uvinza - Musongati - Gitega) SGR Section $which is the \, Phase \, Iof the \, Tanzania \, - \, Burundi \, - \, DR \, Congo \, SGR \, project \, and \, intends \, to \, apply \, part \, of \, the \, agreed \, amount \, for \, this \, project \, and \, intends \, to \, apply \, part \, of \, the \, project \, and \, project \, project \, and \,$ loan to make payments under the contract for Consultancy Services for Review of Design and Supervision of Works for
- The Governments of the United Republic of Tanzania and the Republic of Burundi have entered into a bilateral agreement and appointed the Tanzania Railways Corporation as the implementing agency for this multinational project.

Construction of a Standard Gauge Railway (SGR) under Design and Build Arrangement.

- Supervision of Works for Construction of a Standard Gauge Railway (SGR) under Design and Build Arrangement.
- The scope of works will be the design and construction of about 282 km of an electrified Standard Gauge Railway line from $Uvinza\ in\ Tanzania\ (off\ the\ Tabora\ -\ Kigoma\ SGR\ line),\ across\ the\ international\ border\ along\ Malagarasi\ river\ to\ Musongati\ and\ Musongati$ onwards to Gitega (both in Burundi).
- $5. \quad \text{The two Governments of Tanzania and Burundi have entered into a bilateral agreement to implement this multinational project}$ as a single project within Tanzania to Burundi territories. There will a single works contractor and a single supervising consultant for the whole project. However, for purposes of administration, the project is divided into two (2) lots: Lot 1 consist of the 156KM Tanzania Section to be implement in one package, and Lot 2 consists of the 126 KM Burundi section to be implemented in 2 packages as described below.
- 6. The project is divided as follows:
- Lot 1: Tanzania section from Uvinza to Malagarasi border (156 KM) to be implemented as one package. Lot 2: Burundi section from Malagarasi to Musongati and Gitega (126 KM) to be implemented in two packages
- Lot 2-Package A: Malagarasi Musongati (80KM) Section.
- Lot 2- Package B: Musongati Gitega (46KM) Section.
- On behalf of two Governments of Tanzania and Burundi, TRC a government entity formed under Railways Act No. 10 of 2017 and $incorporated in the United \,Republic of \,Tanzania \,under \,the \,Companies \,Act \,No. 10 \,of \,2017 \,will \,facilitate \,all \,procurement \,on \,behalf \,Act \,No. 10 \,of \,2017 \,will \,Act \,No. 10 \,o$ of parties. TRC is wholly owned by the Government of United Republic of Tanzania and is under the Ministry of Works and Transport. The major responsibilities of TRC as provided in the Act are principally, to develop, promote and manage the railway infrastructure assets in Tanzania Mainland. TRC in collaboration with ARTF (Burundi Corporation in charge of Railways) intends to Construct an approximately 282 route-kilometre Railway line between Uvinza and Gitega via Musongati in Burundi and other railway facilities enroute to Standard Gauge, based on American Railway Engineering Maintenance of Way Association (AREMA) and UIC standards. The project will be implemented for period of five (5) years.
- 8. The Tanzania Railways Corporation (TRC) as Implementing Agency now invites eligible consultants to indicate their interest in
- Interested consultants must provide information indicating that they are qualified to perform the services such as ((i) Company profile, Registration and Incorporation certificates, (ii) Proven technical capability and experience to carry out supervision of an Electrified UIC standards Railway Construction Works with ERTMS Level II systems, and review of contractor's designs of at least 1,000 km, at least five (5) years' experience and having worked in more than two (2) projects with similar nature and scope, (iii) Present detailed description of similar successfully completed assignments/projects, include track record demonstrating experience in similar conditions, (iv) Availability of appropriate skills among staff/team, (v)Brief methodology towards implementation of the project. Consultants may constitute joint-ventures to enhance their
- 10. Eligibility criteria, establishment of the short-list and the selection procedure shall be in accordance with the African Development Bank's Procurement Policy Framework dated October 2015, which is available on the Bank's website at http://www.afdb.org. Borrowers are under no obligation to shortlist any consultant who expresses interest.
- 11. Interested consultants may obtain further information at the address below during office hours from 900 to 1630hours.
- Expressions of interest must be delivered to the address below by 24th March, 2023 at 1030hours and mention "Tender No.PA/154/H0/AFDB/202-23/C/01 for CONSULTANCY SERVICES FOR REVIEW OF DESIGN AND SUPERVISION OF WORKS FOR CONSTRUCTION OF A STANDARD GAUGE RAILWAY (SGR) UNDER DESIGN AND BUILD ARRANGEMENT".
- 13. EOI will be opened promptly thereafter in public and in the presence of EOI's representative who choose to attend the opening ceremony at TRC Headquarter Conference Room.
- 14. Electronic, telegraphic, telefax will NOT be accepted. Late submission of EOI shall not be accepted for evaluation irrespective of the circumstances and will be returned to sender unopened.

Attn: Director General Office Masanja K. Kadogosa, Director General P.O Box 76959, Sokoine Drive/Railway Street +255, Dar es Salaam, Tanzania Tel: +255 22 2112695 Facsimile (fax): +255 22 2116525; +255 22 2127404 E-mail: dg@trc.co.tz; pmu@trc.co.tz

SOUND AND FAIR TANZANIA THROUGH THE JOINT LIQUIDATORS

DISPOSAL OF ASSETS, 2023

Sound and Fair Tanzania Limited through the Joint Liquidators intends to dispose its assets and hereby invites bidders to participate in bidding process. The assets will be sold through open auction on 03rd March 2023 from 09:00AM at Mbagala- Kongowe, Mzinga. Interested bidders are encouraged to visit our yard at Mbagala- Kongowe, Mzinga for assets inspection and verification on 1st and 2nd March 2023.

LIST OF ASSETS

TABLE 1: MOTOR VEHICLE

	ASSET NAME	ASSET DESCRIPTION	CONDITION	ОТУ
1	CATERPILLAR- T382DKX	Make and Model: Caterpillar Forklift, Model No: DP2DNT, Eng no: CRS25113, Eng Capacity: 2200, Chassis No: CRS25113, Seating Capacity:1 Person, Yellow color. Running Km:238133, date of last service: 24/7/ 2020	Fair	1

TABLE 2: PLANT AND MACHINERY

		ASSET NAME	ASSET DESCRIPTION	QTY
	1	DUST COLLECTOR	Woodworking CNC Router Dust Collector Wood Saw Dust Extractor, (Work Dust Control Co.)	6
	2	MOTOR	Brook Crompton UK Motor Electric operated, 2.2KW, Control circuit 230/400V, 50HZ, r/min 2890	6
ĺ	3	PLANER	Small Sedgwick Woodwork machinery Planer	1
	4	TABLE SAW	Table Saw Nova Si 400	1
	5	TURNING MACHINE	Wood Turning Machine Lenze	1
	6	CROSSCUT MASHINE	Dewalt Cross Cut Machine made in German	1
	7	SLINGSBY	SLINDSBY, Heavy Duty 2.5 tons Pallet Truck, for moving heavy staff maximum up to 2500kg	1
	8	TIMBER KING	Timber King, Talon 900, for wood edger	1
	9	TIMBER KING	Timber King, Talon 2500, for wood edger	1
	10	SOLAR KILN	Solar Kiln, 7.5cm length 2016, Model:Type A Solar	1

TABLE 3: EOUIPMENTS

TABLE 3. EQUIT TENTS			
		ASSET DESCRIPTION	QΤΥ
1	SOLAR BETRY	Solar Battery, 2V/200Ah	48
2	INVERTER CHARGER	Pure Sinewave Inverter Charger 1.6KW	3
3	SOLAR PANNEL	Solar Panel, 300W	12
4	OTHER EQUIPMENTS	Printers, extinguishers, TV, DSTV, pump, motor, grinding machine, etc	

For any further information, kindly contact:

The Joint Liquidators Sound and Fair Limited

Email: straton@auditaxinternational.co.tz and khalfai@auditaxinternational.co.tz

Phone: +255 719 878 490

中国共产党第二十次全国代表大会精神专题宣介会 Muhtasari wa Mkutano Mkuu wa 20 wa Chama cha Kikomunisti cha China 坦桑尼亚革命党 Chama Cha Kikomunisti Cha China Chama Cha Mapinduzi 达累斯萨拉姆, 2023年2月

Li Mingxiang (3rd-R), deputy minister of the International Department of the Communist Party of China's Central Committee, briefs high-level CCM cadres led by Vice Chairman (Mainland) Abdulrahman Kinana (3rd-L) in Dar es Salaam yesterday on the 20th National Congress of the Chinese party (Beijing: Oct 16-22, 2022). Photo: Guardian Correspondent

Chinese govt encourages Tanzanians to produce avocados and soya to benefit from stable market

By Correspondent Joseph Mwendapole

THE Chinese government has encouraged Tanzanians to produce various crops saying that the Asian country has huge market demand for avocados and soya beans.

This was said during the weekend by the Chinese Ambassador, Chen Mingjian, when she met the Minister of Investment, Industry and Trade, Dr Ashatu Kijaji, at the Ministry offices in Dar es Salaam.

She said her government has always been a good friend to the government of Tanzania and the commercial relationship between the two countries continues to strengthen and is getting stronger day to day.

"Currently, China receives avocados from Tanzania and is ready to receive other products, especially soybeans in its market. Tanzanians are welcomed to bring these products to China because there is a guaranteed market," said the Ambassador.

Meanwhile, Minister Kijaji said the Tanzanian and Chinese governments have promised to develop business relations between them based on the principles of friendly relations and cooperation.

She said that the friendship between the two countries began in 1961 and that they will continue to honour the good foundation laid by the founders of the two countries who established the relationship.

Dr Kijaji said that Tanzania is willing to enable an enabling environment from both sides to cooperate and do their business in order to increase employment and promote the economy of the people and the nation as a whole.

Minister Kijaji together with the Ambassador discussed how to honour the Tanzania and Zambia Railways Authority (TAZARA) and revive the friendship factory of Urafiki which is the fruit of the relationship between the countries as well as various strategies to develop business

ACT-Wazalendo issues caution over privatisation of Z'bar ports services

By Guardian Correspondent, Unguja

ACT-Wazalendo has said plans by the Zanzibar government to privatise port services to a foreign firm should be carefully looked into as it can adversely affect the

The observation was given by Zitto Kabwe, the party's leader, when addressing a public rally at Nungwi in Unguja North region.

Zitto (pictured) said Zanzibar's economy depends on services from the international airport and ports services in regard to the development of the transport sector as the main pillar of its economy.

"Zanzibar Ports Board should be careful because the pillar of the Zanzibar's economy is tourism and the transport sectors," he said.

He said the solution to sluggish port services is not to privatise the services but the government is supposed to look for able and qualified officials to operate the services with achievements.

He said due to the sluggish port services, the cost for cargo clearance has risen to USD 7,000 per 40-ft container instead of USD 2,000 charged at the port of Dar es Salaam.

He said Zanzibar port services fees are higher compared to other countries in east Africa that charge between USD 1,600 to 1,700, the issue that contributes to Zanzibar continued inflation.

see Zanzibar becoming a commer- Africa and that this will be attained



"The aim of ACT-Wazalendo is to cial hub for East Africa and central after the party is elected to power,"

he added.

Regarding loans from the International Monetary Fund (IMF) to assist countries impacted by the Covid-19 pandemic, he said there has emerged large scale bureaucracy in assessing the funds amounting to 33bn/- that aimed to benefit Zanzibar small entrepreneurs.

He noted that the government, despite having its own People's Bank of Zanzibar (PBZ) had the funds remitted to the CRDB bank with the aim of providing loans to entrepreneurs before the emergence of monopoly that saw the money benefiting entrepreneurs' groups of the ruling CCM.

He called upon his party House of Representatives members to question the government on how well it has spent the IMF funds as many of those targeted have not benefitted.

Zitto said services at Zanzibar's Abeid Karume International Airport Terminal III have been privatised to a Dubai firm in violation of the laws on competitive bidding passed by the House of Represent-

He further said the Zanzibar Airports Authority (ZAA) has stealthily privatised the services in violation of the foundations of rule of law and good governance.

He added that the party has called upon the Zanzibar's Controller and Auditor General (CAG) to audit all investment projects implemented by Zanzibar Social Security Fund (ZSSF) over claims of corruption.



TENDER NOTICE

SURVEY & INSPECTION SERVICES OF FOOD FOR EDUCATION COMMODITIES AT DAR ES SALAAM, TANZANIA AND RUYIGI, BURUNDI

TENDER №: CRS-BIGEBOSE-FY23- 1st-01-SI

Catholic Relief Services - United States Conference of Catholic Bishops (CRS) is a nonprofit non-governmental international relief and development organization working with local partners and serving people on the base of need, not creed, race, or nationality in more than 100 countries in five continents.

CRS Burundi invites eligible bidders to submit sealed bids for survey and inspection services of USDA donated Commodities at Port of Dar es Salaam, Tanzania and at CRS warehouses in Ruyigi, Burundi.

The tender documents are available via e-mail from February 28th, 2023, till march 28th, 2023 (period), Monday to Friday during office hours. Requests for tender documents should be submitted on a company letterhead signed by Director/Manager of the company, scanned and emailed to **Bujumburaprocurement@crs.org** with "Request for Tender Documents: CRS-BIGEBOSE -FY23 1st-01-SI" in the subject line. Each company should submit the request once only, and CRS will send the tender documents within 24 hours. No phone calls and no visits please.

The Bids should be submitted in a sealed envelope via DHL addressed to "Tender Committee, Tender No: CRS-BIGEBOSE-FY23- 1st -01-SI, Catholic Relief Services, Avenue Muyinga # 9, BP 665, Bujumbura, Burundi, or the signed, stamped and scanned copies via email (Send only scanned copies of the following sections: Tender Receipt, Qualifications Summary, Declaration of Eligibility and Bid Form with the requested credentials such as ownership certificate of laboratory facility, licenses for the services, recommendation letters for previous Bujumburaprocurement@crs.org with "Tender Submission CRS-BIGEBOSE-FY23- 1st -01-SI" in the subject line.

The bids should be submitted until 3:00 pm Burundi time on 28th of March 2023. Bids received after 3:00pm Burundi time on March 28th, 2023, will not be considered during bid opening.

For more information about the tender, please read the tender document very carefully.

Huawei joins UNESCO Global Alliance for Literacy to step up talent cultivation

By Guardian Reporter, Barcelona

HUAWEI has joined the UNESCO Global Alliance for Literacy (GAL) as part of the company's lead up to the Mobile World Congress 2023. The announcement was made over the weekend in Barcelona, Spain at a Digital Talent Summit cohosted by Huawei and the Institute for Lifelong Learning (UIL) which serves as the Secretariat of the GAL.

At the Summit, Huawei and the UIL agreed to jointly promote the use of technology to raise literacy. The two parties also signed a cooperation agreement under which Huawei will fund an expansion of the UIL's current initiatives to enhance educators' use of technology in de-

veloping countries. Currently, the UIL initiative on this journey," operates in Bangladesh, Côte d'Ivoire, Egypt, Nigeria, and Pakistan.

Huawei is the first private company to become an associate member of the GAL and the company is excited as its own goals align with the GAL's vision of eradicating digital illiteracy in young people.

UIL Director David Atchoarena explained: "Our rapidly changing world calls for concerted efforts and strong partnerships to achieve quality education and lifelong learning for all."

"Huawei's expertise in the area of innovation in learning will be a great asset to the Global Alliance for Literacy. Collaborative projects such as ours will ensure that no one is left behind

President Corporate Communications stated: "Getting the right education is often the key to success in life. As a major player in the technology sec-

tor, Huawei feels

it has a responsibility to provide

technology skills

in all parts of the

world, trying our

best to include

Atchoarena said.

Huawei's

Vicky Zhang,

Vice



Call for Request of Applications

TANZANIA MAJI NA USAFI WA MAZINGIRA (MUM) **ACTIVITY - CALL FOR APPLICATIONS MUM-RFA-004**

The Tanzania Maji na Usafi wa Mazingira (MUM) Activity is a five-year activity (August 2021 - August 2026) funded by the United States Agency for International Development (USAID) Mission to Tanzania.

MUM is seeking Concept Notes detailing products and services from registered micro-enterprises, sole proprietors, and entrepreneurs to address pro-poor needs in the sanitation and hygiene value chain through supporting innovations to deliver appropriate products and/or services that can facilitate "do it yourself" by the low income customers of the MUM targeted communities. Please see https://tetratech.force.com/ard for full details and to download the Request for Applications MUM-RFA-004.

All interested applicants may either reach out to MUM grants unit by email at: tanzaniamum.grants@tetratech.com to request the full grant application document, or download it directly from the Tetra Tech grants portal (https://tetratech.force.com/ard). The application due date is March 28, 2023.

This call does not legally obligate Maji na Usafi wa Mazingira (MUM) Activity in partnership with any micro-enterprises, sole proprietor, or entrepreneur. No commitment is made, either expressed or implied, to compensate applicant for cost incurred in the preparation or submission of their applications.

as many people as possible." "We are proud to join forces with UNESCO to better deliver on this responsibility," Zhang added.

According to him, Huabelieves wei digital talent is a key driver in achieving digital transformation, solid economic growth, and better quality of life.

Since 2008, the official said Huawei has offered a wide and expanding range of talent programmes. Under its Seeds for the Future umbrella, Huawei provides tens of thousands of people every year with scholarships and digital training courses targeting all age groups.

Tanzania Gemmological Centre in Arusha all set for 19bn/- expansion

By Peter Wanjala

THE Tanzania Gemmological Centre (TGC) in Arusha is set for a19bn/- expansion project.

As part of the state-funded project, other structures including an eight-storey building will be built.

Doto Biteko, Minister for Minerals, stated that the tower will include, among other things, lecture rooms for the increasing number of students. He made this announcement recently at the center's first graduation ceremony for mineral polishers who had completed extensive training. Modern laboratories, training workshops, new hostels, and a business center for mineral dealers will all be part of the facility's massive expansion.

Arusha Gemstone Carving Center was its initial name from 2003 until 2009 when Tanzania Gemmology Center became its official name. The center's expanded mandate, which currently in-

cludes training in lapidary, jewelry train ing, and gemmology, necessitated the changes. According to Biteko, the government is keen to have a sufficient number of experts in cutting-edge technologies for mineral processing. Well-cut or polished minerals, particularly gemstones, increased their value in both local and international markets.

To increase value addition, Tanzania Gemmological Center, a vocational training center, provided in-house training in gem and rock carving. Since 2014, 274 students have graduated from short courses at Tanzania Gemmological Center. This is according to the center's coordinator, Daniel Kidesheni.

38 of the 78 students who had enrolled for training at the facility in 2019 graduated recently and were awarded diplomas. It was revealed that 40 of the 78 students who had enrolled for the training could not complete the course. This is because they were unable to raise the fees needed.



Residents of Mwaya village in Kilombero District gathered yesterday at the offices linked to National Development Corporation rubber farm waiting to air grievances against workers on the farms who allegedly beat up and injured a local resident and his wife who happened to pass through the farms earlier in the day on his way from their own farm. Photo: Guardian Correspondent

TaCRI works to satisfy huge demand of coffee seedlings in the country

By Correspondent Valentine Oforo, Dodoma

THE Tanzania Coffee Research Institute (TaCRI) is working round the clock to bridge an existing gap in the demand and availability of coffee seedlings among the local farmers so as to further improve production and productivity of the cash crop in the country.

Approximately the demand for coffee seedlings in the country currently stands between 50 to 60 million per year, but the Institute's capacity is to produce only 20 million coffee seedlings per year.

Giving an exclusive interview to The Guardian, TaCRI Chief Executive Director, Dr Deusdedit Kilambo said the shortage was to a great extent derailing farmers from reaching their full production potentials, but expressed that they were over possibilities to produce to the deeded demand.

"We are very determined to produce enough seedlings in order to cater for the farmers' demand in all regions where the crop flourishes, but unfortunately we are being constrained by some technical reasons," He said.

He added: "However, we are currently running several efforts and initiatives to ensure we stand in a comfortable posi-

tion to heighten our production capacities.' He said the Moshi-based institute has so far researched and produced at least 19 varieties of Arabica coffee as well as four of Robusta, expressing that the varieties are of high yielding, disease resistant to major coffee disease of economic importance in the country.

"The varieties are disease resistant to common coffee diseases including Coffee Berry Disease (CBD) and Coffee Leaf Rust (CLR) for Arabica and Coffee Wilt Disease (CWD) for Robusta. These varieties have acceptable qualities for local and foreign markets," Dr Kilambo observed.

He further detailed that the varieties have yield potential of between two and six tonnes per hectare of clean coffee (green coffee beans).

"However, at least three coffee varieties are still at the hands of the Tanzania Official Seeds Certification (TOSCI) waiting for certification, whereby nine breeding lines were evaluated on their potential for drought tolerance in a season beginning 2013, and in 2022, three were advanced for certification by TOSCI," he said, adding: "In case they get certification approval, they will be officially used commercially by 2024/25 season."

Moreover, he assured that Tanzania does not face any challenge of quality coffee varieties, as varieties developed by TaCRI are among the best varieties in the world.

"Our challenge is to satisfy the huge demand for coffee seedlings in the country. Approximately the demand is 50 to 60 million coffee seedlings but we can manage producing 20 million coffee seedlings per year," he insisted.

TaCRI was incorporated in 2000 as a company limited by guarantee and without share capital under the Companies Ordinance (CAP. 212), and it became legally constituted and operational in September 2001 with the major objective of rejuvenating the Tanzania coffee industry, placing new emphasis on stakeholder-led, demand-driven research for development.

BoT tasks the public to report lenders who charge more than 3.5pc on monthly interest rates

By Correspondent Joseph Mwendapole

BANK of Tanzania (BoT) has asked Tanzanians to report lenders who charge interest rates of more than 3.5 percent per month for legal actions to be taken against

The bank also asked Tanzanians to avoid random borrowing and instead seek such services from service providers who are registered with BoT and own a legal

The statement was made yesterday in Dar es Salaam by Principal Officer, Directorate of Financial Sector Supervision, Mary Ngassa, during a meeting with reporters and editors from various media houses on management of small financial services.

She said many Tanzanians are getting into the trap of borrowing loans from unregistered lenders who charge them high interest rates that are accompanied with difficult conditions

"BoT has set an interest rate of 3.5 percent per month: if there is a lender registered with BoT and is charging more than that, it has to be reported and this may lead to cancellation of license. Please let us know if there is any lender who is registered with us and is charging higher amounts of interest rates," she added.

She also advised Tanzanians to build a culture of visiting various lenders in order to find out their loan granting procedures and conditions instead of waiting to borrow money on the day they have problems.

"You must first satisfy yourself that the lender you are borrowing from has a BoT license, because if the registered lender commits any offence, it becomes easy for us to trace him and take action," she said.

She however insisted that people should make sure they get proper information about their borrowing and the conditions. She said there should be a clear contract between the two parties to avoid confusion in future.

He said BoT has received 38,970 applications from applicants who need to provide financial services whereas it has so far processed 38,482 applications and issued 35,872 licenses.

She said the number of applications returned to the applicants due to various problems is 1,942 while a total of 668 applications were completely rejected.

She said the bank has made an effort to provide education on treasury bills and the response is good because many people are currently investing.

She said that after the public awareness campaign many citizens are excited to invest in short-term government treasury bills unlike in previous years.

"Our experience shows that in the past we used to witness big banks and big organizations coming to invest in treasury bills but now we see many individuals coming," she said.

She said individuals with a minimum capital of 5,000,000/- and above can invest in treasury bills adding that in their website they have put a calculator that shows how much profit the investor gets when the bond matures.

Kigoma embarks on three-year contingency plan aimed to fight maternal and child deaths

By Correspondent Adela Madyane, Kigoma

AUTHORITIES in Kigoma region have come up with a three-year contingency plan aimed to fight maternal and child deaths bringing the trend to zero through improvement of health infrastructure and services.

Kigoma which is the fourth region with high rates of maternal and prenatal deaths, the figures of deaths keep rising from time to time. Under maternal deaths the figure has risen from 78 deaths in 2018 to 102 in 2022 whereas in the middle years the figures kept increasing, in 2019 the rate was 100, in 2020 it raised to 119 deaths and reduced to 75 deaths in 2021.

As of prenatal deaths in 2018 the fig-

1027, in 2020 the figure increased up to 1147 and reduced to 990 in 2021 and further reduced to 727 in 2022.

To help address the challenge, the World Health Organisation (WHO) have provided 15 ultrasound machines worth 390m/- out of 38 requested by the region to serve the purpose in the contingency plan.

The machines that will be provided in 15 health centres in eight councils of the region will benefit a total of 291,505 people.

Speaking during the handing over event at Kiganamo Health Centre in Kasulu town council, Dr Zabulon Yoti WHO country representative said the donation is aimed to help curb maternal and neonatal deaths to zero where

ure rated to 1222, in 2019 the figure was he called on pregnant women to have at least four antenatal visits to detect any complication and preferably to begin ultra sound check within 24 week of pregnancy.

"These deaths are preventable, women die as a result of complication which can be prevented, we need to scale the irresponsibility and remove the numbers to zero," said Yoti.

Yoti added that the WHO was in process of procuring two hardtop land cruisers and one ambulance boat to be handed in the region so as to reduce challenges on emergency transport and for women who depend on the lake the boat will support them when referred to other hospitals during pregnancy complica-



Peace Corps Tanzania

Request for Quotation (RFQ) for Vehicles: RFQ Number: PC-621-2023-001

Peace Corps/Tanzania (PCTZ) has a need for up to 3 vehicles. Peace Corps is soliciting fixed-price quotations from the vendor community for the vehicle detailed below (3 units) or for like vehicles from other manufacturers/makes.

Quotations are due no later than 5:00PM EAT on 10 MARCH 2023. Late quotations will not be accepted.

If you are interested in submitting a quotation, please do so by sending a completed and signed Vendor Quotation Form to the contacts indicated below. No phone calls will be accepted.

Please send an email to the contacts below to receive the full RFQ with the Vendor Quotation Form.

Name: David Solomon E-mail: dsolomon@peacecorps.gov or

Name: Miriam Kingee E-mail: mkingee@peacecorps.gov

Written questions about this Request for Quotation (RFQ) may be sent in the same fashion to the individual(s) noted above in advance of the RFO due date. No phone calls please

Peace Corps reserves the right to award to one vendor, or to split the requirement among vendors. Vendors may submit quotations only for those vehicles for which they can meet the below requirements.

A. Description of Requirements

Item	Make, Model, and Body	Toyota Land Cruiser Prado TXL (Code: GDJ150R-GKFEY SFX: A1)		
001	Style			
	Engine Size	1GD-FTV/ 2755cc		
	Passenger Capacity	7		
	Transmission Type	Manual Diesel		
	Fuel Type			
	Steering Wheel Position	Right Side		
		- Tool Box	- Differential lock system	
	Additional Specifications	- Electric 12V winch	- Roof rack	
		- Heavy Duty Bull Bar	- Fire Extinguisher	
		- Minimum fuel capacity of 150L	- First Aid Kit	
		- Snorkel	- 12V air compressor	
		- Allov Tire rims	- Spare Wheel cover	

All vehicles must contain the following standard options:

- Be unused with original, unused parts · Seat belts (all locations, including front, rear, side, middle, and jump seat passengers)
- Air conditioning
- AM/FM radio and CD player
- · Power assisted steering
- Intermittent wipers Mud guards
- Owner's manual in English
- · Electronic anti-theft system
- · Steering wheel lock
- · The manufacturer's commercial warranty registered to the Peace Corps as the first registered owner · All vehicles must meet local regulations and be able to be supported by the local authorized distributor. All vehicles must include
- general and tropical specifications. · The vendor must provide individual invoices for each vehicle in order for the US Embassy to process the duty exemption. · The vendor must provide all necessary paperwork/documentation to PCTZ to enable registration of vehicles with the proper authorities in Tanzania, identifying the US Embassy of Tanzania as the legal owner of the vehicles in accordance with US Embassy
- If importing the vehicles into Tanzania, the vendor must transport the vehicle to Dar es Salaam, Tanzania.
- If importing the vehicles into Tanzania, Peace Corps will accept quotations indicating that the Vendor will: a) Complete the customs clearance process based on duty exemption approval documents provided to the vendor by the US

Embassy in Tanzania; and b) Complete the necessary importation registration paperwork,

Or that the Vendor will not be providing services a) and b) specified above. If the Vendor's quotation specifies that they will not be providing services a) and b) specified above, the Vendor's quotation will be evaluated as if the cost was 2,300 USDE per vehicle more than the quoted price. This adjustment is for evaluation purposes only.

Delivery of vehicles should be to the Peace Corps office in Dar es Salaam, Tanzania or to the port in Dar es Salaam, Tanzania (if importing).

B. Place of Performance and Required Delivery Schedule

Vendors should indicate their anticipated delivery timeline, including registration and import, in their quotation. Failure to deliver the vehicle by the timeline anticipated in the final contract may result in the contract being withdrawn and awarded to another vendor.

C. Contract Terms and Conditions

As an Agency of the United States Government, Peace Corps has an approved contract template that it intends to use for the award. Peace Corps reserves the right to deny making a contract award to a vendor should they refuse to sign the Peace Corps approved contract template.

D. Minimum Criteria:

A quotation will not be considered further if it does not meet the following minimum criteria:

- Submitting a complete quotation by the specified deadline.
- · Ability to provide the vehicle which meets all standard specifications and include all specific requirements noted in section A, Item 001 to the required delivery address within the specified timeframe agreed upon in the final contract.
- · Vendor confirmed that they are able provide all necessary paperwork/documentation to the U.S. Embassy for the U.S. Embassy to register all vehicle(s) with the proper authorities in Tanzania, identifying the U.S. Embassy of Tanzania as the legal owner of the vehicle(s) in accordance with U.S. Embassy requirements.
- · If importing the vehicles into Tanzania, vendor confirmed they are able to transport the vehicle to Dar es Salaam, Tanzania.

E. Negotiations and Selection:

Award may be made with or without negotiations between the Peace Corps and the selected vendor. Award may be made to a vendor that provided the lowest priced technically acceptable quotation, or to a vendor other than the one that provided the lowest priced quotation, should that vendor be determined to have provided the best value quotation to the Peace Corps taking technical and cost factors into account.

Note: All vendors that submit quotations in response to this RFQ will be notified of the results. (End of RFQ)

NEWS

Environmental destruction at water sources thwarting govt's investment

By Guardian Correspondent, Mpwapwa

ENVIRONMENTAL destruction at water sources and dams is threatening the sustainability of the huge government investment in many water projects in the country.

Mpwapwa District RUWASA Manager, Cyprian Warioba made the remarks here at the weekend at the water stakeholders meeting that was convened to look into the implementation of the supply of clean and safe water in Mpwapwa Town.

Warioba said in FY 2023/24 the government, through RUWASA plans to implement 15 water projects in the district costing 2.6bn/-.

He said by January 2023 the number of people getting clean and safe water was 248,727 or 65.05 per cent of the district's estimated population of 320,891.

However, he said that 48 villages out of 113 in Mpwapwa district have no clean and safe water supply and are forced to use water from ponds, valley despite the government's allocation of funds for the implementation of various water projects.

He said in FY 2022/23, the government implemented seven water projects in Mtera, Pwaga, Maswala, Munguwi and Itende.

Others were Lupeta, Makutupa (with two villages), Igoji, Chinyika, Mlunduzi, Kisokwe, Idilo and the Kibakwe Village water infrastructural development project all of which cost

Mpwapwa District Commissioner, Sophia Kizigo said in order to do away with environmental destruction at water sources, RUWASA is supposed to employ militia youth who are to be trained in the protection of water sources.

She said the huge government's investment in water projects must be protected and have permanent strategies.

During the meeting, water stakeholders agreed to have a campaign for the protection of water sources including house to house campaigns stressing for safe toilets.

Rehema Turkal, a stakeholder from Water for People Tanzania said they, as water stakeholders, are ready to support the government's efforts in its goals for supplying its people safe and clean water as well as stressing environmental cleanliness.



Selemani Jafo (L), Minister of State in the Vice President's Office (Union and the Environment), gives instructions in Dodoma city yesterday after expressing dissatisfaction over progress in the construction of a building meant for use by the Vice President's Office in the national capital. Photo: Guardian Correspondent

European Union invests Euro 25 million to spur Kenya's exports

By Guardian Reporter

THE European Union (EU) has announced a funding of Euro 25 million to TradeMark Africa (formerly TradeMark East Africa) to facilitate a five-year programme that will boost Kenya's exports and support the government of Kenya in creating a conducive trade environment.

Moreover, the programme will aim to create a more environmentally sustainable export eco system that will reduce the carbon footprint of

The European Union Ambassador to Kenya Henriette Geiger and Trade-Mark Africa's Chief Executive Officer, David Beer signed the agreement in the presence of Kenya's Cabinet Secretary for Investments, Trade and Industry Hon. Moses Kuria during the ongoing EU-Kenya Business Forum that is taking place in Nairobi.

The programme, named Business Environment and Export Enhancement Programme (BEEEP), will build on interventions already supported by the Government of Kenya and will complement the goal of the Integrated National Export Development and Promotion Strategy (INEDPS) that seeks to grow Kenya's agricultural exports. The goal is to close the negative balance of trade through export growth, factor productivity and stimulate economic development and job creation, in a sustainable and inclusive manner.

Commenting about the programme before the ceremony, European Union Ambassador to Kenya Henriette Geiger said; "With BEEEP everything comes together, the private sector, the government and financing institutions. We are happy to support the Kenyan government in achieving a sustainable growth of its exports, including greening of transport and logistics. BEEEP aligns fully with our Global Gateway Strategy. The EU support to create a more conducive business environment both at national and county level will make Kenya an even more attractive destination for investments."

TradeMark Africa Chief Executive Officer, David Beer has lauded BEEEP as an initiative that will support Kenya to expand and green her export base. "While Kenya's export growth has been consistently strong, it can be much stronger. The opportunities in the next ten years will come from developing low carbon supply chains, enabling Kenya to take a larger share of world markets. We look forward to partnering with the government and private sector to help make this happen for Kenya's horticulture exports - avocado, mango and vegetables. We think these have the strongest potential to boost exports, add value and create jobs.

BEEEP will focus on solutions that resolve supply chain constraints, and storage and logistics challenges; improve processing, value addition and information access; and enable reforms that will enhance the business environment. Interventions will include increasing supply of locally produced goods that meet export market requirements, reduced trading times and costs, and helping shift export supply chains from air freight to sea freight. Other areas of support include harmonising trade processes

and procedures, improving access to quality standards and phytosanitary measures, as well as enhancing capacity of public sector actors to implement necessary business reforms at the national and county levels.

Kenyan President William Ruto opened the forum on February 23, which brought together 500 business people - 250 from Kenya and 250 from the European Union. The Business Forum was organised by the European Union in partnership with the Kenya Private Sector Alliance (KEPSA) and the European Business Council (EBC).

"We seek to establish strong partnerships that would further open up trade and investment opportunities between Kenya and the European market. At the same time, we work on the overall business environment of Kenya and collaborate with the Government to make the country more competitive and attractive for investors", said Carole Kariuki, Chief Executive Officer, KEPSA.

The Business Forum is the first business-to-business event organised as part of the EU Global Gateway strategy. A wide range of sustainable trade and investment partnerships will be launched to support growth and jobs in Kenya. The Global Gateway stands for sustainable and trusted connections that work for people and the planet and will help to tackle the most pressing global challenges. from fighting climate change to boosting competitiveness and security of global supply chains, with a strong role for the private sector and financial institutions.

Mtwara police holding herbalist over rape

By Guardian Correspondent, Mtwara

POLICE in Mtwara Region have detained Issa Mhando (41), herbalist and resident of Chipuputa Village in Mtwara Region fin connection with the rape of a 17-year-old girl at a grave yard after telling her he would provide her with medicines to solve challenges facing her life.

Confirming the incident, Acting Mtwara Regional Police Commander, Hamisi Ramadhani said the girl went to the herbalist requesting for a cure to her life problems.

Ramadhani said the herbalist told the girl that the cure involves going with her to the village graveyard.

He said when they arrived at the graveyard the herbalist allegedly tried to force to have sex with her, saying the act will help to cure her problems.

Ramadhani further said after receiving the report from his sources, the police arrested the herbalist for the offence and that he will soon be taken to court for the law to take its course. He said the police in Mtwara Region appeals to the community to desist from acts of rape as all those who will be found to do so will face the wrath of the law.

He also said the community should also cooperate with the police whenever they see crimes being committed so as the perpetrators are promptly arrested.

He said the police in the region have always been educating members of the public on how to work together with the police in order to



Barakaeli Mmari (arm raised), manager of the Dar es Salaam Bus Rapid Transit (BRT) Project, explains to Works and Transport minister Prof Makame Mbarawa (3rd-R) as the minister followed up progress in the implementation of the third phase of the project - from the city's Old Post Office to the Gongo la Mboto suburb. Photo: Works ministry

By Guardian Correspondent, Dodoma

PUBLIC employees have been called upon to be innovative and involve the people to solve the challenges they face by using the resources they possess instead of waiting for the government to do everything.

Dr Charles Msonde, Deputy Permanent Secretary in the President's Office - Regional administration and Local Government (PO-RALG) made the remarks here at the weekend when closing a three-day

Public employees urged to be innovative training seminar on opportunities and obstacles in development (O&OD) and the devolution of responsibilities for administrative secretaries, district execu-

tive directors and planning officers. He said public officials are supposed to take part in addressing existing challenges through the resources obtained in the relevant areas.

He also said the people are also supposed to be patriotic in making sure they help the government in acquiring selfdevelopment via the opportunities they have around them without waiting.

"There are areas we visited where classrooms construction was going on whereby the government provided 20m/- for building a classroom, but the work got stuck and we discovered that the area in which they had succeeded was due to the involvement of the people, hence public officials should involve the people in development projects in order to be sustainable and of benefit to the community," said Dr Msonde.

He said many public projects can be of no benefit and incur loss to the govern-

ment only because the people are not involved as well as establishing projects that are not the priority of the people in the area.

Jacob Malitinya from Tanzania Local Government reforms association (TOA) said the training has been coordinated by the association and sponsored by Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA).

He said TOA's aim is to exchange experience and improve work performance in the local governments.

Compensation exercise for people in road construction project going on - Z'bar govt

By Guardian Reporter, Zanzibar

THE Zanzibar government has said the process for paying compensation to the people who had their property destroyed to pave way for the construction of Wete-ChakeChake road was going on well and that construction work is expected to be completed in July next year.

This was revealed here yesterday by the deputy Works, Communications and Transport Deputy Minister Nadir Abdulatif Yussuf in the Zanzibar House of Representatives when responding to a question from Mtambwe representative, Habib Ali Mohamed who wanted to know why construction work of the road is slug-

The deputy minister said the process to pay compensation has been delayed after it was discovered that there are people who were illegally inserted in the list and that the government has begun taking disciplinary steps against the culprits.

He said the government has already started giving directives to legal organs, including Zanzibar economic Crimes Agency (ZAECA) to investigate officials who were involved in the fraud.

"Hon Speaker, it is true that the Wete-ChakeChake road construction is delayed due to various reasons including the delay in paying compensation to the people who had their property destroyed to

pave way for the construction," he said.

Elaborating, he said his ministry has already called upon all contractors given road construction tenders to make sure they complete the projects within the time agreed in their contracts.

He said the ministry will not accept any reasons from the contractors who have been provided with everything including payment of funds but fail to complete the projects in time.

"We have called upon MECCO, the Wete-ChakeChake contractor, to make sure they complete the project in time according to the contract agreement," he said.



We have called upon MECCO, the Wete-ChakeChake contractor, to make sure they complete the project in time according to the contract agreemen



Shinyanga Regional Police Commander Janeth Magomi pictured yesterday showing a microscope impounded by police in an operation mounted at the weekend. It had reportedly been stolen from Ilola Dispensary in Shinyanga District yesterday. Photo: Correspondent Marco Maduhu

Activists on mission to ensure new constitution considers women's rights

By Getrude Mbago

WOMEN activists have agreed to come up with a joint agenda to prepare themselves with a major campaign so as to ensure that the goals of obtaining a new constitution considers rights of the group.

Speaking in a panel discussion during the commemoration of the 15th anniversary of the Women Fund Tanzania - Trust (WFT-T), the stakeholders said a journey towards making women and girls rights respected by all needs a joint effort.

The discussion centred on variissues including women's movement in the country, achievements, expectations and challenges

country coordinator of the Tanzania Women Cross Party (TWCP) - Ulingo platform commended the

government for showing commitment to ensure that the country obtain new constitution. "We know that the special task

force formed by President Samia Suluhu Hassan is working on the new constitution, but we need to ensure that we prepare ourselves well to ensure that our priorities are included once the process commences officially," she said.

She said that among major issues that need to be contained in the proposed constitution are equal rights in leadership positions, protection of women's dignity, imple-

where Dr Avemaria Semakafu, mentation of international agreements, rights of girls and people with disabilities, quality reproductive services and ownership of resources," she explained.

> Rebecca Gyumi, the executive director of Msichana Initiative stressed on the need to have sustainable funding in the area of facilitating changes in the society and women movement as the outcome takes longer.

> "We need changes and transformation in systems, we need to ensure that we invest our efforts in making changes to ensure that oppressive systems are eradicated in our societies, women and girls live well and are respected. We still have a number of laws that oppress

women and girls thus thwarting them to attain their full potential, for example the Marriage Act, 1971, this is one of the laws which we have been crying for to be amended as it affects children's development," Rebecca said.

Receiving the report from the taskforce formed to collect stakeholders' views to improve democracy, in October this year, President Samia Suluhu Hassan promised to immediately work on the issues raised as well as recommendations.

Dr Samia said the report calls for the creation of a government team to analyse various issues including the constitution making process citing that some issues raised in the report can be implemented immediately

but others needed more time and

The task force report submitted to President Samia had eight recommendations aimed at strengthening democracy, to which the president promised to work on the issues raised.

The taskforce, chaired by former University of Dar es Salaam (UDSM) vice chancellor Prof Rwekaza Mukandala, proposed lifting the ban on political rallies and reviewing several

It also suggested allowing political parties to conduct political rallies, calling for amending various laws including the Cap 258 of the political Parties Act.

The presidential team also suggest-

ed an increment of the budget for the office of the registrar of political parties for smooth execution of duties and responsibilities of the council of political parties.

It demanded that the National Electoral Commission should not receive directives from any person, a government department or a political party. Its operations should be questioned by the highest court of law.

The task force also demanded a 40-percent women representation in political parties, brought together with people living with disabilities, supporting current criteria for issuing subsidies to political parties, but 10 percent of total subsidies should be channelled to other registered parties.

Khamis Hamza Khamis (C, in black shirt), Deputy Minister of State in the Vice President's Office (Union and Environ-

ment) and Nyamagana district commissioner Amina Makilagi (in head-cloth) look on as Excellency English Medium Academy pupils participate in a tree planting campaign at the weekend. Photo: Guardian Photographer

Africa needs to curb emissions to attract investments

THE Institute for Development and Economic Planning (IDEP) has said that urbanization and population growth are putting intense pressure on Africa's energy infrastructure.

The demand is significantly outstripping supply leading to power cuts and limiting economic development. The situation may worsen further as Africa's urban population keeps rising to an expected 1.2 billion by 2050.

This was revealed during a recent webinar organized by IDEP on 'How Africa can go green through a clean energy strategy' in preparation for the 9th Session of the Africa Regional Forum on Sustainable Development scheduled to take place in Niamey, Niger from February 28thto March 2nd, 2023.

Andrea Renzulli, Senior Expert at RES4AFRICA Foundation said: "Africa is the continent with the highest ergy for all or opportunities for leaprenewable energy potential in the frogging. It can also have a positive tion.

world and is the one with the least access to it. Against global trends, the continent's renewable energy investments have reached a historical low, accounting for only six percent of total investments in renewable energy.

Renzulli noted that in West Africa, for example, regulatory barriers are partly to blame for the slow development of renewables.

He added that renewable energy could greatly contribute to West Africa's development provided its natural (solar, wind and hydropower) resources are properly exploited.

According to IRENA estimates, West Africa's renewable potential is around 37 times its current energy production levels.

Cecilia Kinuthia-Njenga, UNFCCC Director for Intergovernmental Support and Collective Progress said:"A transition to clean energy can bring many benefits, such as access to enimpact on other economic sectors, health and pollution levels.'

According to IDEP Director, Karima Bounemra Ben Soltane, Africa can become a major supplier of gas. Beyond meeting its own needs, the region can help achieve energy security in Europe. To do so, Africa must increase and diversify its energy supply chain.

"Even if Africa is not known for being one of the main polluters, it needs to start curbing emissions to attract investments," insisted Bounemra Ben Soltane.

Head of the IDEP's E-Learning, Knowledge & Management Division, Thierry Amoussougbo discussed strategic steps required for Africa's successful transition to clean energy such as harmonising regulatory frameworks, reducing investment risks and providing public private partnership opportunities to attract investors and step up the private sector's contribu-

Giant ICT firm advocates striding faster towards an intelligent world

By Guardian Reporter, Barcelona

MOBILE industry players have been tasked to work together to move faster towards an ultra-broadband, green and intelligent world as the coming of 5G has no option.

Li Peng, President of the Carrier BG, Huawei made the call over the weekend in Barcelona, Spain when speaking at the Huawei's MWC Barcelona 2023 Day O Forum.

Peng said 5G was opening the door to an intelligent world, and how the leap to 5.5G would be a key milestone along this journey, stressing the industry had to work together to move faster towards an ultra-broadband, green, and intelligent world, and that Huawei's guide business blueprint could help lay the foundation for this important achievement.

He said the physical and digital worlds seem to be growing ever closer as the effects of digital

and intelligent transformation become increasingly apparent in our workplaces, our homes, and our personal lives.

"Many carriers have responded to the increasing demand in these areas for higherquality experiences and higher productivity, pushing the ICT industry forward," he said, noting that connectivity is key to prosperous 5G development.

"By the end of 2022, more than 230 5G networks had already been commercially deployed, supporting over one billion 5G users and a multitude of 5G devices, and 5G has driven rapid development of the ICT industry."

In the consumer market, he said: "Carriers have been innovating to extend "Connectivity+". As 5G capabilities continue to improve, leading carriers in Europe, Asia Pacific, and the Middle East have scrambled to develop different kinds of digital services.

Some carriers have converged connectivity with local OTT services, which allows them to achieve shared success. These offerings bundle connectivity with digital services like social media, helping them grow into a one-stop digital service provider."

According to him, the home market has also become an area where carriers can generate more value as 5G and fiber penetration continues to grow. "So, carriers are widening "Connectivity+" for better experiences, better services, and more efficient O&M. Premium home broadband services, like 5G FWA and 10G PON have expanded faster than expected, helping carriers in regions, including Europe and the Middle East increase ARPU by 30% to 60%."

General-purpose technologies like 5G, Peng stated that artificial intelligence (AI), and cloud computing are driving industrial digitalisation and bringing new strategic opportunities. "Enterprise customers need more offering portfolios; carriers need to reinforce "Connectivity+". One Chinese carrier has combined connectivity with cloud, AI, security, and platform services to expand into new markets and grow its revenue from industrial digitalization by over 20% in 2022."

"Moving forward, carriers will continue to improve their network capabilities, to provide more guaranteed experiences. So, carriers are making "Connectivity+" more open. Huawei has joined the CAMARA project led by the GSMA. Through this project, we aim to help carriers transform networks into service enablement platforms and monetize better customer experience."

Peng also stated: "Moving forward, the intelligent world will be deeply integrated with the physical world. Everything, including personal entertainment, work, and industrial production, will be intelligently connected. This means that networks will have to evolve from ubiquitous Gbps to ubiquitous 10Gbps, connectivity and sensing will need to be integrated, and the ICT industry will have to shift its focus from energy consumption to energy efficiency."

The evolution from 5G to 5.5G will be key to meeting these growing requirements in all sec-

"Huawei is ready to work with its industry partners to deliver a ubiquitous 10Gbps experience with innovative wireless, optical, and IP technologies; explore use cases like vehicleroad collaboration and environment monitoring to integrate sensing and communication; and build a unified energy efficiency indicator system to drive green industry development."

Peng also called upon the whole industry to follow the guide business blueprint to accelerate 5G prosperity and make fast strides towards

Guard

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

NGOs have to ponder human rights drive that affirms unity

of the judicial year of the African Court of Human and People's Rights (ACHPR) in Arusha, where Vice President Dr Philip Mpango officiated, human rights groups are still taking stock of the speech to see openings, of what may called a 'thaw' in relations between the court and the government. There is no institutional contention to speak of but reduced freedom for non-governmental organisations to take cases to the court which they can't obtain presumed remedies in local courts. They also seek to overturn specific provisions of the constitution using the court, ignoring that it easily can upset peace and harmony.

When the court was created in the early 1980s, the cry at that time was to move from near totality of overly authoritarian regimes in Africa to governments open to criticism and eventually to free and fair elections. Plenty of this has happened, but often at the cost of other imperatives in governance, as we in this country graphically learned over the past three decades.

On the basis of criteria that would be acceptable to the more vibrant of human rights advocates, some chaos is alright as long as no one's rights are interfered with.

This is a sentiment prevalent in African opposition sentiments, which Mwalimu Nyerere rejected in 1995 as the ruling party was getting ready to pick its flag bearer for the presidential election.

He also moved in to assist the ruling part in its campaign, against solemn advice from a

AFTER the recent opening that he remained neutral, taking fatherly role.

> What the founding president said at that time is relevant even for those who are in office at the moment, despite that it is 28 years down the line, as realities haven't changed much since. Mwalimu said 'I can't sit at home while my country goes to the dogs,' where those who know literature only in bits and pieces said he was seeing opposition parties as 'dogs.' It is hard to say they were indeed that ignorant, since dogs or hyenas never share a meal; they tear it apart.

> In that case not letting the country go to the dogs is to deny it moral leadership of what is right, confine oneself to the position of a bystander, and if untested individuals come to power and drive the country into a chasm, join others in saying it is God's will. Wisdom cautions against fence sitting, and no one should expect the government leadership to take a fence sitting attitude about stability, unity as the core of governance.

> This problem of attitude is not just true for Tanzania as it is visible in nearby countries as well, as governments take measures to rein in lawlessness and armed criminality.

Kenyan President William Ruto has lately had to declare a quasi-emergency over some north central dry zones where armed cattle rustlers are at work, by sending in a contingent of the military to raid households, establishments and even bush hideouts for illegal firearms. A well-known law society or legal defence group has since then demanded that number of quarters, wishing military units be withdrawn.

One year into Russia-Ukraine war, Tanzania is faring reasonaby well

IT is usually not proper to congratulate oneself for having lived relatively well while a massive conflict rages in a far off land, but doing so in relation to the Russia-Ukraine conflict may not be out of place, for once. It is a conflict that, adding to the yet to heal economic ailments rising from the Covid-19 pandemic, threw national economic expectations back to the drawing board, not knowing where to obtain wheat, gas or petroleum, among other key imports. The result was a rapid increase in prices that is still being felt around the world, now.

Inflation in the country has remained in the region of below five percent per annum, but the outcry heard in the media and in political quarters of various sorts illustrates the fact that this seemingly low rate of inflation is heavily loaded on basic commodities for daily use.

It isn't a rise in prices generally as for instance what comes up when a country's currency weakens, but singularly out of selective scarcity, which doesn't disturb key parameters of economic activity. It is a state of low supply from lack of imports and high cereal demand outside, etc.

A range of observers have usually saluted the fact that since the late 1990s we are gold exporters, which helps to stabilise the currency with its regular rise in prices when there is visible uncertainty in global economy.

That must have come handily enough though it isn't a subject that one hears too often discussed in the media, and then since the start of the past decade, local natural gas has replaced a portion of imported petroleum products, in which case giving the country ability to stem 'imported inflation,' though oil price hikes have still been quite painful even here.

The overall result is a noticeably lower rate of inflation, here.

This stability has thus helped the country to remain free of pressures that often beset states that can't pay current obligations in their external debts, a problem that has been getting acute media attention in the past few weeks. Past rallying cries of writing off Africa's debt or a part of it has not received an echo from sympathetic schools of thought among development practitioners in Western countries. The reason is that Africa isn't as poor as it used to be earlier; its debts are part of a global economic scenario, not marginal underperforming assets.

In taking note of economic stability even in the wake of economic morass in relation to the war in Ukraine, a vital parameter is lost in the tabulation, by just taking it for granted, and thus clearly taking the risk of ignoring it. There was a surprising run of events at the local level which rhymed with events in far offlands, to give the country an assured footing in how things turned out eventually.

First we had vast structural changes in the budgetary setting or public expenditure framework, reducing recurrent expenditure by 13 per cent as the fourth phase government gave way to the fifth. This concomitantly reduced intense reliance on aid for day to day needs, such that the pandemic, and the war, didn't affect major undertakings.

That is why it is not altogether strange that our resilience as a country or economy was made possible precisely by what many people thought was wrong.

That isn't strange in philosophy as life is full of illusions. We love soft and sweet things which soon land us in hospital ward.

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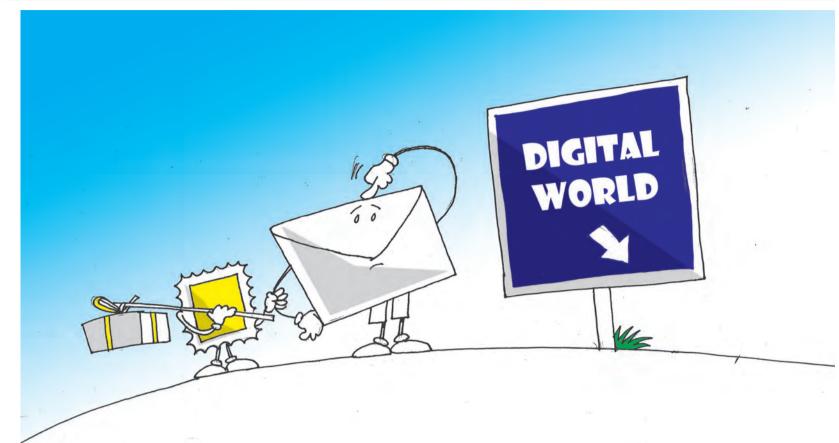
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How emerging economies are reshaping the international financial system

By Ian Mitchell and Sam Hughes

IT'S been 25 years since the 1997 Asian financial crisis led to the creation of the G20 forum for finance ministers; and 15 years since this became a leader-level meeting following the global financial crisis. During this period, there has been significant shift in the global finance and economic landscape.

The ascent of several emerging economies has seen their contributions to the multilateral finance system that supports development rise significantly. Our new report collates those contributions over the last decade for the first time. It charts how China's annual contributions to the UN and multilateral development banks rose twenty-fold from \$0.1bn to \$2.2bn.

But it also looks collectively at a group of 13 rising economies whose developmental contributions to multilateral finance institutions have risen five-fold to over \$6bn over the last decade.

These contributions now make up an eighth of the total; and have seen the creation of two new multilateral finance institutions.

In this piece, we draw out key findings from our analysis, including the balance between funding existing and new institutions like the New Development Bank.

We consider whether continued growth in the 13 emerging actors could generate enough new funding for development over the next quarter century, and even create an institution as large at the World Bank's fund for low-income countries (IDA).

Despite recent rhetoric around the return to a bipolar world order, this report is evidence that a wide group of countries are already playing major role in the global economic and development system, and will continue to do so in years to come

The transformational effect of economic growth on the multilateral sys-

In 1990 most people in the world lived in low-income countries; by 2020, this share had fallen dramatically to just seven percent of people. Meanwhile, the share of the global population living in middle-income countries swelled from 30 percent in 1990 to 73 percent in 2020.

Such a transformation implies a greater number of countries with the economic output to contribute internationally: widening and deepening participation in the multilateral system.

And this is just what we've seen. Over the decade to 2019, we find a group of emerging actors have significantly increased their contributions of development finance to multilateral organisations.

These include thirteen major economies outside the group of more established providers within the Devel-



opment Assistance Committee (DAC), which tend to receive more attention. Ten of these emerging actors are G20 members, including the BRICS--Brazil, Russia, India, China, and South Africa--but others have grown quickly too: Ar-

gentina, Chile, Indonesia, Israel, Mexico, Saudi Arabia, Turkey, and the United Arab Emirates. Collectively, we refer to these thirteen emerging actors as the

Over the decade, the E13's annual contributions of development finance to multilateral organisations (both core and funding earmarked for particular purposes) have increased almost five-fold, from \$1.3bn in 2010 to \$6.3bn in 2019 (up 377 percent). And their unrestricted core contributions have risen even more: increasing from \$1.0bn to \$5.2bn (up 410 percent).

Of these core contributions, we see that those to UN agencies more than quadrupled over the decade, steadily rising from \$0.3bn to \$1.2bn (up 330 percent). But by far the most striking development in E13 core contributions has come from the creation and capitalisation of two new multilateral organisations: the Asian Infrastructure Investment Bank (AIIB) and the New Development Bank (NDB).

Although China has recently stepped back its bilateral finance efforts, its multilateral contributions increased steadily to 2019; and provided a third (34 percent) of the E13 total over the decade. Our colleagues have examined this in detail, including how China has the second highest aggregate voting share after the US in international finance institutions it supports.

Still, our analysis also highlights the importance of Russia, Brazil and India who each contributed over \$3bn over the period and collectively contributed a further third of the total. While China's multilateral contributions have been concentrated (59 percent) in new institutions it co-founded (see below), other providers have concentrated funding in traditional institutions: for example, Argentina, Chile and Mexico did not support the new institutions while for Saudi Arabia and UAE they were 17 percent and 21 percent respectively.

Over the ten-year period we examine, almost half of the E13's core multilateral contributions were to the two new institutions (AIIB and NDB). After 2016, funding provided to these institutions made up over two-thirds of their contributions. Indeed, in 2016 the first financial contributions to AIIB and NDB causedE13 multilateral development finance to triple in a single year.

The E13 provided an additional \$6.0bn of core funds for AIIB and NDB in 2016, without reducing their multilateral contributions through other chan-

Though annual contributions reduced to \$3.1bn in 2019, AIIB and NDB still accounted for half of the E13's multilateral development finance in that year, leaving their contributions at the end of the decade far ahead of the beginning.

As well as higher absolute contributions (Figure 1), the E13's role in the multilateral system has also grown in relative terms (Figure 2). As a share of the level of finance provided by the 29 high-income countries in the OECD DAC, the E13's core multilateral contributions rose from 5 percent in 2010 to 12 percent in 2019--more than doubling their relative significance.

This was largely due to the effect of AIIB and NDB (clearly seen by the 2016 peak), but we also see that E13 core contributions to the UN system steadily and quickly rose as a share of the DAC level across the decade: from 5 percent in 2010 to 17 percent in 2019.

As the economies of the E13 continue to grow, what might this mean for their multilateral contributions in the future? Figure 3 shows how the share of economic output provided as development finance to multilateral organisations (either core or earmarked) tends to increase with higher levels of income per capita.

Though the relationship is steeper for the DAC than the E13, even the E13's current trajectory implies a significant increase in future multilateral development finance from this

Ian Mitchell is Co-Director, Development Cooperation in Europe and Senior Policy Fellow at the Center for Global Development. Sam Hughes is a Research Assistant at the Center for Global Devel-

This was largely due to the effect of AIIB and NDB (clearly seen by the 2016 peak), but we also see that E13 core contributions to the UN system

Climate change turns Tanzania's Maasai livestock keepers into hairdressers

By Special Correspondent

OR Ray Lipasho Kimeshwa, a Maasai man who hails from the Kiteto district in Tanzania's northern region of Manyara, climate change has left an indelible mark on his life.

Kimeshwa, 39, was the proud owner of 100 cattle in the 1990s through the early 2000s when drought caused by climate change started to kill some of his animals.

"Climate change forced me to migrate to the port city of Dar es Salaam to engage in the business of hairdressing in 2001," Kimeshwa, the chairperson of a community of about 80 Maasais at Ilala-Amana in Dar es Salaam, told Xinhua in a recent interview.

Kimeshwa, who was busy organizing a group of young Maasai hairdressers at their hairdressing salon called Skuvi-Msusi Express at Ilala-Boma, said he is one of the casualties of climate change after the prolonged dry spells in his Kiteto home village killed 16 of his cattle for lack of water and pasture.

"In fact, drought has forced tens of hundreds of Maasais to migrate to urban centers to do businesses like hairdressing, guarding houses and other property using traditional weapons such as clubs and machetes, and selling Maasai traditional artifacts, including leather beaded necklaces, beaded sandals, and ethnic jewelry," said Kimeshwa, who has three wives with seven children.

and seven children are in Kiteto keep-

ing their livestock and doing other house chores.

The Maasai are a Nilotic ethnic group inhabiting northern Tanzania and central and southern Kenya.

They are among the best-known local populations internationally due to their residence near the many game parks of the African Great Lakes and their distinctive customs and dress.

"Our hairdressing takes one hour to three hours depending on a style that our customer wants," said Kimeshwa, adding that prices for hairdressing range from 8,000 Tanzanian shillings (about 3.4 U.S. dollars) to 70,000 Tanzanian shillings (about 30 U.S. dollars) per person.He said the money they were getting from hairdressing was helping to look after their families back home.

Kimeshwa said their customers are women from all walks of life, including foreign tourists. "Some of the tourists take us to Zanzibar on fully paid trips to do the hairdressing there after they have been impressed by our styles," said the Maasai man, wearing a broad smile. Kimeshwa spoke to Xinhua as he was arranging the hair for Mwanahamisi Shaaban, a businesswoman. He teamed up with two other Maasais who identified themselves as Peter Mbayo, 26, from Simanjiro in the Manyara region, and Michael Kilanga, 25, from Longido in the Arusha region.

Like Kimeshwa, Mbayo said he had 40 cattle but 10 were killed by drought, and Kilanga said he had 30 cattle and According to him, his three wives lost more than 10 of the animals to drought. They both arrived in Dar es stock," said Mwanahamisi, who be-



Maasai people weave hair for a customer in Dar es Salaam on Saturday. (Photo by Herman Emmanuel/Xinhua

Salaam in 2016 to do the hairdressing business. Mwanahamisi described the Maasai hairdressers as very humble and kind."During the hairdressing, the Maasai tell us stories about their tradition, including their pastoral lives.

They also tell us about how they kill wild animals that attack their livelieved their hairdressing styles are very impressive.In February 2022, the Minister of Livestock and Fisheries Mashimba Ndaki said 306,358 animals, including cattle, goats, sheep, and donkeys had been killed by drought in Tanzania between September 2021 and January 2022 for lack of water and

The animals were killed in Manyara and Arusha where Kimeshwa and his colleagues came from, Kilimanjaro, Morogoro, Tanga and Coast, the six regions that were most hit by the long dry spells caused by erratic seasonal rains, according to Ndaki.Ndaki said the government has taken several measures to save the animals, including digging dams and boreholes in selected areas to provide water to the animals.

Spiralling govt spending and bloated ministerial costs set poor precedent for debt-laden Ghana

By Enoch Randy Aikins

HANA signed a staff-level agreement with the International Monetary Fund (IMF) in December 2022 in an attempt to control rampant debt and restore financial stability. Now the government must tighten its own purse strings in solidarity with citizens as it embarks on domestic debt restructuring and painful haircuts to corporate and individual bondholders, reducing the value of their investments.

Several groups - including the Catholic Bishops' Conference, Ghana Pentecostal and Charismatic Council, and prominent Ghanaians – have called on the state to cut spending to show its commitment to addressing the economic crisis.

Government expenditure has ballooned over the years. For 2023, proposed government spending is GH¢205,431-million (25.6% of GDP), 53.5% more than the previous year.

Total revenue including grants is projected at GH¢143,956-million (18% of GDP), leading to a budget deficit of GH¢61,475-million, equivalent to 7.6% of GDP. Although this deficit is relatively low compared to the 14.7% in 2020 and 11.4% in 2021, it's still high considering the poor state of the country's economy.

Persistent calls from the public have not seen expenditure reduced to acceptable levels. Modest attempts have been made, such as 30% cuts to government salaries, reducing coupon vouchers for government officials by 50%, and freezing new vehicle

But these are seen as inadequate considering that allocations to the offices of the president and vicepresident, and other government agencies, shot up by almost 938% in just five years. In 2022, the total allocation to the office was about GH¢3.1-billion.

Government can do a lot to regain citizens' trust and confidence, starting with deliberate austerity measures and expenditure rationalisation strategies.

First, the number of ministers, including deputies, could be slashed from the current 86 to a maximum of 50. To achieve this, ministries with overlapping mandates must be combined or scrapped.

The Roads and Highways, Transport and Railway Development ministries could be merged. National Security could be joined with Defence. Lands and Natural Resources could combine with Environment, Science, Technology and Innovation.

Similarly, the Information Ministry could fall under Communication and Digitisation, and Fisheries and Aquaculture could join Food and Agriculture. Sanitation could be combined with Local Government, Decentralisation and Rural Development, while Religious Affairs and Chieftaincy could merge with Tourism, Arts and Culture.

The number of government appointees could also be reduced. Some ministries have four ministers each, tries. including deputies. The national purse is drained not just by ministerial salaries but accompanying costs for personal assistants, drivers, security and domestic help. In these times of economic stress, all these ministries could be effectively run by a single minister and deputy each, with chief directors and staff.

Aside from ministers, the number of presidential staff can be cut. For a small country like Ghana to have about 995 staffers in the presidency including 337 political appointments – apparently the largest in West Africa – is unconscionable. Many of these are redundant in their duties.

For instance, over 20 people are paid to run the



Accra, Ghana. Persistent calls from the public to curb Ghana's government spending have not seen expenditure reduced to acceptable levels. Modest attempts have been made, such as 30% cuts to government salaries, reducing coupon vouchers for government officials by 50%, and freezing new vehicle imports. (Photo: Public Domain / Gallo Images)

Presidency's communication, separate from Information Ministry staff and those handling social media. Presidential staff salaries grew by 508.4% from 2020 to 2021.

Also, the secretariats under the Presidency for implementing flagship programmes could be placed under their sector minis-

Examples include the Agenda 111 Secretariat, Free SHS (Senior High School) Secretariat, One District One Factory Secretariat, Ghana Enterprises Agency, and National Entrepreneurship and Innovation Programme.

The cost of running the government can also come down. The state should suspend or reduce sitting allowances, bonuses and per diems, suspend foreign travel and fuel coupons, and ban importing new vehicles for government staff. Furthermore, government appointees could use a bus for national tours instead of long convoys of cars. This would save on fuel, driver and operational

When a nation is in crisis, its leaders should surely sacrifice the most. It was commendable when Vice-President Dr Mahamudu Bawumia joined 40 Members of Parliament (MPs) in a commercial bus to attend a funeral this month.

Expenditure relating to state-owned enterprises (SOEs) could also be cut by reducing the number of appointees to boards and management. Most SOEs in Ghana have ridiculously high numbers of political appointees. Some have as many as three deputy chief executives or managing directors alongside numerous directors. Yet most SOEs consistently make losses and are heavily indebted. Despite this, their salaries, bonuses and allowances are higher than those

Expenditure on some flagship pro-

grammes should be reviewed, and cuts made to non-essential projects. Programmes like the Free Senior High School should ensure that those who can afford to pay fees, do. Students from private junior high schools could be charged, while senior high schools remain free for those coming up from public junior high. Alternatively, parents could pay feeding fees while government pays other

Beyond these measures, the government must abolish or at least suspend the four yearly payments of gratuities to the governing elite listed in Article 71 of the 1992 constitution. A total of GH¢207,845 120 was paid as end-of-service benefits to Article 71 holders who served from 2017-20.

Corruption must of course also be addressed. The 2022 Auditor General's report shows that irregularities in the public sector in 2021 amounted to about GH¢17.5-billion. Similarly, the Auditor General's Covid-19 expenditure report shows that \$81-million worth of vaccines paid for by the state were never delivered, among other infractions.

These measures would not only plug the holes in the public purse but show that government is ready to share the burden of the nation's suffering. By helping to reduce the fiscal deficit, savings from these cuts could fund infrastructure projects in vital sectors such as education, health and

Global Security Initiative: A new conceptual framework to understand global security

By Sun Wenzhu

N April 21, 2022, President Xi Jinping proposed the Global Security Initiative (GSI), to construct a global security community with a shared future for humanity. 10 months later, Beijing issued the Global Security Initiative Concept Paper, to explain it in detail. The GSI report highlights 20 priorities of cooperation and five major platforms and mechanisms of cooperation. The Chinese approach targets prominent problems, namely deficits in peace, development, security and governance. The GSI has been welcomed by the international community. More than 80 countries and international organizations have voiced their support.

The GSI states that security is a common right equally owned by every sovereign country, regardless of their size, richness and military strength.

The principles rests on a foundation of morality and justice, which stands in sharp contrast with previous security theories that are based on certain structure of capability distribution among great powers, such as the theories of "hegemonic stability" or "bi-polar stability."

The idea of security is no longer a privilege owned by certain few countries in monopoly, only bestowing to their client states in exchange for the latter's obedience. The security of one country should not come at the

expense of others. The zero-sum or Cold War mentality is a source of insecurity, and exposes the hypocrisy of unilateralism in security affairs, as well as the paradox of "collective security," which enhances the absolute security within a certain faction or group, treating national security as a kind of "club membership," to achieve security by enlarging their superiority of military capabilities so that

thus deteriorated the security environment. The whole history of the 20th century has demonstrated that such power rivalry would only bring antago- global security governance, and

any "hostile" move might be "deterred," yet ignores the

security of those outside the group gets undermined,



China issued the Global Security Initiative Concept Paper in Beijing on February 21, 2023. (Photo/Global Times)

nism, division and confrontation, becoming recipe for global instability, and damage global peace.

Global security should be protected by a real multilateral approach, which remains open and inclusive, instead of "mini-lateralism" based on political ideologies.

The GSI upholds the authority of the UN as the main platform for

calls for global effort to enhance the UN capacity for international peacekeeping, fighting against terrorism and transnational organized crime, as well as drawing blueprints for future global security cooperation. Meanwhile, the GSI argues that major countries should take their responsibilities for global stability by adhering to peaceful coexistence, especially in the area of international nuclear strategic stability. The GSI also emphasizes the constructive role of regional organizations, such as the African Union, ASEAN, and League of Arab States in dealing with regional hotspot security issues and maintaining regional stability. The GSI takes a holistic approach for security in both traditional and non-traditional do-

mains. The meaning of security has

already gone far beyond the domain of international relations.

In order to achieve comprehensive and sustainable security, every country needs to deal with challenges proposed by non-state factors, such as terrorism, climate change, food and energy shortage, the disruption of international supply chains, cybersecurity and biosecurity problems.

These problems can't be solved without concerted efforts of all relevant countries. Countries need to explore specific security solutions and to cooperate with each other to update international laws for sustainable solutions. Additionally, the GSI believes Chinese wisdom can help to overcome disputes between countries by peacefully resolving such concerns through dialogue and negotiation.

There's no winner out of war. To avoid the sufferings of civilians and the damages to their lives and properties, the international community should promote the political settlement of hot-spot issues including the Ukraine crisis, keeping in mind that no simple solutions can be found for a complicated problem, and only a fair and practical attitude based on the merits of the specific issue and respects the legitimate security concerns of all parties may lead to common security and lasting peace. China stays firm on the side of peaceful dialogue for the political settlement of the Ukraine crisis. The attempt of the U.S. and some of its allies to protract the Ukraine crisis so that it may serve as a leverage of geopolitical confrontation is unproductive for peace and

As the one and only country who writes "peaceful development" into its constitution, China is going to stick to its role as a guardian of world peace. With the GSI as a flag of direction, more countries should join China to maintain real and lasting security and peace for the whole world.

Sun Wenzhu, Associate Research Fellow of the Department for Asia-Pacific Studies at China Institute of International Studies.

Women and girls in Niger's Tillabéri bear the brunt of child marriages and gender-based violence

By Ornella Moderan and Fahiraman Rodrigue Koné

HE security crisis in Niger's southwestern Tillabéri region is taking a heavy toll on local communities. The Armed Conflict Location and Event Data (Acled) project has documented over 2,500 deaths in the area since 2017. This is 52.8% of the national count over that time – making Tillabéri the epicentre of violence in Niger.

Nearly 100,000 people in the Tillabéri region had been displaced by the beginning of 2022, and the figure is growing. Women and girls make up 51% of those in need of humanitarian assistance, according to the United Nations (UN) Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs.

Basic social services are lacking for everyone, but displacement makes it difficult for women needing healthcare, especially maternal care – a major concern in a country with the highest fertility rate in the world.

This is only one of the many ways the security crisis affects women and girls based on their gender. The Institute for Security Studies (ISS) and the Niger chapter of the West Africa Network for Peacebuilding (Wanep-Niger) recently teamed up with 10 women from conflict-affected localities to shed light on the experience of girls and women in the Tillabéri region.

Through 52 testimonies, the

research found that the security crisis not only threatened lives, physical integrity and livelihoods but significantly aggravated various forms of gender-based violence common during peacetime.

Child marriage is a telling example. Niger has the highest prevalence rate in the world, with 76% of girls married before the age of 18, and 28% before 15, according to the UN Children's Fund. Yet the ISS-Wanep study's empirical data, 70% of which was collected by local female teachers, suggests even more concerning levels in areas affected by conflict and displacement. This perception has been corroborated by other surveys.

conflict victims.

In August 2022 alone, 817 schools in the Tillabéri region

Marrying off their young daughters is a way for impoverished families to cope with increased economic pressure and uncertainty by reducing the number of dependants or establishing protective alliances with the groom's families. Interviews suggest an increase in girls being married off before the minimum legal

Girls are disproportionately affected because of both gender and age norms. But the problem can only be identified and addressed if genderdisaggregated data is available. Without it, remedies will fail to deal appropriately with the gender-specific needs of



A displaced family walks through the Warlam refugee camp in Niger. (Photo: UN Photo/ Eskinder Debebe)

were closed due to violence and insecurity. This impedes the right of all children to education and raises the risk of child marriage for girls, and recruitment into armed groups for boys.

Cases of conflict-related sexual violence have also been reported, although the few figures available represent only the tip of the ice-

berg. The social stigma surrounding these acts often discourages survivors from reporting them.

While most of these crimes are committed by members of non-state armed groups, incidents such as those in Téra in March 2021 are a reminder that security forces can also be involved. Chadian soldiers stationed in the region as part of the G5 Sahel Joint Force were accused of raping at least three people, including an 11-year-old girl and a 32-year-old pregnant woman.

ISS and Wanep-Niger's consultative study also notes the worrying situation faced by widows and orphaned children of civilian victims of the conflict, who largely

have to fend for themselves. As the family economy is traditionally male-dominated, the sudden death of a husband can expose his wife or wives - polygyny remains prevalent – and their children to acute economic distress. For widowed older women, losing adult sons can mean isolation and pov-

As the crisis constrains economic activity and disperses extended families, the support mechanisms on which widows traditionally rely are proving less accessible. Although wives of soldiers killed in combat benefit from national programmes, these aren't available to civilians' widows. Systems to identify and support these women should be a public policy pri-

Beyond securing territory, the response to violence in Tillabéri must support human security broadly to mitigate the negative effects on men and women, girls and boys. This will only be possible if the experiences and concerns of those directly affected are addressed, including women living in rural ar-

Establishing mechanisms for community consultation, as tried by the ISS and Wanep-Niger in their study, could enable the government to identify local concerns and maintain constructive dialogue regarding responses.

The lack of gender-disaggregated data hinders the analysis of gender-specific impacts of insecurity and the formulation of responses. State and non-state organisations that produce data on the security, humanitarian, social and economic situation in conflict-affected areas should systematically disaggregate the data in order to inform public policy.

MONDAY 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

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THURSDAY

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

21:00-23:00HRS MALUMBANO YA HOJA

20:00-21:00HRS SPORTS

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20:00-21:00HRS SPORTS 21:00-23:00HRS KIPIMA JOTO 22:00-05:00HRS MUZIKI MCHAGANGANYIKO)

SATURDAY

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 OYVAULMU

16:00-18:00HRS ALIYEVUMA

18:00-21:00HRS BUZUKI TIME

21:00-22:00HRS SPOTI 22:00-05:00HRS MUZIKI MCHAGANGANYIKO)

SUNDAY TIME PROGRAMME 07:00-09:00HRS HABARI NA MATUKIO YA WIKI

13:00-14:00HRS DW RADIO 14:00-16:00HRS CAPITAL 16:00-18:00HRS UKURASA WA 18:00-21:00HRS JIACHIE

09:00-11:00HRS THE SUNDAY

21:00-22:00HRS SPOTI 22:00-01:00HRS LADHA LAINI 01:00-05:00HRS MUZIKI MCHAGANGANYIKO)

Tembelea mitandao ya kijamii ya CAPITAL RADIO









Readying for new cycle in opposition politics

By Guardian Correspondent

NEWS or rather information that the so-called COV-ID-19 group now sidelined by the leading opposition party are eyeing a 'call up' with ACT-Wazalendo was a softly talked about event of perhaps momentous significance. It may provide another institutional input to the growth of the party, now a partner in the Zanzibar government, and as it is essentially a Mainland-based group, have far reaching repercussions on the Mainland as well. It could change recent trends in shifting of party loyalties, from Chadema back to CCM for Chadema to ACT Wazalendo.

That appears to be the next curve in opposition politics, from the rise of NCCR-Mageuzi in the 1995 general election, to the rise of the Civic United Front (CUF) in the 2000 election first with 16.3 per cent of the vote, after NCCR-Mageuzi tore itself apart by internal conflict. This rise could have been sustained in the 2005 polls had the mainland poll and the Zanzibar poll been held together, but as the Zanzibar poll came earlier, the loss of the CUF in Zanzibar led to a high rate of abstention on the Mainland, where the loser due to this abstention was CUF presidential candidate Prof. Ibrahim Lipumba. He had 12.9 per cent of the vote.

The 2005 polls were thus deceptive in terms of the growth of opposition strength, by force majeure of postponing the vote on the Mainland to remove the photo of the Chadema running mate, Jumbe Rajab Jumbe, who died less than two weeks before the poll. As the Zanzibar authorities declared that Chadema was virtually absent on the Isles electoral turf and Jumbe was an unknown quantity there, his photo would not be a distraction so they proceeded with the voting. That wasn't the case on the Mainland, where



Chadema was well known but not a strong party yet.

There was a curious wind of rapid growth of Chadema after the 2005 polls, as a new technique of growing opposition politics formed a symbiosis with intra-ruling party infighting. While this was the political core of parliamentary events of that period, its socioeconomic kernel was systemic, organised bureaucratic resistance to economic reform, thus finding a niche to discredit key sections of authority for well-founded executive directives The crucial element in this usage of political pluralism for games designed to stem rivals for succession was confi-

dentiality, as if one is attacked or suspected of lacking in propriety he leaves, not spill the beans.

Those who designed this crafty game of politics scarcely knew that it would alter in a quasi-permanent way the face of multipartism in the country, for decades.

It removed old-fashioned solidarity in ruling party ranks, and swelling opposition with a new ethos. As the opposition rallied around this new opportunity to electrify portions of the electorate on the need to sweep from office what was painted as a thoroughly corrupt state, this apparent success of conveying the message on the need for change also worked to its detriment. After the 26 per cent show of success by Chadema candidate Willibrod Slaa, improved to slightly below a third as CCM troubled bigwig Edward Lowassa skipped to opposition, just as Augustine Mrema earlier, the die was cast. The victorious CCM candidate set out to sweep the house.

This event now sets the stage for the changing atmosphere in opposition politics, as then ACT -Wazalendo was still a budding party despite being awash with cash and putting up candidates in all election niches in 2015. Its major institutional opening was the fall out of the Mainland-Zanzibar factional leaderships,

where the Zanzibar faction around ex-chief minister Seif Sharif Hamad shifted to ACT-Wazalendo, a situation well prepared for by party leader Zitto Kabwe's moderately leveraged opposition. He isn't questioning the legitimacy of the state or the ruling party, but seeks reforms in what his Chadema critics, bemused, say that it is an NGO outlook. Chances are that this pole

will be more attractive as fewer people, in the current situation, wish for the sort of militant politics the erstwhile leading opposition party espoused in the 2007-2015 period.

The die was cast with the clean-up drive by fifth phase

leader JPM who destabilized the opposition's tactical weaponry of fighting corruption in the corridors of power. From that time onwards they altered their motto to constitutional reforms as a singular preoccupation, to obtain a softer presidency that ostensibly will not curb political rights, humiliate citizens or shoot.

What will determine the outcome in opposition politics in the next general election, a sort of return to 2010 as it will be lacking the frenzy of split in CCM that hugely coloured the 2015 and 1995 polls earlier, is who wins in the crossover or party shift tendency. As shifters usually seek the next best party for one's ambitions, it will be a contest of electability between Chadema and ACT-Wazalendo. Shifts of the intervening years were mainly from Chadema to CCM as the fifth phase leader demonstrated his daring and ultimately heroic aura, with uncharted initiatives like demolishing the citadels of economic misconduct in public organisations. He went a bit far with civic misconduct of forged certificates, and disciplined higher levels of the bureaucracy to sit in office and live on their salaries.

He boosted development expenditure by cutting waste (travels, bloated meetings, conferences, etc.) and thus was able to put up solid finances for major projects before seeking loans. As the sixth phase has largely kept to this outlook, oppositions have to seek a solid agenda.

Policy trap: Violent youths, dignity and self-employment

By Guardian Correspondent

TALES of how a youth stormed with an accomplice into his father's house where he stays with the young man's stepmother, and the two slashed the middle aged woman to death sent shock waves around the country at the weekend.

The issue at hand was a claim by the young man that his father had given some property to his second wife (the stepmother) but not to him, and thus resorted to killing the lady. In ordinary discourse it would appear as if he was also vying for attention, to

Otherwise what is noticed is a crude fight for property where the sense of family doesn't exist, the youth sin-

gularly doesn't recognize his step mother as a parent, and instead saw her as a rival for the older man's property.

As the father wasn't as yet dead or dying, issues of inheritance didn't strictly speaking arise but a bit of it had already started, in which case the younger wife was given a house (possibly the one they were occupying) to be hers in case of anything. The younger man thought differently - usually, that she gets nothing but the sons of the father, etc.

The standard line of reaction has largely been secular, that often parentage is a problem, giving children what they want and spoiling them, incapable of looking for their own fending

Another line, equally strident, has intimated a failure given a wife and a new family.

of parentage in a different direction, in its lack of 'a sense of God,' which without doubt hides a poignant cultural reality, of precipitated decline or decomposition of family ties. A household becomes a waiting place for youths to inherit, and if need be done so violently; stories about impatient youths waiting for their fathers to die!

The societal wisdom about failure to bring up youths of this or that character has gaps in its assertions, as finally all upbringing is a matter of environment, and youths in the past had appointed tasks that were duly fulfilled as they grew up.

In tribal custom the youth, when old enough, his age a short time, after which he is

Current male youths are often a burden to a family, finish school at whatever level and have no sense of direction, and often start craving to inherit.

Current policy thrust is to provide a range of skills for youths to raise usable activities where they can fend for themselves, and this scarcely distinguishes what level of education they have, or their expectations in

It is a denial of the function of education as a ladder to social mobility, to make it a slim advantage in the course of initiating occupational activities of whatever kind.

This orientation hurts the pride of youths who need regumates go into the bush, cut thin lar income and predictable pattrees and build a mud house in terns of expenditure to feel they are dignified in the eyes of others. If not, they can explode. The point here is that policy makers ought not to sink their strategic outlook in the singularly deceptive concept of self-employment, as even in terms of syntax or etymology it is a faulty idea.

It simply means that someone has some capital to start a business and is then looking for people to employ, and the first is him, while others follow later. The reality is that the youth starts a trade of sorts, to employ himself as even in that activity he will still be bidding for time if a job turns up.

This problem of a listless population of youths who lack the sense of dignity and inner satisfaction is a powder keg in each African society, and depending on the circumstances, it explodes from time to time.

The manner of explosion depends on the political agenda in

each country, when a political entrepreneur needs their energies for this or that purpose, whether it is demonstrations or guerrilla wars. And if the cultural environment is right, an alliance is created to spread ter-

Africa's ruling elites and their global liberal (in the sense of radical) allies have formed an impregnable fortress of values based on the \European experience, and African elites adopt it at their own peril. In the recent wave of strikes in Britain, one reason was that the National Health Service is overextended, thousands of positions are unfilled, not because there is no cash firstly but it is hard to recruit doctors and nurses. Here the crisis is different. We have no money to recruit teachers and we adopt the same policy

options as Europe, worsening lack of jobs.

African leaders need to grasp the need for creating conditions for regular income for youths, not through self-engagement (as self-employment is a faulty idea).

It means trading off more than 300 state companies that are supposed to send annual dividends to the Treasury, to seek strategic investors for them so that hundreds of companies are started all over the country from regional and district activities of all those firms.

This way most youths finishing school will have a reliable chance of clinching a job, others get absorbed into a vast services sector, and a portion obtain unemployment allowances. We shall return to stability, not stabbing stepmothers.

SMEs, freelancers and digital nomads deserve financial relief amid post era

By Guardian Reporter

THE global COVID-19 pandemic has accelerated the pace of change, causing significant disruption across labour markets and forever changing how people work. While some companies have reviewed their working policies to accommodate hybrid approaches to work, others have shed millions of permanent full-time jobs.

Reports show that many African countries are facing extremely high unemployment rates. The continent also has the world's largest and youngest workforce (almost 60 per cent of its population is under 25 years of age, and 250 million of its youth are unemployed). With millions of permanent full-time jobs being made redundant, the continent is experiencing a dramatic increase in freelancers, contractors, digital nomads, and other gig workers. Currently, Africa has 10.1 percent of the world's freelancers, with 42 per cent of workers working remotely at least once a day a week - and these figures could increase.

While some people choose to freelance because of its flexibility and variety, others are freelancing because it is a means of survival.

Traditionally, freelancing is seen as an unstable way to make money reserved only for the brave. On the one hand, you could land a great gig only to lose another at any minute, making the perpetual need to find new work very overwhelming. It's essential, however, that you do not let these challenges cloud your per- la for freelancers and gig workers. spective of freelancing. Freelance work can be rewarding and lucrative if you are responsible and plan correctly financially.

Grey, a Nigeria-founded start-up that provides access to foreign accounts for African freelancers and digital nomads, has reaffirmed its dedication to providing cutting-edge and secure global banking solutions to the continent.

As the digital economy continues to grow, Grey is at the forefront of providing safe and convenient banking solutions to meet the needs of customers and businesses. With a focus on Africa, the start-up has developed a range of services that allow individuals and businesses to easily access and manage their foreign accounts, including currency exchange and access to virtual cards.

Idorenyin Obong, CEO of Grey, Africa says that the firm has been providing financial planning tips and support that help empower African freelancers and digital nomads.

He says that as freelancers and contractors carry the burden of uncertain income, they must formulate a concrete financial plan. The tips and strategies shared below can assist freelancers and contractors in building a solid financial plan with variable income.

"Freelancers and contractors must plan a budget that allows them to pay for their expenses while saving for the future. Financial experts usually recommend the 50/30/20 rule as a monthly budgeting formuYou can manage your income more efficiently if you regularly balance your expenses across these three main spending areas," he says.

However, one of the more challenging tasks for freelancers and gig workers who work with international clients is how to get paid. Billing and being paid in foreign currencies can be complicated, especially when bank charges and exchange rates differ. "Today, freelancers can choose from a host of fintech platforms, like Grey, that caters to the demands and needs of African freelancers and gig workers by providing sophisticated yet affordable digital banking solutions, such as virtual banking accounts," he notes

These virtual accounts are essential for freelancers, particularly those who frequently travel to different locations. These accounts help them manage cash flow, protect against identity theft and fraud, and keep track of their financial records.

He wants every freelancer and self-employed person to consider separating their business and personal finances. Freelancers should use their business accounts only for business expenses. Once they have a budget, they can determine how much money should be allocated to personal expenses.

"Usually, when freelancers and digital nomads start, they usually undercharge because they fail to consider all the things their former employer used to cover. Freelancers will need to set their rates high

enough and secure enough work to pay for the benefits they need to provide. These hidden costs include medical and disability insurance, retirement savings, and taxes,' he says. He further says freelancers and gig workers should try to diversify their income streams from different clients so that if they lose revenue, they have other clients to rely on. We suggest broadening your skill set and engaging in business networking to acquire more

"A financial plan is crucial in decision-making, where uninformed decisions can cost you significantly. Working as a freelancer and gig worker entails extra responsibilities. A solid financial plan will allow you to continue your business without worries,' he adds.

Furthermore, the user-friendly interface of their platforms provides customers with a seamless experience, while also empowering them to gain control of their financial future and participate in the global economy.

In addition to its core services, Grey is said to be constantly exploring new technologies and partnerships to further enhance its product offerings. This includes the integration of advanced technology to improve fraud protection, data security and increase efficiency.

Grey, formerly known as Aboki Africa, said its rebrand



in February 2022 marked a new chapter for the company and further reiterated the company's mission to make it easier for digital nomads to live and work in the modern world.

Obong says: "At Grey, we remain committed to providing innovative digital payment solutions that empower our users to achieve their financial goals. Furthermore, we believe that by providing access to foreign accounts, we are not just helping our users but also contributing to the development of the African economy."

The start-up's dedication to providing exceptional service and innovative solutions has made it a trusted brand among its customers, and the company looks forward to continuing to serve the African market in the years to come. Fionah Umulisa, Grey Regional Director, East Africa, she leads Grey's East African operations, responsible for businesses in Kenya, Tanzania, and Uganda. She also oversees the company's ongoing expansion efforts into other emerging markets. As a passionate technology enthusiast, Fionah believes that fintech can solve many problems facing emerging markets. Her experience building, growing, and stabilizing fintech startups, including at a leading African agritech company, has made her an effective leader.

12 Tuesday 28 February 2023

FEATURES

Guardian

World's largest oil corporation to lead climate change talks in 2023

QUITO, Ecuador / LA PAZ, Bolivia

HE Chief Executive of the twelfth largest oil producer - Sultan Al Jaber of Abu Dhabi National Oil Company (ADNOC) - has been appointed as president of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change's (UNFCCC) COP28, the biggest climate change conference that will take place in November, 2023 in the United Arab Emirates

In brief, the leadership of a Climate Conference that should deliver on ways to create a fossil-free future is in the hands of the representative of one of the top 15 corporations most responsible for carbon emissions globally.

Like any other oil company, ADNOC's very reason for existence is to profit off of the very product that has sent global greenhouse gas emissions soaring and spurred a global climate

In fact, ADNOC Drilling under ADNOC Groups reported a rise of 33 percent in 2022 net profit with a projection of record net profit in 2023 fueled by further oil and gas expansion plans. And now at least 12 employees of ADNOC have been given organizing roles for COP28. That means this year the global climate negotiations will literally be run by the fossil fuel industry.

Fierce criticism has arisen from all over the world and in particular from climate activists that have been long fighting for a fossil fuel free

In reaction to this appointment, more than 450 climate and human rights organizations wrote a letter to UN Secretary General António Guterres and Simon Stiell, Executive Secretary of the UNFCCC condemning the appointment of Al Jaber as COP28 President.

The thin argument presented for the appointment of Al Jaber is his involvement in renewables as chairman of Masdar, a "clean-energy innova-

tor" investing in renewables. But that alone does not compare to the evidence on the negative role and powerful influence of the fossil fuel industry in the climate talks.

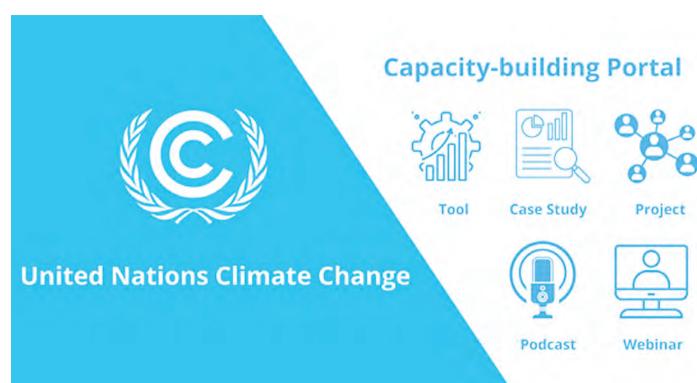
The fossil fuel industry has completely coopted climate policy from the inside out. The most offensive illustration of this co-option and corporate capture of climate talks is the current reality that someone like Al Jaber will preside over a crucial session of climate negotiations at such a time when complete and equitable phase out of fossil fuels is a critical and immediate action needed to protect the

And this is not happening for the first time! More than 630 fossil fuel industry lobbyists participated in COP27 last year at Sharm El-Sheikh, Egypt and 18 out of 20 COP27 sponsors were either directly partnered with or are linked to the fossil fuel industry.

This ongoing 30-year experiment of allowing the largest polluters, their financiers, and polluter governments to undermine a meaningful global response to climate change has delivered predictably poor and unacceptable results. Several reports last year including this report by the UN Environmental Programme showed that the world will miss the target set in the Paris Agreement by world leaders to limit global warming below 1.5.

So, what's the solution?

It's time for international climate policy to finally be protected from polluting interests, and this is the reason many are proposing a concrete drawing from other UN precedents to systematically weed out this undue interference. The UN Secretary General has recently equated the fossil fuel industry's modus operandi as "inconsistent with human survival," also agreeing that "those responsible [for climate deceit] must be held to ac-



Tunisian President Kais Saied casts his vote in the referendum on the new constitution in Tunis on July 25, 2022. File photo

count.' A concrete Accountability Framework should be implemented by the UNFCCC drawing from other UN precedents to systematically weed out this undue interference.

Parties to the UNFCCC have to change the course of how climate talks are moving and provide immediate and clear signs of deep structural changes that can lead to just transition. Governments across the world should be actively protecting climate action from being written, bankrolled, and weakened by polluting interests.

Rather, it's (past) time to implement real,

proven, and people-centered solutions and hold polluting corporations liable for their decades-long deception and deceit. These are not new ideas. These are not even radical ideas. They are necessary ones.

The indigenous peoples, peasants, women and frontline communities who face and suffer the serious consequences of the impacts of climate change, together with the social groups of the world that have a real interest in curbing the emissions of greenhouse gasses, demand that the decision makers implement the necessary changes in order to ensure that appropriate measures are adopted by the world and governments at COP28 to prevent the collapse of the planet.

If these necessary measures are not rectified and implemented immediately, it is world leaders and the decision makers who would be mainly responsible for the collapse of our planet. For us it is clear, Sultan Al Jaber does not have the moral or ethical rectitude to lead and deliver on a COP28 that is for the peoples.

Türkiye debates whether to postpone elections after catastrophic quakes

By ISS Enact Project

ELGIUM and the Netherlands have overtaken Spain as Europe's main entry points for cocaine coming from Latin America. The 65.6 tonnes of the drug intercepted at Antwerp port in 2020 nearly doubled in 2022. And Morocco is a crucial link in the chain.

When the Netherlands opened its cannabis market in the 1970s, Dutch and Belgian nationals of Moroccan descent drew on their family ties to cannabis growers in the northern mountains of Morocco's Rif region. What started as hashish trafficking slowly extended to cocaine, a more lucrative drug. The powerful Mocro Maffia drug cartel emerged from this trade in the 1990s. Working mainly from Belgium and the Netherlands, it controls a third of Europe's cocaine market.

Latin American drug traffickers have increasingly used Morocco and other Maghreb countries, and dealers with a foothold in Morocco and Europe, like the Mocro Maffia. for their transnational cocaine trade. Colombian and Mexican cartels used the group to facilitate the drug route into Europe via Spain's southern city of Algeciras.

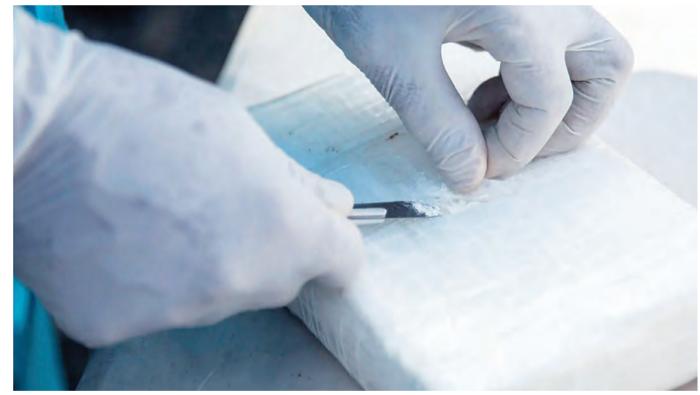
But since Spanish and Italian authorities tightened their border control and search operations, that route has become risky says criminologist and co-founder of Crim'Halt, Fabrice Rizzoli. Preferred entry points now are ports in Belgium and the Netherlands, where massive volumes of container traffic make it difficult for authorities to address the problem. In its 2021 report, Rotterdam's port authority said it was "working with various agencies in the port to maintain security and combat drug-related crime."

Corruption is the key enabler of cocaine trafficking from Latin America to Rotterdam and Antwerp via Africa. For Latin American drug cartels, the Mocro Maffia's ability to corrupt government officials makes it a strategic ally.

Audio exchanges intercepted through the Sky ECC app reveal how Mocro Maffia members boasted about bribing customs officers in the Port of Dakar, which is used as a transit point. Likewise, dockers in Antwerp and Rotterdam are paid up to €100,000 to relocate containers to avoid police and customs control.

Rizzoli says Belgium and the Netherlands are also both money laundering centres. Antwerp, the world diamond processing capital, is a destination for cleaning drug proceeds (sometimes paid in diamonds). Belgium's real estate sector is a primary money laundering route.

The Netherlands is an



Working mainly from Belgium and the Netherlands, the 'Mocro Maffia' controls a third of Europe's cocaine market. (Photo: Erika Santelices/AFP)

ideal place for drug traffickers seeking to reinvest their money. A reported €16-billion is laundered annually due to the country's large, internationally oriented highly digitised financial sector and open, trade-oriented economy. The creation of shell companies is a crucial conduit for money laundering in the Netherlands.

The Mocro Maffia uses violence to expand its reach into the cocaine market. In the past decade, over 100 people have died in violence between the Mocro Maffia and Belgian drug traffickers. The group is also suspected of involvement in the murder of a

Moroccan judge's son. Derk Wiersum, an Amsterdam lawyer specialising in organised crime and drug trafficking networks, and Peter R de Vries, a journalist reporting on drug trafficking, were assassinated in 2019 and 2021, allegedly by the Mocro Maffia. And recently, a Belgian girl of Moroccan origin was killed when her parents' home was shot at – allegedly by the group.

In September 2021, an alert was raised by Dutch security services, who believed that Prime Minister Mark Rutte was under threat from the Mocro Maffia. Likewise, Dutch Crown Princess Catharina-Amalia is protected by heavy security following kidnapping threats linked to the group. The Mocro Maffia thrives in the Netherlands partly because disorganised public authorities are faced with organised criminality, says Hans Werdmölder, author of Nederland Narcostaat.

The government and law

enforcement must raise their game to counter the threat. Adequate modern surveillance equipment such as drones, mobile scanners and robots are lacking in the Netherlands, Belgium and Morocco (and North Africa). Installing or modernising such equipment – and training law enforcement to use it – could enable

Graft must also be ad-

better

better detection at drug transit

hubs in Morocco and the Rot-

terdam and Antwerp ports.

dressed. Rizzoli suggests a different approach, saying authorities should change their mindset about drugs. Rather than focusing on stopping the trade, he says, the associated violence must be curbed. In Italy for example, drastic legislation and judicial measures in the 1980s have ended almost all violence related to drug trafficking.

Italian authorities punish drug traffickers financially, targeting their assets. Rizzoli says around \$6-billion in assets are confiscated from drug traffickers yearly in Italy, of which 60% is eventually permanently seized. These resources are redistributed to non-governmental organisations, showing citizens the concrete results of government action against drug dealers and the mafia.

In a short time, the Mocro Maffia has become a major trafficking group in Europe. Its links with organised criminal groups in Morocco and Latin America make it a persistent and growing threat to Europe, North African states and their populations.

Operations such as that which led to the arrest of 49 members of organised crime groups in November 2022 and asset-linked approaches by the European Union and North African authorities must be stepped up. Without this, the Mocro Maffia will have an open road to increasing its trafficking web between the two continents. **DM**



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OUTLOOK & ANALYSIS

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Stakeholder intensifies the use of LPG in cooking

By Correspondent Cheji Ba-

kari, Tanga

he United Nations Sustainable Energy All Initiative launched the Global Liquefied Petroleum Gas Partnership (GLPGP) under the premise that liquefied petroleum gas (LPG) was the preferred cooking solution for the next 15 to 20 years.

In 2015, Tanzania also announced a goal to increase the population with access to modern cooking fuels to more than 75 percent by 2030.

To start with, in 2008, Tanzania removed the import duties and value added tax (VAT) on LPG, but does not offer subsidy.

Despite these initiatives, according to the 2017-2018 Tanzanian Household Budget Survey, only few percent of the urban and rural populations respectively in Tanzania use LPG as a primary cooking fuel.

This low rate of LPG use is not unique to Tanzania as LPG programs face common barriers.

Henceforth the Tanzania Liquefied Petroleum Gas(LPG) fuels, LPG and lubricants distributor, Oryx Gas Tanzania brand expressed its commitment to embark on promoting uses of Liquefied Petroleum Gas as safe, cleaner cooking energy through its launched campaign dubbed" Liquefied Petroleum Gas Oryx Gas Tanzania'.

The campaign is also targeting to call for communities to embark into environmental conservation by mitigating industrial and human activities

carbon emissions.

Oryx Gas Tanzania managing director Araman Benoite stated that charcoal production is often perceived to have devastating ecological and environmental effects.

He said the company has volunteered front line to promote liquefied petroleum gas by supplying free of charge gas cylinders in Tanga region which is one among the region with high charcoal consumption.

He said the campaign that will go alongside with distributing gas cylinders will be implemented to other regions where there is high charcoal consumption.

He made such statement here in Tanga, during official opening the Oryx Gas shop, the event that went parallel with distributing 600 gas cylinders and its gas cookers to Tanga women entrepreneurs.

He explained that traditional charcoal production has growing concern due to its threat of deforestation and climate change impacts leading to semi- desert by elaborating that Tanga is one among the region with deforestation records.

"The use of charcoal has the ability to cause adverse health effects such as the respiratory illness to women and children and indoor air pollution at a significant level," he said.

Oryx gas Tanzania has heavenly stepped into investing on giving awareness on the importance of LPG uses as well as implementing various projects by supplying gas cylinders and gas cookers in some regions with high charcoal uses and promoting the gas by selling into discount



Health minister Ummy Mwalimu and Oryx Gas Tanzania managing director **Araman Benoite** (R) cut a ribbon to mark official opening of Tanga Oryx Gas shop in Tanga. Photo by Cheji Bakari

our products".

Most environmentalists agreed and feel that the traditional method of charcoal production should be stopped because of its destructive nature as presently practiced, LPG uses is safety because is a low - carbon fuel as it emits less carbon dioxide than most convectional fossil fuels.

"Our efforts reflect with Her Excellency President Samia Suluhu Hassan by making sure encouraging low-income household to use cleaner and more efficient gas cookers reaching 2030 at least 80 percent of Tanzanians using liquefied petroleum gas as cooking energy," he said.

He further stated that Oryx Gas Tanzania responded positively world's summon for mitigating industrial and human activities carbon emission through its promotion dubbed "Liquefied Petroleum Gas Oryx Gas Tanzania Lim- as they have got another tax payited" with aims to reduce carbon emission as well as to improve Tanzanians lives standard.

In the event, Oryx Gas Tanzania distributed 600 gas cylinders and its gas cookers to 600 women from various organized groups including entrepreneurs as part of its plan to promote uses of cleaner and efficient energy and avoiding from charcoal uses that pollute the environments.

For her part, health minister Ummy Mwalimu who doubles as Tanga Constituency Member of Parliament thanked that company, noting that the donation came at right time while the country is in campaign to minimize charcoal uses.

"Opening Oryx Gas shop in Tanga is another development for both residents of Tanga, Oryx Gas Tanzania and Tanga City Council er," stated minister Ummy.

She further stated: "Your free distribution of these gas cylinders you assured to have reliable customers who will come to exchange empty cylinder to filled gas cylinder here or anywhere your agents available,I would like to thank you very much for this because you boosted their incomes and securing their health".

Tanga district commissioner, Hashim Mgandilwa said the distribution of cylinders will going to contributes to climate change mitigation through reduction of green-house gas emissions resulting from LPG uses and to stop deforestation that destruct the environment.

"LPG uses in the country still going sluggish through this promotion campaign will going to brainstorm and giving awareness as well as high promotion to ensure the Tanzania's communities using the gas as cooking energy with aims to conserve the environment and eradicating pollution".

For her side, Tanga's CCM Women Wing(UWT) chairwoman, Al Shaymaa Kweygir hailed the gas cylinders distribution by noting will heaving and empowering those entrepreneurs women economically because have substantial contribution to development activities.

" These gas cylinders will help take them short time in preparing of food and saving time for their customers who spent much time waiting for food rather than charcoal burners that spend much time," stated Kweygir.

Commenting the campaign by Oryx Gas to preserve environment from pollution and carbon emission, Tanga City mayor Abdulrahman Shiloo stated as climate change constitutes a problem of unprecedented scope, complexity and importance of humanity in general and for policy community in particular.

Achieving a global consensus on how and when to act while balancing competing environmental, social, political and economic imperatives is a challenge but it is a challenge that must be met.

"As citizens and representatives of a clean and a low carbon gaseous fuel, Oryx Gas strongly supports the emergency of an ambitious Tanzania climate strategy and is committed to optimising LPG's role in the transition towards a more climate friendly energy model"

Govt fighting hard to ensure inflation remains tolerable

By Correspondent-Emmanuel Onyango

Tanzania government is fighting hard to curb the increased inflation rates, as a means of protecting the economy in order to bring a relief to citizens in the low purchasing power

It is clear that, the general business trend and the country's economy is not on the right track for the last eight months causing endless debates among the people following high increase on food prices which have doubled at local markets an aspect that the majority of citizens cannot afford.

The persisting situation has compelled people to dig deeper into their pockets in order to purchase much needed consumable goods sold at an exorbitant price rates amid shocks exerted by the on-going war between Russia and Ukraine.

The on-going debate about the rising inflation in Tanzania is like how the situation is elsewhere in Africa and beyond. Being part of the global economy, Tanzania is not an island and therefore whatever affects the world is bound to affect the country

From a rise in demand amid a tightened supply that emanated from the global Covid-19 pandemic to the war in Ukraine, Tanzania and other developing economies cannot expect any

global economy.

The Economic indicators show that "Tanzania has experienced increasing food prices due to the prevailing climatic weather conditions that has adversely affected farmers' agricultural production levels".

In order to curb with the incurring situation, the government is taking bold steps with the right policy approach so as to absorb pressures from the global economic shocks.

However, the nation has allayed fear to its citizens at this time around when the country is taking major steps aimed at attracting among other things more Foreign Direct Investment (FDI) in order to lower down prices on various consumable com-

The move among others is the only sole means to stir up economic growth despite the fact that Tanzania is a net importer of various goods from the developed countries which are also hit hard by the global economic shocks.

From strategic agriculture development plans to tax and monetary policy adjustments the government believes that in the coming few months Tanzanians will start to feel a huge relief on the cost of living.

Some of the monetary policy measures taken by the government through the Bank of Tanzania (BoT) in mercy from what is happening to the order to cushion the economy against



effects of imported inflation include the gradual reduction of monetary policy accommodation.

The BoT adopted this during the second half of 2022 in an effort to tame inflationary pressures from the demand side. The government has also been injecting 100bn/-monthly subsidy for fuel in order to protect consumers from the effect of the international energy crisis.

Describing about high inflation rate in the country, the Director of Research, Economy and Policy who is an economist with the Bank of Tanzania (BoT) Suleiman Missango says that, Tanzania has been affected economically due to high rise of fuel at International market.

"It is obvious that once fuel prices are high at global market, it affects economic activities as the scarcity speeds up operation in every sector of economy including transportation, hence stakeholders and traders in general make use of the opportunity to increase the costs of their commodities as well as passengers", he asserted.

The start of the Russia-Ukraine war at the end of February last year exacerbated the rising costs of energy and food. But that notwithstanding, the government has shown optimism about the potential to curb inflation through long-term economic plans and has already taken several measures to ensure that the country remains unscathed.

It is clear that, Russia and Ukraine are the biggest producers of wheat which produces home baking flour which is depended by about 80 percent of countries in the world, a factor that its price quotations has also affected consumers in Tanzania.

The Deputy Permanent Secretary in the Ministry of Finance and Planning (Economic Management and Policies), Mr Lawrence Mafuru, said recently during an online Twitter Spaces that, the steps that the government was taking to curb inflation need the world more than it needs us.

With rising inflation in Europe and America, major global economies were adopting tight monetary policies, making it difficult for Tanzania to acquire its development financing at affordable interest rates, he noted.

He reiterated that the rebounding demand for goods and services after the lifting of Covid-19 restrictions in 2021 amidst a sluggish supply surged up energy and food costs globally, not just in Tan-

The subsidy arrangement had a significant impact on relieving Tanzanians from high global fuel prices, and as a result, Tanzania being a small economy remained a country with the cheapest fuel prices in the East African region.

But according to Mr Mafuru, the measures were only taken as temporary solutions to address the existing problems.

The only permanent measures are the long-term strategies whose results cannot be seen early. It is a process that takes a long time which includes influencing productivity in key sectors to boost the domestic economy," he insisted.

Mr Mafuru's views align with that of the Minister of Finance and Economic Planning Dr Mwigulu Nchemba who also highlighted the strategic plans that the government was implementing to tackle the rising cost of living.

The fast-tracking of strategic projects has led to a surge in the capital goods' import bill but as they come to completion they would contribute to the productivity in the local economy," he said.

However, he added that, the government's focus has been on reducing production costs, for instance in agriculture sector the distribution of subsidized fertilizer is highly maintained and that the nation believes prices of food commodities will fall in the coming months.

He said the current rise of food commodities is partly based on the fact that most crops were produced in the 2021/22 season when prices of inputs like fertilizers were high, but things have also been made worse by drought in some parts of the country, says Dr Nchemba.

In East African Community (EAC) states, Tanzania is at a better situation with the lowest inflation rate compared to other countries such as Kenya, Uganda, Rwanda and Burundi whereby the sale of cereal crops commonly consumed as a main staple food, have plummeted even higher.

Current National Bureau of Statistics of Tanzania (NBS) reveals that the Annual Headline Inflation Rate for the month of January 2023 has increased to 4.9 percent from 4.8 percent which was recorded in December 2022.

Govt to scrap fee on small, fast cashless transactions

KIGALI

HE government is considering ways to reduce fees charged on cashless transactions, and remove them in case the amount does not exceed Rwf10,000, with a view to lower costs for users and boost digital payments.

For Jean-Claude Inyamibwa, a resident of Gasabo District and taxi-moto rider, reducing mobile money charges on small transactions is a good idea for low-income earners.

He said yesterday that one of the main reasons why people still use cash in transactions is the associated cost.

"Construction workers, motorcycle taxi drivers, and bicycle taxi riders get small wages to help them live. If one sends Rwf2,000 for a family meal at home, and they are charged Rwf100 for sending, and then Rwf200 for withdrawal, it is Rwf300 in total, which is a lot of money considering that transacted amount," he said.

Currently, cashless transaction charges are still high, especially on small amounts, as mentioned by MP Albert Ruhakana.

This was during a session held early this month, when the Minister of ICT and Innovation, Paula Ingabire, was explaining some of the issues affecting the ICT sector in the country.

For instance, citing fees charged by MobiCash, a cashless mobile financial and payment service provider in Rwanda, Ruhakana said that a Rwfl60 transfer fee is charged when the amount in question ranges from Rwfl to Rwfl,000.

Given this situation, he pointed out, "there is where it is not possible to pay" using digital means since the cost would be excessive.

Yet, from Rwf300,000 to Rwf500,000 transactions, Ruhakana said, the fee is Rwf3,000; while for Rwf500,000 to Rwf1 million, you pay Rwf4,000; and a fee of Rwf5,000 for over Rwf1 million transaction.

He added that such fees are also imposed when a person is paying taxes to the Rwanda Revenue Authority (RRA).

"Considering these charges, you wonder how the [country]'s good cashless [economy] policy will be possible," Ruhakana said, asking the Minister what must be done so that such fees are lowered

Minister Ingabire said that the study they (the ministry) carried out in partnership with MasterCard, an American payment innovation and technology firm, for 18 months, showed that most people transact money between Rwf1



and Rwf10,000.

"Though the value is small, they are very many. It is a person who pays for a product worth Rwf3,000, Rwf4,000, or Rwf8,000; that is where there is a very big volume," she explained.

"The big impact would not be achieved on people transacting between Rwf300,000 and Rwf500,000, when a Rwf3,000 is charged to them. But, a person who has to pay Rwf160 on Rwf1,000 that they transact, she/he feels the pain of that transaction. If it is removed, we see that we can have many people who can make cashless transactions," she said, referring to fee abolition.

Talking about merchants, she said that currently, the fee is 0.5 percent of the payment made for the case of MTN (MoMo Pay), and about one percent for Airtel Money.

Going forward, she said they will look at the incentives that the government should provide for those service providers, including banks and telecommunication companies, so that there is a threshold where the cost is scrapped, but at the same time increase the number who can transact, and get many people in that bracket

According to the National Bank of Rwanda's Annual Report for the year 2021/2022, the number of funds transfers through mobile payment channels, rose by 58 per cent from 196 million to 310 million transactions, and the value increased by 41 per cent from Rwf4, 707 billion to Rwf6, 616 billion.

Transfers through internet banking increased by 42 per cent from more than 1.5 million to more than 2.2 million transactions, and the value of transactions increased by 57 per cent from Rwf2,672

billion to Rwf4,200 billion.

"There is need to increase digital literacy and rollout digital technologies among the population so as to increase digital payments to 80 percent within the next three years in Rwanda," said Alice Higiro the Project Director

at the Ministry of ICT and Innovation. Slightly above 30 per cent of the population is currently using digital payments or electronic payments according to available statistics.

Higiro was sharing Rwanda's vision in ICT at the opening of a three-day meeting on digital practices which brought together 11 African cities to foster the exchange of experiences among cities and identify good practices in digital technologies.

The cities include Kigali in Rwanda, Bamako in Mali, Kampala in Uganda, Matola in Mozambique, Lagos in Nigeria, Niamey in Niger, Sèmè-Podji in Benin,Kumasi in Ghana, Benguerir in Morocco, Bizerte in Tunisia and Nouakchott in Mauritania.

These are part of the African Smart Towns Network- a flagship programme financed by the French Development Agency (AFD).

The programme seeks to accelerate the cooperation among them by creating digital activities together and to build more sustainable and inclusive communities in transition to digital technology.

Higiro said that currently, internet penetration in Rwanda is at 62.3 percent as 4G network penetration is at 96.5 percent while mobile penetration is at 84 percent adding that 100 most demanded services are accessed online of which 50 percent are fully digitized and others semi-digitized.

"In terms of digital financial inclusion, the goal is to reach at least 80 percent digitization. That means promoting a cashless economy and also strengthening e-commerce ecosystem," she said.

Digital financial inclusion involves the deployment of the cost-saving digital means to reach currently financially excluded and underserved populations with a range of formal financial services suited to their needs that are responsibly delivered at a cost affordable to customers and sustainable for providers.

Civil society lobbies Uganda government to reduce internet taxes

KAMPALA

PRESSURE is mounting on the Ugandan government to reduce taxes on internet and internet-enabled devices, including smartphones, ahead of the proposed 2023/2024 national budget.

Uganda's proposed national budget for the 2023/2024 financial year comes into effect in July this year.

But a consortium of ten civil society organisations, acting under the auspices of The East African Budget Network, wants internet levies and taxes to be reviewed and levelled with that of neighbouring countries.

Consortium coordinator Julius Kapwepwe said the internet is an enabler and amplifier of business transactions, communication and e-government services in the digital world and that the country cannot stifle any enabler in the name of taxes.

Kapwepwe said with the current taxes applied to the internet and devices, it will be difficult for Uganda to achieve its 2040 vision to achieve universal inclusion, sustainable development, economic progress and poverty eradication through digital innovation.

In 2021, the Uganda government imposed a 12% tax on the internet and has

maintained other taxes, including the 18% value added tax (VAT) and 10% duty on imported devices.

Kapwepwe said, "Taxes on the internet and smartphones translates into rolling back financial deepening, agency banking prospects and access to information and other services. We can avoid the temptation of rolling back the impressive digitalisation gains the country has made."

Jane Nalunga, executive director at the Southern and Eastern Africa Trade Information and Negotiation Institute (SEATIN) said it is time for the government to repeal the tax on the internet as well as reduce or rescind tax on internet-enabled devices to hasten the realisation of digital economy.

Nalunga was quoted by the local Independent newspaper as saying, "Imposing taxes on internet and internetenabled devices such as smartphones contradicts the government's initiative of digitalising the economy. If more people can access smartphones and use them to boost communication and access to information, the government can still be able to recoup those taxes via numerous taxes such as VAT."





Investors' optimism over election drives stock market to 16-yr high

LAGOS

NIGERIA's major financial makets, specifically, the foreign exchange, forex, and the stock markets, dramatically turned positive on the heels of the barely concluded major national election.

In the official end of the forex market, the Investors and Exporters Window (I&E), the local currency strengthened against the USDollar trading at ?461.17/\$1.00 compared to N462.19/\$1.00 previous week just as it gain significantly in the parallel market at ?765.00/\$1.00 as against N780.00/\$1.00 previous week.

Also the Nigerian stock market traded at its 16-year high performance in both market capitalization and index despite the electioneering tension across the nation, a development investment analysts have attributed to optimism over the likely outcome of the Presidential and National Assembly elections in Nigeria last weekend.

While the All Share Index, ASI, close on Friday at 54,949.21 points from 51,251.06 points, the market capitalization hit N29.9trillion representing a year to date return of 7.2% or N2.018 trillion from N27.915 trillion.

Many analysts had predicted that the market may follow the usual election year downward pressures, and some weeks between December 2022 and January 2023 actually recorded some significant bearish trading.

However, buying pressure ahead of 2022 full-year audited corporate financial results in the midst of the uptick no-



ticed in the fixed income market rates and yields kept the market in a mixed performance since begin of this month.

Despite the cautious trading and volatility with market players digesting the latest 2022Q4 Gross Domestic Product, GDP, data, and the current cash crunch, the market closed positively last week just before the tension socked presidential and National Assembly elections at the weekend.

Stock dealers said that the Nigerian Exchange Limited, NGX remaining upbeat on the eve of a major election season is a complete change of pattern in the history of Nigeria's stock market.

Some market analysts attributed the situation to the change in market's holding structure, post covid 19 impressive

corporate performance, impact of newly listed companies among others.

Market trend and performance this time was also a departure from mixed sentiment in the past election years and seasons, especially on the 2015 and 2019 elections.

The improved local participation of Nigerians, especially institutional investors, high net worth players and savvy retail investors that understand the whole system and perception of politics in Nigeria made the market to remain strong.

Experts' insight

Giving insight on the change in market behaviour Tajudeen Olayinka, CEO,

Wyoming Capital and Partners, an investment banking house and major stock market dealer, told Financial Vanguard that the investors are seeing a new

dawn in the political leader-

ship of the country tilting in

He stated: "what is happen-

favour of private sector.

ing in the across markets in Nigeria at this time are indications of investors bullish sentiments on the possible transition from a government that has consistently pursued public sector domineering focus over the last eight years to a new government that is ex-

cus over the last eight years to a new government that is expected to pursue private sector dominance, because of the fact that the three leading presidential candidates are private sector centric. So, markets are bullish on transition."

Also talking to Financial Vanguard, the Head of Research and Investment at Fidelity Securities Limited, Victor Chiazor, said: "All of the positives being experienced from the gains in the equities market to the Naira appreciation in the official and parallel market are all as a result of investors optimism about the outcome of

the elections.

"However, if Nigeria elects a leader that is not pro-market, we will see a significant reversal of the gains recorded so far as most positions taken by investors will be quickly liquidated."

Also speaking, Managing Director/CEO, APT Securities and Funds Limited, Mallam Garba Kurfi, said: "Generally when the election is conducted peacefully it triggers the market and it goes up for a while especially if the expected person win the Election. But to sustain the momentum needs more to do with the statements of the incoming President about the economy."

Commenting, analysts at InvestData Consulting stated:"We expect a mixed and positive sentiments to continue as market players digest Q4 GDP figure of 3.52% ahead of the general election and uptick in fixed income market rates at the end of the latest Tresury Bill, TB auction in the midst of corporate earnings expectation, portfolio rebalancing, falling rates and anxiety over the election uncertainty. Any

pullback at this point may add more strength to upside potential. As such, investors should take advantage of price correction. Also looking at the trends and events across the globe."

Similarly, analysts at Cordros Research said:" We believe investors will be focused on the outcome of the highly anticipated 2023 Presidential elections. Thus, we see more of a "choppy theme" as cautious trading dominates the trading activities.

"Overall, we advise investors to seek trading opportunities in only fundamentally sound stocks as the weak macro story remains a significant headwind for corporate earnings."

Analysts at Afrinvest West Africa gave their expectations thus, "we expect that the incoming administration would begin to implement market friendly reforms and deepen the fight against insecurity and oil theft.

"However, given the time lag required for the impact of reforms to manifest, we are less optimistic of any positive GDP surprises in the short term."

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Experts compile booklet to guide farming in flood-prone areas

By Correspondent Valentine Oforo, recently in Manyara

GRICULTURAL experts from various local and international sides have bridged efforts and experience to produce a special booklet to provide guidelines on proper building of terraces on sloping grounds and flood prone areas

The handout publication is a brainchild of the Dodoma-based Tanzania Agricultural Research Institute (TARI) Makutupora Centre, and it also involves major inputs from other likeminded institutions including the International Institute of Tropical Agriculture (IITA), The International Crops Research Institute for the Semi-Arid Tropics (ICRISAT) and the US Agency for International Development (USAID).

Basically, the potential booklet has been tailored to guide farmers, extension workers and other practitioners on best procedures to create different forms of terraces.

Terraces are the best agroecology way for containing soil erosion, and the biological technique has so far proved successful in various farmlands of the country.

In recent days, soil erosion which principally drives soil infertility has become a giant setback that derails crops production and productivity among farmers across the country, the challenge which pushed agricultural experts to develop friendly ways to counter the situation, including creation of

It is expected, the at least 37paged booklet will play a meaningful role in helping guide present and future farmers as well as extension officers on how to create the useful terraces on their farms, especially on proper measurements.

"It's our high hope that this guide, apart from assisting farmers and extension workers, will largely impart diverse stakeholders with insight knowledge on proper manner on creation of numerous terraces in order to negate challenges of soil erosion and infertility, especially areas with moderate and steep slopes,"expressed Elirehema Swai, the Coordinator for Research and Innovation at the Tanzania Agricultural Research Institute (TARI) Makutupora Center during the recent workshop over validation on terraces layout procedures.

Held recently in Babati district of Manyara region by attracting experts across the relevant disciplines, the round table forum, among others was part to achieve the set objectives stipulated under the Africa RISING Project which is being implemented by TARI Makutupora centre.

"Convening of this workshop is the active implementation of one of the research themes under TARI Act of 2016-land use and water management," Swai expounded.

During the three-day forum, the experts carefully dwelled on professional sessions to peruse and improve each and every step of terraces layout to finally draft a clean handout over validation terraces layout procedures.

Among others, the handout in question incorporates various detailed information on terraces layout procedures, including among others, how to prevent soil erosion on farms through use of terraces, advantage of using terraces, types of terraces as well as requirements (tools) in creating terraces.

Others in the booklet's list include stages in creating terraces on the field, strengthening edges of the terrace, and preservation of

So far, most of the farmers in



Farmers receiving practical knowledge on how to create terraces. Photo by Valentine Oforo

the regions of Dodoma, Manyara, Iringa, Njombe, Mbeya and Songwe have successful managed to cheat the challenge of soil erosion and infertility on their plantations after being effectively trained on how to create and use terraces, thanks to Africa RISING Project.

For instances, through the initiative in Dodoma the farmers in Kogwa district have managed to counter soil erosion after being imparted with best agroecological practices to overcome negative impacts of climate change, including creation of terraces, mostly of the type of the Fanya Juu/Fanya Chini (FJ/FC) Terraces (for containing soil erosion), farmer managed natural regeneration (FMNR) for land restoration as well as tree planting

management.

Prosperous Community Tropics (ICRISAT). through Participatory Agro-ecological Practices in Semi- Arid regions of Central zone Project.

The timely initiative under the financial auspices from Foundation Biovision is being implemented

The farmers, from by the Tanzania Agricultural Watershed at least eight villages Research Institute (TARI), of the Kongwa district LEAD Foundation and The have benefited from the International Crops Research 'Enabling a Resilient and Institute of the Semi- Arid

Agroecological Project (BVWSP) is benefiting smallholder farmers in the eight villages of Sagara 'A', Sagara 'B', Laikala 'A', Laikala 'B', Mlali, Nghumbi, Lengaji and Moleti.

Supportive policies unlocking potential in Zanzibar's property market, says expert

By Guardian Correspondent

Zanzibar property developer CPS has said supportive housing policy is unlocking the real estate sector's enormous potential in Zanzibar and offers the rapidly growing population a good home.

This was said by CPS Zanzibar chief operating officer Katrin Dietzold, when sharing her insights on the opportunities and potentials of a conducive housing policy and pioneering work in the industry at a panel discussion of the EUBG Tanzania, which took place last week, at the Julius Nyerere International Convention Center in Dar es Salaam.

She stressed that with the right policies and framework in place, the real estate industry in Zanzibar can significantly impact the economy and society.

Katrin also shared her experiences with pioneering areas of the real estate industry in Zanzibar, stressing that the government and the market need innovative developers ready to meet the challenges posed by new construction technologies.

She encouraged other industry players to approach Zanzibar with a clear goal but flexibility along the



Chief Operations Officer of CPS, Katrin Dietzold (second right) speaking during panel session at EU Tanzania business forum 2023 on the agenda "Invest in Zanzibar" which has to provide opportunities and potentials of a conducive housing policy. Others from the left are the Director of Research and Planning - Zanzibar Revenue Authority (ZRA), Ahmed H. Saadat, and the Executive Director of ZIPA, Shariff Ali Shariff and the Manager of the island of Chumbe coral park, Benjamin Taylor. Photo By Guardian Correspondent

resilience and humility are required for success.

Katrin highlighted the benefits of working in Zanzibar, noting that the government is approachable and the environment more manageable than much of Tanzania.

She encouraged other developers to look to

way, noting that patience, Zanzibar as fertile ground for growth and expansion. with endless opportunities for those up to the challenge.

> Zanzibar's participation in the EUBG Tanzania panel discussion demonstrates the company's commitment to promoting sustainable development in the real estate sector in

The company's innovative development approach, exemplified by its Fumba Town project, has set a new benchmark for sustainability and community impact in the industry.

Fumba Town, a project developed by CPS, is Tanzania's fastest-selling real estate development and has sold over 1000 homes.

Fumba Town discerning homeowners worldwide the space to live, work and develops in a safe, sustainable, multinational, multicultural and intergenerational environment.

The iconic city already hosts shoppers from over 50 countries, underscoring its strong global appeal.

Commission for cooperatives strives to promote digital business

By Guardian Reporter

Tanzania Cooperative Development Commission (TCDC) has started to implement a strategy targeting to enables cooperative unions to operate through digital platforms.

The chairman of TCDC Abdulmajid Nsekela said this during the opening of stakeholders meeting to discuss the development of as well as formulating strategies to strengthening co-

Nsekela said investment in modern technological platform will increase administrative efficiencies of cooperative unions, including the sector's regulatory authority.

"The recommendation from the meeting will help us to improve cooperatives systems by becoming modern to enable members to fully participate in their own prosperity as well as the national economy," he said.

"It is my hope that the recommendations of this meeting must be implemented by each stakeholder and will be discusses regularly."

The cooperatives registrar Dr Benson Ndiege said the main purpose of the meeting is to discuss the development of cooperatives in Tanzania to formulate strategies that would enable the sector to grow.

"This meeting is important to discuss different issues concerning the development of cooperatives in Tanzania, but we have also met with all stakeholders to come up with common recommendations that will enable us to stimulate economic development," he said.

China's recovery still uneven with industrial sector lagging

China's economy rebounded in February after the long holiday, although early indicators point to an uneven recovery with strong consumption following the scrapping of Covid rules but lagging industrial activity.

That's according to Bloomberg's aggregate index of eight early indicators, which showed growth momentum this month maintained the pace seen in January, with the overall gauge staying unchanged at

The economy slowed at the end of 2022 as the Covid spread around the country, before beginning to pick up last month.

Private activity looked to be strengthening in February as many residents returned to work after an extended Lunar New Year break, clogging roads in major cities and spending more at restaurants and shops. Meanwhile, the government has removed all movement curbs and declared the pandemic basically over, providing a spur to consumption and travel.

The People's Bank of China also painted a more optimistic picture of the economy in its latest quarterly monetary policy report, which said the overall economy is likely to

rebound this year as production and peoples' daily lives are normalizing rapidly. The central bank also said that it will guide market rates to move around policy rates.

That provides early hints of a shift toward a neutral monetary policy later this year from the current easing stance, Citigroup Inc economists wrote in a note on Sunday. The improved economic outlook and continued caution about inflation risks also prompted some analysts to lower their expectations for major easing steps such as interest rate cuts in the short

Congestion in major cities last

week slowed slightly from the previous week but was still well above the same period last year, according to data compiled by BloombergNEF and Baidu, while the number of people riding the subway in Beijing, Shanghai, Chongqing and other major cities was back to or above pre-pandemic levels. A recent UBS Group AG survey on China consumption showed an increase in dining out, shopping in stores and off-line entertainment.

Small business confidence rose in February to the highest since mid-2022, ending four straight months of contraction, according to Standard Chartered Plc's survey of more than

500 smaller firms. Expectations picked up broadly and bank credit and liquidity conditions also improved significantly, the firm's economists Hunter Chan and Ding Shuang wrote in a report.

The improvement was led by an acceleration in services activities, as both performance and expectations sub-indexes picked up after a four-month decline. However, performance manufacturing weakened from January, with soft demand, falling profitability and tight labor supply weighing on companies' confidence, according to the report.

The recovery speed was different

for export-oriented small businesses and domestically-focused ones, with strong local demand suggesting "a solid domestic recovery momentum" while exports were weak, they wrote.

Early trade data from South Korea showed the recent decline in in global demand continued, as average daily shipments declined by a bigger magnitude in the first 20 days of February compared to the same period of January. Russia's war in Ukraine, central bank tightening and sliding semiconductor demand all added to the cloudy outlook for the global economy.

WORLD

Nigeria's EC starts announcing state-wide results

ABUJA

NIGERIA'S electoral commission began announcing state-by-state results from national elections on Sunday, amid complaints of irregularities, though it is not expected to name a victor in the race to succeed President Muhammadu Buhari for several days.

The presidential vote is expected to be the closest in Nigeria's history, with candidates from two parties that have alternated power since the end of army rule in 1999 facing an unusually strong challenge from a minor party nominee popular among young voters.

Votes in presidential and parliamentary elections are collated in each of Nigeria's 36 states before the count is transmitted to the electoral commission's central tallying centre in the capital Abuja.

The first results, from Ekiki state, showed a majority of votes for president cast in favour of Bola Tinubu of the governing All Progressives Congress.

Tinubu pulled in more than 200,000 votes in the state, against less than half that total for Atiku Abubakar of the main opposition PDP and just over 11,000 for Peter Obi of the Labor Party.

ISRAELI and Palestinian offi-

cials pledged to de-escalate surg-

ing violence after meeting on

Sunday, issuing a joint statement

in which Israel said it would halt

discussions about new settlement

units in the occupied West Bank

Attended by senior US, Jorda-

nian and Egyptian officials in addi-

tion to the Israeli and Palestinian

delegations, the meeting in Aqaba,

Jordan was the first of its kind in

The Israeli and Palestinian sides

said in their statement that they

AMMAN

for four months.

Independent National Electoral Com-

However all three parties complained of irregularities. Obi's Labour party lambasted the electoral commission for failing to upload results directly from each polling unit to its website, as it had promised to do to guarantee transpar-

More than 24 hours after polls were meant to close, many polling stations have yet to upload their results. Nigerian Civil society organisations decried the error and the failure of several polling stations to open on time in a news

a statement.

"The Commission is aware of challenges with the INEC Results Viewing Portal ... (which) has been relatively slow and unsteady," it said, blaming "techni-

local INEC officials being pressured to

There were also incidents of violence



Nigerian police sit in the back of a truck as they protect a collation center which was engaged in collating results manually, in Lagos, Nigeria, on Sunday. AP

and intimidation, but seemingly not on the scale of previous elections.

Soldiers were forced to intervene on Sunday after 15 men pretending to be INEC officials stormed a voting collation centre in the Alimosho neighbourhood of Lagos, attacking party agents with knives and sticks, footage obtained by Reuters TV showed.

"Hoodlum boys ... just came and started coming out with daggers and hitting everybody that are Labour Party agents," the party's ward secretary Jacob Sulemain said, a masked soldier behind him. The footage showed some of the gang kneeling after being detained.

"Change"

Voting had to be extended into Sunday in a few parts of the country after glitches on Saturday, but counting has been underway since polls closed with the final tally expected with-

In one polling station in Yenagoa on Sunday, voters stood on sandy, weed-choked ground checking for their names plastered on a halfbuilt concrete house. Voting also continued on Sunday in some parts of northeastern Bor-

no state after voting machines failed to work. It was not clear how many of Nigeria's 93 million registered voters were unable to cast

In most parts of the country of 200 million people, voting went smoothly.

There were reports of violence in the northern state of Kano on Sunday, where an armed group attacked a collation centre in the town of Takai before security forces arrived, said Rakiya Muhammad, an election observer who witnessed the incident.

Outgoing President Buhari, a retired army general who was also once a military ruler in the 1980s, is stepping down after winning two previous elections and serving the maximum eight years permitted by the constitution.

His successor will face a litany of crises gripping Africa's top oil producer and the continent's most populous nation.

Nigeria is struggling with Islamist insurgencies in the northeast; an epidemic of kidnappings for ransom; conflict between herders and farmers; shortages of cash, fuel and power; and deep-rooted corruption and poverty.

"I witnessed the worst experience of my life under this administration. Recently I spent two days without eating anything," said Ahmad Sulaiman, 49, who sells handbags in a market, as he stood in the baking sun in a dusty alleyway in Kano city.

"I voted because I wanted change," he added. He declined to say who he had voted for.

Russian Security Council Secretary Nikolay Patrushev arrives in Algeria

MOSCOW

RUSSIAN Security Council Secretary Nikolay Patrushev arrived in Algeria on a visit yester-

He is set to "hold a number of meetings on the issues of Russia-Algerian security coopera-

tion," the Security Council said.

The Russian Security Council secretary maintains regular communication with counterparts from other countries regarding security issues. That includes regular talks with the representatives of Algeria.

For example, Russia and Algeria held security consultations in March 2022 in Moscow, and Patrushev met with that country's Foreign Minister Ramtane Lamamra in the Russian capital in April. The Russian Security Council secretary last visited Algeria in January 2018.

Russia and Algeria established diplomatic relations in March 1962 and have maintained them for almost 61 years. The two countries started a strategic dialogue in 2016, which allows them to regularly exchange opinions on the most pressing issues of international security.

Huawei launches smart PV solutions for all scenarios of African residential market

CAPE TOWN

HUAWEI has launched smart photovoltaic (PV) solutions for all scenarios of the African residential market at the Solar Power Africa Conference 2023 held in Cape Town, South

At the press conference announcing the launch, Xia Hesheng, President of Huawei Digital Power Sub-Saharan Africa Region, said that Huawei was releasing three residential solutions: Power-M, LUNA, and the high-end luxury solution.

Xia said, "The three residential solutions will help users cope with daily challenges such as load-shedding, which are prevalent across the region. Meanwhile, the residential market faces some challenges such as user experiences, mixing manufacturers, quality, service, efficiency and aesthetics."

Xia noted that "Huawei is focusing on "4T" Technologies (Watt/Heat/Battery/Bit), this will drive the residential PV scenarios with high quality products that are not only aesthetically pleasing but products that offer high quality system level solutions that integrate digitalisation and intelligence into the PV industry.

Over its 25 years of operating in Sub Saharan Africa, Huawei has built a deep understanding of the region's energy and technology requirements. "We supply smart photovoltaic (PV) solutions for all scenarios in the African residential market, committed to bringing clean energy to every home."

Nick Lusson, VP of Huawei Smart PV Sub-Saharan Africa Region, gave an overview of the features and advantages of the three residential solutions at the launch.

Power-M is a high-quality power supply system for multiscenario applications, flexible for use in apartments, houses or large villas. "Huawei has demonstrated its aesthetic design skills as always, by bringing to consumers a sleek design energy system with the ultimate aesthetics. Thanks to the all-in-one and modular design, the inverter and battery are perfectly integrated, consumers can flexibly choose the number of battery modules to expand the capacity from 5kWh to maxim 45kWh whenever they want.

The Power-M supports seamless switchover between multiple energy inputs, such as solar, grid, and generator. In order to provide a better home usage experience, Power-M has a fan-less construction with sleep-grade noise, the operation sound level is less than 29dbm. The unique plug and play design makes for an easy and quick installation in around two hours," he said.

LUNA is an intelligent power system integrating smart power generation, smart power storage and smart power consumption. With the Huawei smart module controller, the homeowner can maximise the roof installation capacity, resulting in between 10-30% more panels installed. The smart module controller can also significantly increase solar power generation by improving efficiency by 5-30%. "To ensure the safety of installers and roof usage, the modulelevel shutdown function provides a safer roof voltage. The intelligent battery storage, ESS, can provide 10% more usable energy with the built-in optimiser in each battery module," Lusson explained.

Agencies



The Power-M supports seamless switchover between multiple energy inputs, such as solar, grid, and generator

mission (INEC) chairman Mahmood Yakubu adjourned the session following the first results and said the release of tallies would resume at 11 am (10:00 GMT) on Monday.

conference.

INEC apologised for these glitches in

Both the PDP and APC complained of alter results before submitting them.

Israelis, Palestinians pledge to curb violence at Jordan meeting 'Historic gathering'

US President Joe Biden thanked Jordan's King Abdullah for "convening this historic gathering", US National Security Advisor Jake Sullivan said in a statement.

"We recognize that this meeting was a starting point and that there is much work to do over the coming weeks and months to build a stable and prosperous future for Israelis and Palestinians alike. Implementation will be critical," he said.

The participants will meet again in March in Sharm el-Sheikh, Egypt. They agreed to "maintain positive momentum and expand this agreement towards wider political process leading to a just and lasting peace", their statement

Hamas official Sami Abu Zuhri said the meeting would "not change anything". "It will not succeed to prevent our people from defending themselves and confronting the crimes conducted by the government of the occupation", he told Reuters.

In the latest violence, a Palestinian gunman killed two Jewish settlers in their car in the West Bank on Sunday, Israeli officials said. There was no immediate claim of responsibility.

Hamas said it was "a natural response to crimes conducted by the occupation, the last of which was the massacre in Nablus", where 11 Palestinians were killed - six gunmen and five civilians - in an Israeli raid on Feb 23.

would work closely to prevent "further violence" and "reaffirmed the necessity of committing to deescalation on the ground". They affirmed their commitment to prereadiness and commitment to

vious agreements. Jordan, along with its allies Egypt and the United States, said the understandings were "major progress towards re-establishing and deepening relations between

the two sides".

But underlining the challenges, Palestinian militant group Hamas, which governs the Gaza Strip, called the meeting "worthless", and condemned the West Bankbased Palestinian Authority for taking part.

The meeting was held as anxiety mounts of an escalation in violence in the run-up to the holy Muslim month of Ramadan that begins in late March.

Israel and the Palestinian Authority "confirmed their joint



immediately work to end unilateral measures for a period of 3-6 months", according to the state-

"This includes an Israeli commitment to stop discussion of any new settlement units for four months and to stop authorisation of any outposts for six months."

That could cause trouble in Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu's coalition government, one of the most right wing in Israeli

Finance Minister Bezalel Smotrich, who also has responsibilities over Jewish settlements in the West Bank, quickly said he would not abide by any such agreement.

"I have no idea what they spoke about or not in Jordan," Smotrich wrote on Twitter. "But one thing I do know: there will not be a freeze on the building and development in settlements, not even for one day (it is under my authority)."

The Palestinians aim to establish an independent state in the West Bank and Gaza Strip with East Jerusalem as its capital - territories Israel captured in a 1967 war.

But peace talks have been stalled since 2014 and Palestinians say Jewish settlement expansion has undermined the chances of a viable state being established.

Israel on Feb 12 granted retroactive authorisation to nine Jewish settler outposts in the West Bank and announced mass-construc-

tion of new homes within established settlements. A senior Israeli official said there

would be no change to the previous decision regarding authorization of those outposts and 9,500 housing units. Netanyahu seemed to downplay any commitment, saying Israel would continue settlement building along previous plans, and saying there "will not be any freeze".

The UN Security Council issued a formal statement on Feb 20 denouncing Israel's plan to expand settlements on occupied Palestinian territory, the first action the United States has allowed the body to take against its ally Israel

Agencies

'China brings opportunities for the world with its own development' "I had the honor to listen to the important speech delivered by general The meeting was joined by over 600 achieved at the high-level meeting, of China for a long time, Fahmi had

secretary Xi Jinping of the Communist Party of China (CPC) Central Committee. His deep thoughts, open vision and broad mind impressed me very much," said Raed Fahmi, secretary of the Central Committee of the Iraqi Communist Party (ICP), recalling his

The CPC in Dialogue with World Political Parties High-Level Meeting was hosted by the International Department of the CPC Central Committee from Nov. 30 and Dec. 3, 2017. Xi, also Chinese president and chairman of the Central Military Commission, attended the opening ceremony and delivered a keynote speech.

meeting with Xi during a visit to China

representatives from nearly 300 political parties in more than 120 countries.

"It was a world event of historic significance. General secretary Xi's keynote speech charted the course for future development with a global vision," said Fahmi.

What impressed him the most was Xi's remarks that the CPC will continue to uphold global peace and tranquility, promote common development for all and promote mutual enrichment among civilizations.

"The CPC has made friends all over the world and continues to contribute

to human progress," Fahmi noted.

Fahmi shared his experience of participation in an article published in Iraqi

He said the equal and friendly dialogue between the CPC and world political parties was definitely of important significance. The CPC upholds openness and inclusiveness, shares governance experiences and promotes inter-civilization exchanges and mutual learning with political parties of other countries, which vividly mirrors the vision of building a community with a shared future for mankind,

Fahmi said in the article. The ICP leader has visited China Inspired by the fruitful results twice. Following the development

a more profound understanding of China's achievements and the path of socialism with Chinese characteristics when he walked on the streets of Chinese cities.

"China's huge achievements are reflected in its rapid urban and rural development, in its beautiful ecology and in the confidence of the Chinese people," he said.

The successful development path indicates the obvious institutional advantages of socialism with Chinese characteristics, and China's exploration and practice for socialist construction is attracting worldwide attention, Fahmi added.

Today, Iraq sees urgent tasks to maintain security and stability, accelerate development reconstruction, as well as improve people's livelihood.

Living a happy life is the primary human right. Fahmi noticed that the CPC has followed a people-centered development philosophy, and implemented a series of major policies and measures to safeguard and improve people's livelihood and resolve diffi-

culties of them. "As a result, the Chinese people have gained a strong sense of fulfillment, happiness, and security," Fahmi told People's Daily.

He spoke highly of China's success in eradicating absolute poverty and

building a moderately prosperous society in all respects.

"China has achieved the poverty alleviation goal set on the UN 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development 10 years ahead of schedule. It is actively launching international cooperation on poverty alleviation, fulfilling its international responsibility in this regard and providing assistance to other developing countries to the full extent of its ability. It is an active promoter of global poverty alleviation," Fahmi said.

He added that relevant countries should learn from China's poverty alleviation experience especially when the number of global impoverished people is constantly growing due to COVID-19, the climate crisis and regional conflicts. People's Daily

World Bank's IFC to provide Sri Lanka with \$400m financing

COLOMBO

THE International Finance Corporation (IFC), the World Bank's investment arm, said it will provide Sri Lanka a \$400 million cross-currency swap facility to help fund essential imports.

Three private banks, which together deal with over world, but the US recently cre-30 percent of Sri Lanka's remittances and exports, will receive the facility to fund essential imports, including hyping China's unmanned airmedicine, food and fertilizer, the IFC said in a statement on Monday.

The funds will provide a much needed foreign ex-sions, but also seriously harmed change cushion for Sri Lanka, which is grappling with China's rights through the use of its worst financial crisis in over seven decades partly triggered by a severe shortage of dollars.

The island nation's economy is estimated to have conby the Global Times on Febtracted by 9.2 percent in 2022 and is expected to shrink ruary 20th shows that the US a further 4.2 percent in 2023, according to World Bank military frequently conducted

"We expect this financing to boost confidence in the China, including the use of balinvestor community, attract fresh capital inflows to support the Sri Lankan economy," said Joon Young Park, spying country in the world. IFC's Portfolio Manager, Financial Institutions Group for South Asia

IFC is also working on further plans to support client sance operations in the South banks with other long-term funding and advisory services in the future, the statement added.

Security arrangements made in Delhi after minister's arrest

NEW DELHI

HEAVY security arrangements have been made at a few places in the Indian capital city on Monday, as Delhi's Deputy Chief Minister Manish Sisodia was arrested by the Central Bureau of Investigation for alleged corruption.



India's ace investigating agency CBI had arrested Sisodia late on Sunday night after questioning him for nearly 12 hours over corruption charges levelled against him in the "liquor scam" which had rocked the capital city nearly one and a half years ago.

Sisodia (pictured) had entered the CBI office on Sunday morning, and investigating sleuths continued to grill him throughout the day before finally arresting him in late night hours.

Sisodia is a senior leader of the Aam Aadmi Party, or Common Man Party. He held several portfolios, including finance and education, in the Delhi government headed by Chief Minister Arvind Kejriwal.

CBI sources alleged that he received a huge amount of money in return for allotting liquor vends to private companies in Delhi in October 2021.

Thousands of AAP workers are expected to hold protests on Monday at several places in Delhi, including Sisodia's official residence in the heart of the city. Heavy security arrangements have been made conseauently.

According to media reports, Sisodia was to appear in court later in the day, following which legal proceedings would be initiated to file formal charges against

Agencies

Australia develops new microfluidic device to detect cancer cells without surgeries

SYDNEY

A RESEARCH team led by the University of Technol- and then with the outbreak of hostilities ogy Sydney (UTS) has developed a new device to detect in Ukraine, stable economic and financial and analyze cancer cells from blood samples, which ties between states were seriously affectcan help doctors to monitor treatment progress with- ed. out conducting invasive biopsy surgeries.

and Bioelectronics journal, displayed a high through- Currently, Tanzania and other African put static droplet microfluidic device with 38,400 countries are making efforts to restore chambers.

The device is capable of isolating and classifying the ble and are looking for new growth points number of metabolically active circulating tumor cells for their national economies, (CTCs) in peripheral blood at single-cell resolution.

Researchers found that the workflow of their newly- the rational policy of the President of designed device is simple and robust, which can elimi- Tanzania, Samia Suluhu Hassan, who nate the need for specialized equipment and expertise has taken a number of timely measures required for single-cell analysis of CTCs and facilitate aimed at intensifying the development of on-site metabolic screening of cancer cells.

"Our device monitors single cells for increased lactate using pH-sensitive fluorescent dyes that detect ing the planned actions in the field of acidification around cells," Majid Warkiani, coauthor economic development, the leader of and UTS professor, said in a statement on Monday.

"A single tumor cell can exist among billions of blood and traditional partners in trade relations cells in just one milliliter of blood, making it very dif- such as China and India, on some new ficult to find. The new detection technology has 38,400 players from the Middle East and Asia, chambers capable of isolating and classifying the number of metabolically active tumor cells," the expert said. pinned on the recent US-Africa summit

According to the statement, cancer is a leading for Tanzania, apparently, did not justify cause of illness and death in Australia, with more than themselves. 150,000 Australians diagnosed every year.

like the liver, colon or kidney, often require surgery for participation of investors from the United a definitive diagnosis.

Noting that getting a biopsy can cause discomfort, an economy were linked by Washington higher costs and an increased risk of complications due with their traditional demands for the libto surgery, Warkiani regarded the assessment of tumor eralisation of the political space in Tanzacells in blood samples as "far less invasive than taking nia and other traditional values for Amertissue biopsies."

"It allows doctors to do repeat tests and monitor a with the concept of "democratisation". patient's response to treatment," he added. The UTS research team has filed a provisional patent for the static willpower and determination of the leaddroplet microfluidic device and has plans to commer- ership of Tanzania to follow its indepencialize the product.

US military uses balloons, disguises recon aircraft as civilian planes to spy on China - report

By Fan Wei and Liu Xuanzun

HIGH altitude balloons are widely used for weather surveillance by countries around the ated a series of "spying" dramas ship that went out of control, which not only built up ten-

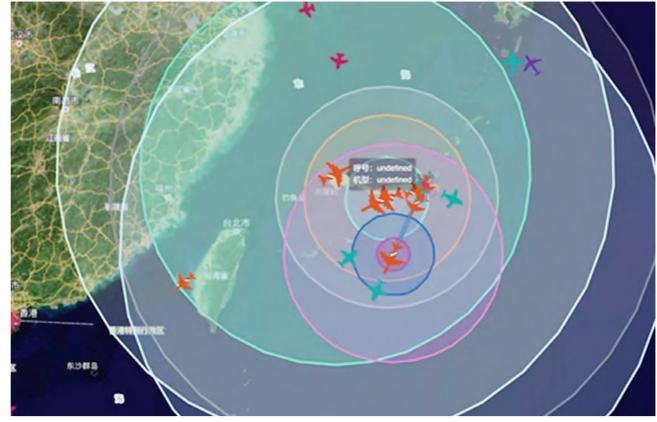
An exclusive report obtained close-in reconnaissance on loons, making the US the top

In 2022, the US military carried out close-in reconnais-China Sea over 600 times using spy planes, MizarVision, a Chinese technology and intelligence company, told the Global Times, citing open source Automatic Dependent Surveillance-Broadcast (ADS-B) data.

The real figure could be higher, as some US aircraft turn off their ADS-B trackers or use fake ones, MizarVision said.

Similar close-in reconnaissance sorties also took place in the East China Sea, including in August, when the Chinese People's Liberation Army (PLA) conducted large-scale exercises around the island of Taiwan, according to the company's moni-

Frequently deployed aircraft include the EP-3E electronic signals reconnaissance plane, the P-8A maritime patrol and reconnaissance plane, the RC-135 reconnaissance aircraft, the E-8C airborne command and control plane and the U-2 high altitude reconnaissance plane, said the intelligence company.



Several US military spy aircraft operate in the East China Sea and the Philippine Sea on August 9, 2022 amid PLA's large-scale exercises around the island of Taiwan. Photo: Courtesy of MizarVision

The US military also uses other types of aircraft as well as vessels, and also disguises them as civilian airliners and commercial ships through fake identification codes and by customizing commercial aircraft into spy planes, MizarVision said, adding that such techniques have been used to spy on China's Hainan Island and Xisha Islands in the South

The US military has also used spy balloons, including in an exercise with the Philippines in the Bashi Channel from March to April 2022. Made of polyethylene plastic, the balloon can be used for communications, navigation and remote sensing for more than 45 days at a time, according to

But it is a normal practice to use balloons for scientific research purposes.

The World Meteorological Organization on February 17th said that weather balloons have been a vital part of the global observation network over the past decades, serving as bases for weather forecasts and climate surveillance. Some 1,000 weather balloons carrying radio detectors send data every day.

Using high altitude balloons for scientific research activities has become an international norm, with data from the China Science Daily showing that by 2018, the US had released more than 2,000 high altitude balloons, France around 3,000, and Japan more than 800.

With technological advances, balloon activities by scientific research organizations and companies around the world are becoming more frequent, which also makes cross-border flights more frequent, including those from the US. When such incidents happen, they are often solved through dialogues.

But this time, when China's civilian weather scientific research airship accidentally drifted into the US, it disregarded facts and China's friendly communication, took the chance for political manipulation and ill-intended hype, and accused China of using the balloon for "spying" pur-

Times that it is impossible that the Chinese balloon was used for "high altitude reconnaissance", as even Pentagon officials and US experts said satellites would do a better job than a balloon for military reconnaissance.

A source close to the Chinese military told the Global

The source said that the current political atmosphere in the US does not respect professionalism and common sense, as it intentionally creates anti-China stunts.

The US is conducting so-called analyses on the balloon's payload, and these results could be faked to further throw

mud at China, said the

Zhu Yaochun, deputy secretary-general of the China Air Transport Association, told the Global Times that the US' shooting down of the Chinese airship using a fighter jet and missile was an obvious overreaction and does not conform to international law and norms.

In international practice, civilian unmanned aircraft that accidentally enter another country's airspace should be escorted, warned, expelled or forced to land, as resolving a problem peacefully is a key principle of the UN Charter, Zhu

According to international law, the illegality of an unmanned aircraft entering another country's airspace without authorization can be exempted in the event of force majeure, danger or emergency evasion, Zhu pointed out.

By contrast, the US is conducting real military reconnaissance on China using technologies including balloons.

The purpose of this kind of close-in reconnaissance is to gather intelligence on the PLA's maritime activities, including those by nuclear-powered submarines, collect electronic information that could decipher the PLA's communications and grasp radar information, learn China's defense facilities by using optical and radar devices, as well as understand the PLA's warplane sortie patterns and reaction times, which serve the US' hegemonic aims, observers said

Global Times

Russia sees great potential in Africa

THE Center for the Study of Russian -Africa Relations has said the continent stands to benefit a lot from the coming summit which is slated for this July in St. Petersburg.

Information released by Igorev Oleg who is the senior researcher at the center attributed the current challenges the world is facing to Coronavirus and other global challenges, But said there is hope that things will turn to normal.

He mentioned Tanzania as one of the African countries who are making strides in turning around its economy.

Speaking recently, he said "Taking into account the current global situation, when due to the coronavirus pandemic,

At the same time, this has also had a sig-The study, published in Volume 223 of the Biosensors nificant impact on the African continent. their economic potential as soon as possi-

> "In this regard, we have all witnessed the national economy," he said.

> Further went on saying ,"Implement-Tanzania focuses, in addition to main

"At the same time, the high hopes

According to the materials received in Those with suspected cancer, particularly in organs the world press, certain issues of financial States in the development of the Tanzaniicans, which can collectively be combined

Agencies dent political line, progress "he said.



Russian Foreign Minister Sergey Lavrov, left, and Sudan's Army chief General Abdel Fattah al-Burhan meet in Khartoum, Sudan, February 9, 2023. (AP)

Further the researcher said that Western countries, under the leadership of the United States, continue to make all possible efforts aimed at the political and economic isolation of Russia, while Russia seeks to work at all levels to create new tools and improve existing mechanisms of cooperation with African states, as evidenced by the two quite productive tours on the continent that have taken place over the past six months by the head of Russian diplomacy Sergey Lavrov.

"Taking into account the interest shown by a number of African partners, the Russian leadership plans to hold a Russia-Africa summit in July 2023 in St. Petersburg.

The agenda of this event is planned to include a discussion of a number of issues related to the construction of a new architecture of the world order in the context of strengthening multipolarity, including in the field of international security. Russia also plans to touch upon the topics of food and energy security, healthcare, humanitarian cooperation, primarily education, science, culture, as well as to identify possible new points of growth of mutually beneficial cooperation with its African partners," he added

Oleg went further saying, historically, Russia and Africa have always been bound by strong ties of friendly and trusting relations, which over the past decades have been successfully tested for strength. Russia, unlike many Western countries, has never had colonies in Africa.

During the Soviet years, Moscow invest-

ed billions of dollars in the development of a number of African countries, trained a large number of specialists in various fields, which allowed to them to lay the foundation for their statehood and further economic growth.

With the collapse of the USSR, Soviet ideology has become a thing of the past, but the results achieved by it on African soil remain and bear fruit to new generations of Africans.

At the same time, Russia, as the successor of the USSR, wrote off almost all the existing debts of African countries, acting selflessly and with the desire to reduce the burden of debt on developing African states. In this regard, Moscow did not pursue the neocolonialist goals inherent in Western countries, showing foresight in this regard, unlike Western countries currently reaping the fruits of their neocolonialism through the formation of new political regimes in the Central African Republic, Mali, Burkina Faso, who decided to radically reconsider their relations with the former center of the colonial empire -

In place of France, at the invitation of the Africans themselves, Russia is coming to these countries, advocating the continuation of a multifaceted partnership with Africa, including the expansion of political dialogue, increasing economic and humanitarian cooperation.

" In its activities on the African continent, Russia is entirely guided by the principle of non-interference in the internal

affairs of sovereign States or the well-known formula "African problems - African solution". In this vein, Moscow continues to provide assistance to African partners in the field of peacekeeping, training of military and law enforcement personnel. At the same time, Russia is among the top ten major states that pay into the budgets of UN peacekeeping operations, with 80% of the Russian contribution falling on peacekeeping in Africa, "Africa is one of the key and fast-growing export markets for

global producers. Moscow is also well aware of the importance of Russian products for the socio-economic development of the region's states, the achievement of food security indicators and the implementation of sustainable development goals, During preliminary negotiations with a number of African countries. Russia has determined its interest in the acquisition by African states of a wide range of Russian goods, such as grain and fertilizers, including nitrogen.

"It is absolutely obvious to the Russian leadership that the African continent has the necessary resources not only for selfsufficiency, but also for exporting products. Many countries in West, Central and East Africa have their own sources of oil and gas, and, of course, the oil and gas industry on the continent will continue to develop at a faster pace. The task that Russia sets itself is to promote the creation of a reliable infrastructure for the production and transportation of African energy products, the development of domestic markets

"In this regard, taking into account Russia's commitment not to link certain issues of economic cooperation with political decisions and preferences, it can be assumed that the participation of the Tanzanian leadership in the noted Russia-Africa summit can give a new impetus to the development of bilateral relations between Dodoma and Moscow. In this regard, one of the promising areas of cooperation could be healthcare, taking into account the high demand of Tanzania for the training of medical personnel in Russia," he said.

He also said another important area could be Russia's participation in providing support to the Tanzanian agro-industrial complex, taking into account the fourfold increase in financing of this industry indicated by the President of Tanzania in 2023.

"Certain positive developments can be achieved in bilateral relations also in the field of military-technical cooperation. The negotiations may concern the purchase of certain samples of military products by Tanzanians in the Russian Federation, which have proven their high combat effectiveness on the battlefields, as well as the issue of training personnel in various specialties for the Tanzanian armed forces,

"Promising areas of cooperation could also be issues related to increasing the tourist flow to Tanzania from Russia, both to Zanzibar and to the mainland of Tanzania, as well as attracting investments in the field of energy, mining and other priority areas of development of the Tanzanian industry," said the re-



At the same time, Russia, as the successor of the USSR, wrote off almost all the existing debts of African countries, acting selflessly and with the desire to reduce the burden of debt on developing African states

Tuesday 28 February, 2023

Guardian



Tanzanian visual artist, Athuman Hamisi, popularly known as 'Ochu'.

Dar visual artist set to take part in arts exhibition in Germany

By Correspondent Joseph Mchekadona

TANZANIAN realistic painter, Athuman Hamisi, says he is happy that his three artworks are being exhibited at the ongoing Indien Tansania-Deutschland at Kurtur Kirche OST in Cologne, Germany.

The exhibition which has artworks created by artists from Germany, Tanzania, and India, got underway last Saturday and is expected to end mid-next month.

Hamisi, who is popularly known as 'Ochu' in art circles, mentioned Anna Nkyalu, Gertrude Malizeni, and Photographer CK as Tanzania's exhibitors, and other exhibitors, Goshi from India, and German Seona Sommer, who is also the host.

The Tanzanian artist, who mostly uses acrylic on canvases, mentioned his works which are exhibited as Expectations (40×60cm), The Truth (50×40cm), and Lazarus Syndrome (40×60cm).

"I'm really happy that my three works are being exhibited in Germany, that is an honour not only to me but also to all artists and all art lovers and stakeholders in the country," he

He thanked Seona, who runs a humanity project in Tanzania and India, for facilitating the initiative.

Seona recently visited Tanzania, drew a portrait of Ochu, and posted it on her social media platforms.

The German visual artist has a project that provides school children with some of their needs.

Ochu, an admirer of the artworks created by United States of America (USA) acrylic painter Nick Sider, is the winner of the Kili Canvas compe-

According to Seona's biography, the visual artist who hails from Cologne, Germany is primarily a selftaught contemporary figurative art-

Her compelling portraits promote humanity and diversity and offer fascinating insights into people's souls.

Part of her biography revealed: "She sees herself as a global citizen with a strong interest in international collaboration, she strives to tear down the borders and overcome distances with her artworks."

"She explores the great variety biography noted.

of different cultures and individual characters and she is also a strong advocate of humanity," part of her This is the fourth time that Ochu has exhibited in Germany. Simbu finishes third in

2023 Osaka Marathon

By Correspondent Joseph Mchekadona

TANZANIAN athlete, Felix Simbu, has finished third in this year's Osaka Marathon which took place in Japan last weekend.

Simbu clocked 2.06.19, which is his best time, to trail the showdown's winner, Ethiopian Hailemary Kiros who recorded 2.06.01, and secondplace finisher, Ugandan Victor Kiplagat who clocked 2.06.03.

Commenting on performance, one of Athletics Tanzania's (AT) media officers, Tullo Chambo, said the athlete has done his country proud.

Chambo noted: "We are very happy for him, he has done the country proud and more importantly he has improved his personal best time."

The official disclosed: congratulate him for achievement, and we hope he will continue carrying the nation's flag

The Osaka Marathon started in

2011 with over 30, 000 participants and it is one of the largest city marathon events in Japan.

To date, the race has provided the excitement of running through Midosuji, the main street of Osaka, and completing a full marathon to more than 300,000 runners.

In Japanese, the word 'Omotenashi' means hospitality and the people of 'Naniwa' (Osaka) are some of the most hospitable and warmhearted in Japan with a crowd of more than 1.3 million people gathering along the road to enthusiastically cheer on the runners.

Other features of the race are the many water stations and aid stations set up all along the course, including the 'Maido Aid Station' that awaits runners during the latter half of the

This aid station symbolizes the city of 'kuidaore' (eat till you drop) and offers many Osaka specialties and confectionaries from the stores in the local shopping district.

Bracing up for the third part of archrivals' continental 'derbies'

By Correspondent John Kimbute

the weekend dawned, the city archrivals were reading for the third part of their grueling showdown centered on whether either of them can proceed to the knockout stages of their respective tournaments.

The first round was a muted outcome for Simba SC as it ended its match against Horoya Athletic Club with a 1-0 deficit and, thus, showing potential to make a comeback in the return match.

Young Africans SC, alias Yanga, ended their first match on a more slippery note as their deficit was wider, losing 2-0 to Union Sportive Monastirienne, thus having a less appealing impression to the fans as to an eventual comeback to win.

The second round of derbies worked in the opposite direction and in a tremendous way, as the higher profile side, Simba SC, lost 3-0 to Raja Casablanca and clouded their ability to move forward, as this sharply diminished chances of finishing among the top two in the group.

The second-tier tournaparticipants, Yanga, put up a regal show to hammer the point home that it is a good side, in shaving off famed opponents, Tout Puissant Mazembe, by the same score line as the loss by their next-street rivals.

The previous day's loss by a steep margin fortified confidence in their rivals' camp, to end the show for the moment, thus pushing the previous encounters to a back quarter, to retain a memorable win and a steep loss.

As is often the case, nearly everyone was the loser in the Simba SC loss to Raja Casablanca in a routine but the hugely unexpected manner,



Tanzania's Simba SC midfielder. Said Ntibazonkiza (C), negotiates his way past Uganda's Vipers SC players when the clubs took on each other in this season's SC beat Vipers SC 1-0. PHOTO: COURTESY OF SIMBASC

as 'best odds,' substituted wish- dio channel when they know it ful thinking for actual projection of the game.

The 'best odds' for two full days were 'draw or Simba SC wins' as even talk show givers sympathetic to Yanga were worried about sounding a negative

As there was no actual survey of talk show contents outside random listening during the morning to midday shows, there is still an outside chance that some pundits predicted a Raja Casablanca win whether in either a forthright manner or shamefacedly.

In that case, an old rule of clear thinking was displayed, that clear thinking is hard as it is always mixed with desire, and let it be said, the more one is on a public podium where pleasing those listening is vital, the less capable is such a person likely to display clear thinking.

Chances are that pundits would find ample reasons for bending their intuitions to suit as local pundits, in the spirit the wishes of the fans, and thus of what is known these days of advertisers in this or that ra-

has a lot of listeners for its sports shows.

Such a situation is not especially convivial for upright analysis, as the fans are unlikely to make a valid distinction between prediction, projection, and prognostication.

In that case, the collapse of these predictions was a belated freeing of pundits to make valid predictions or at least let their projections emerge more freely, not constantly checked and impelled to play to the gallery.

Still, it cannot be said that there was a massive difference between projecting the derbies played in the city arena and those to be played on foreign soil the following week, and predictably more of the same will be noticed in the ultimate city derbies in continental tourneys. When they play three away ties and three home games, it will be

What has been noticed for the derby encounter for a Kampala suburb where Simba SC tackled Vipers SC, the other conquerors

of TP Mazembe, the crucial issue being heard was that the tie would be difficult.

There was a clear appreciation of Vipers SC's qualities, as they obtained a point against Horoya Athletic Club, unlike the visiting side, and, in that context, ought to be confident in facing Simba SC on home turf.

The well-known fans' anticipatory cry for the visiting sides tackling either of the city rivals or indeed 'upstarts' to continental tourneys, if it is applied to Kampala, could have been a negative prediction for Simba SC, as Vipers SC's fans also expected never visitors' win on their turf.

It is rather unclear how much time has been spent discussing the Jangwani Street outfit foreign encounter, partly because there was no confidence in that sphere and far less anxiety than with Msimbazi Street outfit fans.

By a dint of repetition, the error in talks shows of the previous week was being repeated in a silent and unforced manner, by nearly taking it for granted that Yanga stands to win its foreign encounter with AS Real Bamako, firstly a little-known contender for continental titles - perhaps like Yanga or Rivers United of Nigeria, etc.

There was some profiling of the side and a clear admission that by making it to the Group Stage they are a good side, admittedly.

It was going to take more than this matter-of-fact admission that AS Real Bamako might be a good side, at least for those who have watched past elimination stage encounters in CAF interclub competitions.

Horoya Athletic Club was once playing a Malian side (cannot recall which club it was) and there was entertaining football, with the ball being spread around the wide pitch, nothing like the sort of performance one encounter in our modicum Premier League

In that case, Yanga might make the mistake of carrying the baggage of pride to Bamako,

Some of Barrick North Mara Mine's workers are pictured ing this year's Kilimanjaro Premium Lager International held in Moshi on Sunday. The company, Tarime District, has a program allowing its employees to participate in sports. Photo: IAN CORRE-**SPODENT**



Chaneta to organize netball umpiring course

By Correspondent Joseph Mcheka-

TANZANIA Netball Association (Chaneta) has stated it will organize a netball umpiring course that will enable the local officials to officiate prestigious international tournaments.

Chaneta's president, Devotha Marwa, disclosed recently the course will be held next month at dates and venue which will be announced later.

Devotha said Chaneta has

perform well in practicals but fail in theory.

She said so after Tanzania's umpires had missed out on the list of 23 officials appointed by the world Netball to officiate this year's Netball World Cup to be held in Cape Town, South Africa from July 28-August 8.

Devotha said Tanzania has no umpire with either a license or qualification recognized by the World Netball.

According Devotha, to Tanzania's umpires have, as a been organizing umpiring result, never been considered for courses but the results have not either Netball World Cup or any been good as many participants other prestigious tournament,

except for East Africa Netball Championships.

The Chaneta boss revealed: "Next month, we will have a course for umpires, we don't have an umpire who is recognized by the world netball

governing body."

"That is one of the challenges we have, we want to have our umpires who can officiate international events," disclosed.

Last year, Chaneta organized the netball coaching and umpiring course at Filbert Bayi Schools in Kibaha, Coast Region.

The 10-day course attracted 53

Mary is a former head coach for Tanzania's senior national netball team, Taifa Queens, and had also taken charge of Coast Region's Filbert Bayi Schools' netball team.

participants (25 in coaching and

28 in umpiring) from more than

15 regions of the country and in-

structors were Malawians, Mary

Waya and Rebecca Dulanya.

The course was recognized by the International Netball Federation (INF), now known as World Netball, and those who performed well got Gold (Africa Level A), Silver, and Bronze cer-

Mbappé and Messi combine as leader PSG wins 3-0 at Marseille

KYLIAN Mbappé scored twice and Lionel Messi got the other goal as the World Cup final stars combined to give French league leader Paris Saint-Germain a 3-0 win at title challenger Marseille.

Mbappé tops the league's scoring charts outright with 17 goals, and he matched Edinson Cavani's PSG club-record tally of 200 in the process on Sunday.

What better place to do it than at bitter rival Marseille, where PSG lost in the French Cup earlier this month without the injured Mbappé in the team? This time, PSG was without the injured Neymar but didn't miss the Brazil star.

A win would have moved second-place Marseille within two points of defending champion PSG. Instead, Marseille trails by eight points with only 13 rounds remaining.

"Everyone put in the right effort," PSG coach Christophe Galtier said.

Galtier is from Marseille and played for the club as a gritty defender, which means some Marseille fans are simply unable to understand why he is coaching PSG.

Galtier had to be restrained after the final whistle as he went over to confront an irate Marseille fan leaning over and heckling him near the dug-

Mbappé became only the second player to score a hat trick in a World Cup final when France lost on penalty kicks to Argentina last December, with an inspirational Messi netting twice in a thrilling

This time they combined on each other's goals to quieten a Stade Velodrome crowd full of belief after the recent cup win against a PSG side reeling from five defeats in its 12 previous games.

But after Nuno Tavares missed a great chance for Marseille, an exquisite pass from Messi near the halfway line sent Mbappé sprinting through for a typically clinical finish in the 25th minute.

"He's a player from another planet," Marseille coach Igor Tudor said about Mbappé.

Four minutes later Mbappé found space down the left and picked out Messi - who saved PSG with an injury-time free kick in a 4-3 win against Lille last weekend – for a close-range finish.

Having scored his 12th league goal, Messi set up Mbappé again with a looping pass in the 55th, moments after veteran striker Alexis Sanchez missed a great chance to pull a goal back for Marseille.

The only negative for PSG on an emphatic night was losing central defender Presnel Kimpembe to injury in the 18th.

He was stretchered off after falling unchallenged to the ground and lying on his face for several moments, although the nature of his injury was not immediately clear.

LONDON

United are ready to party like it's 1999. After ending six-year trophy drought by winning the Carabao Cup with a 2-0 Wembley victory against Newcastle, the next challenge is to emulate the club's greatest team by lifting three cups in the same season.

That is how it works at the biggest clubs: You win one trophy and move onto the next. For manager Erik ten Hag's players, that means going all the way in the FA Cup and Europa League between now and the end of May.

"This trophy means something," Ten Hag said Sunday. "That is the feeling I get. We have won something, we have to celebrate that. But after that, you have to keep going. This cup can be the inspiration to give even more. Don't be satisfied."

Winning all three cups this season wouldn't match the ultimate achievement of winning the Champions League, Premier League and FA Cup as Sir Alex Ferguson's team did in 1999, but after enduring the club's longest barren run for 40 years, United can now make up for lost time in the weeks ahead.

Overhauling Arsenal's eight-point lead at the top of the Premier League is perhaps a task too far, but the cups are



Manchester United's Manager, Erik ten Hag.

Casemiro's headed goal, followed by a deflected Marcus Rashford shot that was recorded as a Sven Botman own goal, were enough to secure a comfortable win against Newcastle and get United back on the trophy trail.

But United can't linger on this success for too long. There are short-term and long-term objectives for Ten Hag to tick off as manager, and the Dutchman, appointed as Ole Gunnar Solskjaer's permanent successor last summer, has already checked plenty of boxes.

Ten Hag has transformed the culture at the club and within the squad by instilling a winning mentality, something accelerated by his decisive handling of Cristiano Ronaldo, who left for Saudi Arabia's Al Nassr after having his United contract terminated last November.

With that, Ten Hag has taken a team that recorded United's worst-ever Premier League campaign last season to sitting in third position now, on course for Champions League qualification, and with a trophy added to the honours' list.

Moving on without Ronaldo, removing captain Harry Maguire from the defence following too many poor performances, dropping star player Marcus Rashford for oversleeping and certainly there to be missing a team meeting on a

matchday and making key signings -- namely Casemiro, Lisandro Martinez, Christian Eriksen -- this success has Ten Hag's fingerprints all over it.

From axing Ronaldo to key signings, how Ten Hag transformed Man United

"The turnaround is transformational -- the turnaround under Erik ten Hag is unbelievable," former United captain Gary Neville told Sky Sports. "At the end of last season some of those players were part of a team labelled a disgrace by me and other Manchester United

Roy Keane, United's most successful captain, echoed Neville's comments about the job done by Ten Hag: "This is the catalyst for putting some belief into the squad.

This squad will be dangerous with a medal around their neck because you'd like to think Erik ten Hag will improve them again."

"What the manager has done in a short space of time is fantastic," Keane added. "The players now have to use this as a springboard to get more trophies over the next few years, that's what it is about playing for Manchester United.

Winning that first trophy was perhaps the biggest requirement of all for Ten Hag. United had become so accustomed to winning during two decades of success under Ferguson that their fall from grace since his retirement in

2013 proved so much harder to

Only three trophies -- the 2016 FA Cup under Louis van Gaal and Jose Mourinho's Carabao Cup/Europa League double in 2017 -- had been won by United in the post-Ferguson years, but the past six years in particular have been a bleak wilderness of failure, exacerbated by the successes of Manchester City and Liverpool.

So, Ten Hag simply had to make United winners again, and he has done that by winning the first trophy available to him. As a result, a line has been drawn under the recent past, and it is now time to start winning the really big trophies again. For a club of United's stature, that means the Premier League and Champions League.

That will be the objective next season, but prior to that, Ten Hag has the chance to turn United into serial winners in the other two competitions in which they are still competing.

Thursday's Europa League playoff win against Barcelona, the runaway leaders of LaLiga, marked United out as favourites to win that competition, despite a tricky round-of-16 tie against Real Betis, while they will be in the FA Cup quarterfinals if they overcome West Ham at Old Trafford on Wednesday.

A year ago, such bullish talk would have been unthinkable as United lurched from one humiliation to another under Solskjaer and then Ralf Rangnick, his uninspiring replacement interim manager.

But Ten Hag is a manager who carries the air of someone who is in full control of what is in front of him and who knows exactly how to achieve success. As such, he will now be eyeing further glory in the cups this season, using the Carabao Cup win as the platform on which to build a dynasty.

They all have to start somewhere. United's FA Cup in 1990, which ended a five-year trophy drought, was Ferguson's first success, and it propelled the club to their incredible run of glory.

And in 2006, the former United boss cited the EFL Cup win against Wigan as being the one which provided the launchpad for the team of Ronaldo and Wayne Rooney to win three successive Premier Leagues (2007, 2008, 2009) and also the Champions League in 2008.

Ten Hag's team are not primed to do that just yet -- work still needs to be done -- but there is now a clear pathway to making United great again.

This team unquestionably needs a reliable centre-forward to climb to the next level. They need a Harry Kane or Victor Osimhen to deliver 20-plus goals a season and ease the overreliance on Rashford, while greater depth would leave the team less vulnerable when key players such as Casemiro or Raphael Varane are unavailable.

But Ten Hag has brought such a clear structure, and improved so many players, that United now only need strategic additions of the very best players to make them challengers on all fronts.

Yes, they need consistency from Bruno Fernandes, Jadon Sancho and Antony and for goalkeeper David de Gea to eradicate the mistakes that continue to haunt his game, but Ten Hag has elevated standards. He will expect those players to rise to the challenge of meeting them.

The next challenge is to add two more trophies to the Carabao Cup this season. It is no longer an improbable dream. It is what this United team can

Man United targets more trophies after winning League Cup

LONDON

WITH a first trophy secured, thoughts now turn to what else a transformed Manchester United can achieve in a season that is shaping up nicely for manager Erik ten Hag.

While a quadruple remains unlikely, United's four-pronged challenge is still alive after beating Newcastle 2-0 in the League Cup final on Sun-"We are still in three

competitions and we have the chance to win more trophies," United goalkeeper David de Gea said. "I feel the mentality of the team is a winning

For a team that had become all too accustomed to failure in recent years, it is quickly getting a taste for success after the impressive turnaround overseen by Ten Hag.

"I am satisfied but I want more. I want much more," said United captain Bruno Fernandes, who led the celebrations on the field at Wembley.

Ten Hag needed just 10 months to deliver his first trophy as United manager and end a sixyear silverware drought for the 20-time English

It is United's first trophy since winning a League Cup and Europa League double under Jose Mourinho in 2017.

As trophies go, the League Cup is a modest prize for a club that won it all under iconic former manager Alex Ferguson.

But this was a triumph that was relished by thousands of United fans inside the stadium after Casemiro's header and Sven Botman's own-goal settled the match.

"First you have to win the first one and that is what we did today," Ten Hag said. "You can get inspiration from this and more confidence that we can do it.

"We are still at the start of restoring Manchester United to where they belong and that is to be winning trophies."

Ten Hag celebrated by dancing on the field with players Lisandro Martinez and Antony, who followed him from Ajax to Manchester last summer. And he lovingly cradled the cup when emerging for his post-match news conference.

However, as if to underline the fact that he is not getting carried away with his early success, he initially forgot the trophy as he got up to leave the room before quickly retrieving it.

"I'm already on to the next cup! This one is in!" he joked.

Few expected United to be in such a healthy position at this stage of the season – especially that finished 35 points tonight," Ten Hag said.



 ${\bf Manchester\, United's\, Bruno\, Fernandes, centre\, right, and\, Harry\, Maguire, second\, from\, left, hold}$ the trophy during celebration as they won the English League Cup final soccer match between Manchester United and Newcastle United at Wembley Stadium in London on Sunday. AP

games of the campaign, which included the humiliating 4-0 loss at Brentford in August.

three Dutch titles and two cups with Ajax, is off the mark in his new job and there could be more days like this before the season is done.

Third-place United is in contention for the Premier League title and on Thursday beat Barcelona in the Europa League to advance to the final whistle. round of 16 against Real

Next up is West Ham in the FA Cup in the fifth round, with league leader Arsenal and holder Liverpool already elimi-

challenge still feels like stands. "He was there a step too far for a team and he is a happy man

after losing the first two behind champions Manchester City last season, United cannot be ruled

"It's an opportunity, Ten Hag, who won it's possible," Ten Hag said of the pursuit for more silverware. "As long as we don't go over the top, togetherness, keep working, then we can win even more."

Ten Hag has certainly made believers of the club's fans, who let off flares that left a red mist inside Wembley after the

Co-owner Avram Glazer also enjoyed the occasion when making a rare appearance at a United match at time when the club is the subject of takeover bids.

Ferguson was also part While a sustained title of the celebrations in the

CASEMIRO'S LIGHT

ed in front in the 33rd minute of the final when rising to meet Luke Shaw's curled free kick. For a man who has

goal. Casemiro headed Unit-The Saudi Arabianbacked

Newcastle mounted a fightback in the second half, but could not find a breakthrough goal, with De

Madrid, including five

Champions League ti-

tles, Casemiro's delight

at opening the scoring

at Wembley was clear to

see as he ran to the cor-

ner to celebrate with a

broad smile on his face.

made it 2-0 in the 39th

after Wout Weghorst

played in Rashford on

the left. The in-form for-

ward miscued his shot,

but Botman's attempted

block saw the ball fly

beyond Newcastle goal-

keeper Loris Karius.

Rashford ran away in

celebration, but it was

adjudged to be an own-

own-goal

Botman's

won it all with Real Gea keeping a club re- his team's woeful run of cord 181st clean sheet for United.

STILL WAITING

For Newcastle, the wait for a first major domestic trophy since the FA Cup in 1955 goes on.

While it can still be a season of celebration if manager Eddie Howe can deliver Champions League qualification, he acknowledged there remains a gap for his team to close.

"It is a process, we want to be here on a regular basis," Howe said. "There is a long way to go to be the team we want to be."

PREMIER LEAGUE

Graham Potter is said to have the full support of Chelsea's owners, but it is impossible to ignore

form, which continued with a 2-0 loss to fourthplace Tottenham in the only Premier League game on Sunday. It is now six games

without a win for the Blues, who were Champions League winners as recently as 2021.

That feels like a long time ago now, and thoughts of returning to those heights also seem like a distant dream for a team that looks certain to miss out on Champions League qualification and is fighting just to stay in the top half of the table.

"You can feel the desire of the players to turn results around, but sometimes you go through moments where you have to suffer," Potter said. AP

GWIII by David Chikoko



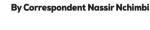
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SPORT

From axing Ronaldo to key signings, how Ten Hag transformed Man United

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ANZANIAN midfielder, Novatus Dismas, is adamant he has enjoyed his first season in Belgium's Jupiler Pro League despite fighting to move out of the top-flight relegation zone with his club Zulte Waregem.

Zulte Waregem is now sitting 16th out of 18 teams in the Belgian top-tier tournament without a win in the last five games.

Dismas, the 20-year-old midfielder, is optimistic his outfit will survive relegation and possibly clinch silver-



Belgium's Zulte Weregem defensive midfielder, Tanzanian Novatus Dismas.

ware as it is still in the Belgian Cup showdown.

It is also fortunate that
Dismas has become a regular midfielder on the left

side of the three-man defense of Zulte Waregem.

Dar midfielder satisfied with first

season in Europe despite

facing relegation woes

During his first season in Europe, the 20-year-old Tanzanian manifested himself as a versatile performer.

Acquired as an offensive midfielder from Israel's Maccabi Tel Aviv, Dismas, who now totals 18 base places and four appearances, is mostly assigned to defend these days.

The midfielder said: "But that was not completely strange to me, with Tanzania's U-17 team I was more often a central defender than I was in midfield."

Dismas pointed out: "In Azam FC's academy, I even started as a goalkeeper, should it be necessary, I would like to take up a position between the posts."

"I'm very happy with how my first season in Europe has gone so far. At Zulte Waregem I ended up in an environment where I can develop very well. The fact

that I was at the kick-off in almost every game motivates me enormously," the footballer noted.

The midfielder noted: "I was shown a red card early in the season at Antwerp, that was a hard lesson because I may have played a little too rambunctious, that is already much better."

Before he placed his scribble under a three-year commitment to the club, based at Gaverbeek, last summer, Dismas was extensively informed about the Belgian competition by his compatriot Mbwana Samatta

"The Racing Genk striker also helped me a lot when I had to find my way in Belgium in the first few weeks," a somewhat withdrawn Dismas stated in a subdued tone.

The performer noted: "So, I knew that at Zulte Waregem I would mainly have to learn to fight

that I was at the kick-off in against relegation. That almost every game moti-doesn't scare me."

Dismas stressed: "I am glad that we gained a lot of experience and quality with the recruitment of Ruud and Christian (Vormer and Brüls), playing football a lot more is already possible with them."

Without a win in the last five games is not immediately the ideal stepping stone to the first of three vital confrontations with relegation competitors.

"Against Oud-Heverlee Leuven it will now really be either do or die for us," Dismas stated.

The midfielder pointed out: "After that, we still have six games to save us, but we want to give ourselves some breathing space right away, we are not looking beyond that match yet."

Zulte Waregem has a Belgian Cup semi-final second leg to play for today against Mechelen away after losing at home 2-1 in the first leg.

Tanzania Football Federation (TFF) Competitions Manager, Baraka Kizuguto.

TFF officials appointed for 2022/23 CAF Champions League duties

By Correspondent Nassir Nchimb

THE Confederation of African Football (CAF) has appointed three officials from Tanzania Football Federation (TFF) for the 2022/23 CAF Champions League's upcoming fixtures.

Round four of the CAF Champions League will be played next week, with the premier continental club competition's matches scheduled to be played on March 7, 11, and 18, while the CAF Confederation Cup matches have been scheduled to be played on March 8.

Information from CAF confirmed the appointment of the TFF Competitions Manager, Baraka Kizuguto, as the General Coordinator of the CAF Champions League Group B game between South African champions, Mamelodi Sundowns, and Egypt's Al Ahly SC which will be played at Loftus Versfeld Stadium in Pretoria on March 11.

Kizuguto, who had previously served as Yanga's media officer when the outfit was financed by renowned businessman Yusuph Manji, will be the General Coordinator of the clash bringing together the clubs that previously met in Egypt on Saturday and settled for a 2-2 draw.

Tanzania Premier League Board's Manager, Jonathan Kassano, has been appointed by CAF to serve as General Coordinator for the CAF Champions League Group B duel pitting Al Hilal SC (Sudan) against Mamelodi Sundowns (South Africa) to be played at Al Hilal Stadium, Omdurman on March 18, 2023.

The previous game that brought the teams together at the Loftus Versfeld Stadium in Pretoria ended with Mamelodi Sundowns garnering a 1-0 victory, with midfielder Cassius Mailula scoring the goal in the 25th minute.

Another officer from TFF appointed by CAF is a member of the TFF Executive Committee Khalid Abdallah, who will be the Commissioner of the CAF Champions League Group D game between Zamalek SC (Egypt) and Espérance Sportive de Tunis (Tunisia) to be played at Borg El Arab Stadium, Alexandria on March 7, 2023.

The last game of round three saw Zamalek SC succumb to a 2-0 away loss to Espérance Sportive de Tunis in a tie that took place at the Hamadi Agrebi Stadium in Tunis.

Attending and learning various courses under CAF is exclusive to the trio's appointment for having the knowledge to officiate games under their roles.

Zone 5 Judo Championships postponed

By Correspondent Joseph Mchekadona

THE Zone 5 East Africa Judo Championships that were to be held in Tanzania next month have been postponed.

The championships had been scheduled for March 22-26 but Judo Association of Tanzania (JATA) Secretary-General, Innocent Mallya, said they will now be held in Dar es Salaam from April 26-May 4.

He said the postponement is a result of a request from member states who said most of their athletes will be with their teams participating in the Eastern Africa Police Chiefs Cooperation Organization (EAPCCO) Games which have been slated to get underway on 21 March in Rwanda.

Mallya described the postponement as a blessing in disguise as his association will have ample time to prepare the national judo team and also find a sponsor.

The JATA boss noted: "All member states asked that the Zone 5 Championships should be postponed, the reason is that many of the national teams' players are police officers who will be representing their respective countries in the coming Eastern Africa Police Chiefs Cooperation Organization (EAPCCO) Games in Rwanda."

Mallya stated: "To Tanzania, it's good as we will have enough time to prepare well, our athletes are ready after taking part in the Military Games (BAMATA) played in Mtwara but the postponement will ensure many of them are well prepared."

"We will also have enough time to look for the 25m/- that we need to successfully host the champion-ships," Mallya said.

Zone 5 member states are Kenya, Zanzibar, Burundi, Uganda, Somalia, Ethiopia, the Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC), Rwanda, and the host Tanzania.

In the previous interview, Mallya explained that the maximum number of athletes in any team, depending on its financial ability is 42 judo players, but due to the prevailing financial status of JATA, the association settled for 15 athletes for each team.

The association revealed 15 athletes selected for the national team have been undergoing intensive training at

Ukonga in Dar es Salaam under the tutelage of Omari Mgowe.

The judokas are Vicent Joseph, Ahmed Magogo, Bakari Kapa, Abu Mcheteka, Thomas Mwenda, Oscar Ponsin, Raphael Daud, Andrew Thomas, Philemon Kabelege, Lawrence Mpachi, Hamisi Mrutu, George Grant, Yohana Jiji, Adam Makoloma, and the only female judo player in the team,

Asiyatu Juma. Last year, Tanzania's judo players finished third in the Zone Five Championships in Uganda, grabbing three gold medals, two silver medals, and three bronze medals.

Tanzania was represented by Vicent Joseph, Thomas Mwenda, Philemon Kaberege, Raphael Daudi, Bakari Ngapa, Nyasha Emmanuel, Hagai Mwandambo, Gervas Chilipweli, Adam Mwakisoma, Andrew Mlungu, Jeremia Makeme in the Zone Five Championships.



Tigo's Chief Financial Officer, Innocent Rwetabura (4th R), hands over a dummy check to this year's Tigo Kili International Half Marathon's men's category champion, Emmanuel Giniki, after the race's climax in Moshi on Sunday. Others are Deputy Minister for Natural Resources and Tourism Mary Masanja (2nd L), Athletics Tanzania (AT) president Silas Isangi (4th L), and officials from Tigo and their counterparts from the covernment PHOTO: COPPESPONDENT

Flexibles by David Chikoko

