



### National Pg 3 'Use agricultural fair to educate farmers'



### National Pg 5 Children get vaccination against measles



### National Pg 6 CSOs help society adopt technologies



## TARI sets plans for 1m tonnes of wheat

By Guardian Correspondent, Morogoro

OVER 400,000 hectares of farms in various regions are in the next few years to be devoted to growing wheat to produce more than one million tonnes of the grain and do away with import dependence.

Dr Geoffrey Mkamilo (pictured), the Tanzania Agricultural Research Institute (TARI) executive director, made this observation in an interview here yesterday, in the wake of government appeals for increased wheat production aired during the recent Nanenane celebrations held nationally in Mbeya.

TARI has drawn up strategies to transform wheat farming as the country imports over 900,000 tonnes of the grain each year to meet domestic demand that stands at one million tonnes, he said.

TARI will initially produce 2,500 tonnes of seeds, which will in turn produce 50,000

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## India pledges \$2m for Africa's digital microcredit drives

ABIDJAN

INDIA has agreed to contribute \$2m to the Africa Digital Financial Inclusion Facility (ADFI) of the African Development Bank.

Manisha Sinha, an ADFI governing council member for India, affirming the commitment of Indian authorities to help break down barriers to the growth and uptake of digital financial solutions, to accelerate financial inclusion in Africa.

Participating at a panel discussion on financial technology development in Africa during the current annual meeting of AfDB partner states and organisations, she said India is globally recognised for the success of its digital public payments system.

It has transformed governance, financial inclusion and resilience for millions of people nationwide, thus India's collaboration with ADFI enables the facility to learn from best practices and help scale up initiatives to meet the needs of financially excluded and underserved people in Africa, she stated.

Despite the growing evidence of digitization catalyzing sustainable development in Africa, recent data shows that nearly half the continent's adult population does not benefit from digital financial solutions, she stated.

Women, youth, farmers, small businesses and rural communities are insufficiently included in digital financing, she said, pointing at the unique, affordable, inclusive

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# FCC: 20.8bn/- imports in trademark violation

By Guardian Correspondent, Dodoma



Fair Competition Commission director general William Erio (L) has a word with journalists in Dodoma city yesterday on plans for the execution of FCC's activities in financial year 2023/2024. Photo: Correspondent Ibrahim Joseph

INSPECTIONS at the port of Dar es Salaam and the Kwala dry port in Kibaha unveiled that 3.4 per cent of containers valued at 20.8bn/- had goods violating trademark law during the past year, the Fair Competition Commission (FCC) has stated.

William Erio, the director general, made this affirmation here yesterday in a briefing on commission activities and the direction of its performance at the start of fiscal 2023/24.

During fiscal 2022/23 the war against counterfeit goods included inspections at the Dar es Salaam port and the dry port, he said, noting that impromptu inspection showed goods valued at 4.7bn/- that violated trademark laws, where the goods were seized and appropriate steps taken.

Inspections were conducted in Dar es Salaam, Mtwara, Lindi, Ruvuma, Songwe, Kilimanjaro, Coast, Mwanza, Arusha, Katavi and Mbeya entry points, he said.

FCC destroyed seized goods in Mbeya, Iringa and Ruvuma regions, namely 432 cartons of printing ink and 1,302 kgs of packing bags, he said, underlining that consumers are supposed to know that manufacturers of these goods produce them under trademarks, thus selling them as genuine goods.

He urged that consumers learn to use various ways to recognize such goods, in part by comparing the prices with those issued by the genuine owners of the trademarks.

FCC, in collaboration with other authorities,

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## Transporters seek cut in gas use conversion costs

By Henry Mwangonde

TRANSPORT stakeholders have urged the government to reduce the conversion price for public use vehicles to gas as it is too expensive at the moment.

Sabri Mabrouk, the chairman of the Dar es Salaam Commuter Bus Owners Association (DACOBOA), made this appeal in an interview, in reaction to the review of fuel prices for August, projecting a series of losses for bus operators using the new prices and charging the same fares.

He said the current rise in fuel prices could be cushioned by massive use of gas vehicles which can be taken up more rapidly if its conversion costs are lowered, as the shift will prevent the need to review fares for commuter and upcountry buses in view of the rising fuel prices.

The regulatory authorities referred to the shortage of key foreign currency in oil importation for the price markup, which he said was unfortunate that the commuter bus transport business "is engulfed by the dollar economy."

A bus earlier sold at 50m/- now sells at 60m/- with appreciation of the dollar against other currencies worldwide, which has a further impact as all spare parts for buses are imported using the US currency, he said.

Commuter bus operators are the first victims of the new fuel prices, as daily collections will decrease with more money being spent on fuel, he said, underlining that converting one commuter bus to gas costs 4m/- at

present.

The money cannot be recovered by current fares and raising fuel prices makes the situation worse, he stated, underlining that a review of bus fares will be necessary with the fuel price trend.

Petrol imported through Mtwara port will now be sold at 3,271/- a litre, up from Sh2,809/- a litre in July, while diesel remained stable at 3,008/- from 3,000/- earlier, and kerosene price declined to 2,714/- a litre from 2,901/-.

Petrol imported through Tanga port will now be sold at 3,245/- a litre up from 2,724/- a litre in July, while diesel was in slight markup at 2,981/- from 2,760/- earlier, similar to kerosene now being sold at 2,740/- a litre from 2,875/-.

Taking urgent measures to cushion the impact of rising fuel prices is vital to save businesses from collapsing.

New cap prices for August released by the Energy and Water Utilities Regulatory Authority (EWURA) indicated a 17percent average increase in fuel prices, explaining that the situation is linked with the scarcity of the US currency.

Joseph Priscus, the secretary general of the Tanzania Bus Owners Association (TABOA), said the increase will negatively affect their business since fuel accounts for upwards of 75 percent of daily operational costs.

Petrol imported through the port of Dar es Salaam will be sold at 3,199/- per litre compared to 2,736/- per litre last month, with petrol showing a significant rise in price while diesel, the main commuter bus fuel, remained stable.

He appealed for the retention of the

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Here is an idea of the new retail fuel prices applicable in Dar es Salaam for this month - with minor variations from one filling station to another, depending on various factors - as announced by the Energy and Water Utilities Regulatory Authority (Ewura) yesterday. Photo: Correspondent Jumanne Juma



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## Transporters seek cut in gas use conversion costs

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fuel subsidy set mid last year at 100bn/- per import consignment depending on needs, to cushion the public from the price spiral arising from higher fuel prices.

Diesel rose from 2,544/- a litre in July to 2,935/- a litre while kerosene was in slight decrease from 2,829/- to 2,668/- a litre.

Dr James Mwainyekule, the EWURA director general, said the changes in prices of petroleum products this month are mainly due to challenges in the availability of the US dollar, as well as higher fuel levy, prices of petroleum products in the world market and premiums in importing petroleum products.

Sadock Tuyu, the Yaate Investment Co. Ltd logistics manager, said the scarcity of the dollar has led to decrease in transportation costs which is affecting their businesses.

The firm was getting \$5,000 for transporting goods from Dar es Salaam to Kasumbalesa at the border with Zambia and the Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC), but that will now translate to \$4,400 on the same fuel used, making the transport operation unprofitable.

The payment mode for transport business is being affected as bargaining is done in US dollar premise and payment is conducted in the local currency as dollar supply has narrowed, he added.

## FCC: 20.8bn/- imports in trademark violation

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would spread awareness among consumers and distributors of counterfeit goods on how producers of such goods can create their own trademarks.

Similarly, FCC warned sugar manufacturers following reports of price fixing and reduction of distribution especially during the

fast of Ramadan, he said, noting that the warning had an impact as the market price for sugar stabilized and its availability increased.

FCC similarly raised the threshold for firms to merge from 800m/- to 3.5bn/-, enabling small and middle level investors to merge their businesses without seeking FCC permission, he added.

## TARI sets plans for 1m tonnes of wheat

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tonnes of seeds of high quality, to be distributed in the areas selected for higher levels of wheat production, he said.

Doing away with the wheat shortage will help the country save much-needed foreign exchange, he stated, noting that initial wheat seeds production has begun at TARI farms in Selian (Arusha Region), Uyole (Mbeya), and Kifililo (Iringa) centres and added that during 2022 50 tonnes was produced and this year, 250 tones has been produced with strategies still going on.

In order to abide by the government's directives, TARI plans to increase the acreage for wheat cultivation in new farms in Tanga, Kigoma, Ruvuma, Geita and Morogoro regions, he further noted.

Ismail Ngolinda, a senior wheat researcher at TARI-Selian centre, said surveys have already been conducted for wheat cultivation in

relatively warm regions with low levels of rainfall, namely Dodoma, Singida and Tabora regions.

Agricultural minister Hussein Bashe said during the Nanenane events that plans are underway to make sure wheat is cultivated all over the country.

TARI executive director said this here yesterday in a special interview with this paper in regard to the country's wheat production. TARI is thus setting out to increase the production of wheat seeds to cater for new farms in various regions.

With these strategies, by 2030 Tanzania shall be self-sufficient in wheat production, and avail a portion of the produce for export he affirmed.

TARI is engaging in the initial production of seeds that withstand drought and pests, to provide such seeds in sufficient quantities for the needs of farmers in wheat farming regions, he added.

## Only four nations doing enough to stub out smoking, says WHO

GENEVA

ONLY four countries Brazil, Mauritius, the Netherlands and Turkey have adopted all the anti-tobacco measures recommended in the fight against the 'deadly scourge' of smoking, the World Health Organisation said Monday.

In a fresh report, the UN health agency urged countries to scale up their use of recognised measures to reduce tobacco use, including enforcing advertising bans, plastering health warnings on cigarette packages, raising tobacco taxes and providing assistance to those who want to quit.

It said Mauritius and the Netherlands had now joined Brazil and Turkey in implementing all of its recommended measures.

WHO said 5.6 billion people, or 71 per cent of the world's population, were now protected by at least one tobacco control measure - five times more than in 2007.

The health agency said the global rate of the prevalence of smoking had dropped from 22.8 per cent in 2007 to 17.0 per cent in 2021.

Without this decline, there would have been 300 million additional smokers now, the WHO said.

"Slowly but surely, more and more people are being protected from the harms of tobacco," WHO chief Tedros Adhanom Ghebreyesus said, adding that his organisation was eager to

support national efforts to "protect their people from this deadly scourge". Smoking remains the leading cause of preventable death, killing 8.7 million people each year, including 1.3 million who die from inhaling second-hand smoke.

According to the organisation, eight countries are one policy step away from joining the leaders in tobacco control: Ethiopia, Iran, Ireland, Jordan, Madagascar, Mexico, New Zealand and Spain.

However, 2.3 billion people in 44 countries remain unprotected by any WHO anti-tobacco measures.

And a full 53 states still do not have complete smoking bans in healthcare facilities - something Ruediger Krech, the WHO's health promotion director, called "completely unacceptable."

The WHO report also decried far too little regulation of e-cigarettes.

Globally, 121 countries have adopted some measure addressing e-cigarettes. But 74 countries - home to almost one third of the global population - have no regulations in place addressing such products, meaning no bans on use in public places, no labelling requirements and no bans on advertising.

"Astoundingly, very few countries have measures in place to protect children," the report said, noting that 88 countries, covering 2.3 billion people, have no minimum age for buying e-cigarettes.

AGENCIES



Geita regional commissioner Martine Shigella (R) unveils a plaque to launch a Tanzania Commercial Bank branch at Geita Gold Market on Thursday. He is assisted by the bank's CEO, Sabasaba Moshingi. Photo: Guardian Correspondent

## CCM Women's wing called upon to push for Marriage Act amendment

By Correspondent Rose Mwalongo

THE ruling CCM's Women's wing has been called to join the crusade to advocate for the amendment of the Marriage Act of 1971 to protect young girls from child marriage.

Women in Law and Development in Africa (WILDAF) board chairperson Monica Mhoja made the call in Dar es Salaam recently during her speech at a conference to mark the Pan African Women's Day.

She made an appeal for the government to finalise the amendment of the Marriage Act to protect girls whose rights are denied adding denying women's rights is denying the same to half of the population.

Rev. James Lubadanza mentioned

faith as a very controversial issue when it comes to social issues, saying when it comes to marriage there are some mixed views with Christians believing in maturity amid contradiction from other religions.

He wondered how one could tell a girl child under 18 about marriage saying it affected them in all ways.

"Activists and the government should come with an awareness creation method to address marriage issues so that clerics can all move with the same perception. When it comes to age, there is a difference in understanding and faith," said the reverend.

Tanganyika Law Society (TLS) president advocate Harold Sungusia said the Marriage Act of 1971 was controversial in terms of

age as the court had declared 18 years as the appropriate age yet it had not been amended.

"We must balance and we must not use God to embrace violence against other beings," cautioned the TLS president.

According to Sungusia, it was odd that the contract law and elections law deny a child under 18 to enter into a contract or to vote yet see another law allow a child below the age to enter into marriage and wondered which role was more critical.

"The Marriage Act is very important for the national and best interest of the society. If you want to destroy society, destroy the family. The government should not take lightly but rather speed up the amendment for the best interest of

the country," said Sungusia.

The Marriage Act of 1971 remains to be contradictory with other laws in the country in terms of age. The Constitution of the United Republic of Tanzania under its Article 5 provides the right to vote for a person of 18 years.

On the other hand, the Law of the Child Act 2009, under section 4(l) terms any person below 18 as a child.

Meanwhile, the Elections Act under section 342 provides the right to vote to a person from 18 years of age where section 292 forbids any person below that age from voting.

The Bill to amend the Marriage Act of 1971, according to the government, was slated for tabling anytime this year.



Facilitator Chamba Pamba (L) pictured earlier this week guiding an arboriculture training participant on how to use a machine. It was during ongoing practicals at Mafinga in Iringa Region organised by the Youth Agency Mufindi (YAM) project for 66 youths, including 26 with disabilities. Arboriculture is the art of cultivating, properly managing, and studying individual shrubs, trees, vines, and any other woody plants. Photo: Correspondent Francis Godwin

## \$2m pledge for digital microcredit drives in Africa

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and equitable model of India's digital public infrastructure as a usable model.

It offers shared learning opportunities across the digital finance ecosystem, as India had a pioneering role in digital financial services, extending financial inclusion to remote rural areas and creating infrastructure for digitisation of financial services.

The collaboration opens a

significant opportunity for India to work within the ADFI partnership to share learning and expertise on digital public infrastructure to further digital financial inclusion across the continent, she stated.

An AfDB statement said that ADFI supports the bank's ten-year strategy focused on inclusive growth, to improve the quality of life for the people of Africa. Its role also aligns with the bank's financial sector development mandate to improve access to finance for the

underserved, it elaborated.

ADFI works to scale innovative digital financial solutions for digital infrastructure as well as monitoring state policies and regulations, to which is attached product innovation in each country. Capacity building and gender inclusion cut across all projected interventions, it emphasised.

Solomon Quaynor, the AfDB vice president for the private sector, infrastructure and industrialization, expressed appreciation for India's

support of the catalytic role ADFI has been playing in accelerating greater access and usage of digital financial solutions and financial inclusion across the continent.

"We look forward to working together to add learning from India's digital public infrastructure success story within our expanding portfolio of digital financial solutions initiatives to enhance the impact on greater economic empowerment, resilience and growth across Africa," he affirmed.





Raymond Urassa (R), NBC Bank's head of small and medium enterprises and agriculture, explains to Vice President Dr Philip Mpango (L) in Mbeya yesterday on the services the bank extends to farmers. This was at the bank's pavilion at the annual Nanenane (Farmers' Day) exhibition now under way in the southern highlands city. Also pictured are National Assembly Speaker and Mbeya Urban constituency legislator Dr Tulia Ackson (2nd-L) and the bank's Mbeyas city branch manager, Asia Mselemu. Photo: Guardian Correspondent

# Use agricultural fair to educate farmers, VP tells financial bodies

By Guardian Correspondent, Mbeya

VICE President Dr Philip Mpango has urged financial institutions to take advantage of the ongoing annual agriculture exhibitions by offering financial education to farmers.

Dr Mpango made the call on Tuesday when visited the National Bank of Commerce (NBC) 's pavilion at the John Mwakangale grounds in Mbeya city, where the Annual Farmers' Agriculture Exhibition takes place. The VP was accompanied by the Speaker of the National Assembly, Dr Tulia Ackson, Minister for Agriculture, Hussein Bashe, Mbeya Regional Commissioner, Juma Homera, and other key government officials.

Dr Mpango, highlighted the importance of educating farmers on financial matters so as to empower farmers to make informed decisions regarding their finances.

He also lauded praised NBC for their initiative to set up a dedicated booth for the purpose.

"I am impressed by NBC's focus on financial education and their establishment of a dedicated booth to educate farmers about financial services, particularly interest rates and investment opportunities. I hope that other institutions will follow suit. I urge financial institutions to utilize these exhibitions not only to provide services but also prioritize education for the benefit of farmers," Dr Mpango said.

Raymond Urassa, NBC bank head of small and medium enterprises (SMEs), product and agriculture said the bank has been providing specialized services for farmers such as loans for agricultural equipment like tractors and combine harvesters, crop insurance, a financial education program, and improved access to banking networks.

"This year alone, we have already

granted 69 tractor loans to farmers and provided combine harvester loans to promote the use of modern equipment in the agriculture sector. In partnership with Jubilee Insurance Company, our insurance services will compensate tobacco farmers affected by hail storms last year," Urassa stated.

Urassa assured Dr Mpango that NBC is fully utilizing the exhibition to not only offer financial services but also prioritize education for both small and large farmers. The focus is on helping them understand the bank's services, the various loan types available, their associated interest rates, and providing investment education regarding opportunities in the agriculture sector.

"We have noticed that many farmers lack a sufficient understanding of interest rates and their implications, often borrowing without comprehending the meaning of interest rates. That is why, through these exhibitions, we prioritize educating farmers on these matters. We are also proud to present our Farmer's Account service, which takes into account the agricultural season and is not restricted to a fixed 24-month period. Even after this period, farmers will still benefit from an operational account and increased profits," he explained.

Urassa encouraged farmers, agricultural stakeholders, and exhibition participants to visit the NBC booth to benefit from the free education on various financial services related to the agriculture sector.

He assured them that the bank remains committed to developing and providing services that meet the needs of different agricultural stakeholders, including both small and large farmers, agricultural input suppliers, and agricultural commodities traders.

# 1,000-youth development symposium to debate leadership, good governance

By Guardian Reporter, Dodoma

A TOTAL of 1,000 youths are today expected to participate in a development symposium that aims to discuss issues related to leadership and good governance in order to stimulate economic development.

Speaking to journalists yesterday in Dodoma, senior development officer from the Prime Minister's office, Labour, Youth, Employment and the Disabled, Amina Sanga said the conference to be held two days will be an opportunity for young people to understand their issues as well as implementation of the national youth development

policy of 2007.

"The national youth development policy requires us to bring together young people for conferences to discuss opportunities and several issues that touch their welfare," said Sanga, noting the young people will learn and exchange ideas with fellows from within and outside the country.

She said the government supports such conferences and encourages young people, calling upon them to massively take part at the learning symposium.

Earlier, the director of Dodoma Youth Development Organisation (DOYODO) Rajab Nonga said the

conference will also be attended by young people from East African partner states.

"We will have youth representation from East Africa including motorbike drivers (bodaboda), entrepreneurs and people with disabilities," said Nonga, adding each of the youth groups will be represented.

He said President Samia Suluhu Hassan has been insisting on the need to have such youth conferences to enable participants to discuss policies and laws as well as airing their views.


"We have come up with the strategy to bring young people together; this conference has, apart

from youth, brought together 32 organisations, private companies and the ministry.

Chief Executive Officer, Freedom House, Daniel Lema said youth are expected to come out with resolutions that will be implemented by the ministry.

"We will discuss issues related to youth development and the economy, leadership, good governance and economic opportunities. There will be experts who will talk about mental health among youth, since the matter has nowadays become a challenge to many people," Lema noted.

He said there will also be discussions and presentations to guide youth on how to access funding from financial institutions, such as the youth development fund and several others.



## Expression of Interest (EOI) for the Provision of "Catering Services" to AUMS (T) Ltd operations at Geita Gold Mine in Tanzania.

African Underground Mining Services (AUMS) is an international leader in mechanised hard rock underground mining. AUMS is part of Perenti (Formerly the Ausdrill Group), an ASX 200 company and Australia's second largest integrated mining services provider. We are a global leader in hard rock underground mining. Together with Barmenco we operate across Africa with operations in Tanzania, Ghana, Botswana, and Burkina Faso. Other international operations are in Australia and Canada. We are driven by the continued success at our operations and exceeding our client's expectations - both in terms of safety and performance.

African Underground Mining Services, AUMS (T) Ltd invites potential bidders to express their interest in the **Provision of "Catering Services"** at its modern and well-equipped accommodation facility at the Geita Gold Mine Tanzania.

Bidders are expected to be well established and reputable catering companies that are experienced in providing consistent and high quality catering services to a diverse workforce comprised of both national and expatriate employees.

**1. Schedule and deadline for submission**

The contract is to be awarded through a competitive tender process. If your company wishes to be considered for pre-qualification please submit an EOI by email to [ContractsTanzania@aumsg.com](mailto:ContractsTanzania@aumsg.com) by not later than 16:00HRS Local Time on 11/08/2023 quoting EOI Provision of "Catering Services" in the subject line of your email.

Please submit an EOI on your company letterhead with the following mandatory information:

- Proof of experience in the provision of catering services to national and expatriate employees. Provide details of past and current clients along with relevant contract details and references.
- Company Profile, Shareholder details, Director's list, Organogram, Number of employers with a foreign to national ratio indicated.
- Valid Tax Compliance, VAT, BRELA Registration & TIN certificates
- Certificate of Incorporation, Valid Business Permit/Licenses.
- Industry Regulatory Compliance Licenses. Other relevant Industry Documentation.
- Summary of Court proceedings (pending and completed), Court Judgments and /or insolvency/bankruptcy proceedings if any, against your company and or any of your shareholders, directors and/or senior leadership/management team over the last 3 years.
- Occupational Health, Safety and Environmental Compliance.
- Key Employees CV & Certificates
- ISO 45001: 2018, ISO 22000: 2018 Certification.
- Demonstrate current and previous CSI and CSR programmes.
- Compliance to Tanzania's Mining Local Content Requirements as per the Mining Local Content Regulations 2018.

Any response received beyond 16:00HRS Local Time on 11/08/2023 shall not be considered.


**2. Assessment criteria**

The mandatory information requested at paragraph 1 will be evaluated and scored to shortlist pre-qualified companies.


The pre-qualification of any company submitting an EOI shall be at the sole discretion of AUMS (T) Ltd.

The bidder shall bear all costs associated with the preparation and submission of the companies EOI. AUMS (T) Ltd shall not be responsible or liable for any costs incurred regardless of the conduct or outcome of the bidding process.

For more information on **African Underground Mining Services** and its operations please refer to the following **website** [www.aumsg.com](http://www.aumsg.com).



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**NORWEGIAN CHURCH AID**  
actalliance

## PUBLIC NOTICE

A Notice is given to the Public that Norwegian Church Aid (NCA) Tanzania has been awarded a Grant by the Norwegian Agency for Development Cooperation (NORAD) for Food Security and Reduction of Hunger (FSRH) - NANSEN Project. Further details below.

**"PROJECT TITLE: FOOD SECURITY AND REDUCTION OF HUNGER (FSRH)-NANSEN PROJECT**

**NAME OF ORGANIZATION: NORWEGIAN CHURCH AID (NCA Tanzania)**

**BUDGET CURRENCY: NORWEGIAN KRONER (NOK)"**

<b>Donor</b>	Norwegian Agency for Development Cooperation- NORAD
<b>Donor Currency</b>	Norwegian Kroner (NOK)
<b>Grant Amount</b>	10,000,000
<b>Grant Duration</b>	12 Months
<b>Implementation Period</b>	01.07.2023 to 30.06.2024
<b>Outcome</b>	Women, men and youth small-scale producers and service providers are economically empowered
<b>Outputs</b>	1.1 Smallholder food producers have increased production capacity 1.2 Smallholder food producers increased their income through engaging in value addition activities 1.3 Smallholder food producers have reduced food loss from production and post-harvest management 1.4 Households have increased access to safe, nutrition-dense diet
<b>Direct and indirect beneficiaries</b>	6,000 and 30,000, respectively.
<b>Region (District) of Implementation</b>	Kigoma (Kakonko, Kasulu & Kibondo), Shinyanga (Shinyanga Rural & Kishapu), Mtwara (Mtwara DC), Lindi (Mtama, Kilwa), Zanzibar (Pemba), Morogoro (Mvomero, Gairo), Pwani (Chalinze) Kilimanjaro (Moshi Rural, Hai & Moshi), Manyara (Babati & Mbulu) and Arusha (Karatu, Arumeru)
<b>Contact for Further Details</b>	<b>Country Director</b> Norwegian Church Aid Tanzania Plot 436, Mwai Kibaki Road, TCRS House 3rd Floor P.O Box 3955, Dar Es Salaam Tel: +255 787 770 811 & +255 22 2700252





**INVITATION FOR EXPRESSION OF INTEREST – PREQUALIFICATION OF SUPPLIERS FOR THE SUPPLY AND DELIVERY OF GENERAL ELECTRICAL ITEMS TO GEITA GOLD MINING LIMITED (GGML), TANZANIA**

**I. INTRODUCTION**

Geita Gold Mining Limited ("The Company") a subsidiary of AngloGold Ashanti's ("AGA") asset is in north-western Tanzania, in the Lake Victoria goldfields of the Geita region, about 5km from Geita town.

The Company is in the process of procuring General Electrical items and is, therefore inviting interested eligible suppliers to submit Expression of Interest for the supply of these items as detailed below.

**NB: THE DOCUMENTS REQUESTED BELOW MUST BE SUBMITTED WHEN EXPRESSING INTEREST ON THIS SERVICE/WORK. QUALIFIED CANDIDATES WILL BE SUBJECTED TO ANGLO GOLD ASHANTI VETTING PROCESS.**

**Scope of Supply:**

REFERENCE NUMBER	SERVICE DESCRIPTION
GGME01656	SUPPLY & DELIVERY OF GENERAL ELECTRICAL ITEMS TO GGML

**II. INFORMATION REQUIRED**

PRE-QUALIFICATION REQUIREMENTS (MANDATORY)	20%
<b>COMMERCIAL</b>	
Company Profile	2%
Company Code of Conduct and Ethics	2%
Copy of Current Business Permit and Trade license	2%
Copy of Incorporation Certificate, the most recent BRELA search, and the latest BRELA application of annual return.	2%
Copy of Valid Tax Clearance Certificate (TCC), TIN Certificate and VRN certificate	3%
Copy of company memorandum and article of association	2%
List of Directors and Company Shareholding Structure	2%
Current NSSF Compliance clearance certificate	2%
Compliance with Mining Act-Approved Local Content Plan.	3%
<b>FINANCIAL POSITION &amp; TERMS OF TRADE</b>	<b>5%</b>
Supplier's audited financial statements for the past three consecutive years, this will confirm Supplier's experience in the business, and assist in comparability and business trend analysis.	2%
At least 1 reference from the applicant's bankers regarding supplier's credit position. If any.	1%
All bank statements of the Supplier's active bank accounts for the past 6 months to date	1%
A guarantee from a reputable financial institution to support any declared alternative source of funds.	1%
<b>SAFETY AND ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT SYSTEMS</b>	<b>5%</b>
OSHA Compliance Certificate	1.5%
Environmental compliance certificate	1.5%
Workers' compensation fund certificate	1%
Safety and Environmental policy	1%
<b>OTHER POLICIES</b>	<b>5%</b>
Gifts / Hospitality / Sponsorship Policy / Procedure	1%
Policies / Procedures dealing with Forced and Child Labor	1%
Policies / Procedures dealing with Abuse, Discrimination and Harassment	1%
Grievance Procedure	1%
Human Rights Policy / Procedure / Program	1%
<b>PAST EXPERIENCE</b>	<b>5%</b>
At least 3 names of the applicant's clients, value and duration of the contracts entered with the clients in the past two years (must be listed)	1%
Signed contracts/LPOs (proof of the above)	1%
Acceptance certificates /completion certificates (Prove of a. above where applicable)	1%
Provide at least 3 recommendation letters from different clients	2%
<b>TECHNICAL CRITERIA (GGME01656)</b>	<b>60%</b>
Proof of supplying same equipment's to other companies and providing after sale services support	5%
Storage facilities (warehouse) for electrical materials/ equipment deliverable and issuing	10%
Calibration certificate(s) for measuring electrical tools offered	5%
Quality test report for previous supplied goods	10%
Quality management policy and procedure	15%
Proof for dealership agreement with Major Manufacturers for Electrical equipment. (Schneider, ABB, HITACHI, PHILIPS, E.T.C)	15%
<b>Total</b>	<b>100%</b>

III. Interested bidders must submit their expression Letters of Interest ("LOI") by quoting the **SERVICE DESCRIPTION "SUPPLY & DELIVERY OF GENERAL ELECTRICAL ITEMS TO GGML" AND REFERENCE NUMBER (GGME01656) ON THE SUBJECT OF THE EMAIL** together with supporting information to **GGML**, which states the full name, address, telephone and e-mail address of the bidder, name of the principal contact, and signed by an authorized representative. The LOI must outline why GGML is of interest to work with, what you have to offer and how your skills and experience are valuable to the company.

IV. All LOIs and support documentation (in PDF format) must be received by the GGML Office via e-mail at **geita.eoi@anglogoldashanti.com** without copying any individual from GGML. Submission should not be later than **8.30AM of 16th August 2023**. (the "LOI Submission Deadline") Without copying any individual from GGML. EOI submissions should not exceed 10MB per email. In case the size of the email exceeds 10MB, please split the submissions into more than one email.

=END OF ADVERTISEMENT=



**INVITATION FOR EXPRESSION OF INTEREST – PREQUALIFICATION OF SUPPLIERS FOR THE SUPPLY AND DELIVERY OF PAN FLIGHT: WD 250 MM \* LG 1.524M TO GEITA GOLD MINING LIMITED (GGML), TANZANIA**

**I. INTRODUCTION**

Geita Gold Mining Limited ("The Company") a subsidiary of AngloGold Ashanti's ("AGA") asset is in north-western Tanzania, in the Lake Victoria goldfields of the Geita region, about 5km from Geita town.

The Company is in the process of procuring Pan Flight: WD 250 MM\* LG 1.524M and is, therefore, inviting interested eligible suppliers to submit Expression of Interest for the supply of these items as detailed below.

**NB: THE DOCUMENTS REQUESTED BELOW MUST BE SUBMITTED WHEN EXPRESSING INTEREST ON THIS SERVICE/WORK. QUALIFIED CANDIDATES WILL BE SUBJECTED TO ANGLO GOLD ASHANTI VETTING PROCESS.**

**Scope of Supply:**

REFERENCE NUMBER	SERVICE DESCRIPTION
GGME01621	SUPPLY & DELIVERY OF PAN FLIGHT: WD 250 MM * LG 1.524M

**II. INFORMATION REQUIRED**

PRE-QUALIFICATION REQUIREMENTS (MANDATORY)	20%
<b>COMMERCIAL</b>	
Company Profile	2%
Company Code of Conduct and Ethics	2%
Copy of Current Business Permit and Trade license	2%
Copy of Incorporation Certificate, the most recent BRELA search, and the latest BRELA application of annual return.	2%
Copy of Valid Tax Clearance Certificate (TCC), TIN Certificate and VRN certificate	3%
Copy of company memorandum and article of association	2%
List of Directors and Company Shareholding Structure	2%
Current NSSF Compliance clearance certificate	2%
Compliance with Mining Act-Approved Local Content Plan.	3%
<b>FINANCIAL POSITION &amp; TERMS OF TRADE</b>	<b>5%</b>
Supplier's audited financial statements for the past three consecutive years, this will confirm Supplier's experience in the business, and assist in comparability and business trend analysis.	2%
At least 1 reference from the applicant's bankers regarding supplier's credit position. If any.	1%
All bank statements of the Supplier's active bank accounts for the past 6 months to date	1%
A guarantee from a reputable financial institution to support any declared alternative source of funds.	1%
<b>SAFETY AND ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT SYSTEMS</b>	<b>5%</b>
OSHA Compliance Certificate	1.5%
Environmental compliance certificate	1.5%
Workers' compensation fund certificate	1%
Safety and Environmental policy	1%
<b>OTHER POLICIES</b>	<b>5%</b>
Gifts / Hospitality / Sponsorship Policy / Procedure	1%
Policies / Procedures dealing with Forced and Child Labor	1%
Policies / Procedures dealing with Abuse, Discrimination and Harassment	1%
Grievance Procedure	1%
Human Rights Policy / Procedure / Program	1%
<b>PAST EXPERIENCE</b>	<b>5%</b>
At least 3 names of the applicant's clients, value and duration of the contracts entered with the clients in the past two years (must be listed)	1%
Signed contracts/LPOs (proof of the above)	1%
Acceptance certificates /completion certificates (Prove of a. above where applicable)	1%
Provide at least 3 recommendation letters from different clients	2%
<b>TECHNICAL CRITERIA (GGME01656)</b>	<b>60%</b>
Official letter as authorized supplier of apron feeder parts	24%
Ability to supply casted pan flight with manganese steel hardening	21%
Ability to supply quantity of 253 pans after every 12 months	15%
<b>Total</b>	<b>100%</b>

III. Interested bidders must submit their expression Letters of Interest ("LOI") by quoting the **SERVICE DESCRIPTION "SUPPLY & DELIVERY OF PAN FLIGHT : WD 250 MM\* LG 1.524 TO GGML" AND REFERENCE NUMBER (GGME01621) ON THE SUBJECT OF THE EMAIL** together with supporting information to **GGML**, which states the full name, address, telephone and e-mail address of the bidder, name of the principal contact, and signed by an authorized representative. The LOI must outline why **GGML** is of interest to work with, what you have to offer and how your skills and experience are valuable to the company.

IV. All LOIs and support documentation (in PDF format) must be received by the GGML Office via e-mail at **geita.eoi@anglogoldashanti.com** without copying any individual from GGML. Submission should not be later than **8.30AM of 24th August 2023**. (the "LOI Submission Deadline") Without copying any individual from GGML. EOI submissions should not exceed 10MB per email. In case the size of the email exceeds 10MB, please split the submissions into more than one email.

=END OF ADVERTISEMENT=





Vice President Dr Philip Mpango (L) is briefed on a crop processing machine said to have been designed by Adam Kinyekile (R). This scene was captured yesterday at the annual Nanenane (Farmers' Day) exhibition being held at national in Mbeya city. To the VP's left is Deogracious Protas, a coordination and research officer with the Tanzania Commission for Science and Technology (Costech). Photo: Guardian Correspondent

## Natural gas vehicles seen gaining traction in Africa

By Special Correspondent, Lagos

NATURAL gas-powered vehicles are becoming increasingly popular across Africa thanks to supportive policies, infrastructure development and heightened investor appeal.

Several African nations are taking advantage of their ample natural gas reserves to introduce gas-powered four-wheel vehicles to the roads.

Nigeria, with substantial natural gas reserves, has approved the widespread use of vehicles powered by compressed natural gas (CNG).

Vice-president Kashim Shettima disclosed after the National Economic Council meeting on 20 July that, "We will also pursue vigorously the mass deployment of CNG-powered vehicles and establishment of autogas conversion plants/kits in all States in the short-term."

The announcement came just weeks after a Nigerian automobile manufacturer, Innoson Vehicle Manufacturing, began commissioning vehicles to run on CNG - including intra-city buses, heavy-duty trucks and passenger cars.

The developments point to both policy-level and private-sector commitments in Nigeria leveraging its more than 200 trillion cubic feet of natural gas base to cut carbon emissions and air pollution from the transport sector.

This is not exclusively happening in Nigeria, with the latest transportation sector trends showing a similar shift in major natural gas-producing countries in Africa.

Egypt leads the charge with its Clean Fuels Initiative, launched in 1995 to combat air pollution and which pointed to natural gas as a solution. Today Egypt boasts over 260,000 CNG-powered vehicles, with ongoing efforts to grow that number. The North African country added 61 refuelling stations between July 2022 and March 2023, with plans for up to 1,000.

Down south, Tanzania concluded talks with investors in a \$42 billion liquid natural gas (LNG) project in May and is keen to apply natural gas to the transport sector.

According to works and transport minister Makame Mbarawa, the government is considering a subsidy programme for CNG vehicles. In remarks featured in The Citizen, Mbarawa said this will "attract more people

to convert their cars to CNG."

This is alongside an ongoing project valued at US\$65 million that seeks to power 8,000 cars and rapid transit buses and supply 30,000 households in Dar es Salaam with CNG for cooking, by 2025.

The Tanzania Petroleum Development Corporation in March licensed 20 companies to build CNG stations. Nine of those are expected to be operational by 2025.

Beyond the major natural gas-producing regions, other net natural gas-importing countries are witnessing a buzz of activity that could see more CNG-powered vehicles converted for use.

In Kenya, private sector initiatives are capitalising on the new market niche. Proto Gas (popularly known as Pro Gas) is one such company that has been undertaking CNG conversions in Nairobi since 2020.

Elijah Karuri, the technical lead at the company's CNG conversions unit, talked up the competitive advantage of CNG-powered vehicles, due to lower maintenance costs and technical efficiencies over regular ICE (internal combustion engine) vehicles.

## More than 4,000 Hadzabe children receive vaccination against measles

By Guardian Correspondent, Babati

MORE than 4,000 children below five years of age from the Hadzabe community in Eshkesh Ward, Mbulu District, Manyara Region have received free vaccination against measles while those above five years of age received free treatment after contracting the disease.

This was disclosed here on Monday by Manyara region vaccination coordinator, Suleiman

Mahoza in a special interview with The Guardian newspaper.

"The children were suffering from the disease a few months ago but we have vaccinated more than 4,000 children against measles including treatment to others over 14 years of age," said Mahoza.

He said another reason for the Hadzabe community not receiving vaccination is their shifting culture looking for food that includes roots, fruits and honey, the practice that hindered the provision of health

services by health experts.

He further said the vaccination department has a procedure of using prominent community leaders to look for the Hadzabe in forest years to be vaccinated.

For his part, Dr Florian Tinuga, manager of the national vaccination programme told reporters on June 7 this year said he had asked village officials to have details of Hadzabe people who move to other villages so as to follow them there for vaccination against measles and

other diseases, especially in regard to children under five years of age.

According to the UNICEF report issued in 2019, nearly 169 million children worldwide missed the first vaccination dose against measles between 2010 and 2017, equivalent to 21.1 children per year.

Fabian Sulle, Babati resident said the Hadzabe do not believe in modern medicines including vaccination because they entirely live in forest throughout most of their lives.

Plot 4B, Nyerere Road, P.O Box 911, Dar es Salaam  
Telephone: +255 22 2860047/9, Fax: 2 8 64041, E-mail: info@tolgases.co.tz

**BOARD MEMBER VACANCY.**

TOL Gases Limited is the leading manufacturer and distributor of Industrial and Medical Gases. Additionally the Company distributes high quality brands of welding and related consumables as well as medical oxygen related appliances within Tanzania and the neighbouring countries through distributorship arrangements.

The secretariat of the Board of Directors of TOL Gases Limited, do hereby invite shareholders to nominate suitable candidates to be elected to fill **one vacant position of Board Membership. Female Nominees are strongly encouraged.**

**Requirements:**

1. Expertise/Skills in Governance, Risk, Compliance and Administration.
2. Applicants are required to be nominated / proposed by a Shareholder who is duly qualified to be present and vote at the meeting and has signed the proposition to concede his/her willingness to be elected.
3. Any shareholder who would like to nominate / propose a person for election to fill the Board Membership position, may submit the following to the Secretary not later than 20th August 2023 :-
  - Notice of his/her intention to propose such a person signed by the proposed person conceding his willingness to be elected.
  - Resume of the proposed person with due consideration to the requirements of the Companies Act and the Company's MEMARTS.
4. Submission should be delivered to the following address.

**Company Secretary**  
**TOL Gases Limited**  
**Plot 4b, Nyerere Road**  
**P. O. Box 911,**  
**Dar es Salaam**  
**Email: nlulu@tol-gases.co.tz /mjuliana@tol-gases.co.tz**

Directors: S. Mponji – (Tanzanian) – Chairman, J. Massawe – (Tanzanian), S. Selestine – TR – URT (Tanzanian), Prof. A. Temu – (Tanzanian), Eng. J. Machange – (Tanzanian), L.C. Kitoka – (Tanzanian).

Plot 4B, Nyerere Road, P.O Box 911, Dar es Salaam  
Telephone: +255 22 2860047/9, Fax: 2 8 64041, E-mail: info@tolgases.co.tz

**NOTICE**  
**28<sup>TH</sup> ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING**

**NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN THAT** the 28<sup>th</sup> Meeting of the Shareholders of TOL Gases Limited will be held on a hybrid of physical attendance at the Julius Nyerere International Convention Centre (JNICC) and via ZOOM video conferencing on 2<sup>5th</sup> August, 2023 at 9.00a.m to transact the following business:-

1. Adoption of the Agenda.
2. Confirmation of Minutes of the year 2021 Annual General Meeting held on 19th August, 2022.
3. Matters arising from minutes of the year 2021 Annual General Meeting.
4. Chairman's Statement.
5. To receive Directors' Report, Auditors' Report and the Audited Financial Statements for the year ended December, 31, 2022.
6. To approve Dividend Payment.
7. To approve Directors' Fees.
8. To appoint Auditors for the year 2023.
9. Election of Directors.
10. To set the place, date and venue of the next meeting.
11. Any other business (Duly notified at least seven days before the meeting)

Registration for participating in the ZOOM Video Conferencing should be done through phone no **0685750201/0685750203.**

member entitled to attend and vote at the Meeting is also entitled to appoint a proxy (whether a member of the Company or not) to attend and vote in his/her stead.

All proxy forms or letters appointing proxy must be lodged at the office of the Company Secretary at least 48 hours before the time fixed for the holding of the meeting or via email to **mjuliana@tol-gases.co.tz/nlulu@tol-gases.co.tz**

**BY ORDER OF THE BOARD**

**CORNELIUS KASIYA KARIWA**  
**COMPANY SECRETARY**

Directors: S. Mponji – (Tanzanian) – Chairman, J. Massawe – (Tanzanian), S. Selestine – TR – URT (Tanzanian), Prof. A. Temu – (Tanzanian), Eng. J. Machange – (Tanzanian), L.C. Kitoka – (Tanzanian).

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## INVITATION FOR EXPRESSION OF INTEREST – PREQUALIFICATION OF SUPPLIERS FOR THE SUPPLY AND DELIVERY OF V BELTS AND PULLEYS TO GEITA GOLD MINING LIMITED (GGML), TANZANIA

### I. INTRODUCTION

Geita Gold Mining Limited ("The Company") a subsidiary of AngloGold Ashanti's ("AGA") asset is in north-western Tanzania, in the Lake Victoria goldfields of the Geita region, about 5km from Geita town.

The Company is in the process of procuring V belts and Pulleys and is, therefore, inviting interested eligible suppliers to submit Expression of Interest for the supply of these items as detailed below.

**NB: THE DOCUMENTS REQUESTED BELOW MUST BE SUBMITTED WHEN EXPRESSING INTEREST ON THIS SERVICE/WORK. QUALIFIED CANDIDATES WILL BE SUBJECTED TO ANGLO GOLD ASHANTI VETTING PROCESS.**

### Scope of Supply:

REFERENCE NUMBER	SERVICE DESCRIPTION
GGME01660	SUPPLY AND DELIVERY OF V BELTS AND PULLEYS TO GGML

### II. INFORMATION REQUIRED

PRE-QUALIFICATION REQUIREMENTS (MANDATORY)	20%
<b>COMMERCIAL</b>	
Company Profile	2%
Company Code of Conduct and Ethics	2%
Copy of Current Business Permit and Trade license	2%
Copy of Incorporation Certificate, the most recent BRELA search, and the latest BRELA application of annual return.	2%
Copy of Valid Tax Clearance Certificate (TCC), TIN Certificate and VRN certificate	3%
Copy of company memorandum and article of association	2%
Current NSSF Compliance clearance certificate	2%
List of directors and Company shareholding information	2%
Compliance with Mining Act-Approved Local Content Plan.	3%
<b>FINANCIAL POSITION &amp; TERMS OF TRADE</b>	<b>5%</b>
Supplier's audited financial statements for the past three consecutive years, this will confirm Supplier's experience in the business, and assist in comparability and business trend analysis.	2%
At least 1 reference from the applicant's bankers regarding supplier's credit position. If any.	1%
All bank statements of the Supplier's active bank accounts for the past 6 months to date	1%
A guarantee from a reputable financial institution to support any declared alternative source of funds.	1%
<b>SAFETY AND ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT SYSTEMS</b>	<b>5%</b>
OSHA Compliance Certificate	1.5%
Environmental compliance certificate	1.5%
Workers' compensation fund certificate	1%
Safety and Environmental policy	1%
<b>OTHER POLICIES</b>	<b>5%</b>
Gifts / Hospitality / Sponsorship Policy / Procedure	1%
Policies / Procedures dealing with Forced and Child Labor	1%
Policies / Procedures dealing with Abuse, Discrimination and Harassment	1%
Grievance Procedure	1%
Human Rights Policy / Procedure / Program	1%
<b>PAST EXPERIENCE</b>	<b>5%</b>
At least 3 names of the applicant's clients, value and duration of the contracts entered with the clients in the past two years (must be listed)	1%
Signed contracts/LPOs (proof of the above)	1%
Acceptance certificates /completion certificates (Prove of a. above where applicable)	1%
Provide at least 3 recommendation letters from different clients	2%
<b>TECHNICAL CRITERIA (GGME01660)</b>	<b>60%</b>
Experience on supplying similar parts to other mines or GGML	12%
Proof of dealership authorization from reputable parts manufacturer	12%
Possession of skills to offer technical supports on V-Belts and Pulleys	12%
Proof of stocking capacity for the V-Belts and pulleys	12%
Performance guarantee on all supplied items, by providing proof of experience in supplying similar items	12%
<b>Total</b>	<b>100%</b>

Interested bidders must submit their expression Letters of Interest ("LOI") by quoting the **SERVICE DESCRIPTION "SUPPLY AND DELIVERY OF V BELTS AND PULLEYS TO GGML" AND REFERENCE NUMBER (GGME01660) ON THE SUBJECT OF THE EMAIL** together with supporting information to GGML, which states the full name, address, telephone and e-mail address of the bidder, name of the principal contact, and signed by an authorized representative. The LOI must outline why GGML is of interest to work with, what you have to offer and how your skills and experience are valuable to the company.

All LOIs and support documentation (in PDF format) must be received by the GGML Office via e-mail at [geita.eoi@anglogoldashanti.com](mailto:geita.eoi@anglogoldashanti.com) without copying any individual from GGML. Submission should not be later than **8.30AM of 16<sup>th</sup> August 2023**. (the "LOI" Submission Deadline") Without copying any individual from GGML. EOI submissions should not exceed 10MB per email. In case the size of the email exceeds 10MB, please split the submissions into more than one email.

=END OF ADVERTISEMENT=

## CSOs help society adopt technological changes

By Getrude Mbago

THIS year's Civil Society Organisations-CSOs Week is set to be held on October 23 to 27 in Arusha Region with an aim of catalysing for transformative change, fostering a deeper understanding of the impact of technology on society and its potential role in shaping the future of Tanzania.

The week-long event will bring stakeholders from inside and outside the country including civil society organisations, development partners and officials from the government and private sector are set to take part in this year's

Speaking during the launching event in Dar es Salaam on Tuesday, Justice Rutenge, coordinator of CSOs Week 2023 said the important week which builds upon the success of its previous editions in 2018, 2019, 2021 and 2022, is expected to forge strategic collaborations and charting a path towards collective representation and independence within the civil society landscape.

Under the theme: "Tech and Society: Then, Now, and Beyond," the CSOs Week 2023 will delve into the crucial intersection of technology and society, equipping CSOs with the knowledge and tools to navigate the opportunities and challenges that arise from the ever-evolving world of technology.

He stated that the week seeks to empower civil society organizations

with the insights and expertise needed to advise both the government and private sector on the advantages and potential pitfalls of technology for the country's development.

Moreover, it aims to inspire CSOs to embrace technology's transformative power, leveraging it to serve the best interests of the communities they support, while remaining vigilant about its potential risks.

"The intertwining of technology and society is undeniable, having significantly altered the way we interact, communicate, work, and perceive the world around us. To ensure continued relevance and impact, civil society organizations must adapt, innovate, and proactively navigate these shifts," he said.

He explained that the theme "Then" component encourages CSOs to reflect on the historical relationship between technology and society.

"By examining past technological advancements, civil society can gain valuable insights into how they have influenced societal structures, systems, and processes, including the work of CSOs in effecting positive change," he said.

The "Now" component of the theme urges CSOs to critically analyze the current state of affairs, focusing on how technology impacts societal dynamics and the

opportunities and challenges it presents for their work in driving meaningful change.

"And the "Beyond" component prompts civil society to envision the future, acknowledging that the interplay between technology and society will continue to evolve. Embracing this forward-looking approach, CSOs can proactively anticipate and prepare for future technological trends, ensuring they remain at the forefront of progress."

Kigamboni MP, Dr Faustine Ndugulile urged CSOs to utilize information and communication technology (ICT) opportunities to address unemployment problems.

Stakeholders in the development sectors were urged to participate in the CSOs Week 2023 and explore the transformative power of tech and society and work together towards a brighter and more inclusive future for Tanzania.

He also urged stakeholders in the development sectors to participate in the CSOs Week 2023 and explore the transformative power of tech and society and work together towards a brighter and more inclusive future for Tanzania.

According to him, the use of ICT in increasing employment opportunities is not as effective in the country compared to other nations.

Ndugulile said there was still a dire need to utilise ICT to increase job opportunities for the youth.



Pamela Salehe (3rd-L, front row), a senior manager (tax services) with PwC Tanzania's Arusha offices, pictured in Arusha city earlier this week presenting the firm's donation of phototherapy machines to Mount Meru Regional Referral Hospital chief physician Dr Alex Ernest. Photo: Guardian Correspondent

## Lending small-scale farmers a hand in improving agricultural methods

By Correspondent Mary Kadoke in

Beijing

THE Eastern and Southern Africa Small Scale Farmers Forum (ESAFF) region network has underscored the need of having a concrete framework that defines farmers' involvement in all research cycles so as to bring productive outcomes.

Hakim Baliraine, chairperson of ESAFF region network, made the remarks during a recently organised zoom meeting dubbed: 'Overview of the Participatory Agro-ecology Research in Eastern and Central Africa that engaged several agricultural stakeholders.'

He said farmers' perspective in participatory research is essential as considering that many farming communities are facing multiple crises related to climate change, agro-biodiversity loss, natural resource degradation and climate shocks.

"Participatory research recognises that there must be a concrete framework to define the involvement of farmers in all the

research cycles for impactful and sustainable agricultural research," he said. He added: "It is pressing for farmers and researchers to develop appropriate innovative solutions. In this sense, participatory research is essential to define contextualized adaptation strategies."

Dr Baitsi Podisi, agricultural research and development expert from the Collective and Participatory Research in Small Scale Farming in the SADC region (CARDESA), highlighted gender mainstreaming in participatory research as one of the strategies to increase smallholder productivity through adoption of improved agricultural technologies, husbandry and marketing.

"Women and youth are the majority of the population. They are most affected by poverty, financial exclusion, HIV/AIDS, and climate change. Focusing on them can bring the necessary transformation," he said.

According to him, most countries have policies on gender but translating them into effective action remains a challenge at

national levels.

Moses Odeke, technical officer at the Association for Strengthening Agricultural Research in Eastern and Central Africa (ASARECA) based in Uganda, noted that climate change has become a threat to smallholder livelihoods.

"Climate change is the threat to continued economic growth and to livelihoods of vulnerable populations in eastern and central Africa leading to poverty, malnutrition and death," he said.

He said, "Addressing climate change impacts is critical for the realisation of a climate resilient and sustainable development pathway as national government pathways and other stakeholders are realising that agro ecological approaches promise resilient agricultural systems."

Furthermore, he noted a lack of strong and coherent policies that support the promotion of agro-ecology compared to the high input farming system as one of the challenges in promoting agroecology research.

The recent 2023 state of Food Security and Nutrition (SOFI) states that hunger is still on the rise in western Asia, the Caribbean, and all sub regions of Africa, with about 41

directives on various measures to be taken aimed at preventing road accidents including the construction of the road diversion at tarmac level, widening the main road from 6.7 metres to 10.7 metres and the installation of lights at the vehicles' inspection area.

In his visit on Monday, Dr Mpango also inspected the construction of Shamwengo dispensary at Inyala area which in 2022 he ordered for its completion aimed at assisting people injured from road accidents.

He said he was satisfied with the work on the project and added that the government will provide 110m/- for the purchase of drugs and other medical equipment for the dispensary.

## Tanroads commended for completion of Mbeya region Inyala road diversion

By Guardian Reporter

VICE President Dr Philip Mpango has commended the management of Tanzania National Roads Agency (TANROADS) and Mbeya Region officials for the good supervision and completion of diversion road at Inyala mountainous area in Mbeya Region.

Dr Mpango hailed TANROADS on Tuesday when inspecting the 6.9bn/- road, saying the area was the scene of many road accidents that cost people's lives and destruction to property hence the diversion will

act as solution to the problem.

The Vice President also appealed to drivers to take great care and abide by road traffic safety regulations.

He called on the driver to create the habit of frequently inspecting their vehicles to avoid accidents due to defects in their vehicles.

He also called on road traffic police to work diligently and oversee road traffic rules in order to protect the lives of the people using the roads.

September 11 2022 the Vice President visited the area and issued





## EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES

SOS Children's Villages Zanzibar is Local Non- Government Organization (NGO) affiliated to SOS Children's Villages International, a worldwide child care organization that work to protect and care for children who have lost parental care, or who stand at risk of losing it. Established 64 years ago, SOS Children's Villages International currently has Children's Villages and other projects in 135 countries around the world. Globally, it runs two major programmes i.e., Family Based Care based at SOS Children's Villages and Family Strengthening Programmes supporting families in local communities. SOS has been working in the United Republic of Tanzania since 1991, and runs Children's Villages and other projects in Tanzania, the organisation runs four Children's Villages in Arusha, Dar es Salaam, Mwanza and Zanzibar and other programmes in Pemba, Iringa and Mufindi. SOS Children's Villages Zanzibar seeks to recruit suitably qualified candidates to fill the following vacant positions:

**Job Title** : Accountant  
**Duty station** : Zanzibar  
**Reporting to** : Senior Accountant

### PURPOSE OF THE ROLE

The Accountant is responsible for assisting the Senior Accountant in coordinating and supervising SOS Children's Villages Programs financial matters

### MAJOR RESPONSIBILITIES.

- Provides financial matters, ensuring that all Projects operate per Financial Policies and Procedures of SOS Children's Villages International in line with the Generally Accepted Accounting Principles.
- Supports the Senior Accountant in preparation of monthly financial reports.
- Ensures that all payments are genuine, are appropriately supported and accounted for; and all receipts are properly documented and timely banked.
- In consultation with the Senior Accountant, the Facility/program heads are supported in preparing and developing their annual budgets.
- In collaboration with the Senior Accountant, periodically prepares the income and expense variance analysis and helps to report and suggest adjustments or budget re-allocation where necessary.
- Assist the Senior Accountant in preparing monthly running cost transfer requests in line with the approved budget.
- Participate in carrying out an internal audit for all the Programs / Facilities as per the Internal Audit checklist
- Regularly reviews all supporting documents for payments such as Purchase Request Form, Local Purchase Orders, Invoices, bills, payment vouchers e.t.c. to see if the expenses are appropriate and within the budget limits and the accuracy of the bills and invoices before payment is prepared.
- Regularly checks the Bank and Cash Registers and the Bank Statements of SOS Children's Village Zanzibar accounts to ensure that all payments and withdrawals are authentic. Immediately reports any irregularity noted for necessary action.
- Prepares Cash and Bank Registers as per the approved payment vouchers daily, ensuring they are correctly coded, and all supporting documents are available.
- Operates petty cash, prepares petty cash vouchers, observes maximum and minimum float amounts, timely requests for reimbursements.
- Ensures room inventories are prepared for all offices/buildings and are reconciled with the fixed asset and D365 asset listings.
- Assist Senior Accountant in ensuring that all measures to strengthen internal control as recommended by auditors in various audit reports are implemented and adhered to by all Program units.
- Administers food and household and clothing allowances for the village according to the approved rates.
- Ensures all salary advances, soft loans, travel advances, and business imprests are recovered in time
- Prepares Bank reconciliation statements and cash registers for Children's Village, Programs,
- Prepare payment vouchers with relevant accounting codes and numbers and with adequate supporting documents, and that entries made in the registers tally with the payment vouchers.
- Assist Senior Accountant in posting all program transactions to accounting software (D365) daily.
- Assist the Senior Accountant in preparation of income and expense variance analysis monthly.
- Prepares Payables and Receivables reconciliations for SOS Children's Village Zanzibar.
- Assist in maintaining of Child Money Gift Register for SOS Children Village Zanzibar.
- Regularly review the bills (telephone, electricity bills, maintenance claims etc.) for payment and submit to the Senior Accountant for checking and authenticity before vouchers are prepared and payment effected.

### ACADEMIC QUALIFICATION AND EXPERIENCES:

- Bachelor's degree in Finance, Accounting/ MBA or a related field
- Final/ Intermediate stage for NBAA examination will be an added advantage
- Plus three (3) years in a relevant field (preferably with an NGO).
- Prior experience in accounting, budgeting, financial controlling, internal audit, accounting software.
- Office/Excel/Word
- Analytical skills
- High degree of Integrity

**Job Title** : ICT Assistant/ICT  
**Duty station** : Zanzibar- Unguja  
**Reporting to** : Program Director  
**Technical Supervisor:** Head of ICT

### JOB SUMMARY

ICT Assistant will be responsible to follow up the day today network activity, hardware and software failure maintenance, do network and system maintenance, and provide IT support to co-workers working in projects. The ICT Assistant will provide support to the Head of ICT in all issues relating to ICT in MA Zanzibar.

### MAJOR RESPONSIBILITIES

- Technical Support: Provide technical assistance and support to staff members regarding hardware, software, and network-related issues.
- System Maintenance: Assist in the installation, configuration, and maintenance of computer systems, and network equipment.
- Software and Hardware Troubleshooting: Diagnose and resolve technical problems related to software applications, computer hardware, and peripherals.
- Network Support: Assist in managing and troubleshooting the local area network (LAN) and internet connectivity to ensure smooth operations.
- User Support: Respond to user inquiries, troubleshoot ICT-related problems, and provide guidance on the effective use of ICT tools.
- Inventory Management: Maintain accurate records of hardware and software inventory, including procurement, distribution, and disposal.
- Data Management: Assist in data backup and recovery procedures to ensure data integrity and availability.
- User Training: Conduct training sessions to educate staff members on the effective and secure use of ICT systems and software.
- ICT Projects: Support the implementation and management of ICT projects, including software upgrades, system migrations, technology integration to programmes and new technology deployments.
- Security and Compliance: Assist in implementing and enforcing ICT security measures, data protection policies, and IT best practices.
- Documentation: Maintain up-to-date documentation of ICT systems, configurations, and support procedures.
- Vendor Coordination: Liaise with external vendors and service providers to ensure the timely resolution of technical issues and the fulfillment of ICT-related services.
- Research and Evaluation: Stay updated with emerging technologies, evaluate their potential benefits for SOS Children's Villages, and make recommendations for improvements.
- Collaboration: Work closely with the Head of ICT and other team members to achieve ICT goals and contribute to the overall organizational mission.

### ACADEMIC QUALIFICATION AND EXPERIENCES:

- Bachelor's Degree in Computer Science, Information Technology, Computer Engineering or any related field with two (2) years' experience
- Proven ICT technical experience of supporting users and systems in a large and complex organization
- Sound experience in hardware and software maintenance, network management, software development, website development and systems administration.
- Excellent problem-solving and analytical skills.
- Ability to prioritize tasks, work independently, and handle multiple responsibilities.
- Familiarity with IT Cybersecurity principles and best practices
- Passion for the mission and values of SOS Children's Villages.
- Excellent organization skill in providing help online or onsite

### HOW TO APPLY

Interested candidate should submit an application letter by email enclosed by only detailed and updated CV with telephone contacts, email address and details of at least 3 referees. The candidate MUST clearly indicate the title of position applied for. Only contacted candidates for the interview will submit copies of academic and professional certificates. This advert can be obtained on our website <http://www.sos-childrensvillages.tanzania.or.tz>. Closing date is **18<sup>th</sup> August, 2023**. To apply please send to:

The National Director, SOS Children's Villages.  
Dar es Salaam, Tanzania  
[recruit.sostanzania@sos-tanzania.org](mailto:recruit.sostanzania@sos-tanzania.org)

**Please Note:** SOS Children's Villages Tanzania is an equal opportunity employer and committed to keeping children safe from abuse and harm, prevent all forms of exploitations, harassment and abuse among staff, program participant, donors and community members. Therefore candidates applying for this post will be subject to child safeguarding recruitment procedures and checks. Only short listed candidates will be contacted



PetraDiamonds

WILLIAMSON DIAMONDS LIMITED



## Engineer: Control and Instrumentation-02 Positions

Petra Diamonds is a leading independent diamond-mining group and an increasingly important supplier of rough diamonds to the international market. The Williamson Diamond Mine is situated 23 kilometres northeast of Shinyanga in Tanzania.

Applicants are invited to apply for the existing position mentioned above.

**Position Title:** Engineer: Control and Instrumentation  
**Location:** Williamson Diamonds Limited, Mwadui, Shinyanga  
**Grade:** D1  
**Report:** Chief Engineer

**Role Description:** Reporting to the Chief Engineer, the role is responsible for the installation, maintenance, fault finding and repair of process instrumentation, control elements, control systems and application specific electronic equipment within the control and instrumentation (C & I) discipline.

### Responsibilities:

- Provide subject matter expertise and skills in area of responsibility; advising on solutions to enhance or ensure the effectiveness of the department/section.
- Install and maintain radiation equipment (X-Ray Diamond Sorters) according to maintenance schedules and requirements.
- Install and maintain communications networks.
- De-energise and apply the lock-out procedure as per Company policy.
- Carry out repairs, maintenance and preventative maintenance work on all C & I equipment and related control systems to comply with product technical specifications.
- Attend to the relevant administrative functions, such as data pack documentation management. (Loop drawings, P&ID's etc.
- Execute C & I projects in line with accepted project management principles to enhance, improve and optimise operations.
- Continuously analyse equipment efficiencies to recommend or implementing improvements and changes to maximise operations.
- Co-ordinate and monitor equipment availability to ensure adherence to production parameters.
- Co-ordinate the monitoring, installation, service and reconditioning of a variety of equipment, instruments and control systems.
- Monitor the implementation of new equipment and systems, taking specifications in consideration.
- Investigate and diagnose problems and breakdowns to determine resource requirements and order spares.
- Take cognisance of and adhere to Company policies, procedures and relevant legislation. Manage and report on non-compliance issues.
- Model behaviour that is consistent with the Company Safety, Health and Environment Vision and Values. Manage and report on non-compliance issues.
- Perform risk assessments (General and Mini).
- Establish and maintain good working relationships and effective / sound communication systems within the Engineering Function and operation.
- Effective team player and effective self-management

### Minimum Requirements:

- Advance Diploma OR Bachelor of Science in engineering majoring in one of the following fields: Computer Engineering, Electrical Engineering, Electronics and Telecommunications Engineering or Electronics and Instrumentations.

### Minimum requirements for all applicants:

- A minimum of 5 years' relevant experience in the Control & Instrumentation (C & I) discipline.
- Strong technical skills.
- Computer Literacy and Microsoft Office Suite
- Driver's license

### Advantageous Requirements:

- Experience with Siemens TIA Portal and WinCC software.
- Experience with Profibus/Profinet and industrial Ethernet networks.
- AutoCAD and/or MS Visio experience.
- Experience with diamond sorting equipment using X-ray media separation techniques.

### Technical Competencies

- Read, interpret, and maintain instrumentation drawings.
- Install and maintain process instruments and control elements.
- Calibrate process instruments.
- Install and maintain application specific electronic systems.
- Perform advanced fault finding and repairs.
- Knowledge of PLC and SCADA systems and networks.

**PLEASE NOTE:** Petra Diamonds is currently aligning its organisational structure to the operational model therefore all job titles and job profiles are under review. This may influence the grading of the position.

Candidates meeting the requisite qualifications should submit their applications describing how they qualify for the positions. They should also send detailed CV, copies of certificates, three referees, daytime telephone numbers and e-mail addresses on or before 15th August, 2023 at 16hrs00. Via the following address:

**Human Resources Manager,  
Williamson Diamonds Ltd,  
P. O. Box 23,  
Mwadui-Shinyanga.**

Or drop the same through the following email, [joseph.mokoro@petradiamonds.co.tz](mailto:joseph.mokoro@petradiamonds.co.tz)

*Williamson Diamonds Limited supports the Mineral policy (2009) of Tanzania and is committed to ensure adequate development of local technical capacity to service the mining industry; and to employ local experts available and develop succession plans for Tanzanians to take over expatriate positions. Pre-screening, profile testing, on mine assessments, medical and security clearances form part of the minimum requirement and selection process. Short listed candidates will be required to attend a panel interview. Employment of the successful candidate is subject to passing on mine induction and the aforementioned criteria.*

If you do not hear from us after 30<sup>th</sup> September, 2023 please consider yourself unsuccessful. Williamson Diamonds Limited is an Equal Opportunity Employer.

**Please note that Petra Diamonds does not at any time require any form of payment for recruitment purposes. If you are approached in this regard, you should report the incident immediately via one of the following hotlines: Phone Call: +255 28 276 3872 +255 767 744 617; Email: [wdlhelpdesk@petradiamonds.co.tz](mailto:wdlhelpdesk@petradiamonds.co.tz).**



THURSDAY 3 AUGUST, 2023

Taking A New Look  
At The News  
ESTABLISHED IN 1995

## Serious thought needed to beat livestock influxes

**V**ICE President Dr Philip Mpango has reminded key regional administrators of their responsibility to work together in controlling the influx of livestock in the Southern Highlands zone. It is an observation that has often been made at higher levels of policy making, on account of the fact that cattle migration are laden with conflicts as herders habitually let cattle feed on crops. It is hard to say that legislators from the main cattle drivers' groups have worked to check that habit.

The occasion was inaugurating the international Nanenane agricultural exhibition in Mbeya the VP similarly noted that the influx of livestock was putting pressure on wildlife. Interestingly, the call as to what to do was on the civilian side, to find means of regulating or administratively bending movement of livestock. The pressure on wildlife is less pronounced as any herd of cattle ramped up within a national park is confiscated; little happens if it is a farm.

Elephants being pushed to move from their natural habitats and thus destroying crops or trampling on people is less due to cattle migration. Herders may invade wildlife corridors but it is settled farmers who shift to farm there or build as its legal cadre is mixed, as 'game protected areas.' With population expansion, people seek new farmlands.

Halfway through the stately instruction on working together to sort out the recurring threat of large herds of migratory livestock, a problem surfaces. It is the clearly stated need for regional authorities to educate farmers on profitable livestock keeping so that numbers of animals match the land available. Education primarily means it is

optional, that they may alter what they do if the alternative being given is useful, to their liking.

One would thus pose the question of who has responsibility for educating not farmers but livestock keepers, but some conservationists, always sympathetic with natural livestock keeping, may opt for the term 'livestock farmers.' This way a structural conflict of crop destruction by migrant herders is dissolved into intermittent squabbling between two groups of 'farmers.' Regional officials need a law cadre to stop migrations, not a code of advisory ethics on land use.

The usual reference point about migratory livestock habits is land use plans, but this isn't public information, and as policy it is equally advisory. What is needed is a set of regulations, on what is known as trespassing, not awareness of what the district council says of this land patch, etc. Little of that is happening.

The difficult part about the policy mood on migratory livestock keeping is that this habit is highly injurious to farmers and wish it is prohibited altogether. But the holders of public office are supposed to work for all groups, not selecting whom to favour. Cattle herders need to have own lands and then dig ponds or make dams for watering holes, grass harvesting or farming, entrepreneurship.

Hundreds of dams are being built all over the country to farm irrespective of reliable rains, thus thousands of ponds need to be built for watering animals in stable territory. They would use the land to harvest grass by using sprinkle irrigation to have grass irrespective of rainfall levels. Migration of cattle can be ended if they are registered on specified lands and also empowered to graze.

## Development calls for gauging of the past, planning for the future

**I**N Africa today, only one in five workers finds employment in the wage economy. The rest are forced to settle for low-paying jobs, often through self-employment or in the services sector, where output per person is only about twice that in agriculture.

The Sustainable Development Goals, which took over from the MDGs, also suggest how to grow good jobs. Goal 9 of the SDGs sets as an objective to "by 2030, significantly raise industry's share of employment and gross domestic product".

Industry is singled out because it is a high productivity sector capable of absorbing large numbers of moderately skilled workers. Between 1950 and 2006, about half of the catch-up by developing countries to advanced-economy levels of output per worker was explained by labour moving out of agriculture and into manufacturing, combined with rising productivity within industry. In Africa, manufacturing output per worker is six times that in agriculture.

The international community has a new set of development goals. They reflect Africa's aspirations much more closely than the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). In addition to a maintained focus on the eradication of poverty, their single most important contribution is to recognise that sustainable development, especially in Africa, means creating good jobs - jobs that pay living wages and offer a chance to develop new skills.

For more than 40 years Africa's industrial development has been disappointing. In 2013 the average share of manufacturing in GDP in sub-Saharan Africa was about 10 per cent - the same as in the 1970s. Africa's share of global manufacturing has fallen from about 3 per cent in 1970 to less than 2 per

cent in 2013. Manufacturing output per person is about a third of the average for all developing countries and manufactured exports per person, a key measure of success in global markets, are about 10 per cent of the global average for low-income countries. Clearly, Africa needs more industry to create more good jobs.

Most of the heavy lifting in terms of public action will need to be done by African governments. To industrialise successfully, Africa will need to revisit the policy orthodoxy and break new ground. The "investment climate reforms" of the World Bank, supported by some bilateral donors, have not and will not bring industry to Africa on their own. Industrialisation cannot succeed without the development "basics" that include infrastructure, skills and institutions. But these building blocks, while necessary, are not enough.

Three closely related drivers of firm-level productivity - exports, agglomeration and firm capabilities - have been largely responsible for East Asia's industrial success, and their absence also helps to explain Africa's lack of industrial dynamism. These three drivers of productivity and industrial location are fundamentally interrelated.

Progress in one area cannot succeed in the absence of progress in the others. In short, a strategy for industrial development is needed, and an active and committed government to implement it is indispensable. To compete in the global market for manufacturers, African governments need to develop new policies to promote industrial exports, build the capabilities of domestic firms and foster industrial clusters. These policy initiatives need to be coordinated and contemporaneous.

### The Guardian Limited Key Contacts

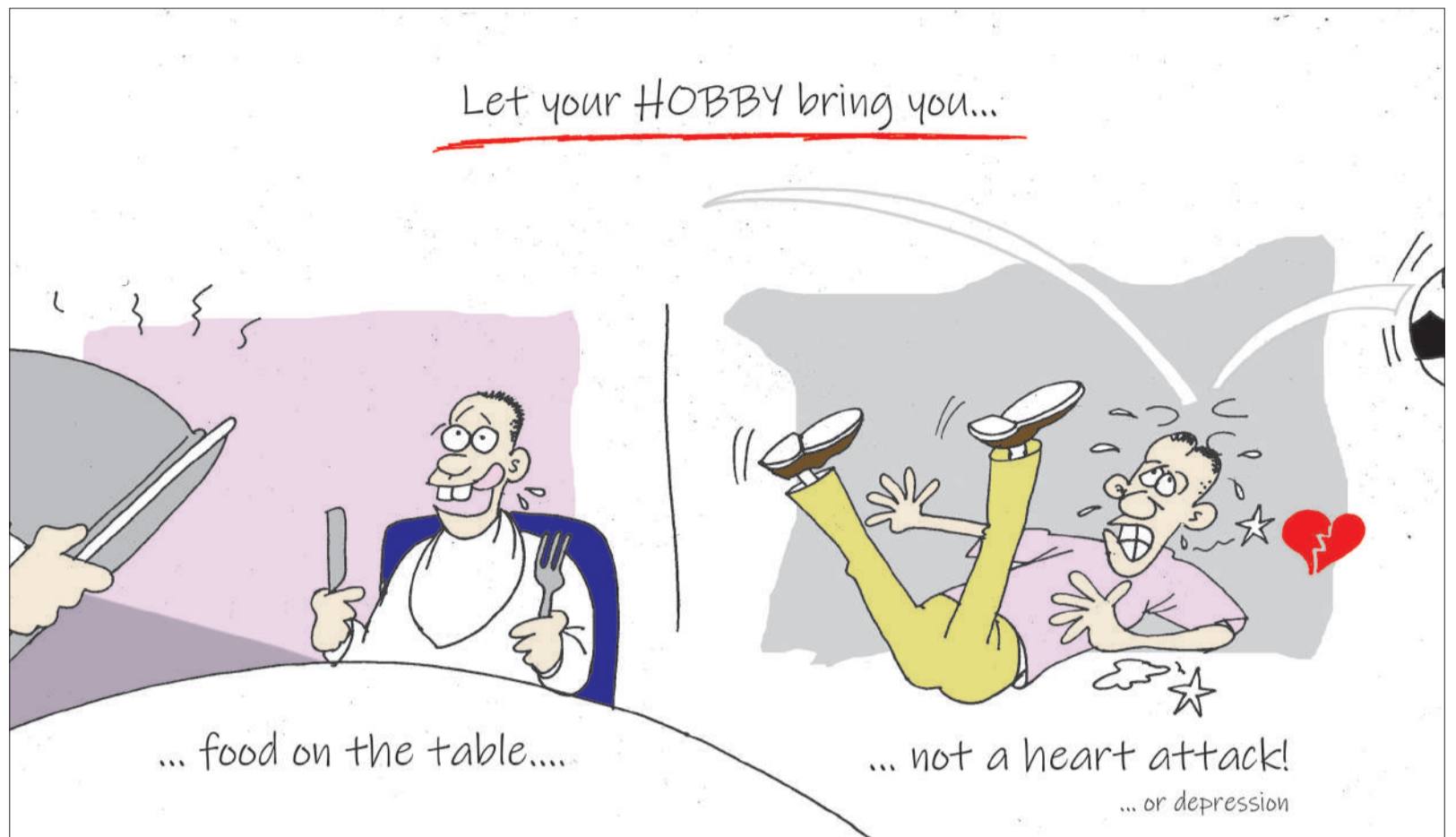
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## Why more people are flying premium economy class. It's about value

By Marius van der Ham

**G**LOBAL aviation, one of the worst-hit economic sectors during the Covid-19 pandemic, is on a rebound. Apart from increased flight bookings, industry data points to a major shift in trends with travellers increasingly seeking value-for-money as evidenced by growing demand for premium economy travel.

Premium economy simply refers to an inflight class that is somewhere in between economy and business in terms of price, comfort, amenities and positioning on the plane. Travelers get to enjoy better perks than when flying economy but less than what is offered on business class.

Data released in February by the International Air Transport Association (IATA) shows global airline traffic recovered to 69 per cent of pre-pandemic levels compared to 64 per cent in 2021. The International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO) also reports that the number of passenger aircraft in service in 2022 is at 75 per cent compared to before the pandemic, signalling a strong recovery trajectory.

But even as more people take to the skies in a post-pandemic world, interesting dynamics are shaping the market, especially in the long-haul flights, defined as those



exceeding 4,000 kilometres (2,485 miles), whereby more travellers are opting to pay more for a ticket in return for a more memorable flying experience.

A report titled Global Travel Trends 2020 by Skyscanner, an online travel booking site, shows that more travellers booked more premium economy tickets than was the case with business and economy classes. The report further notes that "when it comes to longer journeys, people are willing to pay more for extra comfort" signifying a more discerning passenger in what is essentially a price-sensitive market.

Emerging market trends show that more people are now prepared to fork out a little more cash money to enjoy perks that enrich their travel. For instance, there is a greater demand for comfort, where flying is seen as more than just occupying a

seat on a plane.

In addition, a growing number of passengers are now keen on the entire experience right from booking to arrival at the final destination. Besides wider seats, extra leg room, knee space and greater seat recline, premium economy passengers get priority service on the ground starting at check-in. There are also better in-flight meal options and amenities compared to economy.

There is therefore a huge opportunity for airlines in upselling customers to higher fare categories, especially economy to premium economy on long-haul routes. Moreover, this concept is not new and has been around for a while. Air France, a sister airline to the Dutch carrier KLM, has been offering premium economy class for many years. On its part, KLM recently introduced this experience on its

787-10 Dreamliner fleet.

Based on insights from extensive market research conducted by KLM, the customer looking to fly premium economy is one seeking comfort on a budget, doesn't mind paying more for a ticket if it means getting through the airport faster, and have possibly experienced the perks of business class when on extra trips, and therefore values extra comfort and convenience.

In short, they want a luxurious journey at an affordable price. This service is available for our customers into and out of Nairobi and Dar es Salaam.

Still, given the uptrends in this segment, airlines and travel agents will still have to work hard to debunk the myth among many travellers that anything above an economy flight is expensive and beyond reach. Comfort not price is the key selling point hence the term 'premium comfort cabin' used by some airlines like Air France KLM. The customer needs to see the value in the extra money they are paying for the air ticket.

More importantly, airlines have to respond to the rising demand from business and leisure travelers for a unique, authentic and compelling flying experience.

**Van der Ham is the AirFrance-KLM General Manager, East & Southern Africa, Nigeria and Ghana based in Nairobi.**

## Namibia's ACC stands for anti-corruption cover-up

By Special Correspondent

**N**AMIBIA'S top corruption fighter Paulus Noa is either hopelessly incompetent or knows only too well he was placed in the post to defend politicians and bigwigs - or he's a dangerous cocktail of both.

We'll bet on Noa being a tool to sweep corruption under the carpet for the ruling elite rather than believe he is irredeemably incompetent.

There would be no logic in Swapo retaining the loyal party member as director general of the Anti-Corruption Commission (ACC) for 20 years if he was unable to do a "good job" for them?

Twice this month, Noa has once again shown why Swapo appointed him in 2006 despite the recruitment panel stating that he and his deputy Erna van der Merwe were not fit to lead the anti-corruption fight.

The ruling party has time and again used its majority in parliament to bulldoze Noa's appointment through despite not following procedures as happened

again in 2021.

Two weeks ago, Noa was quick to brush aside reports that higher education minister Itah Kandjii-Murangi crossed good governance boundaries and may have corruptly benefited by taking travel allowances from institutions she is supposed to oversee.

"Unless there is a hidden agenda between the minister and those accusing her, the ACC finds no reason why she should be vilified, persecuted and judged in [a] public kangaroo court," said Noa, despite stating that the investigations were ongoing.

This week, Noa went overboard and accused the Namcor board of overzealously gunning for the state oil company's MD, Immanuel Mulunga, who defied a board decision to pay US\$6.7 million (N\$100m in 2021) to Angolan state oil company Sonangol.

Noa went as far as defending Mulunga, saying the MD "found himself between the rock and a hard object" [sic] when he decided to make the unauthorised payment in order to "save" Namibia's "reputation and image" in doing business with Angola.

Noa seemed to focus the ACC investigation into Mulunga's decision to bypass the directors' authority on a narrow approach - that the MD did not act with criminal or malicious intent.

In his memo, Noa does not lay out how diligently he arrived at his conclusion despite determining that Mulunga was dishonest in using a board resolution purporting to give him powers to take any action in the Angola transaction.

By focusing on obvious criminal action, Noa ignored the ACC's broader mandate.

The ACC law states that acting "corruptly" means "contravention of or against the spirit of any law, provision, rule, procedure, process, system, policy, practice, directive, order or any other term or condition pertaining to - (a) any employment relationship; (b) any agreement; or (c) the performance of any function in whatever capacity".

By that definition, the spirit of the anti-corruption law and good governance may have been breached as Mulunga defied the board by paying funds without authorisation, not to mention potential recklessness.

Good governance rules dictate that boards of public entities should have a majority of independent non-executive directors. All three directors of Sungura Energy, which landed Mulunga in trouble, were not independent.

Noa has made a mockery of the ACC and has most of the time correctly been criticised for targeting "small fish" while often defending or outrightly exonerating political elites and their cronies as happened in the Fishrot scandal until he was put to shame by the preponderance of evidence.

The state ought to strengthen the anti-corruption fight by avoiding incompetent people and stooges.

To safeguard the independence and ward off abuse of the institution, a director general like Noa cannot be the alpha and omega of investigations and decision-making.

A board of independent and diverse commissioners will be key to moderate bias and the blatant inappropriate conduct of an ACC director general such as Noa being active in Swapo with the same people he is supposed to watch over.

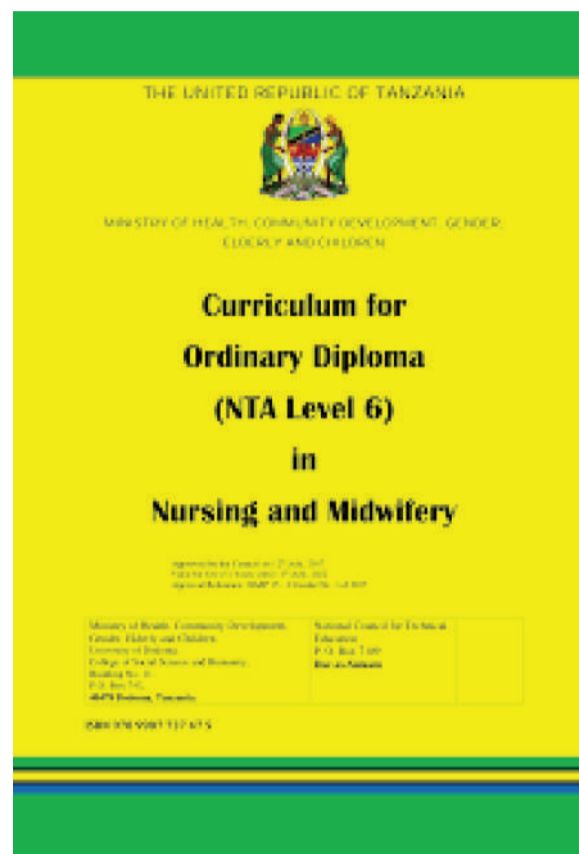
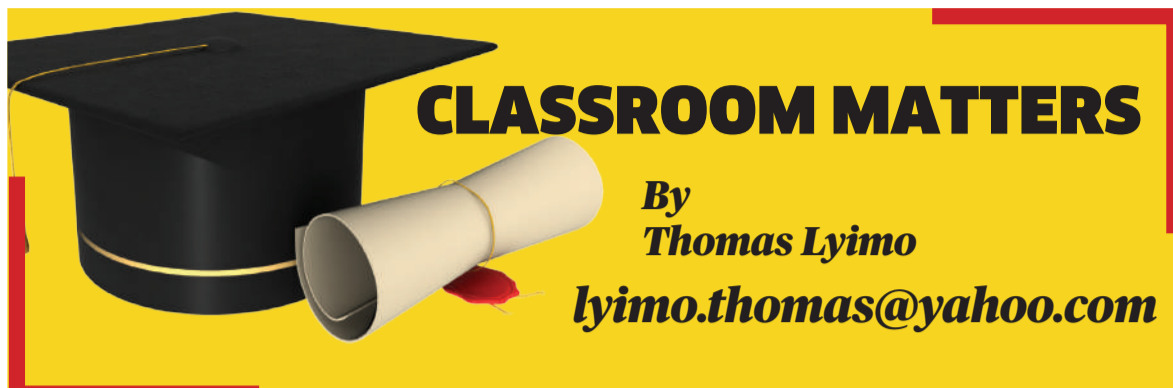


# Case for not rushing the ongoing new curriculum writing process

**E**DUCATION curriculum of a country and its economic ideology should be inseparable. The two go together as changes take place from time to time due to creation of new ideas and their subsequent practice, making some adjustments necessary to incorporate new ideas.

From history, we learn about independence, Arusha declaration, Structural Adjustment Programmes and reintroduction of multi-party system among others. This shows that history is very rich if we want to learn and hence be able to bring positive and meaningful changes to our society. The opportunity to bring those positive changes is the ongoing crafting of the new curriculum which has attracted attention of many.

Among the issues debated by experts and commentators is the question of which economic ideology our country follows. For, the 1960s, 70s and early 80s, it was clear that the country followed socialist economic ideology but since mid-80s, it has remained unclear but certainly a mixed economy.



The mid-80s witnessed the introduction of the so called Structural Adjustment Programmes (SAPs) with policies which demanded cost sharing and privatization of the publicly owned businesses among other measures as a way of enhancing efficiency and economic growth.

Despite these changes which somewhat pointed to a liberal economy, the government has never said that the Arusha Declaration which ushered in Ujamaa is no longer in place and this informs why some thinkers conclude that both Arusha Declaration and free market economy co-exist.

If the government is not comfortable to state openly which economic ideology the country follows, it may declare that in the crafting of the new

curriculum. Sometimes when political leaders make some declarations public, not all citizens understand hence unnecessary grievances in some cases.

The new curriculum must be the result of analysis of ideologies and practices of the past and their consequences as well as lessons from the current economic trend so as to establish a new base from which economic expectations of the country can rest. We need to have a theoretical and philosophical foundation in our education for us to be comfortable in our socioeconomic undertakings.

From history, we can learn a lot that can guide us in crafting a new and better curriculum. First is the objective of socialism. After attaining independence, our leaders embarked on a tall order of creating a classless society.

The government was against all forms of what it regarded as exploitation. This was due to the conviction that colonialists created classes and exploited the locals. The idea was that it was wrong to declare independence while there was exploitation and classes in the society. This was phase one in the quest for development which is ongoing.

Second is looking at the results of socialism. The efforts to create a base for socialism in Tanzania took a form which some critics saw as war against capitalism. Unlike in a football match where a draw can be registered, the case is different in an economic war where it is easy to see the winner and the loser.

Despite much determination and struggle the country's strength in socialism could not go beyond mid-80s when we accepted the SAPs which was considered by some analysts as accepting capitalism. Privatization and its hitches is a story for another day.

Third is understanding the implica-

tions of socialism policy on the current economic nature of our country and the world. We need to conduct an honest cost-benefit analysis if Ujamaa worked in our favour or against us. Yes, we are a united peaceful people but other indicators of or success or failure of socialism should be put clear to people or through their representatives who have been tasked to craft the new curriculum.

We should strive to create our own model as copying and pasting the what has not been tested and passed normally leads to failure in some considerations even by the pioneers of socialism in Africa themselves. Should we repeat the mistakes?

It is from mid-80 up to the present where our experts find difficult to see the objective of our education and hence prolonged debates. The hesitancy in declaring the economic ideology of our country is probably due to different understanding among sections of our society the fact that a new curriculum gives us an opportunity to correct where we erred.

Analysis of the objective of socialism and its results should aid in creating a theoretical and philosophical base from which our economic decisions should root. After understanding the cause and effect of socialism policy in our country and its implications from the current global economic arrangements, our policy-makers can come up with a curriculum which provides answers to the problems that we face as a nation.

A quick economic stride starts with education. Let us take enough time to come up with a good curriculum. Importantly, we should not write and approve a new curriculum as a matter of emergency. We better be late but arrive safely.

By Andrew Bomani

**L**AST week, I wrote a piece to mark a decade since the death of the legendary figure of Nelson Mandela. Towards the end, I quoted Amb. Ami Mpungwe on what Julius Nyerere had advised Mandela about his relationship with fellow Africans and what to do if there is an African crisis.

I ask myself one question: what would Nyerere have done if the crisis was on Tanzanian soil - as was the case in Zanzibar in 1995 - and South Africa felt the urge to 'take leadership'?

In today's article, I'll share a few leadership qualities of Madiba that if put into practice, would go a long way in ameliorating the management of public affairs on the continent.

The first is humility. I happened to witness an act of sheer humility from Mandela on the day of the signing ceremony of the Burundi Peace Accord in Arusha. This special moment had also in attendance the then-US president Bill Clinton. Mandela without doubt was most determined to mobilise as much international support for then fragile country.

On this, I remember it was shortly after taking on his new responsibility that a video conference was held between himself and Bill Clinton as well as the late US Secretary of State, Madeleine Albright, in Arusha and in the full glare of the Burundian representatives.

Now fast forward to the big day itself and I'll just add that it wasn't plain sailing as a few Burundian political groups were not ready to sign the accord for reasons that Mandela dismissed in his speech as self-serving.

Prior to the speeches though, when efforts were in hurried motion to tie everything together in the hall, a lone Mandela on the podium, stood up and walked down the few steps, making his way towards the front row where the Burundian representatives were seated. All of them that numbered approximately 20, stood up in unison.

It was all spontaneous and Mandela in turn made a reflexive left hand gesture to them to sit down. It prompted some amusement but evidently, Mandela was not enthralled by all the open deference on display for him. That was exceptional display of humility.

Another illustration of his humility is found in a lengthy speech delivered on the 6th of April 2000 at the London School of Economics and Political Science, entitled 'Africa and Its Position In the World Today', in which he says: "But I do want to point out that some of us have not really made the contribution which the world thinks we have. There are many men and women who have made a greater contribution, for exam-

## Mandela's leadership qualities our current leaders should emulate



ple, in the leadership of the African National Congress than myself. There were people in jail who were more inspiring to their colleagues than I was able to be."

It is equally useful to refer to the afterword of Mandela's authorised biography by Anthony Sampson, which quotes Madiba: "I would like to be remembered as part of a team, and I would like my contribution to be assessed as somebody who carried out decisions taken by that collective."

It is a tragedy indeed that in many parts of Africa, various people made great contributions to liberating their countries only for an individual to virtually eclipse them and be seen as a messiah.

Even in Tanzania, many of the individuals who worked with Nyerere pre-independence and even helped identify him as a leader are

hardly known to the public. Somebody should have done a better job of bringing to the fore these liberation heroes. Consequently, it is a tall order to ask Tanzanians today to identify political heroes. This situation paves the way easily for political charlatans.

Looking at another quality of Mandela that is even more pronounced and is so tied to humility, is how he could brook no nonsense for leaders failing to keep time. In September 1998, a SADC meeting of heads of state was held in Mauritius and of which according to a book by his former personal assistant, Zelda La Grange, Mandela put Zimbabwe's Robert Mugabe on the spot for lateness.

"President Mandela interrupted him and asked he stop his address. This was unusual for him and the atmosphere grew tense as silence

descended in the big hall; it was one of the few occasions that Mandela interrupted someone while speaking.

"Mandela waited for Mugabe to be seated and then launched into an off-the-cuff speech of about twenty minutes about being disrespectful and wasting other people's time, and that 'some heads of state' considered themselves more important and therefore thought it was acceptable to arrive late. He didn't mention Mugabe's name once, but we all knew. He subsequently used words that never left me: 'If you are late you show that you have no respect for another person's time and therefore no respect for other people because you consider yourself to be more important than others'."

Another example was within South Africa itself as captured by Anthony Sampson's book: "On occasion Mbeki arrived forty-five minutes late for a gala evening held in Mandela's honour, shortly after his retirement in 1999. Addressing the audience, Mandela talked of a former ANC president from the 1930s (Alfred Xuma) who used to say that he was 'the black prime minister' and needed to come late to meetings so that everyone could see him. Mbeki knew that was coming and looked up to the ceiling in his characteristic way of saying: here we go again. Mandela, aware that his public remarks were being recorded on the BBC television cameras, then gestured in the direction of Mbeki and said: 'I think that this president here has taken after that president of the ANC.'"

It is instructive also reading from Ali Hassan Mwinyi's autobiography that even Nyerere exhibited impatience at President Mobutu Sese Seko at a continental leaders' gathering in June 1994 in Tunisia where he would stare at him and ask, "Wazabanga, don't you have a watch?"

On a final note, one matter that makes Mandela stand tall on the continent was his presidential succession. As it were, Madiba wasn't interested in becoming president. This was revealed by himself on CNN's Larry King show.

That aside, Sampson summed it up aptly when he wrote: "But he was totally committed to democracy, and was determined - unlike most African leaders - to appoint a democratically

elected successor: he allowed his deputy Thabo Mbeki, as he explained, to be chosen by the party leaders and their allies without revealing his own preference; and Mbeki was effectively running the country for most of Mandela's presidency."

Andrew Bomani is a political scientist based in Dar es Salaam. He can be reached at a.bomani@yahoo.com center is well equipped with all the necessary equipment for agribusiness plus a hostel, nice meals and good timetable that allows intensive learning as well as resting.

We are safe here, we have everything we need. I feel at home because I get all my necessities I require while attending agribusiness trainings. I advise my colleagues to work hard after the training so that the resources invested are not wasted," she added.

"I applauded President Samia for championing this initiative which I believe will lift many out of poverty and take our country's agriculture sector to another level."

When presenting the 2023/2024 budget in Parliament last month, Minister for Agriculture Hussein Bashe said that the government is set to build sustainable agriculture sector which provides opportunities for youth and women to participate in agribusiness.

Bashe said that one of the main targets of the budget is to create decent jobs especially in agriculture by making availability of land for block farms and agriculture parks along with BBT-YIA whereby it is estimated that the project will create 300,000 jobs by 2030.

"One of the major challenges of youth participating in agribusiness is the negative perceptions and attitude towards agriculture coupled with limited awareness on agribusiness opportunities," he said.

Because of initiatives such as BBT-YIA and others geared towards food security, Tanzania has been selected to host Africa Food Systems 2023 Summit from September 5 to 8 in Dar es Salaam, hosted by President Samia.

The 2023 Summit theme is Recover, Regenerate, Act: Africa's Solutions to Food Systems Transformation. The theme is anchored around building back better food systems with youth and women at the center.



# Nepal poised to start HPV vaccination to prevent cervical cancer

BY MARTY LOGAN

AS Dipak Subedi was organizing a vaccination programme against the human papillomavirus (HPV) in the city of Bharatpur in Chitwan district of southern Nepal he was getting phone calls from neighbouring districts asking if he had extra doses available – people were willing to travel for hours to get their girls vaccinated against HPV, which causes cervical cancer, the deadliest form of cancer for women in Nepal.

Callers had heard about the campaign, which started in 2022, after the city posted the news on its Facebook page, says Subedi, senior public health officer and chief of the Bharatpur public health promotion section. Unfortunately he had no extra doses to meet the demand. “With such demand if the HPV vaccine was to be included in our regular vaccination programme we could get more than 90% coverage,” he adds in an interview in his office in Bharatpur, a city of 370,000 people best known for its location near Chitwan National Park.

Most people approached for this article who were connected to the Bharatpur campaign, or to previous small-scale pilot projects in Nepal, noted similar high demand. In recent years the Nepal Government has pledged repeatedly to provide the HPV vaccine for national distribution but has yet to do so.

## Awaiting GAVI response

Earlier this month a national campaign moved a step closer when the child health and immunization section of the health department submitted a request to the global vaccine alliance GAVI for 1.6 million doses. The response should be known by September; if positive, vaccination could start in 2024.

Cervical cancer is the fourth most common form of cancer among women globally and the leading cause of cancer-related deaths for



Girls wait for their vaccination cards to be updated after receiving the HPV vaccine at BP Koirala Cancer Hospital in Bharatpur, Nepal, 10 July 2023. Credit: Marty Logan/IPS

women in 36 countries in Africa, Asia and Latin America. The World Health Organization (WHO) reported recently that 604,000 new cases of cervical cancer were reported globally in 2020 and that 342,000 women died from the disease – a staggering 90% of the new cases and deaths occurred in low and middle-income countries.

HPV is the virus that causes most cases of cervical cancer and is responsible for the majority of sexually transmitted infections of the reproductive system. The HPV vaccine has been shown to prevent up to 90% of HPV-related cancers and pre-cancerous injuries. WHO says that eradicating cervical cancer will require vaccinating 90% of all girls worldwide by the age of 15.

The burden of the disease in Asia is high. In

2020, China and India alone accounted for 40% of global cervical deaths (17% and 23% respectively), according to The Lancet journal. In Nepal, there were an estimated 14.2 cases per 100,000 women in 2020, versus the WHO target for 2030 of less than 4.0. The disease kills about 1,500 women in the country each year, reports the HPV Information Centre.

In 2020, researchers predicted that without any intervention, a total of 170,600 women in Nepal would die from cervical cancer by 2070 and 318,855 by 2120. But according to the UN Population Fund, HPV vaccination could prevent nearly 38,737 cervical cancer deaths in Nepal by 2070, and 165,115 deaths by 2120.

About 400-500 new cases are diagnosed at the BP Koirala Cancer Hospital in Bharatpur alone every year, says Dr Asmita Rana, the head of the hospital's department of cancer prevention control and research.

Rana is managing the vaccination campaign that includes Bharatpur and two other municipalities, distributing 12,500 doses to girls ages 11-13, two doses each. While the first phase was a big success, the second one has faltered, she says in an interview in her office. That's mainly because phase one was implemented at the community level (schools and health facilities) by municipal staff. Phase two was centred around the hospital,

meaning that caregivers (school officials and/or parents) had to take time to transport children to and from the facility.

## Schools the preferred site

Asked what she has learned from the campaign, Rana says she would do all phases through schools next time to ensure participation. “That would be a more appropriate way to follow up those girls... rather than at the health facilities.”

The second learning is that raising awareness ahead of time is key, says Rana. “From my experience I can say that if we do an awareness programme ahead of time – tell them something about the vaccine, about HPV, and the effectiveness of the vaccine for preventing cancer, then they will be quite positive and participating.”

Even if people are initially sceptical, “gradually when we explain to them that it's a very good vaccine, it's free of cost – although it's expensive if you have to buy it – and will prevent your daughter from getting cervical cancer in the future, most of the people are convinced.”

The vaccine is available at private health facilities in Nepal but two doses costs around 10,000 rupees (US\$76). The country's per capita income was about \$1,300 in 2022. Neighbouring India started producing its own vaccine, Cervavac, in 2022. Its price is \$4.88-\$9.76 for two doses. South Asian

neighbours Bhutan, Sri Lanka and the Maldives have launched national vaccination programmes while Bangladesh has done pilot projects.

It's surprising to hear that vaccine hesitancy hasn't been a minor issue in the campaign. One school did refuse to participate, says Rana, after they were told that parents had to sign consent forms. “They were thinking ‘it's like a new Covid vaccine and it's being tested via our girls’; they were not aware that the vaccine had been approved years before. I tried so hard to convince them but they would not come.”

School nurse Sudeepa Poudel also faced some resistance, but says she overcame it after talking to doubting parents. “They say ‘we were never vaccinated but we are fine till now – why do our kids need to be vaccinated?... Some parents are easy to convince but many are not because they're illiterate, so I have to take time to explain carefully to them; sometimes it takes two sessions. After that explanation they easily accept it.”

Poudel works at a secondary school in Bharatpur from where 25 girls were vaccinated earlier this year. Beforehand she spent one hour explaining the process to students. “I conducted classes for those students who were going to be vaccinated as well as those younger students (9-11) who might receive the vaccine in the future, explaining the purpose of the vaccine, where it comes from, how it's managed, possible side-effects, etc.”

Just down the hall from Rana's office at the hospital is the room where the vaccine is given. During one recent morning girls arrive in small groups and take turns sitting in a chair and rolling up their sleeves, while caregivers look on.

Later outside the room, three girls from a high school in Bharatpur shake their heads when asked if their shoulders hurt where they got the injection. They had no hesitation getting the vaccine, they add through an interpreter. “We got infor-

mation from the school nurse and teachers so we are confident,” says one.

## Three reasons for support

“We're doing this for three reasons,” adds another: to prevent genital problems, or issues having children, and because getting cervical cancer would interfere with menstruation.

The father of one of the girls says he learned about the vaccine from his daughter, via news reports and social media before being contacted by the school. “I talked to the school nurse... Yes, I'm positive – both my wife and I are positive – because there is news about this vaccine being very good. I don't know much about the technical part,” he adds, “but I feel good doing this for my child.”

HPV is spread through sexual contact, but Rana says that most Nepalis don't interpret that to mean their daughters should be vaccinated before they become sexually active, which might be one reason there is little resistance to campaigns. “Their understanding is that it's early marriage that would expose girls to HPV rather than premarital sex, because that was the experience of women who are now developing cervical cancer, who are around 40-45 years of age,” she says.

“Sometimes people do ask explicitly about the impact of premarital sex, but they do not resist having their girls vaccinated when we explain,” she adds.

At Bharatpur municipality Subedi says his team easily overcame hesitancy they encountered from parents during recent campaigns for Covid-19 and routine immunization for children under 2 years. “There are some rumours and misconceptions, but we can tackle that – I don't think it's a big deal. We can convince them. In every vaccination campaign we do the coverage rate is very high.”

Nepal's health department has prepared an awareness module in preparation for HPV vaccination being added to

the national vaccination programme, says Dr Abhiyan Gautam, head of the child health and immunization section. It will be part of what he calls a demonstration campaign ahead of the programme, which will distribute 20,000 doses in various parts of Nepal, still to be identified.

## 1st time under federal system

A trial phase is needed, adds Gautam, because the health system was re-organized after Nepal enacted federalism in 2017. “We haven't conducted such a campaign at the local area... so this is a new concept for us,” he says. “The district recording and reporting system is also quite different now... at the operational level we have to be sure that the system will work, so we'll be piloting first.”

The same system will be used for the national programme, if GAVI approves the request. “We are hopeful that we'll get the vaccines,” says Gautam. “What we do know is that whenever we operate a vaccine programme GAVI provides some vaccines to Nepal. We submitted our application – now the ball is in their court.”

In response to a query, GAVI said that it does not comment on current applications.

The planned programme will include girls ages 10-14, in classes 6-10, rather than the 9-14 age group recommended by WHO. Gautam says this is to conserve limited resources. “Our national immunization advisory committee recommended 10-14 based on the country situation: if we go to 9-14 our operational costs will almost double.”

If Nepal launches the national programme, the immunization chief anticipates the same results as a previous government-run pilot project in 2016. “The vaccination coverage was very good (97%) because people demand the vaccine when they know about it... Poor people may not go to private settings to get vaccinations but even rich people are waiting for the national programme.”



## JOB VACANCIES

### About Us

The Jane Goodall Institute (JGI) is a global community conservation organization that advances the vision and work of Dr. Jane Goodall by conserving chimpanzees and inspiring communities to conserve the natural world we all share, we improve the lives of people, animals, and the environment we strongly believe everything is connected and everyone can make a difference.

The Jane Goodall Institute Tanzania (JGI-TZ) is a reputable and rapidly expanding non-governmental organization committed to wildlife research, conservation, socio-economic development, and environmental education. The Jane Goodall Institute Tanzania (JGI-TZ) was founded in 2001 by Dr. Jane Goodall, DBE. The JGI Tanzania with its partners makes a difference through community centered conservation, chimpanzees research projects, youths' environmental education, the innovative use of science and technology, we work closely with local communities in Tanzania, inspiring hope through a collective power of individual action. The Jane Goodall Institute Tanzania (JGI-TZ) with prospective funding from the United States Agency for International Development (USAID) seeks to fill the below two vacant job positions for the upcoming USAID funded project.

The Jane Goodall Institute Tanzania is currently seeking to recruit suitably qualified and competent Tanzanians to fill the following two (2) vacant job positions:

**Job Vacancy: Deputy Chief of Party for Health and Cross-Cutting Activities**  
Work Station: Kigoma  
Reporting Line: Chief of Party

**Job Vacancy: Finance and Administration Manager**  
Work Station: Kigoma  
Reporting Line: Chief of Party

### Application Procedure:

To access the full & detailed job advert, please visit the JGI career web portal at: <https://janegoodall.org/about/jobs/> All applications should be submitted to the following e-mail address ONLY: [recruitment@janegoodall.or.tz](mailto:recruitment@janegoodall.or.tz) along with the signed application letter, most recent curriculum vitae (resume), copy of relevant certificates & transcripts, testimonials, three names of current and reputable referees, day-time telephone number & e-mail address. Please indicate the job position you are applying in the subject of your e-mail.

**Only the shortlisted candidates will be contacted for interview.**

**Deadline:** Seven (7) days from the first date of advertisement.

**Attention:** The engagement of this position is contingent upon USAID award.

JGI Tanzania is an equal opportunity employer and considers all applicants on the basis of merits without regard to tribal origin, religious belief, gender, disability and marital status.

QUALIFIED WOMEN ARE HIGHLY ENCOURAGED TO APPLY.



Staff members in the hospital's department of cancer prevention control and research discuss vaccination with a girl about to be receive her second dose of the HPV vaccine, at BP Koirala Cancer Hospital in Bharatpur, Nepal, 10 July 2023. Credit: Marty Logan/IPS



# Zanzibar govt raises clove price to 15,000/- per kilo

By Guardian Reporter, Zanzibar

ZANZIBAR government has raised the price for cloves for the current season with effect from today - August 3.

Addressing reporters here yesterday, Omar said Shaban, Minister for trade and Industry said the government has raised the cloves price to farmers whereby the government will buy Grade I crop at

15,000/- per kilo up from 14,000/-.

He said Grade II will be sold at 13,500/- instead of 13,000/- per kilo, Grade II at 12,500/- instead of 12,000/- and the lowest grade (Mpetu) will remain to be sold at 7,000/- per kilo.

Regarding the system of payment, the Minister said the payment procedure to farmers will be affected electronically through banks and mobile phone

transactions, even though cash will be paid for small quantities of cloves sold, less than one bag.

"The payment system has been adopted for the money's safety," he said, and added that due to the crop's importance to the people and Isles economy in general, the government calls on farmers to sell all their produce to the Zanzibar state Trading Corporation (ZSTC) after drying the cloves

on mats to get cloves of Grade I.

He also called on clove farmers to abide by the drying procedures, including its cleanliness before taking it to the buying centres as well having registered mobile phone numbers for payment, or bank account numbers in case of payment through banks.

"Farmers should avoid clove smuggling

and the government will take stern legal measures against whoever will be found to engage in smuggling of the crop," he said.

He also conveyed ZSTC thanks to all stakeholders in the cloves sector including clove farmers, Cloves Anti-Smuggling Unit, PBZ, Tigo/Zantel mobile phones operators and others involved in the clove buying activities.

## Dr Mwinyi: We will ensure farmers get inputs and services

By Guardian Reporter, Zanzibar

ZANZIBAR President Dr Hussein Ali Mwinyi has pledged to provide farmers with farm inputs and other services in order to remove challenges they face towards the sustainable green revolution.

Dr Mwinyi made the remarks on Tuesday at the opening of the Nanenane Agricultural exhibition now ongoing at Kizimbani, Unguja West District A.

He said the government has the responsibility to empower the youth and women in their farming activities and called on the Ministry of Agriculture, Irrigation, Natural Resources and Livestock to prepare good procedures in their statistics aimed at making sure farm inputs reach all the targets in time.

President Mwinyi also instructed the Ministry of works, Communications and Transport to revamp all roads at the Nanenane exhibition grounds at tarmac level to add status to the exhibition.

"It has reached the time we must have the right statistics on the size of land for cultivation so that we can make good plans for its use," stressed Dr Mwinyi.

Regarding the situation in agricultural production in the country, he said the government has made various efforts to make the sector a success in order to

have positive results.

He said there has been an increase in horticultural production from 64,820 tonnes in 2021 to 66,30w tonnes in 2022, cassava from 182,668 tonnes in 2021 to 202,519 tonnes in 2022.

He said these are good signs from achievements gained in the farming sector in the Isles.

He added that the aim of the government to hold the agricultural exhibition is to mobilise in creating a revolution in the sector by educating the community on the importance of better farming practices including use of technology in irrigation and modern farming equipment in order to increase production of both food and cash crops.

However, President Mwinyi called on the youth to grab the opportunities from the exhibition to learn more to be able to employ themselves in the farming sector aimed to maintain food security and making development strides for the nation in general.

For his part, Shamata Shame Khamis, Minister Agriculture, Irrigation, Natural Resources and Livestock said the ministry strives to implement in deeds government's directives to boost the farming sector in the country as outlined in the 2020-2025 CCM Election Manifesto.



Joseph Mbasha, manager of HelpAge International Tanzania's 'My Choice, My Right' project, has a word with a group comprising the elderly, youths, persons with disabilities, councillors and representatives of various government departments on how to combat gender violence and ensure that women know justice and equality. This was at a sensitisation session held at Kahama in Shinyanga Region yesterday. Photo: Guardian Correspondent



Motorbike and three-wheeler taxi operators gather at Dar es Salaam city's Mnazi Mmoja grounds yesterday for a meeting with regional commissioner Albert Chalamila related to modalities of ensuring that they conduct their activities in friendlier conditions. Photo: Correspondent Jumanne Juma

## TMA urges young people to take active part in environmental conservation

By Correspondent James Kandoya

AN expert from the Tanzania Meteorological Agency (TMA) Mecklina Babygeya has called upon young people to actively take part in environmental conservation.

Babygeya made the remarks in Dar es Salaam yesterday during the 'Youth4Climate Action Summer Program' to educate and empower youth to take action against climate change.

He urged youths to be part of the on-going efforts to protect the environment in the country.

She said the programme gathered youths from primary and secondary schools in Dar es Salaam and Coast regions for purposes of educating and empowering them to take action

against climate change.

The program provided a platform for young individuals to enhance their knowledge, develop leadership skills and contribute to the global fight against climate change.

Doreen Ngemera, organiser of the programme shed light on the science, sources, and causes of climate change.

Ngemera, a 17-year-old climate advocate, author, and United World College student said there are a number of activities to enhance youth develop leadership skills and contribute to the global fight against climate change.

Some of the activities include understanding the science of climate change and its impact and impact of climate change on different aspects of Tanzania, such as the aquatic and

marine environment, wildlife and tourism, and agriculture.

Ngemera delved into climate policy, solutions, innovations, and advocacy, providing insights into the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and their relevance to climate change.

She said presentations by organizations like CARE International and the National Environment Management Council (NEMC) highlighted current climate policies, efforts to enforce environmental laws, and strategies for effective climate advocacy.

Louis Leone, the Co-Founder Aspire Tanzania and Rodrick Nabe a public speaker, author and event organizer conducted a leadership session focusing on effective public

speaking and goal setting.

Participants embarked on a field trip to gain firsthand experience and learn about environmental issues in the local context.

Presentations by Shamim Zawadi, Sharon Ringo Mowo, Janeth Kareem, and SOA Tanzania inspired the participants to think beyond boundaries and take action to address climate change.

It included discussions on recycling, creating climate commitments, and formulating action plans for post-workshop implementation.

Youth education represents one of the most effective tools to combat the destructive potential of climate change and cultivate an international understanding among members of the next generation.

## Tanzanians called on to hold nation's founding leaders in high esteem

By Guardian Correspondent, Mbeya

TANZANIANS have been called to hold in high esteem the nation's founder leaders, those who were at the forefront during Tanganyika's liberation struggles, by being patriotic and of moral ethics for the benefit of the current and future generations.

The remarks were made yesterday by Stephen Mwakangale, the first son of late John Mwakangale, founders of Tanganyika African National Union (TANU) that fought for the country's independence at John Mwakangale Memorial Pavilion at the ongoing 2023 Nanenane Agricultural Exhibition at John Mwakangale Exhibition Grounds in Mbeya.

"John Mwakangale and Mwalimu Nyerere were very close to each other. There was a time when Mwalimu Nyerere was studying in Scotland he met with my father who was also studying in UK, they agreed to come back to engage in the country's liberation struggles," Stephen said.

He added: "When we received our independence in 1961 my father (John Mwakangale) was a Member of Parliament, however in the following year, 1962 he appointed him Regional Commissioner for Mbeya, then called Southern Highlands Region that encompassed present Songwe, Njombe, Iringa, and Rukwa regions."

He added that the aim for displaying John Mwakangale memoirs at the exhibition is to

show his history since liberation struggles days under TANU and CCM.

"The aim is to mobilise the community to understand all the good done by the founding leaders, by recognising their contributions before and after independence in regard to agriculture and the economy in general.

"My late father has also been recognised by prominent leaders. In his book 'Long Walk to Freedom', Nelson Mandela described John Mwakangale on how he received him in Mbeya in 1962 before the South African freedom fighter proceeded to Addis Ababa, Ethiopia at the Pan African Freedom Movement for East and Central Africa (PAFMECA) conference," said John Mwakangale.

He added that before independence, his late father was a government employee, a veterinary expert after which he left public service and engaged in politics, joining TANU in 1956 and became regional party secretary.

He said that through PAFMECA, he later participated in the liberation struggles in Southern Africa and from his contribution he became a Member of the Legislative Council (LEGCO) in 1957.

The 2023 Nanenane Agricultural Exhibition is being held in Mbeya at the national level at John Mwakangale exhibition grounds and was opened by the Vice President, Dr Philip Mpango on Tuesday this week.





**THE REVOLUTIONARY GOVERNMENT OF ZANZIBAR  
PRESIDENT'S OFFICE-STATE HOUSE  
PRESIDENTIAL DELIVERY BUREAU (PDB)**

# VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT

The Zanzibar Presidential Delivery Bureau (PDB) is an institution under the President's Office - State House established in December 2022 to accelerate the implementation of the Presidential Priority Projects. The Priority Projects fall under the Blue Economy, Infrastructure, Tourism and Social Services portfolios, supported by technology. The Bureau provides technical assistance to Ministries, Departments and Agencies (MDAs) to drive the implementation of the priority projects that will contribute to transformative, sustainable, and tangible outcomes and impact. The PDB contributes to unlocking implementation bottlenecks through enhanced coordination, resource mobilization, monitoring and evaluation, and capacity building. The Presidential Delivery Bureau (PDB) is looking for suitably qualified Tanzanian citizens of high personal integrity to fill the below-mentioned job positions.

## 1. Monitoring, Evaluation and Learning (MEL) Advisor - 1 Post

### Main Tasks and Responsibilities

- Develop MEL strategy for the Bureau and oversee its implementation.
- In collaboration with other stakeholders, provide technical assistance to MDAs on M&E, learning and knowledge management.
- Support Delivery Managers to monitor priority projects implementation, track progress, and provide high-level evidence-based information for timely decision-making.
- Prepare high-level reports for internal and external sharing.
- Design, implement and/or supervise Bureau M&E studies or those implemented by other stakeholders.
- Represent the Bureau in high-level M&E work and collaborative studies that expedite implementation of the priority projects.
- Oversee accurate and timely uploading of M&E information into the delivery dashboard.
- Translate M&E results into corresponding Learning programs for MDAs, coaching and mentoring.
- Contribute to developing the communication products on results of the priority projects implementation; and
- Other functions as assigned by the Supervisor.

### Qualifications

- Bachelor's degree in Social Sciences, Business Administration, or related fields.
- Solid knowledge of M&E methodologies and analytical tools.
- More than ten (10) years of relevant and progressive work experience in M&E.
- Proven experience and capacity in data analysis and producing high-level and strategic evidence-based reports.
- Understanding of qualitative and quantitative approaches in social science research.
- Theoretical and practical knowledge of impact evaluations.
- Demonstrated skills and experience in working with government institutions and stakeholder management.
- Proficiency in data analytics tools, software and database applications.

## 2. Private Sector and Financing Advisor - 1 Post

### Main Tasks and Responsibilities

- Oversee formulation and implementation of strategies and activities to engage the private sector.
- Develop and oversee implementation of the Bureau approach for the private sector growth and support.
- In collaboration with other stakeholders, provide technical assistance that facilitates the private sector portfolio related to the priority projects.
- Advise and support priority projects financing and resource mobilization for the priority projects, including exploring new opportunities for engagement in line with the project priorities.
- Assist the Resource Mobilization Delivery Manager and MDAs in analysing funding options for the priority projects.
- Forge and support the Bureau's partnerships and resources initiatives.
- Work closely with the priority sectors and develop a strong work relationship with the private sector, development partners and stakeholders.
- Provide high-quality technical inputs for presentations, reports, and research.
- Produce high-level private sector and financing reports for timely decision-making.

### Qualifications

- Master's degree in Social Sciences, Finance or Business Administration.

- Membership of one or more professional qualifications in accountancy, i.e., ACCA, ICASL, ICA, GH or CPA.
- At least eight (8) years in either Banking or Financing of projects. Financing of government projects is an added advantage.
- Progressive Proven work experience in the private sector, projects, or complex contract management.
- Work experience in investment or private sector funding, Joint Ventures, and other financing modalities. Experience in funding public sector projects related to presidential priority projects is an added advantage.
- Must have skills and experience in negotiation, drafting of Memorandum of Understanding and contracts.
- Expertise in analysing national and international financing trends and mechanisms for financing priority projects.
- Represent the Bureau in high-level meetings as advised by the Supervisor.

## 3. Performance Contract Advisor - 1 Post

### Main Task and Responsibilities

- Conducting a comprehensive assessment of the current priority projects' performance management system and processes.
- Provide technical assistance in establishing a roadmap for the implementation of the priority projects.
- Assist the Delivery Managers and MDAs in establishing high-level key performance indicators and targets for different priority projects.
- Lead consultative sessions to develop comprehensive and user-friendly Priority Projects Result Agreement (PPRA).
- In collaboration with stakeholders, develop PPRA for MDAs implementing the priority projects.
- Oversee signing and build capacity on the use and execution of the PPRA at different implementation levels.
- Monitor implementation of the performance contracts, track progress, and provide regular feedback to the Supervisor.
- Analyse performance data, implementation trajectories, patterns, risks and areas for improvement.
- Facilitate periodic performance reviews and evaluations of PPRA's.
- Stay updated on industry best practices and emerging trends in performance management.

### Qualifications

- Master's Degree in Social Sciences, Law, Business Administration or related fields.
- At least ten (10) years of work experience in performance management, contract management, and monitoring.
- Experience in data management, dashboard management and analytical tools.
- Strong analytical skills with the ability to interpret performance data and provide actionable recommendations.
- Knowledge of relevant laws and regulations in Zanzibar and best practices in performance management.
- Strong organizational and project management skills.
- Proficiency in developing and using performance management software and tools.

## 4. Data Analyst - 1 Post

### Main Tasks and Responsibilities

- Provide inputs in the development of the PDB delivery dashboard.
- Analysing and updating master data related to the priority projects.
- Provide quality assurance of all data related to the priority projects and coordinate with other parties as needed.
- Support drafting of PDB reports and develop content for communication e.g., website.
- Support the design of reporting templates, data sources and security.
- Support the identification and revision of reporting requirements.
- Generate reports from the PDB Delivery Dashboard or other relevant systems.
- Troubleshoot the database environment and reports.
- Provide technical support in data storage and data cleaning.

### Qualifications

- Bachelor's degree in Computer Science/Engineering, Business Administration, Information Sciences or related fields
- Five (5) years of work experience as a data analyst. At least three (3) progressive years

- should be in managing big data/databases.
- Ability to undertake, document and communicate high-level analysis/reports.
- Data management capacity and experience with analytical tools
- Good written and verbal communication skills in both English and Kiswahili.

## 5. Procurement Officer - 1 Post

### Main Tasks and Responsibilities

- Purchasing services and/or commodities per established government regulations and policies.
- Ensuring maximum participation of local and minority businesses related to procurement transactions.
- Coordinating, preparing, and analysing bid preparations, solicitations, awards and contract extensions. Initiating and following through on procurement actions to facilitate purchase completion.
- Preparing specifications, solicits, conducting analysis of bid/proposal responses and providing recommendations for contract award per procurement regulations, procedures, and requirements.
- Performing re-bidding actions before the expiration of existing term contracts.
- Routinely researching market trends, reviewing technical and legal publications, and keeping abreast of current and applicable regulatory rulings.
- Developing and implementing procurement contracts.
- Acting as a liaison between user and contractor in resolving contract disputes and contract enforcement issues.
- Conducting active follow-up and enforcement to ensure contract performance and quality is in accordance with contract terms, conditions, and specifications.
- Resolve contractor performance and dispute issues in the government's best interest with written follow-up.
- Preparing and assembling reports, narratives, charts, and graphs to justify and present procurement practices.

### Qualifications

- Bachelor's degree in Procurement and Supply Management or a related field.
- At least five (5) years of public procurement experience, including knowledge of public procurement regulations and automated procurement platforms.
- Knowledge of local laws, codes, and regulations governing procurement-related activities.
- Proven ability to support procurement aspects for resource mobilization/project proposal writing.
- Must be able to organize and manage large workloads and project priorities successfully.
- Experience with Microsoft Office Suite applications (Word, Excel, PowerPoint, Outlook, Teams, etc.).

## 6. Economist - 1 Post

### Main Tasks and Responsibilities

- Researching the trends in economics in relation to the Presidential priorities in the sectors of Tourism, Blue Economy, Infrastructure and Social Services.
- Analysing reports from research using statistical techniques
- Formulating recommendations and plans, which Ministries and the PDB could use to unblock delivery challenges.
- Providing advice related to economics to the CEO, Delivery Managers and Ministry counterparts.
- Compiling data related to research in the blue economy, infrastructure, tourism, and social services.
- Establishing methodologies and concepts for collecting and processing data using knowledge of available sources of information and econometrics
- Arranging information into a report format for the preparation of graphical research results
- Providing technical inputs and analyses in the monitoring and evaluation of priority projects
- Work closely with the Delivery Managers to know their needs and support them with researching and reporting.

### Qualifications

- Master's degree in Economics with at least ten (10) years of experience as an Economist.
- Communication skills and the ability to communicate the results of a survey to senior leadership and management for critical decision-making.

- Ability to seek logic and reasoning to deliberate on the possible economic situation of a project.
- Numerical skills and the ability to make use of numbers and statistics to analyse issues concerning the economy.

## 7. Executive Assistant to the CEO - 1 Post

### Main Tasks and Responsibilities

- Coordinating on-site and off-site meetings for the CEO.
- Drafting emails and templates to facilitate time management.
- Schedule meetings and draft meeting agendas.
- Organizing team communications and plan events, both internally and externally.
- Researching projects as needed and preparing inputs for notes, speeches and presentations for the CEO.
- Following up on contacts made by the CEO and supporting the cultivation of ongoing relationships.
- Assisting other members of the office with various tasks as they arise.
- Coordinating executive communications, including responding to emails and interfacing with stakeholders.
- Other duties as assigned.

### Qualification

- Bachelor's degree in Social Science, Information Technology, Business Administration, and any additional qualification as a personal assistant would be considered an advantage.
- Previous executive-level experience as an assistant for at least five years.
- Sharp written and verbal communication skills, including flawless grammar and a rich vocabulary in both English and Kiswahili.
- Ability to thrive in a fast-paced environment.
- Ability to prioritize and manage multiple projects.
- Upholding a strict level of confidentiality.
- Ability to meet deadlines and self-motivated to work independently.
- Interpersonal skills, including listening skills, exhibiting a professional, energetic, proactive, and enthusiastic demeanour.
- Ability to work a flexible schedule determined by the needs of the PDB.
- Professional demeanour and presentation.
- Superior attention to detail, highly organized with an ability to multi-task.
- Knowledge of Microsoft Office.
- Previous experience working with development and fundraising programs to increase donor contributions and funding sources is an added advantage.

### Application Instructions

All application letters should be made electronically through the email address of the Bureau and be addressed to:

**Chief Executive Officer,  
Presidential Delivery Bureau  
Zanzibar.**

**Email: [recruitment.pdb@ikuluzanzibar.go.tz](mailto:recruitment.pdb@ikuluzanzibar.go.tz)**

### Conditions for applications:

- The deadline for application is 13<sup>th</sup> August 2023. Late applications will not be accepted or considered.
- All applications be submitted online at **[recruitment.pdb@ikuluzanzibar.go.tz](mailto:recruitment.pdb@ikuluzanzibar.go.tz)**
- All Applicants should be citizens of Tanzania and shall attach certified copies of their Birth Certificate and National Identity (NIDA) or Zanzibar Identity (ZANID).
- The application should comprise the following documents:
  - Applicants must attach a cover letter duly signed by the applicant with scanned copies of relevant academic certificates, current curriculum vitae, and letters of recommendation from two (2) outstanding referees and reliable contacts.
  - Certificates from Foreign Examination Bodies for Ordinary or Advanced Level Education should be verified by the National Examination Council of Tanzania (NECTA).
  - Certificates from foreign Universities should be verified by Tanzania Commission for Universities (TCU).
  - Applicants under public service employment **MUST** attach with their applications an approval letter from their respective accounting officer allowing their release in case they get selected for a position.
  - Only qualified candidates will be invited for an interview.

**Note:** These posts are for contracts of not more than two(2) years.





Thursday 3 August 2023

# Top ten banks uptake 656bn/- combined net profit in H1

By Guardian Reporter

Tanzanian banking industry profitability is continuing to rise after top ten banks, in terms of total assets, reported a substantial combined net income after income tax amounting to 656bn/- during the first six months of this year ended in June, compared with 540bn/- earned during the first half of last year.

However, more than two-third of the combined profit, amounting to 441bn/- was recorded by two largest banks in terms of total assets, including CRDB Bank Plc and NMB Bank Plc, which are both listed at the Dar es Salaam Stock Exchange (DSE).

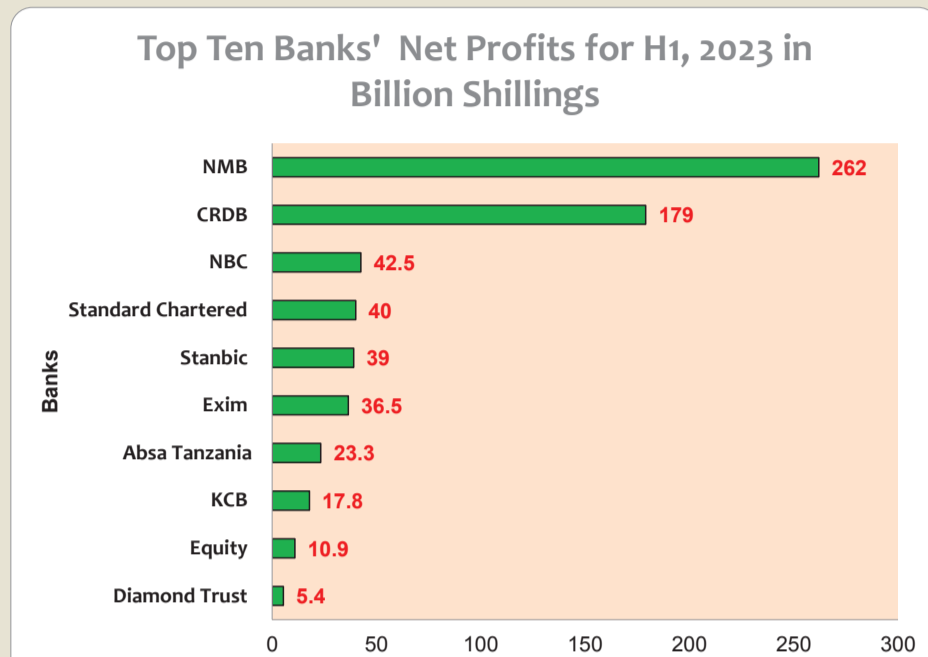
Speaking on reasons that spurred banking profitability, Tanzania Bankers Association (TBA) chairman Theobald Sabi told the Guardian yesterday that in the outgoing financial year, the government continued to implement various policy reforms as part of implementing the Blueprint for regulatory reforms to improve the business environment.

"There is an increasing investors' confidence on the business environment - the same has translated into growth of business and profitability of the banking sector," he said.

"The notable investors' confidence has been largely driven by the current drive by President Samia Suluhu Hassan on ensuring better business and investment environment for the private sector."

The TBA chairman further said the economic recovery from COVID 19 has continued to influence more investment, less non-performing loans and increased demand for financial services

"Banks innovative solutions in serving customers, developing client focused



products to consumers has also contributed to increased demand for banking services," he said.

"Conducive and sound macro-economic and trade policies implemented by the Government by specifically ensuring supportive fiscal and monetary policies for the economy."

He went on saying that the positive performance experienced by the banking industry in the first half of the year 2023, has translated into the significant socio-economic impact and contribution to the country.

The areas of contribution made by the banking industry are but not limited to the participation in national economic empowerment initiatives through formalization and capacity building initiatives par-

ticularly for women and youths.

Giving examples, he mentioned those products as the Stanbic Biashara Incubator, provision of women centric products such as the Johari Product by NBC, Malika proposition by CRDB, NMB on the other hand has Fankiwa Account, TCB has Tabasamu Account and Equity bank has Mafankio Account.

According to him, number of banks in Tanzania have established not-for-profit Corporate Social Investment initiatives (foundations) focused on serving the social economic challenges.

He also said SMEs development is also supported by commercial banks through Business development Services (advisory on starting business, investment, risk management, performance and growth)

The banking industry also continues to



Tanzania Bankers Association Chairman Theobald Sabi

support the country long term economic agenda by financing major public infrastructure project for example - the US\$1.6 billion Loan facility to the Standard Gauge Railway made by Standard Chartered Bank (SCB), he said.

He added that banks have also participated in building social infrastructures in the education and health sector through their Corporate Social Responsibility programmes.

The quarterly financial statements for the second quarter of this year show the highest profitability recorded by NMB Bank Plc, after earning a net profit of 262bn/- during the first six months of this year, compared to 207bn/- earned during similar period of last year.

CRDB Group Plc, became second as its earnings amounted to 179.99bn/- compared to 174bn/- respectively.

According to the CRDB Group's unaudited financial statement for the second

quarter of this year shows that the net profit of CRDB Bank, the main subsidiary of the group, grew to 179.28bn/- compared to 166.90bn/- respectively.

The statements shows NBC Bank, the oldest and third largest, earned a net profit of 42.5bn/- during the first half of this year, compared to 34.1bn/- recorded during the first six months of last year, while Exim Group profitability grew to 36.6bn/- compared to 31.2bn/- respectively.

According to the statement, the DTB Bank profitability, slightly slowed to 5.6bn/- compared with 6.7bn/- respectively due to decline of operating income and bad debts write off.

The DTB Bank's unaudited financial statement for the second quarter shows, both interest and non-interest income grew during the reported period, although there was also an increase of other operating expenses. The bank added one branch during the period to 29 from 28.

The statements show Stanbic Bank half year's net profit more than doubled to 39bn/- by the end of June, compared to 14bn/- recorded during similar period of last year, with the number of branches increased by one to 14 from 13.

Standard Chartered Bank, which recently announced the plan to sale its consumer, private and business banking to Access Group, saw its net profit declining to 40bn/- compared with 52bn/- respectively, while KCB Bank net profit jumping to 17.8bn/- in the first half of this year, from 10.7bn/- recorded during the first half of last year.

Absa Bank Tanzania net profit nearly doubled to 23.3bn/- compared with 12.5bn/-, while Equity Bank, one of the fastest growing, its net profit slightly went up to 10.9bn/- compared to 8.4bn/- respectively.

## Absa Bank Tanzania net profit nearly doubles in six months

By Mnaku Mbani

The Absa Bank Tanzania's profit after income tax nearly doubled to 23.37bn/- during the first six months of this year, compared to 12.53bn/- recorded during a similar period of last year.

The achievements resulted from strong growths of interest and non-interest incomes, which pushed the operating income to 32.7bn/- compared to 17.9bn/- the same period last year.

The bank's acting chief financial officer Bernard Tesha told the Guardian that "the profitability growth was mainly contributed by the growth of the balance sheet and increased transaction volumes".

The statement shows the bank total assets expanded to 1.31trn/- during the second quarter of this year, compared with 1.26trn/- during the first quarter of this year ended in March.

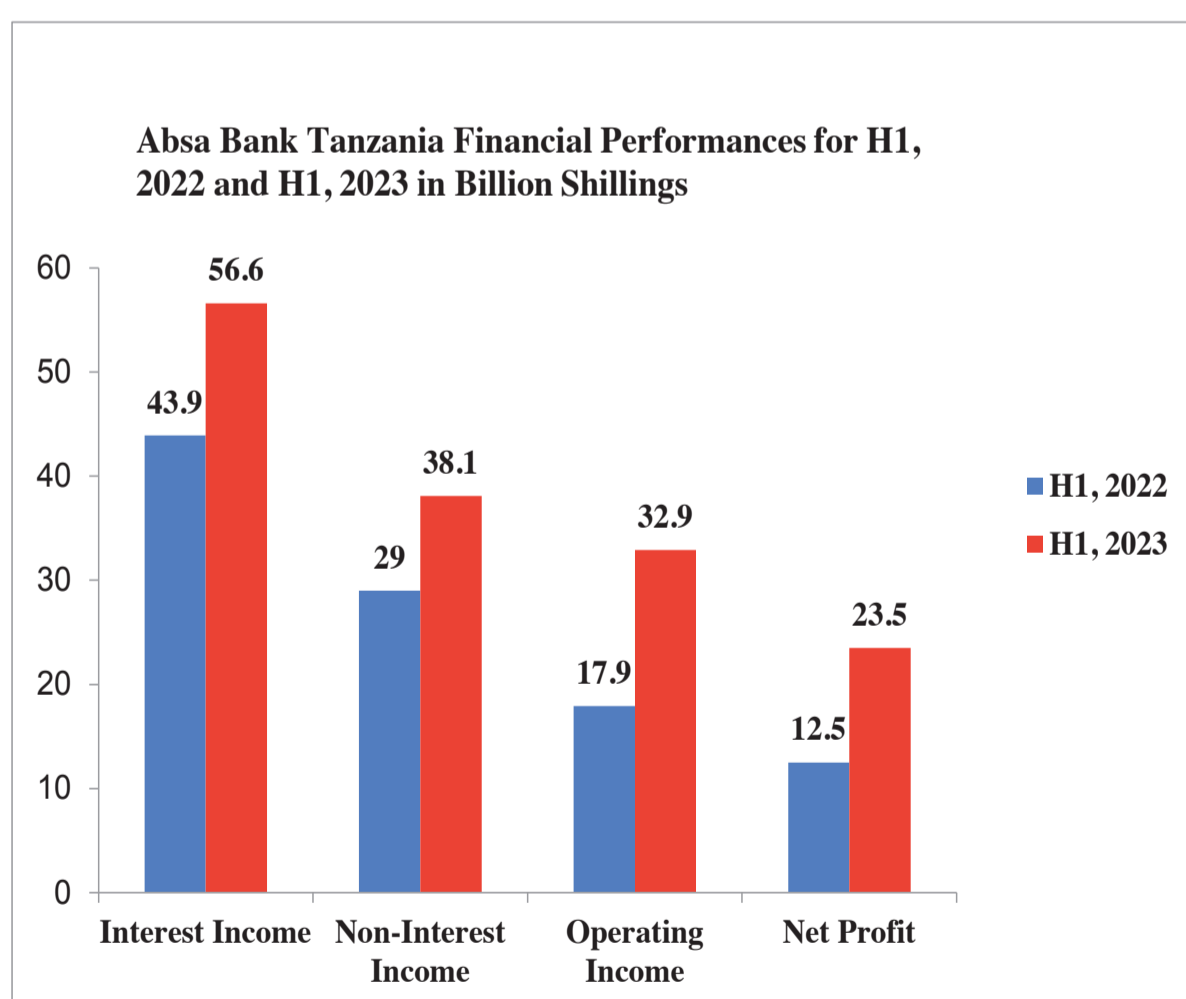
The increase of total assets resulted from growth in cash, balance with Bank of Tanzania (BoT), investments in government debt instruments, as well as loans and advances to customers.

"We continued to support our clients and managed to extend credit facilities and issued loans in different key sectors and clients in different segments, including retail business, SMEs, and corporate, we recorded strong growth, as a result of expanded customer base as well as improved service and customer experience," he said.

"We managed to retain our relationship with existing customers while continuing to onboard new ones, as a result of improved confidence in our service."

On the side of corporate investment banking, Tesha said the sector focus remains to be the key for sustainable growth of their business.

According to the statement, loans, advances and overdrafts grew to 698.2bn/- during the second quarter, compared to 656bn/- in the



first quarter. The statement shows net interest income grew to 45.7bn/- during the first half of this year, compared to 35.6bn/- during the similar period of last year, while non-interest income expanded to 38.1bn/- compared to 29bn/- respectively.

Despite all the challenges seen in the market, Tesha said the bank managed to get alternative channels to grow revenues through offering various range of products especially in the global markets space.

He said besides rising interest income, the bank earned much on non-funded incomes, which goes hand in hand with the growth of deposits.

Customer deposits grew to 969.7bn/- in the second quarter of this year, compared to 878.2bn/- recorded in the first quarter of this year.

"On the side of digital, we have strengthened our systems, to give confidence to our customers by simplifying services for easy transactions

and at the end of the day, the transaction volumes grew and this enabled us to collect fees through our digital platforms for services we offer to our clients," he said.

"We are continuing to strengthen up to ensure that we grow our brand, as well as improve our services and align our objectives with those of our stakeholders."

The achievement has also increased the bank's income tax provision to the government amounting to 9.3bn/- during the first half of this year, from 5.4bn/- paid during the six months of last year.

The bank also managed to create new jobs during the first half of this year, as the number of employees reached 501, compared with 465 recorded during the first six months of 2022 in its 15 branches across the country.

Total liabilities also increased to 1.1trn/- during the second quarter

from 1trn/- during the first quarter of this year mainly due to increase of customer deposits.

The bank capital reached 193.2bn/- in Q2, 2023, higher than 179.9bn/- recorded during Q1, 2023 as a result of organic growth in profitability.

The rate of NPLs to total gross loans to 5.8 percent in Q2, compared to 6.4 percent in Q1.

Speaking on the outlook, Tesha said that he expects sustained growth of the bank's performance at the current position, with an ambition to grow better than what it is today.

"Our growth strategies are sustainable; we expect the market will continue to build confidence on us and our clients will continue to support our business," he said

He said the bank is expected to grow more and achieve better results than what has been seen during the first half, despite the prevailing challenges.

## Commercial bankers tighten lending terms as defaults increase

NAIROBI

Banks have been tipped to slow down new lending by tightening credit standards to deal with the heightened risk of defaults in a rising interest rate environment.

According to analysts, the tightening of terms will likely slow the momentum of private-sector credit growth.

"Over the same period (second quarter of 2023), commercial banks noted a surge in the industry's non-performing loan ratio which clocked 14.9 percent as of May 2023. We expect lenders to tighten credit standards over the medium term," analysts at Genghis Capital said.

In the opening quarter to March 2023, banks retained credit standards for facilities in all 11 sectors, as surveyed by the Central Bank of Kenya (CBK).

"In the quarter ended March 31, 2023, seven factors had little impact on credit standards whereas Covid-19 and expectations regarding general economic activity led to tightening of credit standards, especially in building and construction sectors," the CBK said in its quarterly credit survey report to March.

Other factors shaping credit standards, according to the CBK, include banks' cost of funds, their capital positions, competition and other financial institutions such as SACCOs and micro-lenders, an increase of the Central Bank Rate and investment in government securities.

The growth in private sector credit stood at 13.2 percent in both April and May 2023. A strong credit growth was observed in manufacturing, transport and communication, trade and consumer durables.

The number of loan applications and approvals remained strong, reflecting increased demand and resilient economic activities, according to the CBK.

The escalation of non-performing loans has been noted in manufacturing, trade, real estate, transport and communication.

May's non-performing loans ratio mirrored the highest rate of loan defaults during the Covid-19 crisis.

However, the CBK maintains that the banking sector remains stable and resilient, with strong liquidity and capital adequacy ratios.

"Banks have continued to make adequate provisions for the NPLs," it said in an emailed statement.

In Q1'2023, the asset quality for listed banks deteriorated marginally, with the weighted average Gross Non-Performing Loan ratio (NPL) increasing by 0.1 percent points to 12.6 percent, from 12.5 percent recorded in Q1'2022.

The ratio of bad debt at the CBK, lenders may climb by 100 to 200 basis points by the end of the third quarter amid delayed government payments and a challenging economic environment, according to EFG Hermes.



# TCB, Airtel set up digital group savings, credits platform

By Guardian Reporter

In a bid to spur financial inclusion, specifically women and youths, Tanzania Commercial Bank (TCB) and Airtel Tanzania have partnered to set up a digital community-based savings and credit platform.

The move will ensure that financial services are moving closer to customers, through the use of mobile phones.

Jema Msuya, TCB's director of technology and operations said according to 2023 Finscope survey, mobile money usage has increased up to 72 percent, the trend which has enhanced financial inclusions.

Msuya said besides being flexible in loan issuance, the new agreement will also ensure that security and transparency for member funds are granted.

This will also ensure expansion of the rate of financial inclusion among many Tanzanians, considering that only 22 percent of the population is banked.

Dubbed, 'Airtel Vikoba'; the service is among of the convenient digital solutions that are simplifying savings and lending activities.

The agreement also aims to improve customers' financial stability, through



Tanzania Commercial Bank's (TCB) marketing director, Deo Kwiyukwa (R) speaks during the launching of Airtel Money's digital vikoba service in Dar es Salaam on Tuesday. On his right is Airtel Money director, Andrew Rugamba and TCB's head of IT and operations, Jema Msuya (Photo by Guardian Correspondent)

savings and credits, while allowing group members to refund the loans at any given time

through mobile money. Speaking during the launch of 'Airtel Vikoba' a digital com-

munity-based savings and credit groups, on Tuesday in Dar es Salaam, Airtel Money director, An-

drew Rugamba said the service will allow Airtel Money customers to create savings groups and start depositing money.

The application service also allows customers to lend money to each other, check balances and sharing profits using the Airtel Money menu at any time.

"The launch of Airtel Vikoba is another type of our innovation. This enables financial services easier, safer with less costs," he said.

According to him, the move helps in supporting the efforts of the Sixth phase government of President Samia Suluhu Hassan of raising the standards of living of the majority Tanzanians and the country's economy at large by ensuring financial services reach more Tanzanians and at low cost.

"For several decades, community-based savings and credit groups have been run in a way where group members meet physically to make refunds and give out cash loans, thus endangering the safety of cashiers and loan recipients. Airtel Vikoba is a

solution that will help save time for meetings. We have succeeded in setting up a digital system so that Airtel Money customers can open up their accounts and start saving together with their fellow members," Rugamba said.

He also pointed out that what makes the Airtel Vikoba service different is that a member can check the balance of savings in their group free of charge.

"This makes Airtel Vikoba unique compared to similar other such services available in the market," the director said.

The Community-based savings and credit groups programs (VICOBA) was established in 2002, to empower the community with low incomes to be able to get small loans for helping them to start businesses and improve their lives.

VICOBA was also aimed at creating the culture of saving, lend money to each other and get opportunities for entrepreneurship training, marketing their products and services.

## Mkombozi Commercial Bank Plc sails the 2022 waves with doubled pre-tax profit

Kandoya

MKOMBOZI Commercial Bank has registered a profit before tax amounting 6.8bn/- for the year ended in December 2022 compared to 3bn/- recorded in 2021, despite of the economic disruptions caused by external factors.

Gasper Njuu, the Bank's Board Chairman said this to reporters on the sideline of the bank's shareholders Annual General Meeting held in Dar es Salaam yesterday.

He said the bank's commitment and focus on financial inclusion remains to be a key strategic priority.

"We have successfully completed integration with key partners in the provision of digital services, especially mobile network operators and other digital solution integrators," he said.

Njuu said the bank has registered good traction in rolling out agency Banking channel (Mkombozi wakala), church Cash collection Solution(SADAKA) and internet Banking

"We enhanced our mobile banking channel by launching the mobile application in addition to the existing USSD code platform," he said.

He said the economic activity in 2022 was undermined by supply-chain disruptions, which were caused by the war in Ukraine, resurgence of Covid-19, and climate-related constraints.

However, strong macro fundamentals allowed the



Mkombozi Commercial Bank's board chairman Gasper Njuu

country to emerge from the Covid-19 pandemic in good shape, though economic recovery has been relatively modest due strong headwinds created by the ongoing war in Ukraine

,tightening global financial

conditions, and global economic slow-down.

The economic recovery in 2022 nevertheless remains broad based with most sectors rebounding to pre-Covid-19 activity levels. "Inflation was significant-

ly above the central bank's targets in 2022, particularly in advanced economies.

He said the average annual headline inflation in the country was 4.3 percent, while the real GDP growth stood at 4.7 percent in

2022(compared to 4.9 percent in 2021), projected to grow by 5.2 percent and 6.2 percent in 2023 and 2024 respectively.

Njuu noted that another challenge was the non-performing loans as it stands at 9 percent, more than the regulatory requirements benchmark of 5 percent.

The Bank's Managing Director Respige Kimati said that the year 2022 was a strong year for the bank by a multitude of measures.

He said a key achievement was continued strategic positioning of the bank to deliver on its agenda in terms of resources and infrastructure.

The bank remained resilient, weathered the various challenges, made satisfying progress with strategic priorities, improved efficiency and credit qualities, strengthened the balance sheet and delivered strong financial returns.

"We have made good progress in our transformation journey, with visible results from our years of consistency and discipline cost management ,credit turnaround, product and process alignment and investment in people and technology," he said.

"We focused on execution momentum to consolidate our achievements and to deliver on critical imperative in 2022,we have become more efficient, addressed legacy loan and operations challenges, strengthened capital and digitized products," he added.

## Stanbic Bank named best investment bank, 2023

By Guardian Reporter

Stanbic Bank Tanzania has been recognised as Tanzania's Best Investment Bank for the second consecutive year at the 2023 Euromoney Awards for Excellence.

Euromoney has been evaluating the world's leading financial institutions through performance data, surveys, and industry awards for more than 30 years.

Their annual awards programme recognises excellence across global, regional and individual country categories.

"It is an honour for us to once again be named Tanzania's Best Investment Bank by Euromoney in 2023. This win demonstrates our commitment to deliver solutions that drive Tanzania's growth and cements our purpose - Tanzania is our home, we drive her growth," said Manzi Rwegasira, Acting Chief Executive and Head of Corporate and Investment Banking.

"Being recognised by one of the world's most trusted financial publications demonstrate that we have achieved the level of excellence we strive for in delivering value to our clients and the country," He added.

As part of Standard Bank Group, Africa's largest bank by assets, and with representation in over 20 African countries, and key financial markets, Stanbic Bank's Corporate & Investment Banking (CIB) division offers clients solutions in global markets, transaction banking and advisory services.

"Our clients are at the centre of everything we do, and it is our priority to provide them with tailored solutions that truly enable them to achieve their investment needs," said Elibariki Ndossi, Stanbic Bank Tanzania's Head of Investment Banking.

"The key differentiator offered by Stanbic Bank's CIB division is access to local and regional expertise that provides clients with insights and an intellectual framework for making complex decisions, delivered by a team of experts", noted Ndossi.

"Being recognised for our achievements in this regard in two consecutive years is a great deal to us. It fuels our passion and commitment, both to our clients and our country," concluded Ndossi.

BANKING&FINANCE

## Bank of England caught between inflation fight and recession risk

LONDON

The Bank of England, which looks set to raise interest rates again on Thursday, must weigh up the need to fight an inflation rate running at more than four times its target against the hit to the economy from 13 back-to-back rate hikes so far.

Analysts and investors are mostly expecting a quarter-point increase in Bank Rate, taking it to a 15-year high of 5.25%. They will also be watching for the signals the BoE sends about further increases in the coming months.

Governor Andrew Bailey and his colleagues say the economic impact of their run of rate hikes stretching back to late 2021 has yet to be felt fully. But they also say



they must quash an inflation rate that is the highest among major economies.

Below is a summary of key data that the BoE will be watching before its announcement on interest rates at 1100 GMT on Thursday which will be followed by a news conference given by Bailey and other top

officials at 1130 GMT.

**INFLATION THREAT**

British consumer price inflation fell by more than expected in June to 7.9% in annual terms, down sharply from 8.7% in May. But it remained the highest among the Group of Seven economies.

A measure of underlying price growth - core inflation, which excludes energy, food, alcohol and tobacco prices - and price increases in the services sector - also eased but remained close to the 31-year highs they hit in May.

**HOUSING MARKET**

The most obvious impact of the increase in the BoE's Bank Rate from 0.1% in December 2021 to the current 5.0% has been in the housing market.

House prices as measured by mortgage lenders Nationwide and Halifax have fallen by their most in annual terms in more than a decade as interest rates on mortgages rise quickly on expectations of further increases to borrowing costs.

The BoE says much of the impact on the

housing market from its rate hikes has yet to be felt because most mortgages in Britain are short-term fixed-rate deals which protect homeowners from swings in borrowing costs but are renewing at higher rates.

Of nearly 7 million fixed-rate mortgages, which account for 80% of residential home loan deals, around 800,000 end in the second half of 2023 and a further 1.6 million deals end in 2024.

**INSOLVENCIES**

There are signs that companies, especially smaller ones, are struggling as borrowing costs rise, the economy barely grows and the government no longer provides the protections it did during the coronavirus pandemic.



By Francis Kajubi

# Vehicle assembler launches new truck to bridge farmers' desires

THE Kibaha based vehicle assembler in Pwani region GF Trucks & Equipment's Ltd has introduced to the market a new type of truck which is designed purposely to serve for agricultural activities such as transporting agricultural products from one place to another.

Known as Forland, the truck was launched yesterday in Mbeya city.

Addressing journalists during the launch of the trucks which took place at the ongoing Nanenane exhibition at the Mwakangale grounds in Mbeya city, the company's marketing and sales officer, Peter William said that this type of truck has been designed to meet the needs of the company's customers in particular food crop farmers and medium and large businesses engaged in mining and construction sectors.

He said this type of truck has come to benefit farmers who cannot afford to buy large trucks of up to 17 tons.

"Being one of the largest truck manufacturing companies in the country, we have found it wise to design a product that all farmers can benefit from in the entire chain of the agricultural and agribusiness sectors," he said.

William said that the trucks are brand new from the Kibaha factory.

"These Forland type trucks are among the trucks assembled at our GFA factory located in Kibaha in the Coast region and so our prices are cheaper compared



GF technical team head Anda Lib, leads customers in examining a Forland truck yesterday at the ongoing nanenane in Mbeya city. Photo Guardian correspondent.

to before where we used to import them from various countries around the world.

According to him, the process of

harvesting and transporting crops from the fields to storage facilities and markets requires medium-sized lorries and the company has decid-

ed to bring to its customers a brand new truck in different capacities, ranging from 1.5 tons, 2 tons to 17 tons depending on the needs of the

respective farmer.

The company has decided to launch this type of truck in the Mbeya region due to the majority

of residents in the southern highlands who are employed in the agricultural sector, especially in maize farming, paddy and avocado that are produced in abundance in the region.

He said the company has considered it wise to use the opportunity of the exhibition to support the efforts of the government by bringing services closer to consumers.

GF Company has for about 16 years of service has been a leader in the sale of XCMG type trucks and machines for mining operations, construction companies and contracting for road carving.

On his part, the agricultural produce trader, Atupele Mwakalinga commended GF for remembering them and decided to come and launch the trucks in the Mbeya region during this agricultural exhibition instead of going through the ordinary approach of every new product to be launched in the city of Dar es Salaam even if the main consumers of those products are resides upcountry especially in villages.

GF in collaboration with commercial banks and other financial institutions has established an affordable procedure to enable local contractors with project tenders to borrow machineries and equipment at favorable conditions and compete with foreign companies in obtaining tenders.

The farmers' exhibition will reach its climax on August 8, this year under the theme: 'Youth and women are a strong foundation for sustainable food systems.'

# Small US banks not ready to borrow from Fed in an emergency

CALIFORNIA

The lightning-fast collapse of Silicon Valley Bank this spring laid bare an inconvenient truth: Some US banks are not prepared to borrow from the Federal Reserve if they need to, and a Reuters analysis shows that problem is most acute among the nation's smallest banks.

SVB, a top-20 bank with over \$210 billion in assets at the time it failed, had an insufficient stash of collateral and in the year before it went down had not tested its access to the "discount window" through which the Fed doles out emergency loans. That "lack of preparedness may have contributed to the speed of SVB's demise," the Fed said in a review of the collapse published in April.

It's a vulnerability that has come into stark relief since SVB's failure unleashed record demand for emergency credit from the Fed, raising concerns at both headquarters in Washington and across the 12 Fed districts stretched across the country.

Fed Chair Jerome Powell last Wednesday acknowledged that the banking stress earlier this year revealed that using the discount window "can be a little bit clunky."

"So why not be in a situation where you're just much more ready in case you...need to access this discount window?" he said in news conference after the central bank's policy meeting.

Indeed, the Fed and other bank regulators amplified that message on Friday with updated guidance saying "the agencies encourage depository institutions to incorporate the discount window as part of their contingency funding arrangements" and banks should maintain "operational readiness" to tap into it in a pinch.

While California-based SVB was unusual among its peers -- a majority of banks with \$100 billion or more in assets have run frequent tests of their discount-window access -- many smaller ones have not and may not be prepared to borrow at all, the data suggests.

"I was very, very surprised. I've been involved in monetary policy implementation for over two decades, and I was surprised by this most recent banking stress, the number of banks that are not fully set up for the discount window," Dallas Fed President Lorie Logan said in July.

Every bank in Texas and in the nation should establish access and "test the plumbing," she said.

## MISSION CRITICAL

For all the focus the Fed draws for its



center-stage role in setting interest rates for the U.S. and beyond, its most critical mission is far more basic: Lend when no one else will.

Created in the early 20th century to bring a halt to the cycles of bank panics that had crippled the economy with alarming frequency since the birth of the republic, the Fed has a virtually boundless capacity to provide credit to banks in moments of crisis and thus ensure the wider stability of the financial system.

There's a catch, of course. Banks must be willing to ask for that lifeline in their hour of need, and they have to be set up to do so. While borrowing at the Fed may sound simple, it does require filing the paperwork, posting the collateral and, ideally, conducting regular test runs.

The Fed won't reveal which banks, or even how many, have done the work to gain access, a process that it has said can take weeks. But central bank data shows there are many banks which have not stepped up to the discount window, either to borrow money for real need, or to test it.

## SIZE MATTERS

In general, the smaller the bank, the less likely it has dipped into the discount window.

From July 2010 to June 2021, nearly all banks with more than \$50 billion in assets, and about 70% of banks with \$1 billion or more in assets, borrowed at least once from the discount window, either in small

amounts that suggest a test, or in larger amounts that point to actual need.

But only about 40% of the approximately 1,800 banks with between \$250 million and \$1 billion in assets in communities across the nation touched the discount window during that time, the data shows.

In Logan's district - Texas and parts of New Mexico and Louisiana - the figure for such small banks was about 20%.

For the tiniest banks, those with less than \$250 million in assets, less than a fifth nationwide had tapped the window.

The data records details on more than 40,000 transactions, from thousands of \$1,000 test loans to the \$5 billion Goldman Sachs borrowed during the COVID-19 government-mandated shutdowns in 2020.

All told, about 3,800 banks borrowed from the discount window during the 11-year period detailed in the central bank data. That's just over 40% of the more than 9,000 depository institutions, including credit unions and branches of foreign banks, currently entitled to borrow from the Fed.

There are limits to what the data tells us. It doesn't include banks that filed the proper paperwork, and even posted collateral, but for whatever reason did not try out the discount window during that time frame.

And it doesn't capture any banks that have newly set up access or tested since 2021, and particularly since SVB's collapse in March focused fresh attention on the

need for liquidity. The Fed publishes discount window transactions two years after the fact.

Even so, says Richmond Fed economist Huberto Ennis, based on the data "it seems safe to assume a meaningful proportion of banks still did not have ready access to the discount window, at least until recently."

Reuters reached out to the 10 biggest banks with no public record of borrowing from the discount window. Most of them indicate in public filings that they have pledged collateral at the Fed. Several told Reuters they had tested their access, without specifying a date. One said its test took place prior to 2010.

The National Credit Union Association requires members with \$250 million or more in assets to have discount window or other emergency liquidity access. Only 1,100 of its 4,700 members meet that threshold. But some 1,366 were signed up to use the discount window as of December, the NCUA said.

Banks are not subject to any such requirement, and the Fed declined to provide a count of those with access. But Fed Governor Michelle Bowman said in May that "a number" of banks had not registered.

VeraBank, a \$4.5 billion bank in Henderson, Texas, has done testing for years: each July it borrows \$100,000 from the Fed, and repays it the next day, the data shows.

"I think you should always have the access -- you just never know," CEO Brad Tidwell says. "If you are not testing it with

some regularity, I don't know how you can assure yourself that it's going to be there if you need it."

Among the biggest banks -- there are 33 currently with more than \$100 billion in assets -- regular testing is not universal. Just over half tapped the discount window on a quarterly or yearly basis during the 11 years of data examined, generally in amounts of \$1 million or less that suggests they were tests. Others ran less-frequent tests, and seven borrowed just once or not at all.

SVB went to the window just one time, borrowing \$200 million for a day in August 2018.

## PRUDENT PLANNING

For much of its history, the Fed actively discouraged banks from discount-window borrowing, requiring them for example to exhaust other funding sources first, or, more recently, by charging above-market interest rates.

When the COVID-19 pandemic hit, the Fed reversed course. It slashed that so-called penalty rate, and joined with other bank regulators to encourage banks to borrow as part of broader efforts to stave off market and credit dislocation. The biggest banks also stepped up to borrow so as to reduce discount window stigma.

After the SVB collapse this past March set off a new round of market turmoil, the Fed expanded its emergency lending further, opening a new one-year lending facility that unlike the long-established window does not impose a "discount" on pledged collateral but instead lends at the security's full face-value.

And now it and other regulators are officially encouraging banks to sign up and test at the window, part of what Chicago Fed President Austan Goolsbee told Reuters is a "big push to try to get operational readiness, of everyone that we can."

A recent "Ask the Fed" webinar for bank executives included detailed guidance on onboarding for its emergency-lending facilities, and offered assurances that establishing and testing access would be seen by supervisors as prudent planning rather than as a red flag signaling liquidity concerns.

Richmond Fed's Ennis says not all small banks actually need access. They may keep large stashes of cash on hand, or have a correspondent relationship with a bigger bank. Most banks are members of their local Federal Home Loan Bank, sometimes called the nation's lender of second-last resort, where they can call on liquidity in a pinch.

But his research suggests that banks with riskier, less-liquid books may find themselves in need of the discount window in times of financial market stress.

Minneapolis Fed President Neel Kashkari said small banks should think of the discount window as a backup.

"We point out, hey, there might come a time when the Home Loan Bank isn't able to meet your needs," he told Reuters in May. "It's an ongoing discussion. I mean, banks historically always think they're fine, until they are not."



## WORLD

## UN: Niger crisis could worsen security situation in West Africa

## UNITED NATIONS

THE security situation in wider West Africa could worsen if the crisis in Niger is not resolved, the top UN envoy for the region said on Tuesday.

"The unfolding crisis, if not addressed, will exacerbate the deteriorating security situation in the region," Leonardo Santos Simão, the UN secretary-general's special representative for West Africa and the Sahel, told reporters at the UN headquarters in New York via video teleconference from Accra, Ghana.

It will also negatively impact the development and lives of the population

in a country where 4.3 million people need humanitarian assistance, added the envoy, who also heads the UN Office for West Africa and the Sahel.

Simão underscored support for efforts by the Economic Community of West African States to restore democratic order in Niger, and warned that if measures are not taken, or the situation is not reversed, "it is very likely the spread of terrorism in the region can increase."

Meanwhile, UN Secretary-General Antonio Guterres on Tuesday expressed deep concern over reports of the arrest of several members of Niger's government.



Children rest in a hut on the side of the road crowded with some 140 people in Niamey, Niger, on July 31, 2023. In the capital of Niger, many people live in makeshift shelters tied together with slats of wood, sheets, and plastic tarps. (PHOTO / AP)

Guterres urgently called for the strict adherence to Niger's international human rights obligations and the prompt restoration of constitutional order, his deputy spokesman Farhan Haq told reporters.

Haq also said that the United Nations and humanitarian partners are committed to stay-

ing and continuing to provide vital aid to the most vulnerable segments of the population in Niger.

"To ensure the continuation of this crucial assistance, it is imperative that all parties foster a conducive operating environment," he said.

Agencies

## Trump indicted by grand jury over efforts to overturn 2020 elections

## WASHINGTON

FORMER President Donald Trump has been indicted on Wednesday (local time) for his efforts to overturn the 2020 US Presidential polls which resulted in the Jan. 6, 2021, attack on the Capitol, The Hill reported.



The indictment comes after Trump (pictured) stated that he received a target letter alerting him that he is the focus of the investigation, a move that is frequently followed by the filing of charges. Trump has been indicted as part of special counsel Jack Smith's investigation into the matter.

A federal grand jury in Washington, D.C., has notably been hearing evidence in the case when it typically meets Tuesdays and Thursdays, reported The Hill.

According to the docket of the United States District Court for the District of Columbia, Trump's case has been assigned to US District Judge Tanya Chutkan.

According to the court's website, she was appointed in 2014.

As part of special counsel Jack Smith's investigation, Trump was charged with: Conspiracy to defraud the United States; conspiracy to obstruct an official proceeding; obstruction of and attempt to obstruct an official proceeding; and conspiracy against rights, a CNN report said.

Trump will make his first court appearance in the case on Thursday in federal court in Washington, D.C., as per the Court filings.

Prior to the announcement of his indictment, Donald Trump had said that he is expected to be indicted "any time" today as part of special counsel Jack Smith's probe of his behaviour following the 2020 election.

"I hear that Deranged Jack Smith, in order to interfere with the Presidential Election of 2024, will be putting out yet another Fake Indictment of your favorite President, me, at 5:00 P.M.," Trump wrote on media platform Truth Social, according to The Hill.

"Why didn't they do this 2.5 years ago? Why did they wait so long? Because they wanted to put it right in the middle of my campaign. Prosecutorial Misconduct!" Trump added.

ANI

## Russian MP lambasts EU's position on drone attacks on Moscow as hypocritical

## MOSCOW

THE European Union cannot tell Russia how to respond to the drone attacks on Moscow, and its position is janus-faced, a Russian lawmaker and party leader told TASS on Tuesday.

This comment was in response to EU foreign affairs spokesperson Nabila Massrali's statement that Russia should not use the drone attacks on Moscow as a pretext to escalate combat operations in Ukraine.

"The European Union's position is hypocritical. Brussels supports the terrorist regime in Kiev and thus is a sponsor of state terrorism. So, the European Union is not in a position to tell us what to do and how.

Russia has the right to use all available means to defend its security," said Leonid Slutsky, leader of the Liberal Democratic Party of Russia (LDPR) and head of the international committee of the Russian State Duma, or lower parliament house.

According to Slutsky, Ukraine's increased "terrorist activity" stems from the failure of its counteroffensive and is geared "towards sowing panic among Russians." He pledged that Russia has enhanced security measures. "And I am sure retaliation measures will follow, including against centers of decision-making in Ukraine," he stressed.

The Russian defense ministry said earlier on Tuesday that on the night of August 1 two drones were shot down near Moscow. One more drone was jammed by electronic warfare means and crashed inside a non-residential high-rise office compound in Moscow City. No one was hurt.

A high-ranking source in Russia's air defense forces told TASS that the drones that tried to attack facilities in Moscow and the Moscow Region came from Ukraine. TASS has no official confirmation of this information.

**The European Union's position is hypocritical. Brussels supports the terrorist regime in Kiev and thus is a sponsor of state terrorism**



or the Camino de Santiago in Europe, the outbound trips of Chinese young tourists are becoming more and more interest-driven.

Apart from exit & entry policies, visa policies, transport and hotel information, emerging entertainment programs and internet-famous attractions are also receiving high attention from young outbound tourists from China.

An employee with Mafengwo told People's Daily that timely, precise and complete information is just the basics of a good travel plan for many young people, what really attracts them is fresh, niche and individualized experience.

People's Daily

## Think20 begins in Mysuru with digital public infrastructure and environmental protection among eight focus areas

## MYSURU

THE Think20 (T20) Summit began in Mysuru on Monday with a plenary panel that brought together members of the T20 India Core Group and its International Advisory Board. The T20 is an official engagement group of the G20 and serves as an "ideas bank" for the G20 by bringing together think tanks and high-level experts to deliberate on relevant policy issues.

Observer Research Foundation (ORF) is serving as the T20 Secretariat during India's Presidency of the G20. Samir Saran, Chair, T20 India Secretariat and President, ORF opened the proceedings by drawing attention to the highlights of the T20's interventions over the last eight months of the Indian G20 Presidency.

The T20, Saran said, has produced over 300 policy briefs and other research products by 1,000 authors from over 700 institutions worldwide, 45 per cent of whom are women. As part of its outreach and stakeholder engagement, 64 convenings have been held across 16 Indian cities and six abroad. During the remaining four months of the Presidency, further high-

level events are likely to be held in New Delhi, New York, Dubai, Cape Town, and Rio de Janeiro.

Ambassador Sujana Chinnoy, Chair, Think20 Core Group of India's G20 Presidency and Director General, Manohar Parrikar Institute for Defence Studies and Analyses, underscored eight issues that have emerged as key focus areas of the T20's deliberations.

First, macroeconomic stability as a precondition for economic growth; Second, the recognition of the population-scale digital transformations brought about by "India's digital public infrastructure (DPI) and India Stack"; third, a focus on environmental protection and solutions for responsible consumption - particularly the LiFE (lifestyle for environment) movement; fourth, the importance of climate governance, with a central focus on "the energy security, sustainability and access of developing countries"; fifth, the critical need for women-led development and gender equality; sixth, a need to reimagine the global financial architecture and fiscal landscape; seventh, a consensus that multilateral reform is imperative; and eighth, a recognition that



A motorist rides past a hoarding decorated with flowers to welcome G20 foreign ministers in New Delhi, India, on Tuesday. REUTERS

the G20 should engage with underrepresented regions, and seek to work towards the inclusion of the African Union as a member of the G20.

There have been marked continuities between the Indonesian and Indian Presidencies, pointed out Bambang Brodjonegoro, Professor, Faculty of Economics, University of Indonesia.

He observed that the similarity of the priorities identified by both countries' T20 Communiqués stemmed from the fact that both were emerging economies with broadly similar development concerns;

and that India had been closely involved with and supportive of the Indonesian Presidency.

Ahead of the inception of the Brazilian G20 Presidency of 2024, Luciano Serva, President, of the Institute of Applied Economic Research, Brazil felt that a common strand running through the present G20 troika was a focus on promoting inclusive growth and advancing efforts to meet the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). She also felt that pushing for multilateral reforms was likely to be a core element of the Brazilian G20 agenda, and noted that closer

dialogue was required between the G20 and the T20.

Elizabeth Sidiropoulos, Chief Executive, South African Institute of International Affairs, South Africa lauded the Indian and Indonesian Presidencies for foregrounding the development country agenda. She went on to observe that a more just and fair global debt and taxation system needed to be evolved; and that every effort would have to be made to recover the gains made before the pandemic, which had since been lost, causing the development and growth status of most nations to regress.

The panellists agreed

that there was a stronger need than ever before for countries to work collaboratively; to further mainstream think tanks into policy planning processes; to build mechanisms to enable stronger convergences between the G20 and the T20; and to devise creative forms of engagement between think tanks, governments and intergovernmental organizations.

The plenary panel was followed by the launch of the T20 Communiqué, a key outcome document that synthesizes insights from the T20 Taskforce Statements, policy briefs, and the Ideas Box - a novel platform introduced by Think20 India to engage citizens and allow them to share their perspectives.

The inaugural evening of the T20 Summit concluded with a special address by Amitabh Kant, India's G20 Sherpa. The Sherpa complimented the T20 for its contribution as a global ideas bank.

He reiterated Prime Minister Modi's message that the Indian Presidency had sought to be ambitious, action-oriented, and decisive, coming as it did at a time of global slowdowns, debt crises, and geopolitical turbulence.

ANI

## US condemns suicide attack in Pakistan in 'strongest terms'

## WASHINGTON

THE United States condemn in the strongest terms the attack in northwestern Pakistan on Sunday during a political rally, States Department official spokesperson Matthew Miller said on Tuesday (local time).

He added that the Pakistani people have suffered greatly at the hands of terrorists through this deadly attack that killed 54 people and left nearly 200 wounded. "We condemn in the strongest terms the attack in northwestern Pakistan on Sunday during

a political rally. We are deeply saddened by the loss of life and injuries sustained from the explosion and share our heartfelt condolences with those affected by the attack. The Pakistani people have suffered greatly at the hands of terrorists," Miller said while addressing a regular States Department press briefing on Tuesday.

The Islamic State group on Monday claimed responsibility for the Bajaur suicide blast in Pakistan. The bombing targeted an election rally in Pakistan's border district of

Bajaur on Sunday in which 54 people lost lives, including 23 children.

"A suicide attacker from the Islamic State [ISIL] ... detonated his explosive jacket in the middle of a crowd" in the town of Khar, the armed group's news arm Amaq said in a statement, according to Al Jazeera.

A bomber detonated an explosives-packed vest near the platform as some 400 members of the Jamiat Ulema-e-Islam (JUI-F) party, a significant government coalition partner led by hardline politician Fazlur Rehman, await-

ed the start of the speeches.

The gathering was hosted near a market beneath a huge tent, but Rehman chose not to go. Rehman has previously escaped at least two explosions that occurred at political rallies in 2011 and 2014, Al Jazeera reported.

Police took testimony from some of the injured on Monday at a hospital in Khar, the biggest town in Bajaur. The provincial minister of information, Feroz Jamal, stated that police were "investigating this attack in all aspects."

ANI

THE restart of outbound tourism just ignited the passion of Chinese tourists. Nowadays, Chinese travelers are seen in almost every popular tourist destination across the world. Among them, young people make up the majority. What are their features? What are the most popular attractions with them and what do they usually do during their outbound trips?

Backpackers who used to trav-

## Young travelers make up majority of Chinese outbound tourists

el alone now favor traveling in groups, and 77.7 percent of outbound tourists prefer trips with families, friends and partners, the report said.

About 57.4 percent of Chinese young outbound tourists stayed over a week at their destinations, and 24.6 percent extended the period to 15 days or above. Nearly half of this group's per capita consumption exceeded 10,000 yuan (\$1,444), who were potential consumers of higher-quality tourism products and experiences.

Countries in Southeast Asia remained the first stop of most young outbound travelers from

China, with Thailand being one of the hottest destinations.

The operation of the China-Laos Railway further enriched the choices of young travelers in terms of transport. The hashtag "a railway trip to Laos" became a hot topic on Mafengwo, which made Laos' Luang Prabang, a station along the China-Laos Railway, one of the overseas destinations that saw the highest growth in search volume.

Young Chinese are crazy about seaside destinations, and islands no doubt became top destinations for many young travelers from China. Phuket, Pattaya, Sin-

gapore, Maldives and other destinations were extremely popular among them.

Li Mengran, media public relation manager of travel agency company UTour, told People's Daily that young tourists today prefer joining tour groups after arriving at their destinations. They usually make travel plans in advance and then purchase tour services at destinations, Li said.

According to online travel platform Fliggy, self-guided trips were chosen by over half of Chinese outbound tourists. The number of orders for one-day

tour packages, which are more flexible, surged 15-fold year on year. One-day trips to Phuket and Similan Islands of Thailand as well as Malaysia's Kota Kinabalu and Kapalai were hot among Chinese tourists.

An executive from Tuniu, a Chinese online travel agency, told People's Daily that the agency has launched glacier hike, helicopter tour, and stargazing activities in the Mount Cook National Park of New Zealand, to cater to young tourists who love thrilling experiences.

According to the executive, hotels of these tour packages

are mostly located in the national park so that young tourists would get better experiences.

The agency also launched novel tour services for young tourists going to the United Arab Emirates, such as desert offroad adventures, visits to the Museum of the Future in Dubai and the Ferrari World Abu Dhabi.

Quality, experience and entertainment have become the major factors that affect young tourists' choices, and this is also true when it comes to outbound tourism. A long-term stay in Thailand's Chiang Mai, motorboat rides around Phuket Island



# Expanded war games of Aussie, US militaries draw concerns

SYDNEY

TOMORROW the curtain will come down on one of the biggest military exercises held in the southern hemisphere - Talisman Sabre.

Some 30,000 troops including observers from 13 countries took part in the "war games" which began on July 22. It served as a curtain raiser to the AUSMin (Australia-United States Ministers) talks between defense ministers Richard Marles of Australia and Lloyd Austin of the US, Australia's foreign minister Penny Wong, and US Secretary of State Anthony Blinken.

Very little has been made public from the AUSMin talks apart from a US commitment to defend military bases in northern Australia where the US plans to rotate long-range, nuclear-capable B-52 bombers and the proposal to jointly manufacture medium-range missiles in Australia.

But the talks underscore just how committed the Australian Labor government has become to the US military build-up in the region, which some analysts have warned against.

Talisman Sabre is part of

a bigger story, said La Trobe University, Melbourne, emeritus professor Joseph Camilleri OAM and fellow of the Academy of the Social Sciences in Australia.

"Joining Australia and the United States are South Korea, Japan, New Zealand, Canada, the UK, France and Germany. As US allies, they are all contributing, with varying degrees of enthusiasm to a multi-layered US-led 'Indo-Pacific strategy' whose clear aim is to contain China and preserve US regional and global dominance," he told China Daily.

"Talisman Sabre has a sobering message for the Asia-Pacific community. We are on a slippery slope which can only lead to the increasingly dangerous militarisation of the region.

"We need to steer the ship in a different direction. The Asia-Pacific community, its governments, and its peoples must call for both the Pacific and Indian Oceans to be declared Zones of Peace, and for existing nuclear weapons-free zones to be strengthened and new ones to be established.

"Importantly, it is time for increasingly provocative displays of firepower to be replaced by innovative and sustained confidence-



(From left) Australian Defence Minister Richard Marles, Australian Foreign Minister Penny Wong, US Secretary of State Antony Blinken and US Secretary of Defense Lloyd Austin attend a Press Conference at Queensland Government House in Brisbane on July 29, 2023. AFP

building, conflict resolution, peacekeeping, and mediation efforts," he said.

Alison Broinowski, a former diplomat and president of Australians for War Powers Reform, described the exercises as "a display of military capacity, increasingly aimed at China. It is also a showcase for the arms industries, mainly American."

"The US always wants a coalition for its wars, and its planned next one is against China. Australia appears to

be putting our 'sovereign' territory in the line of fire if the US goes to war against China, as a proxy target. We could face the prospect of being Asia's Ukraine."

Broinowski said China has not sent troops to another country since its brief battle with Vietnam in 1978.

"Australia and the US have invaded several, most illegally," she added.

"If Australian governments treat China as an enemy, it will respond as one. We will

outlast the US in this region, and we have to live with it, for Australia's survival. Australia has one last chance to seek peaceful cohabitation with our Asian region. Allowing the US to choose our enemies for us will not achieve that."

The joint exercises have been going on for 18 years, mainly with Australian and US troops, but this year they have involved many countries and heralded a flurry of diplomatic activity in the

Pacific. Japan's Self-Defense Forces drilled live firing of missiles from a foreign soil during the joint exercises this time, although the Japanese Ministry of Defense states in its website, that "as a general rule, the Constitution does not permit armed troops to be dispatched to the land, sea, or airspace of other countries with the aim of using force".

US Defense Secretary Austin was also in Papua New Guinea on July 27 where he reiterated Washington's claim that the US is not seeking to build a permanent base.

US Secretary of State Blinken held bilateral talks in Tonga on July 26, the first time a US Secretary of State had visited the tiny Pacific kingdom.

On July 27, Blinken was in New Zealand for talks with his Kiwi counterpart Nanaia Mahuta, where the door was opened for possible New Zealand involvement in the AUKUS (Australia-United Kingdom-United States) nuclear military alliance.

It was made clear that New Zealand, due to its anti-nuclear stance, would not be involved in the nuclear submarine program, which Australia has signed up for but is now looking increasingly uncertain.

The AUKUS agreement has seen opposition in the US Congress over the sale of nuclear submarine technology to Australia, as well as in Australia.

Broinowski, the former diplomat, said Australian Prime Minister Anthony Albanese has "failed to listen to growing opposition to AUKUS in Australia" and elsewhere.

"It has failed to endorse reform of the way Australia goes to war. Australians are concerned that AUKUS will involve nuclear-capable submarines, aircraft, and torpedoes being based in Australia, with no control by the Australian government over what they may do," she said.

Agencies

Ukraine's military loses over 20,800 troops, 2,200 armaments over past month, says Shoigu

MOSCOW

THE Ukrainian military lost over 20,800 troops and more than 2,200 items of military hardware, including 10 Leopard tanks over the past month, Russian Defense Minister Sergey Shoigu (pictured) told a conference call with military commanders on Monday.

"Over the past month, the enemy's losses amounted to over 20,800 troops, to be exact, 20,824 personnel, and 2,227 items of various armament, including 10 Leopard tanks, 11 American Bradley infantry fighting vehicles, 40 US-made M777 artillery systems and 50 self-propelled artillery guns from Great Britain, the United States, Germany, France and Poland," the defense chief said.

The defense minister thanked the entire Russian military personnel participating in the special military operation in Ukraine for their service, courage and heroism.

"Earlier, we spoke about some instances of feats, whereas today we have tens and hundreds of worthy servicemen, soldiers, officers and sergeants who do not only perform their duty with honor but also do it highly professionally.

The fighters display truly highest examples of courage, heroism and, let me repeat it, professionalism," Shoigu pointed out.

As the Russian Defense Ministry reported, the Ukrainian army has been making unsuccessful offensive attempts since June 4.

Russian Defense Minister Shoigu reported on July 11 that the Ukrainian army's losses had exceeded 26,000 since Kiev launched its counter-offensive. Russian President Vladimir Putin stressed that Ukrainian troops had failed to achieve any success in any of the frontline areas. Agencies



## 4 Nigerians, rescued in Brazil, survived 14 days on ship rudder

SÃO PAULO

ON their tenth day at sea, the four Nigerian stowaways crossing the Atlantic in a tiny space above the rudder of a cargo ship ran out of food and drink.

They survived another four days, according to their account, by drinking the sea water crashing just meters below them, before being rescued by Brazilian federal police in the southeastern port of Vitória.

Their remarkable, death-defying journey across some

5,600 kilometers (3,500 miles) of ocean underlines the risks some migrants are prepared to take for a shot at a better life.

"It was a terrible experience for me," said 38-year-old Thankgod Opemipo Matthew Yeye, one of the four Nigerians, in an interview at a Sao Paulo church shelter. "On board it is not easy. I was shaking, so scared. But I'm here."

Their relief at being rescued soon gave way to surprise.

The four men said they

had hoped to reach Europe and were shocked to learn they had in fact landed on the other side of the Atlantic, in Brazil. Two of the men have since been returned to Nigeria upon their request, while Yeye and Roman Ebimene Friday, a 35-year-old from Bayelsa state, have applied for asylum in Brazil.

"I pray the government of Brazil will have pity on me," said Friday, who had already attempted to flee Nigeria by ship once before but was arrested by authorities there.

Both men said economic

hardship, political instability and crime had left them with little option but to abandon their native Nigeria. Africa's most populous country has longstanding issues of violence and poverty, and kidnappings are endemic.

Yeye, a pentecostal minister from Lagos state, said his peanut and palm oil farm was destroyed by floods this year, leaving him and his family homeless. He hopes they can now join him in Brazil.

Friday said his journey to Brazil began on June 27, when a fisherman friend rowed him up to the stern of the Liberian-flagged Ken Wave, docked in Lagos, and left him by the rudder. To his surprise, he found three men

already there, waiting for the ship to depart. Friday said he was terrified. He had never met his new shipmates and feared they could toss him into the sea at any moment.

Once the ship was moving, Friday said the four men made every effort not to be discovered by the ship's crew, who they also worried might offer them a watery grave.

"Maybe if they catch you they will throw you in the water," he said. "So we taught ourselves never to make a noise."

Spending two weeks within spitting distance of the Atlantic Ocean was perilous. To prevent themselves from falling into the water, Friday said the

men rigged up a net around the rudder and tied themselves to it with a rope. When he looked down, he said he could see "big fish like whales and sharks." Due to the cramped conditions and the noise of the engine, sleep was rare and risky. "I was very happy when we got rescued," he said.

Father Paolo Parise, a priest at the Sao Paulo shelter, said he had come across other cases of stowaways, but never one so dangerous. Their journey paid testament to lengths people will go in search of a new start, he said. "People do unimaginable and deeply dangerous things."

## Industrial internet creates new prospects for China's manufacturing industry

IN factory workshops, robots are precisely producing parts; on roads, autopilot vehicles are running to accumulate data under different traffic scenarios; on industrial cloud platforms, enterprises trade with each other idle production capacity and equipment.

In today's China, the industrial internet is promoting in-depth integration between the digital economy and the real economy, creating new prospects for industrial production.

In a pile driver factory of Chinese heavy equipment manufacturer Sany Group in Changping district, Beijing, there stood several machines that were dozens of meters high.

"These are rotary drilling rigs we manufactured. Each of them weighs nearly 100 tons and can drill to a depth of over 100 meters," said Yin Yanhu, head of the factory's production technique department.

These giant devices were manufactured in a huge workshop, where various robots controlled by a few workers were busy working in the production line, neatly arranged. Different from traditional laborers, these workers were more like "taking care" of the robots, ensuring that those smart machines functioned properly.

Yin told People's Daily that machines were mostly manufactured by human labor in the past, and it took about a month to make a rotary drilling rig. At that time, there used to be over 1,000 workers



A worker inspects an automated workshop in Yancheng, east China's Jiangsu province. (Photo by Chai Junwei/People's Daily Online)

in the factory, and the annual output was more than 3 billion yuan (\$444 million).

"In 2019, the factory started the digital transformation. Now it takes only around a week to manufacture such a rotary drilling rig, and the annual output has jumped to more than 7 billion yuan," Yin said, adding that hundreds of workers have become versatile and turned into engineers that can perform physical tasks and program.

The key to the factory's digital upgrading lies in a system developed based on the industrial internet platform Rootcloud. Yin called it the central controlling system of the factory, a "brain" for manufacturing.

To manufacture a rotary drilling rig, for example, the system can rapidly assign required tasks to each flexible production line, work island, equipment and worker. The whole workflow is digitally driven, from order generation to delivery, Yin said.

In the factory, machine parts are welded, moved and assembled by ro-

bots. Rootcloud works nonstop to analyze the industrial data collected from over 36,000 sampling sites, so as to generate the optimal parameters for each procedure and machine model, and optimize the workflow to the maximum extent.

The factory was recognized by the World Economic Forum as a "lighthouse factory" in 2021.

According to statistics recently released at the 2023 Industrial Internet Conference, the scale of China's industrial internet industry has exceeded 1.2 trillion yuan. Besides, 240 influential industrial internet platforms have been listed, including Rootcloud, serving more than 260,000 enterprises. Rootcloud is one of them.

Recently, Rootcloud unveiled three versions of its industrial internet operating system tailored for smart factories, digital enterprises and intelligent chains. As the core of the platform, the operating system, after seven years of application verification, is able to virtualize industrial equipment in an online space and provide a sound environment where enterprises develop and run their applications.

At present, the operating system is providing industrial internet services for nearly 1,000 relevant enterprises. Co-founder and CEO He Dongdong of Rootcloud said that data from traditional industrial information systems are distributed in a layered structure, and the transmission of data is completed in a bottom-up man-

ner layer by layer.

However, he said, in digital factories built by the industrial internet operating system, data can be exchanged more frequently and efficiently, and the cost of developing industrial applications is lower.

On the industrial internet platform Laohuyun, or Tiger Cloud, authorized enterprises can not only check other enterprises' data, but also make purchases, sell products, launch training sessions, and carry out maintenance activities. Just like a "social network" for industrial enterprises, the platform boasts annual transactions of tens of billions of yuan.

XCMG Hanyun, an industrial internet platform launched by Chinese heavy machinery manufacturing company XCMG, has been connected to more than 400,000 sets of equipment. It obtains data through instruments developed based on China's BeiDou Navigation Satellite System. The platform currently provides services for tens of thousands of enterprises in some 80 industries.

Yu Xiaohui, head of the China Academy of Information and Communications Technology, told People's Daily that China's industrial internet is entering a new phase featuring large-scale development. Industrial internet will become an important approach and infrastructure leading the manufacturing industry toward more digitalized and higher-end development that is smarter and greener, Yu said.

People's Daily

## 'Hope to see President restored to leadership of country'

WASHINGTON

SPEAKING on the current situation in coup-hit Niger and the ouster of the President of the West African nation, Mohamed Bazoum, the United States on Tuesday (local time) said that he is a democratically elected leader and all of the work at present is to see him "restored".

During a regular State Department press briefing, spokesperson Matthew Miller said, "I don't want to go into hypotheticals because that is an outcome that we hope is not fulfilled. We hope to see the President restored to the leadership of the country. He's the democratically elected President, and all of our work right now is to see him restored."

He also underlined how the US aid to Niger is also at risk due to the military coup in the country and added by saying, "As Secretary Blinken has made clear, however, there are hundreds of millions of dollars in aid from the United States that are at stake."

I don't want to talk about what specifically we might do if President Bazoum is not restored to authority, but certainly our aid, our assistance is at stake. But again, I think it's premature to speculate what that might look like at this point."

Responding to a question on recent evacuations carried out by France and other European nations from Niger, Miller said that the US is monitoring the efforts.

"Our Embassy is open today, operating on a normal schedule. We're monitoring the efforts by France and other Europeans to evacuate their citizens. We urge Nigerien authorities to facilitate an orderly, safe evacuation."

At this time, we do not have indications of threats to US citizens or facilities, but we are continually re-evaluating our posture to ensure the safety of our citizens," he said.

"We're continuing to have conversations with other leaders in Niger. We've

spoken with the former President and continue to press for the security leaders who are attempting to seize power, to press for them to restore President Basoum to his rightful place as the democratically elected leader of the country. We will pursue that for as long as that possibility remains open," the State Department spokesperson added.

On being asked by one of the reporters during the presser if Russia is involved in any way in the coup in Niger, Miller said, "We have not seen any evidence that Russia was behind this coup, but certainly it would not be out of character for Russia or for the Wagner group to try to take advantage of instability in this country or any other in Africa."

Recently over the weekend, pictures from Niger showed protesters waving Russian flags, chanting Putin's name.

French Foreign Ministry on Tuesday announced that it is preparing to evacuate its citizens and people of European nations who wish to leave Niger, days after President Mohamed Bazoum was overthrown by members of his presidential guard.

In a statement released on its website, French Foreign Ministry said, "Given the situation in Niamey, the violence that took place against our embassy the day before yesterday and the closure of airspace which leaves our compatriots without the possibility of leaving the country by their own means, France is preparing the evacuation of its nationals and of European nationals wishing to leave the country."

French Foreign Ministry's statement comes after the supporters of the coup in Niger on Sunday burned French flags and attacked the French embassy in Niger's capital, Niamey, Al Jazeera reported.

At least four European countries announced that plans to evacuate their citizens are underway in Niger.

ANI





Veteran Tanzanian cricketer Osman Bairu (R) imparts batting skills to Nadya Amir of Jangwani Primary School at a training that took place in Dar es Salaam recently. PHOTO: GUARDIAN CORRESPONDENT

## Patel B cricketers edge Lions C in 2023 DC T20 Cup tournament

By Guardian Reporter

PATEL B cricketers have continued pushing for an impressive run in the 2023 Dar es Salaam Cricket (DC) T20 Cup tournament, having cruised to a hard-fought one-wicket victory over Lions C at Leaders Club venue in Dar es Salaam last weekend.

Lions C cricketers, led by promising all-rounder John David, had the opportunity to take the crease first in the thrilling encounter, amassing 188/7 in the allotted 20 overs.

The top order, to some extent, played a pivotal role in the squad's ability to wind up its innings with a respectable total.

Openers, David and Mohamad Shabib were impressive with the bat given the former ended with 58 runs, consisting of eight fours, and his fellow opener notched 29 runs whilst cracking three boundaries and two sixes.

Rehaan Atif had a two-digit score much as the top-order cricketer did not last long, returning with 12 runs (two fours) whilst Lions C notched 80 runs after 8.1 overs.

Skipper Chetan Borkhataria (38 runs not out) did all he could to steady the ship following two quick dismissals of top-order cricketers, Salman Yasser and Rehaan Rafiq, with the duo ending with less convincing digits.

The remainder of the batting unit could not improve the score given they made their way back after brief spells at the crease.

Mehul Jayantbhai had an impressive showing when Patel B fielded- having notched three wickets in four overs- and Mitul Jethalal piled misery on the opponents' batting unit after posting two wickets in four overs.

In response, Patel B cricketers confidently mounted a solid chase-reaching the target with three balls remaining after amassing 189/9 in 19.3 overs.

They were hardly unperturbed although they endured a wobble in the early stages of their turn with the bat-which was brought about by early dismissals of Jignesh Dondia and Dilipkumar Dinubhai Patel that had opened the innings.

Captain Ajaykumar Patel, coming in at number three, and Kewal Patadia, ensured stability with solid knocks and significantly pushed their side's total.

Ajaykumar made his way back with 26 runs- which included five fours- and Patadia chipped in with his 22 runs.

Mauleshkumar Patel saw to it the batting team was within reach of a successful chase, ending two runs short of a half-century.

It was the most impressive innings so far, with Mauleshkumar blasting nine fours in his stint. Patel B cricketers showcased intention to repel their opponents' challenge as low-order batsmen were resolute.

Mitul Jethalal made his way back with 28 runs, Satya Siridi Sekharmantri posted 17 runs, and

Jigar Ashokbhai Shah recorded 14 runs not out to ultimately make certain of the successful chase.

Shah had a last-wicket partnership with Mehul Jayantbhai that posted three runs not out to ensure Patel B came out victorious, despite Lions C's bowling unit having upped the tempo.

Amaan Sameer had a stellar bowling showing- having ended with four wickets and giving away 28 runs in four overs- his efforts though could not help Lions C turn around its fortunes.

David ultimately was adjudged the Player of the Match although Lions C conceded the loss, as the cricketer's all-round exploits had him taking two wickets.

This season's DC T20 Cup showdown is made up of 13 outfits that are battling it out in a round-robin format. They are Specialized K&P B, Malabar Cricket Club (MCC), Patel C, Dar Indian Titans, Strikers B, and Patel B.

TCA Women Combine, Zanzibar Cricket Club, DJ Fighters, Dar Tigers, Lions C, Caravans D, and TCA Women complete the league's list.

High-flying Specialized K&P B is topping the tournament- boasting of coming out victorious in all ties the side has taken part in and grabbing a 1.8320 net run rate.

The tournament leaders are four points adrift of MCC which has registered victory in six ties and conceded loss in two to notch a 1.8461 net run rate.

Third-placed Patel C has garnered a win in five ties and lost three to post a -0.2451 net run rate, whereas fourth-placed Dar Indian Titans have won four matches, and suffered loss in three ties to record a 1.0551 net run rate.

Strikers B, holding fifth place, has come out victorious in four ties, and conceded a loss in two to collect a 0.5143 net run rate.

Sixth-placed Patel B has emerged victorious in four matches and succumbed to four defeats to notch a 0.1700 net run rate.

TCA Women Combine, a women's side now sitting seventh, has grabbed victory in three outings and conceded a loss in two to collect a 0.7912 net run rate.

Even though the eighth-placed Zanzibar Cricket Club- the only squad from the Isles competing in the Mainland Tanzania showdown- ties TCA Women Combine on matches won and lost, the former is placed lower because of its inferior net run rate of 0.3659.

DJ Fighters, now sitting ninth, cruised to victory in three ties and lost five clashes to amass a -0.8125 net run rate.

Dar Tigers are still seeking to make their presence felt, coming 10th with a victory in three ties and a loss in five games, which have witnessed them notching a -0.5795 net run rate.

Lions C cricketers are holding 11th place with victory in games and loss in duels, leaving them with a -1.1837 net run rate.

## Creating a fan base by defiance: Christina Mwagala and fortunes of Kinondoni Municipal Council FC

By Correspondent John Kimbute

THOSE who habitually tune in for mid-morning discussions on the ins and outs of players and clubs in the soccer galaxy here and abroad are likely to be familiar with the ringing voice of Christina Mwagala.

She is a youthful sports lady whose work is to bring attention to what is the heroic work and indomitable achievements of Kinondoni Municipal Council FC.

It borders on 'hearing is believing' but there are indications that it is working, with a scatter of admirers of her antics.

For onlookers, the sports personality the lady would rapidly compare with is the local 'Muhammad Ali', with far less of either his punch or firepower but equally creative on what he is likely to do on stage, that is, Karim Said 'Mandonga Mtu Kazi'.

It is a syndrome of someone who habitually speaks from a position of weakness and verbally tries to maneuver out of that situation into becoming the master of the situation, indeed the one to beat rather than the one assured to be beaten.

It is an unenviable task if one is a little bit shy, and some people would say if she is not a film apprentice of sorts.

When one is just beginning to get used to her way of presenting her club, it would appear she is just bragging, and definitely for nothing given the humble means of the city side located in the northern neighbourhood of the city center.

But as time passes one finds that it is not bragging for its own sake but seeking a place



Kinondoni Municipal Council FC's information officer, Christina Mwagala. PHOTO: COURTESY OF KINONDONI MUNICIPAL COUNCIL FC

at the high table - that KMC FC as it is called - is the alter ego of the city giants but it is just younger.

Nonetheless, despite its youthfulness it has done very well - in Africa - and here some listeners start to feel irritated, making a mountain out of a molehill.

Early in the week her task was a bit difficult, to show that with the sort of signings that the club has conducted, it will not be put through the misery of playoffs this time around, which admittedly she did not rule out.

Even then, she still dared to rank KMC FC as a contender for the league title, not perhaps the second tier of the continental tournaments, or gunning after less coveted outings like seeking a 'seeding' at the Mapinduzi Cup where the city giants often rotate their players, etc.

She makes little effort at being realistic, always punching above her weight in numbers, and surprisingly she has a breadth of Kinondoni football fans hooked.

Despite the rather thin evidence that she is making a

point with some ardent fans -or indeed residents - of the municipality, the wider question is how far this tactic is usable in the long run.

How far removed it is from the proverbial Iraqi propaganda minister, Muhammad Saeed Al-Sahaf, who kept insisting that US invaders would never cross the Baghdad bridge (from either an airport or landing base), adding that they would be shelled on the spot, until the presidential palace fell and was himself on the run.

As the lady's work is more mundane and not the task of hiding the sun, it is less prone to a gigantesque miscarriage of publicity, flowery presentation, and gamely tones.

The clear intention is that KMC FC fans ought to see their club as being as good as any other, not confined to being a fan of this or that major city side, and then if he lives in Kinondoni District, also become a fan of that side.

This situation has often been said of club officials of regional premier league sides, where one

already has loyalty to either of the city archivals and then in his spare time he is an official of the regional side.

These loyalties aren't imaginary or taken for granted but quite often they are official and documented, either by public actions or holding a card.

The direct corollary to this psychological pushing is that the time of Simba SC and Young Africans SC (Yanga) loyalties are over, as other districts in the city, and indeed other regions elsewhere in the country can build teams that are just as good as the city archivals.

This is the dream but Kinondoni municipality has a huge if not insurmountable task telling their fans that Simba SC and Yanga are Ilala municipality clubs they do not need to worry about as they have their side.

Just simply that, although it appears that the lesson is hard to learn even for those who form big clubs.

This aspiration is at the same time an indication that soccer in Tanzania is growing in the right direction, where large cities have several teams at an upper level of the national soccer stage.

Depending on the sporting culture of a country, not even a large city, a national metropolis, has two or more premier league sides.

When the French federation built Stade de France for the World Cup finals in 1998, and even now, there is no top-level club wishing to use the stadium as home ground as Paris Saint-Germain is housed at Parc des Princes, the traditional key stadium there.

In London there are several rival sides in the Premier League, thus a series of derbies during the league season, which Tanzania is beginning to distantly emulate, now.



Kigamboni Veterans football squad's player, Sam Ismbuli (L), dribbles past Mbaga Veterans side's players as the two teams took on each other in a friendly clash at the Jakaya Mrisho Kikwete Youth Park ground in Dar es Salaam recently. PHOTO: CORRESPONDENT JUMANNE JUMA

## Over 1,000 athletes gear up for 2023 Clock Tower Marathon

By Correspondent Marc Nkwame, Arusha

SEVERAL international athletes are among the top personalities expected to colour the Clock Tower Marathon racing in Arusha on August 6.

The Clock Tower Marathon, organized by Arusha Runners Club, has so far attracted more than 1000 participants from all over Tanzania.

Speaking here, the Chairperson of Arusha Runners Club Isaack Shayo said the Clock Tower

Marathon will feature three types of races, including the main event of the half marathon.

Other races are the 10 kilometers run and 5km Fun Run- all targeting boosting tourism, promoting environment cleanliness, and conservation of natural resources.

The Clock Tower Marathon comes with a side event of planting trees within various locations of the northern tourist city.

"This is going to be the

third season of the Clock Tower Marathon," the organizer stated.

Runners will start at the Clock Tower Roundabout Junction at the heart of Arusha city, which is believed to be the center point between Cape Town and Cairo.

They will be racing towards the Railway Station and then back again towards the Arusha Gymkhana Club which, according to Isaack, will be the finishing point.

Arusha Gymkhana Club will also be the

venue hosting the prize-giving ceremony for the marathon winners.

Rogath Steven- the secretary-general of the Arusha Regional Athletics Association- said the Clock Tower Marathon is an important sporting event as far as grooming new talents is concerned.

"It is also serving as a springboard to bigger international athletics events that many Tanzanian sportsmen and women are currently participating in," Steven disclosed.

Arusha city Mayor Maximilian Iranghe said they plan to use the Clock Tower Marathon in driving the project of greening Arusha city through tree planting.

"We also intend to make use of the Clock Tower Marathon to highly promote the concept of tourism through sports as well as introducing special tours that allow foreigners to sample the city attractions," Mayor Iranghe explained.



## USA look far from World Cup favourites after limping into last 16

WELLINGTON

THE United States came into the Women's World Cup as favourites to win a third title in a row but they head into the last 16 looking anything but champions after limping through the group stage.

There were already doubts about Vlatko Andonovski's side after an unimpressive 3-0 win over Vietnam in their opening game was followed by a 1-1 draw with the Netherlands.

Andonovski and his players put a positive spin on those displays but there were very few redeeming features about their performance on Tuesday, when they held on for a 0-0 draw with World Cup debutants Portugal to scrape through to the knock-out phase.

Ana Capeta's shot that hit the post in injury time very nearly won the game for Portugal, which would have condemned the holders to an unthinkable group-stage exit.

But aside from surviving that scare, the underlying numbers are concerning for the Americans.

They had less of the possession at Eden Park and failed to score for the first time in 15 World Cup games, since a 0-0 draw with Sweden in the 2015 group phase.

They also had less of the possession in their draw with the Dutch, while their finishing has been poor since the tournament started.

"I don't think that was a good performance all together, starting from the back," admitted Andonovski.

"I don't think we were able to solve the problems that the opponents presented. There were moments where we did and it looked good, but those moments were very few and not enough to be able to walk out of here with several goals."

- Has the world caught up? -

The 46-year-old Andonovski is in the firing line.

It was always going to be a huge task for him to succeed Jill Ellis, who led the team to back-to-back World Cup triumphs in 2015 and 2019 before stepping down.

Andonovski brought a 23-player squad to New Zealand that featured 14 World Cup debutants, with injuries and retirement ruling out several veterans of recent successful campaigns.

There were high hopes placed in many of the novices, and the likes of Sophia Smith, Andi Sullivan and Trinity Rodman have impressed in moments.

But it is hard to escape the feeling that the rest of the world is catching up with the US fast.

The best women's club football these days is surely being played in Europe, where Barcelona have taken over from Lyon as the dominant force in the Champions League.

Yet captain Lindsey Horan, at Lyon, is the only member of the US team currently playing in Europe.

Could it be that the standard of play in the domestic NWSL is not at the level needed to prepare Andonovski's squad for the World Cup stage?

- Failing to fire -

Alex Morgan, who has played for the US in the last three World Cups, repeated an oft-used phrase in this tournament to explain her team's travails against Portugal.

AFP

## Dembele poised to leave Barca after PSG offer: Xavi

LAS VEGAS

BARCELONA boss Xavi Hernandez confirmed on Tuesday that Ousmane Dembele is poised to leave the Spanish giants after receiving an offer from Paris Saint-Germain.

Dembele, 26, was left on the bench on Tuesday as Barcelona wrapped up their North American pre-season tour with a 1-0 win over AC Milan in Las Vegas.

Afterward, Xavi told Spanish television that French international Dembele -- who scored in last weekend's victory over Real Madrid in Dallas -- had been left out after informing Barcelona he wanted to leave.

"I will be very clear," Xavi said. "He has asked us that he wants to leave, he has been very direct, that he has a proposal from Paris Saint-Germain, that they have called him from there and here we cannot do anything. It is his personal decision."

"To me, it hurts me because I think we have taken great care of him here so that he is happy and content and continues to make a difference for us. "But he says that he has this proposal and that he has decided to leave. That is why he has not played today."

Dembele, who joined Barcelona in 2017, has one year left on his contract with the La Liga giants.

Barcelona's victory on Tuesday came courtesy of a spectacular second-half strike from Ansu Fati. A lackluster game at Las Vegas's Allegiant Stadium was settled in the 55th minute after a counter-attack launched by Barcelona's teenage left back Alejandro Balde.

The 19-year-old Spanish international passed to Fati just inside the Milan area and the forward cut in from the left before curling a superb shot into the top corner.

AFP

# South Africa stun Italy to reach Women's World Cup last 16

WELLINGTON

SOUTH Africa won a Women's World Cup match for the first time with a stunning 3-2 victory over Italy to reach the last 16 in a thriller yesterday.

Captain Thembi Kgatana scored the winner in the 92nd minute to make history for South Africa and set up a meeting with the Netherlands -- sending Italy home.

Arianna Caruso scored twice for Italy and thought she had salvaged the draw they needed to go through with 16 minutes left, before Kgatana's stunning late intervention.

The Italians were in tears at the end as their opponents celebrated a famous win.

"Over the last two weeks, I've lost three family members. I could have gone home but I chose to stay with my girls," said Kgatana, who plays for Racing Louisville in the United States. "Because that's how much it means."

Coach Desiree Ellis, whose side were beaten 2-1 in the last minute in their opener against Sweden and then drew 2-2 with Argentina, added: "This is just amazing. I thought they were incredible. I said we were going to fight for every ball. We said we're not going to give up and they were absolutely magnificent."

"This victory is for everyone back home,



South Africa's forward Thembi Kgatana celebrates scoring her winner. Agencies

people that got up in the early hours of the morning to support us -- that is for them."

Sweden topped Group G with nine points, followed by South Africa with four and Italy with three. Argentina finished bottom on one.

- 'Warriors' -  
Caruso scored an 11th-minute penalty to put Italy on the way but they conceded an equaliser in farcical circumstances on 32 minutes.

Italy defender Benedetta Orsi received the ball and, without looking up to see where Francesca Durante was, pinged the ball back to her goalkeeper. But Durante was nowhere near where the backpass went and the ball ended up in the Italian net for a glaring own goal.

Italy hit the post in a goal-mouth scramble just moments later but there was little to choose between them at the

break in a wet Wellington.

The African champions knew they needed to score and they went on the attack in the second half.

South Africa duly took the lead on 67 minutes when skipper Kgatana played in Hildah Magaia and she swept the ball into the net.

South Africa very nearly got a third but Durante made a stunning save and minutes later came what looked like the defining moment of the match.

Italy drew level through Caruso for her second and, after an agonisingly long VAR review, the goal was given for 2-2.

But the Italian defence went missing again in the second minute of injury time at the end of the game and Kgatana slotted in to send South Africa through.

"They fought like warriors. They fought like the heroines

that we know that they are," said Ellis. "They've made history -- not just getting our first win but a place in the round of 16. And that is freaking amazing."

Meanwhile, Sweden set up a Women's World Cup last-16 showdown with the United States after a Rebecka Blomqvist header and an Elin Rubensson penalty gave them a 2-0 win over Argentina on Wednesday.

Blomqvist headed home in the 66th minute on a cold and wet night in Hamilton and substitute Rubensson added a last-minute spot kick as Sweden made it three wins out of three to finish top of Group G.

The result also confirmed Argentina's elimination, as South Africa's 3-2 win over Italy took the African champions through in second place and handed them a last-16 tie against the Netherlands.

# Sadio Mane's swift decline reaches new low

By Richard Jolly

SADIO Mane was maybe only inches from the Ballon d'Or; the inside of the Paris post, which his shot struck in the Champions League final; the fingertips of Thibaut Courtois, tipping a goal-bound effort on to the woodwork. Inches from immortality, perhaps, from being only the second African to become officially the best player in the world. And if it is not certain he would have topped the poll, the eventual runaway winner Karim Benzema was propelled to pre-eminence by Champions League glory in a year when the poll took place before the World Cup.

As it was, Mane was named the second-finest player on the planet in 2022. He finished the 2022-23 campaign as perhaps 16th in line at Bayern Munich: 15 others took the field in the win at Koln that clinched the Bundesliga, with the teenager Mathys Tel and veteran Eric Maxim Choupo-Moting summoned from the bench while Mane remained an unused substitute. He had been the fifth substitute used the previous week, sent on with four minutes to go in defeat to RB Leipzig.

The decline of Mane has been a swift, undignified and unexpected affair. A lucrative one, too, given that Bayern are paying him far more than Liverpool did and Al Nassr will in turn pay him rather more again, after he joined the mi-

gration to Saudi Arabia. Mane represents one of the Pro League's flagship signings, but is an arrival with a difference: like many others, he is in his thirties, but whereas Benzema is 35 and could argue his ambitions were realised with Real Madrid and Cristiano Ronaldo is now 38, albeit stung by the recognition the European elite did not want him when he left Manchester United, the Senegalese is only 31. So, if only for another couple of months, is Roberto Firmino, but Mane's old sidekick's race had appeared run. He, on the other hand, was seemingly at his peak.

This, it is safe to say, is not what Mane had planned when he teased his audience ahead of the Champions League final, saying he would reveal his future after it, and when, after emerging from Mohamed Salah's shadow to become the brightest star at Anfield, he declared he "would be the most happy player in the world" to win the Ballon d'Or.

Klopp can be loyal to players who have served him well and few were as influential as the catalytic Mane. There was no hint of gloating about a decision to leave that backfired, but nor was there a pretence Mane has prospered in Bavaria. "I don't know what went wrong," the Liverpool manager said on Tuesday. "When Sadio left us he left on a high in really good shape: world-class player, no



Sadio Mane will head to Saudi Arabia after a dismal year at Bayern Munich. Agencies

shadow of a doubt. To fulfil your full potential everything has to fall in place, you need a bit of luck and that wasn't the case."

Certainly there was misfortune as injury ruled Mane out of the World Cup. His old manager nevertheless could have pointed out that most of the great Klopp players are only great Klopp players: there are notable exceptions, such as Robert Lewandowski, Mats Hummels and

Ilkay Gundogan, but they are outnumbered by those who never scaled such heights elsewhere or under anyone else. That category now includes Mane.

"Basically, Sadio had an unsatisfactory season and fell short of expectations," Thomas Tuchel said last month. "The player knows my opinion and the opinion of the club."

Tuchel sounded more forgiving before Bayern face Liverpool in Singa-

pore, a reunion without Mane after he has left both clubs in successive summers. "I totally understand that he feels hurt," he said. "I also don't feel happy. We didn't bring it to the full potential which is my responsibility."

Mane suffered after Tuchel's appointment, starting just four times, scoring just once and being suspended by the club for punching Leroy Sane after the defeat to Manchester City. Regime change worked against him, but his tally of goals for the sacked Julian Nagelsmann - 11 - was also underwhelming.

As Klopp hinted, circumstances can play a part. Mane could flourish in a system without a conventional striker at Liverpool, with Firmino usually the false nine before the Senegalese finished his Anfield career in that role. But Bayern, where a No 9 has traditionally been a pillar of the team,

the experiment of replacing Lewandowski with a more fluid forward line failed: hoping some combination of Mane, Sane, Serge Gnabry, Thomas Muller and Jamal Musiala could dovetail slickly instead made Choupo-Moting more important than ever before and led to a summer pursuit of Harry Kane.

Bayern is a club with its own dynamics, with entrenched power bases in the dressing room, a club with stars and yet one who did not buy those of Mane's stature. Not since Arjen Robben 13 years earlier had they bought such a major attacker who was neither German nor recruited from the Bundesliga. If Mane was the outsider, he has headed out after a lone, increasingly ignominious year. And the 193 votes Mane received in the Ballon d'Or for 2022 are likely to be 193 more than he gets for 2023.

THE INDEPENDENT

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## Oliveira reveals Simba SC football brand for 2023/24 season



Simba SC head coach, Roberto Oliveira. PHOTO: COURTESY OF SIMBA SC

By Correspondent Nassir Nchimbi

**S**IMBA SC head coach Roberto Oliveira has revealed that playing in the final third of the opponents' zone is his preferred style of football in the 2023/24 season.

The Msimbazi Street giant will battle it out in five competitions in the upcoming season, Mainland Tanzania's NBC Premier League, Community Shield, Azam Sports Federation Cup (ASFC), CAF Champions League, and African Football League.

The Brazilian gaffer said he is not worried that his opponents will get familiar with his

type of football even when they read it through the newspaper.

The tactician insisted he wants to make it clear to Simba SC fans and the outfit's players about the type of football he wants them to rely on.

Oliveira disclosed he does not want to only get three points in matches in the

upcoming season, he needs to dominate the opponents while the fans get entertainment via good results.

"At the moment, I have a lot of options in my squad, I have the first squad but I have a second group of players who arrived during our pre-season camp," the Brazilian gaffer noted.

"I need to assess them and

make sure they are in good shape, give them technical training, and later impart techniques before starting to use them in the competitive matches," Oliveira stated.

"Having these many options, I have no reason not to play attractive football, I need to be dominant, I need to play attacking football which will be efficient more, especially in the area of the opposing team," the gaffer added.

The Brazilian tactician said he has been impressed with the improvement of the players in training. However, he said he needs to sharpen the team before featuring in the forthcoming league season.

Oliveira stated: "In our Turkey Pre-season camp, I organized two matches in one day to give all the players a chance to play and assess their development."

"I like players who (either) play or send the ball into the dangerous areas or in the opponents' end zone, I repeat, I don't like to play defensively, I like to attack more," Oliveira insisted.

However, the team's head

coach will have to scratch his head over the players' choice in league matches.

The team has 12 footballers making the attacking force, including Clatous Chama, Said Ntibazonkiza, John Bocco, Aubin Kramo, and Willy Esomba Onana.

Luis Miquissone, Moses Phiri, Kibu Denis, Jimyson Mwanuke, Jean Baleke, Shaban Chilunda, and Mohamed Mussa are also on the list.

Having already arrived in Dar es Salaam, Simba SC will face Zambia's Power Dynamos at the Benjamin Mkapa Stadium in the city on August 6, a match that will grace the Simba Day festival.

The festival will mark the conclusion of a week of social activities done by the club's members and fans throughout the country, termed 'Simba Week'.

The international friendly will be part of activities in the Simba Day festival conclusion. The club will then take part in the Community Shield encounter against Singida Fountain Gate FC at the Mkwakwani Stadium in Tanga.



Abdi Banda

## Abdi signs for Richards Bays

By Correspondent Nassir Nchimbi

**S**OUTH Africa's DStv Premiership side Richards Bay has signed Tanzanian defender Abdi Banda, who was previously on the books of the top flight's team, Chippa United.

Richards Bay was looking for a strong defender to come in immediately, as the club was short of numbers at the back following the departure of Ntsikelelo Nyauza at the end of last season.

Club head coach Kaitano Tembo spoke about the need for being defensively sound, given they will play against SuperSport United in their first game of the season at Lucas Moripe Stadium this coming weekend.

Hunt is known to play 'percentage football', relying on strong deliveries from set-plays, which need someone to repel them.

Banda, who has played for Baroka FC and Highlands Park respectively, will become the second defender signed by Richards Bay following the acquisition of Thabani Dube from Kaizer Chiefs.

The towering Tanzanian defender, also featuring for Tanzania's senior national squad 'Taifa Stars', will be remembered at Chippa United for scoring the winner when the side, famously known as 'Chilli Boys', beat Orlando Pirates at Orlando Stadium in August last year.

It was the only win for coach Daine Klute before he was removed by Chippa United's management and replaced by Morgan Mammila.

Banda is the 10th signing for Richards Bay following the arrival of Letsie Koapeng, Lucky Mohomi, Sinethemba Mngomezulu, Justice Figureido, Bokanyo Komane, Nkululeko Mfiya, Thato Mohlamme, and Bandile Ndlovu.

The Tanzanian central defender had his contract terminated by Chippa United, therefore, signing for Richards Bay will give him another opportunity to play for Adel Amrouche-coached Taifa Stars in the upcoming AFCON finals and World Cup qualifiers.

Last season, Richards Bay made a wonderful start to what turned out to be their debut season and finished second in the DStv Premiership standings at the turn of the year.

They then had a horror run and did not win any of their last 15 games of the season, finishing narrowly above the relegation places.

On Saturday, they will begin their 2023/24 campaign away at Supersport United at the Peter Mokaba Stadium to upgrade their season after finishing 13th last season.

## Junior athletes jet off to Trinidad and Tobago for Commonwealth Games

By Correspondent Joseph Mchekadona

**T**ANZANIA'S national junior athletes depart for Trinidad and Tobago today evening to battle it out in this year's Commonwealth Youth Games.

The Games gets underway tomorrow and will conclude next Sunday, with Tanzania's juniors battling it out in athletics and swimming.

Four athletes, namely John Wele Nahhay (3000 meters) and Glory Mgooy (100/200 meters), and swimmers Natalia Karim and Romeo Asubiye will represent the country in the global showdown, they will be under swimming coach Alex Mwaipasi and athletics coach Christina Salu.

Speaking during the national flag handover ceremony that took place in Dar es Salaam yesterday, Tanzania Olympic Committee (TOC) vice-president Henry Tandau challenged the juniors to work hard for the country's pride.

"You are going to the Youth Commonwealth Games as representatives of the country, go there and fight for Tanzania, we want medals and I'm sure that you will bring medals," he told the athletes.

Wele, the team's captain, assured Tanzanians that they will fight hard so that they can bring medals home.

"This is a great opportunity to compete on the international stage and I am promising Tanzanians that we will fight for our country so that we can bring home medals," he said.

The first medal won by Tanzania in the Commonwealth Youth Games was won by Francis Damian who laid his hands on a bronze medal at the 2017 Commonwealth Youth Games that took place in Bahamas.

The Trinidad and Tobago Youth Commonwealth Games are the seventh edition, which will get underway tomorrow and climax on August 14.

They will involve more than 1000



Athletes making Tanzania's national junior team greet spectators at the opening ceremony of the 2023 East and Central Africa Junior Athletics Championships (EAAR) that took place at Benjamin Mkapa Stadium in Dar es Salaam on March 11. PHOTO: COURTESY OF ATHLETICS TANZANIA

athletes and Paralympic athletes between the ages of 14-18, competing in seven sports managed by more than 500 officials.

The Commonwealth Youth Games are an invaluable springboard for the stars and leaders of tomorrow, contributing to the further development of youth sports throughout the Commonwealth.

The Games have traditionally taken place every four years with the first event being hosted in Edinburgh, Scotland in 2000.

Trinidad and Tobago were initially awarded the 2021 Commonwealth Youth Games in June 2019 but the Games were postponed due to the impact of the pandemic on the international sport calendar.

The Games will take place across Trinidad and Tobago, bringing a diverse perspective of the twin island country to the nations of the Commonwealth, as well as showcasing a festival of the country's activities.

The Commonwealth Youth Games (CYG) is an international multi-sport event organized by the Commonwealth Games Federation. The games were held in the years, mid-way be-

tween when the Commonwealth Games are held, and 2008.

They continued to be held every four years, but in the year after the Commonwealth Games are held, from 2011 to 2015.

Since 2017, they have been held in the year before the Commonwealth Games are held. The first edition was held in Edinburgh, Scotland from 10-14 August 2000. The age limitation of the athletes is from 14 to 18.

The first edition of the Commonwealth Youth Games was held in Edinburgh, Scotland from August 10-14 2000. Fifteen countries contested 483 medals over three days of competition in eight sports.

A total of 773 athletes, 280 Technical Officials, and around 500 volunteers participated in the event. Eight sports were contested.

These included athletics, fencing, gymnastics, hockey, lawn tennis, squash, swimming, and weightlifting.

The second edition of the Commonwealth Youth Games was held in Bendigo, Australia from November 30 to December 4, 2004. 22 countries participated and contested in 10 sports events spread over three days.

The events included athletics, badminton, boxing, lawn bowls, rugby 7s, tenpin bowling, swimming, cycling, gymnastics, and weightlifting. About 980 athletes and team officials were involved in the Games in Bendigo.

The third edition of the Commonwealth Youth Games was held in Pune, India from 12 to 18 October 2008.

Over 1,220 athletes and 350 officials from 71 countries participated in these games, in nine disciplines - athletics, badminton, boxing, shooting, swimming, table tennis, tennis, weightlifting, and wrestling.

The fourth edition of the Commonwealth Youth Games was held in Isle of Man from September 7-13 2011. A total of 811 athletes from 64 Commonwealth nations competed at the 2011 Commonwealth Youth Games.

The fifth edition of the Commonwealth Youth Games was held in Apia from 5 to 11 September 2015, the capital of Samoa. Samoa was the only bidder for the Games.

Around 807 athletes from 65 nations and territories participated in the nine sports: aquatics, archery, athletics, boxing, lawn bowls, rugby sevens, squash, tennis, and weightlifting.

The sixth edition of the Commonwealth Youth Games was held in Nassau, Bahamas. The games were held from 18 to 23 July 2017.

The sports contested at the Bahamas 2017 were athletics, swimming, beach soccer, boxing, cycling (road), judo, rugby sevens, tennis, and beach volleyball. It was the first time judo, beach soccer, and beach volleyball have been presented at a Commonwealth Youth Games.

The seventh edition of the Commonwealth Youth Games was scheduled to be held in Port of Spain, Trinidad and Tobago from August 1-7 2021. However, it was postponed due to the COVID-19 pandemic. It will now be held from August 4-11 2023.

## Flexibles by David Chikoko



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