



National Pg 3 Govt invests 13.9trn/-in SAGCOT



National Pg 4 Silaa urges civil servants to be ethical



National Pg 6 New drive launched to revive cotton processing



Govt targeting 137,000 healthcare staff for hire

By Correspondent Mary Kadoke

THE government is seeking funds to employ 137,000 community healthcare workers in the next few years to plug an extensive gap in the availability of medical auxiliaries.

President Samia Suluhu Hassan made this affirmation in Dar es Salaam yesterday when wrapping up the third symposium of the Mkapa Legacy Summit organised by the Benjamin Mkapa Foundation (BMF).

The closing session was also attended by Zanzibar President Dr Hussein Ali Mwinyi, BMF patrons and Anna Mkapa, widow of the late former president, alongside top government officials and retired former aides to the late national leader.

The president said that the process of recruiting the base-level medical cadres has been completed at the council level, with training for the first group starting within August at health colleges countrywide.

Other steps to create employment for health sector workers include sounding out various countries to identify any need for such workers, she said, noting an affirmation by the BMF CEO that the first group of 200



President Samia Suluhu Hassan addresses the third annual Mkapa Legacy Summit in Dar es Salaam yesterday. Photo: State House

“The conference came at a crucial time when Tanzania is striving to address the human resource gaps in health delivery and driving a transformative process to attain a resilient health system for sustainable development

nurses has already gone and started working. The second group is being prepared, she said.

Medical staff and specialists with the foundation will be considered in plans for 2024/25 permit issuance, for those in the field and within the BMF administrative structure.

The president appealed to the Prime Minister's Office, the Ministry of Health (Mainland and Zanzibar), the Regional Administration and Local Governments (PO-RALG) secretariat, the Ministry of Education, Science and Technology as well as the Treasury to work with private benefactors to strengthen staffing for national human resources for health (HRH) teams.

PMO needs to work on HRH teams to form a Blockchain working together to solve prevailing challenges, she stated, demanding that surveys be carried out on what part of unemployed qualified people can be enrolled in the health sector with existing demand.

Ireland ambassador Mary O'Neill said Mkapa's legacy is still to be remembered for his commitment to fighting poverty, economic uplift and strengthening international relations while praising efforts to develop the

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Regional wildlife outfit hands over major ranch

By Correspondent Marc Nkwame, Monduli

THE African Wildlife Foundation (AWF) has officially handed over the Manyara Ranch of Monduli, to the Manyara Ranch Management Trust after two decades of transformative conservation and community development efforts in the conservancy.

Kaddu Sebunya, the AWF chief executive officer, said in remarks at a handover ceremony to the Monduli District Council here yesterday that the handover is a step forward in efforts to ensure the sustainable coexistence of wildlife and local communities in the area.

The ranch essentially lies within the Oltukai and Silalei villages of Makuyuni ward of Monduli District, Arusha Region.

“Since taking over direct management

“The school now provides a safe and improved learning environment for over 1,000 pupils, with environmental stewardship included in the curriculum

of Manyara Ranch in 2013, AWF has worked to restore the critical wildlife corridor,” the statement affirmed, expecting that the conservation area, mapped within the Tarangire - Manyara ecosystem, will remain a thriving habitat for wildlife, including giraffes, lions and elephants, aside from running a sustainable livestock rearing venture.

The conservancy was earlier a degraded cattle ranch, on the outskirts of the Kwakuchinja Wildlife Corridor, a natural connectivity route that links Tarangire and Lake Manyara national parks. “Manyara ranch is an outstanding example of how conservation and community development can go hand in hand,” he said, noting that AWF's partnership with local authorities and the

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Minister lays stone for training unit's rebuilt hydropower plant

By Correspondent Marc Nkwame, Hai

EDUCATION, Science, and Technology Minister Prof Adolf Mkenda yesterday laid a foundation stone for the Kikuletwa hydropower station built and operated by the Arusha Technical

College (ATC) as a training facility.

The plant in Hai District, Kilimanjaro Region is already in operation, part of the Kikuletwa Renewable Energy Training and Research Center, serving as Africa's sub-regional training center for renewable energy.

ATC has a 10bn/- contract for the construction of an auxiliary electricity-producing plant with HNAC Technology Co. Ltd, a Chinese engineering firm.

Prof Mussa Chacha, the ATC rector, said that the plant will be able to pro-

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ESSA Group to build 3.5trn/- fertiliser plant

By Getrude Mbago

THE government has signed a memorandum of understanding (MoU) with an Indonesian-firm, ESSA Group to build a 3.5trn/- Urea fertiliser plant in Mtwara.

Prof Kitila Mkumbo (pictured), the Planning and Investments state minister in the President's Office, said at the signing ceremony in Dar es Salaam yesterday that the move will stimulate industrial growth and cater for domestic demand for farm inputs.

The five-year project valued at \$1.3bn (3.5trn/-), has the Tanzania Petroleum Development Corporation (TPDC) supplying natural gas to the plant, while the MoU also involves the Tanzania Investment Centre (TIC) and the Tanzania Fertiliser Regulatory Authority (TFRA).

The PT ESSA Industries Indonesia Tbk, abbreviated as ESSA, will build the fertiliser plant, this arrangement being agreed during the state visit by President Samia Suluhu Hassan in Indonesia towards the end of January, encouraging major firms in that country to set foot in Tanzania.

The minister said that at present Tanzania imports fertiliser by 90 percent, while the tonnage expected with the new industry will satisfy local demand and export to neighbouring countries.

He emphasised the role of agro-sector transformation in an industrial revolution, in which case the project has come at the right time as the government is propelling efforts

“The total annual production stands at 110bn cubic feet from Songo Songo, Mnazi Bay and Kiliwani North

to transform Tanzania into an industrialised country.

The fertiliser plant figures in agro-sector plans for the next 10 years, to be self-sufficient in fertilizer to stimulate farm production plus raw material delivery in industries, he said.

Rahul Puri, an ESSA Group board member, said the project will produce 5000 direct jobs and over 300,000 indirect jobs, first in its construction and in operational outlays.

“This is an ideal scheme to add value to the country's natural resources while increasing agricultural growth and improving livelihoods. The aim is to achieve stability in fertiliser prices and heighten food security,” he said.

Francis Mwakapalila, the TPDC acting director general said that the initial requirement of natural gas at the new fertiliser plant will be 70m cubic feet per year, with initial deliveries scheduled for 2027 and being pursued for 20 years.

The firm will supply 70m to 100m cubic feet annually during the period, he said, lauding the MoU as taking the partnership to implementation stage, citing statistics showing that the country's natural gas reserves

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Tanzania Vision 2050. She said that achievements in human capital investment led to achieving objectives of sustainable and inclusive development especially for girls' education, while Health Minister Umyy Mwalimu stated that 9bn/- has been injected into the health sector for selected needs.

She highlighted achievements under the Samia scholarships and health super specialization scholarship programme where 1462 experts were trained and 708 graduates enrolled in the public sector.

Dr Faustine Ndugulile, a former Health deputy minister seeking the position of Africa regional director at the World Health Organisation

(WHO) commended achievements made in the sector, asking the government to think of volunteering as healthcare workers in all new hiring.

The conference came at a crucial time when Tanzania is striving to address the human resource gaps in health delivery and driving a transformative process to attain a resilient health system for sustainable development.

The global shortage of healthcare workers threatens healthcare access, and Tanzania is no exception, while efforts to achieve Universal Health Coverage (UHC) are hindered by the critical lack of skilled health professionals as outlined in the recent HRH profile, officials said in preliminary remarks.

Dr Nchimbi stresses discipline, respect among CCM members

By Henry Mwangonde, Lindi

CCM Secretary General Dr Emmanuel Nchimbi has emphasized the importance of discipline, respect for leaders, and upholding democracy to strengthen the party.

He made these remarks at Mchinga Constituency in Lindi Region, where he addressed party members on the implementation of the CCM Manifesto for 2020-2025.

Dr Nchimbi shared three key lessons he learned from former President Jakaya Kikwete, who was present at the rally.

He stressed that understanding democracy and discipline is crucial for CCM members, particularly when working under a leader who oversees and guides them.

Dr Nchimbi recounted a 2002 experience when he contested for a seat on the CCM National Executive Committee. Despite insufficient votes, he had the support of CCM youth, and he promised then-Chairman Benjamin Mkapa that he would contest and win in the next elections.

After the meeting, President Kikwete called him and advised that his speech made it seem as though he was competing with the President rather than supporting him.

Kikwete reminded him that, as Youth Chairman, he was not the party Chairman and that CCM had its own democratic and disciplinary procedures.

Dr Nchimbi also highlighted the importance of including defeated candidates in leadership roles.

He recalled how Kikwete, then Minister of Foreign Affairs, advised him to respect and include rivals, even after winning the Youth Wing election.

Dr Nchimbi shared a lesson about a leader's duty to serve. He recalled a time when, after a security challenge in Lindi and Mtwara, he turned off his phone to rest. Despite this, President Kikwete called to remind him of his responsibility as Minister of Home Affairs and to emphasize that public duties should not be neglected, even in times of exhaustion.



Dr Nchimbi also highlighted the importance of including defeated candidates in leadership roles

ESSA Group to build 3.5trn/- fertiliser plant

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are estimated at 54.57trn cubic feet.

The total annual production stands at 110bn cubic feet from Songosongo, Mnazi Bay and Kiliwani North, he said, while TIC executive director Gilead Teri hailed the various institutions working on the issue for their efforts to facilitate the

key investment.

Joel Laurent, the TFRA director general said investment in the sub-sector will ensure availability, accessibility and affordability of quality fertiliser and other supplements on the basis of regulating the fertiliser industry for sustainable agricultural productivity.

Minister lays stone for training unit's rebuilt hydropower plant

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duce 1.6MW mostly for the national grid, working with experts at the Julius Nyerere hydropower plant engineers to implement the project.

Prof Caroline Nombo, the permanent secretary, said that the project is part

of the World Bank's East Africa Skills for Transformation and Regional Integration Project (EASTRIP) undertaken in Kenya, Ethiopia and Tanzania.

The power plant does not depend on rains as it is built at a river confluence ensuring that water flows all around the year. When it is completed, ATC will become the first vocational training institution in the region to operate a grid-level electricity power production plant.

The World Bank had previously injected 37bn/- (\$16.25m) to the Kikuletwa sub-regional training centre for renewable energy within the EASTRIP framework, she said.

ATC and its units take up 0.1MW in the 1.7MW installed capacity, and with ongoing expansion programmes, the centre expects to accommodate more than 1,500 students shortly from within the country and around the region.

Norway injected euro 8.3b in 2014 to set up training in hydroelectricity generation, with the Eastern Africa skills programme seeking to foster specialized technical skills in priority sectors, including transport, energy, agricultural processing and manufacturing, along with information and communications technology.



Inspector of Police Mwinjuma Omary takes pupils of Bariadi District's Somanda A & B primary schools on Monday through basic defence and security techniques. Photo: Guardian Correspondent

Regional wildlife outfit hands over major ranch

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communities have demonstrated that sustainable solutions are possible when systematic cooperation is initiated.

The handover of the ranch marks a new chapter for conservation in the region and cements the successes of locally operated conservation initiatives, he said, elaborating that the ranch helps to maintain the ecological balance of the Maasai Steppe.

One significant achievement is zero elephant poaching in the ranch since 2015, as zero tolerance of criminality was experienced in

various conservation areas, officials noted. Oltukai village chairman Rudda Kilusi lauded the handover, saying the villagers are ready to cooperate with the new investors as long as their grazing rights are respected.

The rank management praised AWF for its unique conservation model, which integrates sustainable livestock management with wildlife protection, enabling phenomenal success in maintaining the pristine environment. In addition to conservation efforts, AWF has made significant investments in community development like the relocation

and renovation of the local primary school, handed over to the Monduli District Council last year.

The school now provides a safe and improved learning environment for over 1,000 pupils, with environmental stewardship included in the curriculum. Happiness Laizer, the district executive director, said that the ranch facility shows that when provided with opportunities, local communities can effectively conserve wildlife while also deriving due benefits.

Pastor Magingi, the AWF country coordinator, said the ranch was provided with management expertise

for local stakeholders, creating inclusive decision-making processes. He said the project's success is a result of strong partnerships built over the years. We are confident that the ranch management trust and the district council will be able to maintain correct conservation and community development methods.

The trust has just signed a tourism development and operation agreement valued at \$117m with Sea & Bush Ltd, where the firm builds luxury tented lodges and conducts game viewing, walking and photographic safaris.



Lands, Housing and Human Settlements Development minister Deogratius Ndejemi (gesturing) has an audience in Dodoma city yesterday with coordinators of projects being implemented by the Lands ministry. Photo: Correspondent Munir Shemweta

ACT unhappy with stalled Pemba airport construction

By Guardian Correspondent, Pemba

ACT-Wazalendo has expressed its dismay over the stalled construction of Karume Airport in Pemba and three major road projects valued at Euros 457million.

Ismail Jussa Ladhu, ACT Wazalendo Vice Chairman (Zanzibar) expressed the party's disappointment here yesterday when addressing a public rally at the Maziwa Ng'ombe grounds in Micheweni constituency, Pemba North Region.

Jussa said that the project, funded by the UK Development Fund was intended to be implemented by the local company-- Mwananchi Engineering and Contracting Company Limited (MECCO), which signed the contract last year.

"The airport project was financed through a loan guaranteed by the Union government, with Euros 457 million allocated for the construction of the airport and roads including Chakechake/Mkoani, Tunguu/Makunduchi, and Fumba to Kisauini," Jussa said.

He explained that the initiative

was designed to boost Pemba's economy by improving the tourism sector through direct international flights and upgrading transportation infrastructure, particularly the road from Mkoani to Chakechake.

Jussa also highlighted the economic stagnation and rising inflation on Pemba Island due to the lack of a modern port, which forces traders to transport goods twice because the current port cannot handle cargo containers efficiently.

He pointed out that despite the CCM government's promise to build a modern port on Pemba and an airport in 2020, no progress has been made to date, which is hindering the island's development.

According to him, despite promises from the CCM government in 2020 to build a modern port and an airport on Pemba, no progress has been made, impeding the island's development.

He also noted that the Mangapwani and Mpigaduri Maruhubi port construction projects, signed in 2021, have seen no significant advancement, while the Malindi port

in Unguja remains outdated and congested.

Regarding the 22-km road project from Chakechake to Wete, valued at 23bn/-, Jussa attributed the stall to corruption.

"The Wete road project has become a mere promise. The delay is due to corruption; there were attempts to corrupt every project because some individuals were not getting their share," Jussa claimed.

He further detailed that, according to documents, the construction company MECCO received a letter dated January 4, 2021, instructing it to halt the project, saying the decision faced opposition from the project's donors, the Arab Bank for Economic Development in Africa (BADEA) and the Saudi Fund.

Othman Masoud Othman, ACT Wazalendo chairman (Zanzibar) emphasized that the Micheweni district in Pemba is rich in resources, including extensive land and abundant marine products, which could address poverty if properly managed.

He noted that reports indicate the district suffers from poverty

and health issues like malnutrition and that better planning could help eradicate these problems.

Othman further urged Micheweni residents to be cautious with investors, citing issues related to land in Nungwi, Matemwe, Kiwengwa, and other areas in Unguja.

He also stressed the importance of issuing Zanzibar resident identification cards (IDs) and birth certificates only to qualified individuals, warning against the risk of foreign nationals receiving the documents due to political motivations, which he believes undermines national interests.

The party in Zanzibar and on the mainland has been holding public meetings since being authorized by President Dr Samia Suluhu Hassan, ahead of the general elections next year.

The ACT party, both in Zanzibar and on the mainland, has been actively holding public meetings after receiving authorization from President Dr Samia Suluhu Hassan, in preparation for the general elections next year.

THE UNITED REPUBLIC OF TANZANIA
IN THE COURT OF APPEAL OF TANZANIA
AT DAR ES SALAJAH
CIVIL APPLICATION NO. 158/17 OF 2021
ZUHURA SALUMI MOHAMED.....APPLICANT
VERSUS
• AZANIA BANK LIMITED
• IGALULA AUCTION MART
• MKONGONO TRADING CO. LTD
• ISSA ALLY MCHERECHETA
• MOHAMED SIMA IDO.....RESPONDENTS
TO:
• ISSA ALLY MCHERECHETA
• MOHAMED SIMA IDO
"WHEREVER YOU ARE"
TAKE NOTICE that the hearing of Civil Application will take place at Dar es Salaam non 8th day of August, 2024 at 09:00 am.
If no appearance is made on your behalf by yourself, your pleader or by someone authorized by law to act for you in this application, it will be heard and decided in your absence.
Given under my hand and the seal of the court this 23rd day of July, 2024.



Dodoma regional commissioner Rosemary Senyemule briefs journalists in Dodoma city yesterday on the grand launch of Standard Gauge Railway services from Dar es Salaam to Dodoma which President Samia Suluhu Hassan is expected to grace in the national capital today. Photo: Correspondent Peter Mkwavila

Govt has invested 13.9trn/- in SAGCOT programmes in ten years, reports CEO

By Guardian Correspondent, Dodoma

AS the 31st Nane Nane International Agricultural Exhibition kicks off today countrywide, the Southern Agricultural Growth Corridor of Tanzania (SAGCOT) has outlined ambitious plans to extend its successful model to new agricultural corridors nationwide.

SAGCOT chief executive officer Geoffrey Kirenga, unveiled this here yesterday when speaking on the centre's milestone over the past ten years.

"This is a very special year for SAGCOT and its partners as it marks the year that SAGCOT is embarking towards taking its work beyond the SAGCOT area to the rest of the country and shall be known as the Agricultural Growth Corridors of Tanzania (AGCOT)," Kirenga stated.

The CEO also underscored SAGCOT's achievements in facilitating over \$ 1.32 billion (3.3trn/-) in private-sector investments and the government's commitment to investing in infrastructure to support the agricultural value chain.

An ongoing public expenditure review of the SAGCOT Corridor reveals significant government and public sector investments totalling 13.9trn/- over the past ten years, encompassing agriculture, roads, infrastructure, and energy.

Kirenga's statement comes as Tanzania prepares to welcome over 500 exhibitors from around the world to the Nane Nane exhibition, which opens on August 1st.

The event will showcase cutting-edge technologies, foster valuable partnerships, and attract international attention to the immense potential of Tanzanian agriculture.

"Tanzania's agriculture is on the cusp of a remarkable transformation, poised to become a leading global player capable of feeding Africa and the world," Kirenga remarked.

"This presents a tremendous opportunity for millions of Tanzanian youths to earn respectable incomes and improve their lives."

Since its inception at Nane Nane, SAGCOT will be at the forefront, showcasing its commitment to facilitating public-private partnerships through comprehensive end-to-end value chain solutions that increase productivity and enhance the quality of Tanzanian produce.

SAGCOT's initiatives address the diverse challenges the agricultural community faces and provide innovative solutions that drive productivity and sustainability.

For example, SAGCOT's work with potato farmers has transformed the lives of thousands of smallholder farmers and the local economy in potato-producing areas by introducing improved potato varieties and better farming practices, significantly increasing yields and quality and allowing farmers to access larger markets and secure higher incomes.

This has led to increased investment in potato value addition through sorting grading and producing potato chips and crisps. SAGCOT's collaboration with the government and the private sector, particularly smallholders, has made the SAGCOT area a prime location for agricultural investment. Significant transformations are also happening in other value chains, such as avocado, spices, apples, cocoa, sunflower, soybeans, poultry, and dairy.

As SAGCOT expands into the Northern, Mtwara, and Central Corridors, it will continue to build upon its achievements in the SAGCOT area. SAGCOT's presence at Nane Nane 2024 will highlight its comprehensive end-to-end value chain solutions, collaborative work with communities, and commitment to enhancing food security and agricultural productivity across Tanzania.

Online transactions are safe, stresses BoT governor

By Guardian Reporter

BANK of Tanzania governor Emmanuel Tutuba, assured Tanzanians yesterday that online monetary transactions made in Tanzania are completely safe and he has called for increased multiple users to build a strong base for the projected national digital economy.

Tutuba made the assurance when responding to reporters who wanted him to explain the importance of the Tanzania Digital Economy Strategic Framework (2024-2034) that was launched and chaired by President Samia Suluhu

Hassan during the 15th meeting of the Tanzania National Business Council that met here on Monday.

"To us (BoT) as regulators of monetary transactions systems in Tanzania the framework is an important action taken by Tanzania because it will hasten the safe movement of money from one place to another to facilitate economic growth," he said, calling for more institutions and individuals to insist on online payments only.

He said Tanzania needs such transactions now to build a solid base for the proposed national digital economy.

The meeting formally appealed

to all stakeholders to use BoT online systems to make payments.

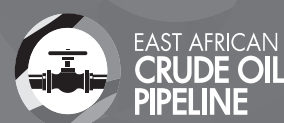
He assured stakeholders that online money payments in Tanzania are very safe because, he said, the BoT monitors money movement in Tanzania.

The bank, he explained, has a cyber-security steering committee, that monitors online money movement and solves emerging challenges and risks. The committee is chaired by the BoT Governor. Further, he said, the bank has a consumer protection unit that ensures no money is lost on the way.

The BoT has developed an arrangement called the Tanzania

Instant Payment System (TIPS) that is linked to all banks and telephone service providers. The governor explained that now a person can transfer money from his bank account, through TIPS, pay a customer of a different bank, or a customer of a telephone service company. Customers can use TIPS to pay taxes and pay for other services.

"The money sent through TIPS will reach the intended receiver safely, timely, and at a cost we consider very reasonable," he said, adding that sending money through TIPS will be cheaper than money sent from one telephone



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- ✓ One-on-one engagements with experienced experts in particular field.

All interested applicants are to provide a motivation statement (not exceeding 300 words) stating how EACOP Contractors would benefit from offering them a scholarship.

Short listing will begin immediately, and candidates will be selected on merit. Only short-listed candidates will be contacted.

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EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY Fiscal Policy Advisor

The Good Financial Governance (GFG) project in Tanzania, funded by Germany, Switzerland, and the EU, supports the government in implementing public finance reforms. The project focuses on four key areas: enhancing administrative capacity for revenue collection, strengthening budget control, improving fiscal policy and transparency, and supporting public finance reform in Zanzibar.

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By Guardian Reporter

Investing in health: PMI's \$747million support boosts Tanzania's malaria fight

THE US President's Malaria Initiative (PMI) has played a pivotal role in the fight against malaria in the country, contributing over \$747 million since its inception in 2006.

The substantial investment has been integral in reducing malaria prevalence and improving public health outcomes across the country.

Naomi Serbantez, the first Tanzanian woman to hold the position of PMI Resident Advisor and Malaria Team Lead at USAID/Tanzania, highlighted the importance of these collaborative efforts during a recent press briefing in Dar es Salaam.

"PMI's commitment has not only provided essential resources but also fostered a strong partnership with the Government of Tanzania," Serbantez stated, adding: "Our combined efforts have led to significant progress in reducing the malaria burden and improving health outcomes for Tanzanians."

"Being in this position allows me

to represent my country at a high level and bring local perspectives to the forefront," Serbantez said. "It is recognition of the capabilities and potential of Tanzanian health professionals and highlights the value of local leadership in achieving sustainable health outcomes."

She added: "We ensure that our resources are directed towards proven interventions that have the greatest potential to reduce malaria transmission and mortality. "Our goal is to complement the efforts of the Government of Tanzania and other stakeholders to achieve a malaria-free future."

She said despite the significant progress made, challenges remain in the fight against malaria whereas factors such as resistance to insecticides and antimalarial drugs,

limited access to healthcare in remote areas, and cultural barriers to preventive measures continue to hinder the ongoing efforts.

Serbantez noted that PMI, in collaboration with the government and other partners, is committed to addressing these challenges through continuous innovation and strategic interventions.

"Our partnership with the government is stronger than ever, and we are dedicated to overcoming these obstacles. Together, we can achieve our ultimate goal of malaria elimination and improve the health and well-being of all Tanzanians", Serbantez emphasized.

PMI's efforts are a testament to the power of collaboration between the U.S. government and Tanzania. The partnership, led by the U.S. Agency for International

Development (USAID) and implemented in conjunction with the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), focuses on high-burden malaria areas in both mainland Tanzania and Zanzibar.

The initiative has supported various interventions, including the distribution of insecticide-treated mosquito nets, indoor residual spraying, intermittent preventive treatment for pregnant women, and

prompt diagnosis and treatment of malaria.

Tanzania has seen a notable decline in malaria prevalence, dropping from 14 percent in 2015 to 7 percent in 2022. This achievement can be largely attributed to PMI's strategic allocation of resources towards high-impact interventions.

With an annual budget of \$44 million, PMI's funds are strategically allocated to maximize the impact

on malaria control and elimination. Key areas of focus include vector control, case management, malaria prevention during pregnancy, and capacity building for health workers. Additionally, PMI supports research and innovation to develop new malaria control tools and strategies.

PMI's \$747 million commitment to Tanzania is a testament to the enduring partnership and shared vision of a malaria-free Tanzania. Through continued collaboration, strategic investment, and local leadership, the path toward malaria elimination becomes increasingly attainable.



Deputy Prime Minister and Energy minister Dr Doto Biteko (C) leads team of dignitaries in displaying copies of the new edition of Tanzania's National Trade Policy shortly after launching it in Dar es Salaam yesterday. Photo: Correspondent Joseph Mwendapole

By Guardian Reporter

MINISTER for Information, Communication, and Information Technology, Jerry Silaa has urged public servants to maintain unity, and harmony and uphold ethical conduct while executing their duties to achieve intended development goals.

He made the call in Dar es Salaam yesterday during his first official visit to the Tanzania Communications Regulatory Authority (TCRA).

Silaa also wanted public servants to prioritize the implementation of the 4Rs philosophy as outlined by Samia Suluhu Hassan and to leverage information and communication technologies (ICTs) in their roles.

Upon arrival, Minister Silaa was warmly welcomed by TCRA Director General Dr Jabiri Bakari and the authority's management team.

In his welcoming note, Dr Bakari congratulated Silaa on his new role and provided an extensive overview of TCRA's operations and responsibilities.

He highlighted TCRA's oversight of critical sectors including telephony, internet, broadcasting, and postal services, noting their significant impact on the national economy.

"Communication is a fundamental sector that supports other areas such as health, education, finance, security, aviation, water, and railways," Dr Bakari said.

During his visit, Minister Silaa toured several key departments within TCRA and his first stop was the Computer Emergency Response Team (TZ-CERT), where he received briefings on cyber-

Silaa wants civil servants to uphold ethical conduct

security measures and challenges.

He was updated on strategies to enhance network security where he emphasised that the safety of communication infrastructure was crucial for national security.

The Minister also visited the customer service desk, where he observed how TCRA handles public complaints and feedback.

He stressed the importance of delivering prompt and efficient services to maintain public trust and satisfaction.

"Prompt and effective service is vital to maintaining public confidence and ensuring quality service delivery, we need to remain dedicated and committed to excellence," he said.

At the Communication Museum, Minister Silaa explored the rich history of communication in Tanzania.

He viewed historical artifacts and learned how the museum benefits the public, particularly students who frequently visit.

"Preserving and showcasing the development of our communication sector from ancient times to the present is essential for educating current and future generations," he remarked.

He commended TCRA's efforts in maintaining this national heritage.

The Minister also inspected TCRA's spectrum management and quality monitoring vehicles, which are equipped with advanced tools to measure communication quality and manage frequencies.

He highlighted the importance of investing in cutting-edge technologies for effective frequency management, noting: "Investing in advanced technologies is crucial for managing communication frequencies and preventing interference."

He was also briefed on TCRA's strategic plans to expand communication services to remote and underserved areas.

The Minister expressed satisfaction with the initiatives and pledged to support their success, affirming that the government is committed to ensuring that every Tanzanian has access to quality communication services.

The Minister further promised to maintain close collaboration with TCRA's management and staff, urging them to work diligently and creatively.

He underscored the government's commitment to providing the necessary resources for efficient service delivery and emphasized the importance of adhering to President Samia's ICT strategy launched on July 29, 2024, at the State House in Dar es Salaam.

Dr Bakari assured the Minister that the authority will continue efficiently to support the achievement of the ministry's goals.

"We are confident that under Minister Silaa's leadership, we will continue to make significant strides in advancing Tanzania's communication sector," Dr Bakari added.

By Guardian Reporter, Zanzibar

OFFICE of the Registrar of Political Parties has stated that efforts are underway to review and amend laws and regulations governing political party ethics to promote gender equality, enhance accountability, and prevent harassment against women.

Senior legal officer from the office, Abdulrazak Ali said the move also aims to facilitate women's full participation in politics for their development.

Ali who represented the Deputy Registrar of Political Parties, Mohamed Ali Ahmed unveiled this yesterday here at an evaluation meeting aimed to identify and address barriers preventing women from vying for various positions and engaging in political matters.

The meeting brought together stakeholders from government institutions, political parties, civil society organizations, activists, and

Govt mulls revising laws to bolster gender equality

religious leaders.

The laws and regulations under the review plan include the Political Parties Act (2019) and, the Political Parties Code of Conduct (CAP.258 R.E.2019 and other related guidelines.

Ali underscored the importance of gender equality, urging political parties to adopt strong ethical guidelines and implement firm measures against harassment.

This includes supporting female politicians, candidates, and voters who may face threats, violence, scandal, and mockery due to their gender when vying for various leadership positions," he said.

Dr Mzuri Issa, director of Tanzania Media Women's Association in Zanzibar (TAMWA-Zanzibar)

highlighted ongoing issues of women being demeaned during political activities, noting the lack of effective systems for reporting and addressing such incidents.

Anna Athanas Paul, Deputy Minister of Community Development, Gender, Elderly, and Children revealed that the ministry has developed targeted strategies, including training, resources, and advisory programmes, to support female candidates.

An assessment of obstacles hindering women's participation in politics was conducted by TAMWA-Zanzibar in collaboration with the National Democratic Institute (NDI) and the United States Agency for International Development (USAID).



CALL FOR APPLICATION

SHORT TRAINING COURSE ON IMPACT EVALUATION 2024

The Economic and Social Research Foundation (ESRF) - a policy research think in Tanzania, undertakes, and articulates research aiming at enhancing the understanding of policy options and development management. The mandate of ESRF also includes capacity development of intellectual resources of both producers and users of knowledge. In this regard, one of the research and capacity development programme implemented by the ESRF is Impact Evaluation Laboratory (<https://esrf.or.tz/index.php/impact-evaluation-laboratory/>). The objective of this initiative is to strengthen capacity of national workforce in conducting scientific impact evaluation research. The programme also aims at establishing and sustaining a vibrant community of practice on impact evaluation research in Tanzania. This programme is supported by William and Flora Hewlett Foundation (<https://hewlett.org>).

Under the auspices of Impact Evaluation Laboratory, the ESRF is pleased to announce a training opportunity on impact evaluation. Through this initiative, the ESRF aims at offering one short term training course to a cohort of 40 participants. The training course shall be delivered through three separate but interrelated modules to the same cohort (group) of participants. The training course is particularly relevant to individuals interested with acquiring skills and techniques for undertaking impact evaluations and assessments of effectiveness of development programs. The main target beneficiaries of the course are researchers, policy/program analysts, academicians, and government officials regardless of their background on impact evaluation methodologies. The course is structured around three modules as follows:

SN	Time period (dates)	Description of the Module
1.	9 th - 13 th September, 2024	Introduction to core methods of impact evaluation. Some of the topics to be covered include an introduction to impact evaluation and causal inference; core methods of impact evaluation namely randomized assignment, randomized promotion, regression discontinuity, and differences-in-differences.
2.	30 th September - 4 th October 2024	Introduction to fieldwork design for impact evaluation. Some of the topics to be covered include questionnaire design, fieldwork organization, quality assurance, transparency, power calculations, machine learning and big data in impact evaluation research.
3.	4 th - 8 th November 2024	Introduction to data analysis using STATA software Some of the topics to be covered include: - Introduction to STATA software, overview of basic STATA commands, writing a do-file, more complex commands, regression mechanics using STATA, and L ^A T _E X interaction with STATA.

The Economic and Social Research Foundation (ESRF) is hereby pleased to invite interested candidates to apply to the above-mentioned capacity building initiative. This is a funded training opportunity such that all tuition costs shall be met by the ESRF. However, all applicants residing outside of Dar es Salaam are required to meet their own transport/living expenses while attending the course in Dar es Salaam.

To apply for the training course, potential applicants should send applications composed of the following items:

- Application letter
- Curriculum Vitae (with current e-mail address and phone numbers)
- Copies of academic certificates.

All applications and/or inquiries should be addressed to: -

Executive Director
Economic and Social Research Foundation
51 Uporoto Street, Ursino Estates
P.O. Box 31226
Dar es Salaam
E-mail address: trainings@esrf.or.tz

While an e-mail address has been provided; to the extent possible, applicants are advised to send their applications by hard copies rather than electronic mails (e-mails).

Should there be any inquiries, applicants are advised to liaise with our Administrative Officer, Mr. Yasser Manu through the following telephone (+255 - 22) 2926084 during working hours.

The deadline for receiving applications is Sunday, August 11th 2024.



**REVOLUTIONARY GOVERNMENT OF ZANZIBAR
MINISTRY OF HEALTH**

6 Barabara ya Health Office
S.L.P 236 MNAZIMMOJA
Postikodi 70467 Mjini Magharib Zanzibar

Tovuti: www.mohz.go.tz
Barua pepe: info@mohz.go.tz

**REQUEST FOR EXPRESS OF INTEREST
(INDIVIDUAL CONSULTANTS)**

Country: The United Republic of Tanzania
Name of Project: Tanzania Maternal and Child Health Investment Program
Contract Title: PROCUREMENT EXPERT TO SUPPORT PROJECT COORDINATION UNIT
Credit No.: P170435
RFB Reference No.: TZ-MOHZ-421025-CS-INDV
Employer: PRINCIPAL SECRETARY, MINISTRY OF HEALTH - ZANZIBAR
Issued on: 30TH July, 2024

- This Invitation for Bids follows the General Procurement Notice for this Project that appeared in the United Nations Development Business (UNDB) 12TH September, 2023
- The United Republic of Tanzania has received financing from the World Bank toward the cost of the Tanzania Maternal and Child Health Investment Program, and intends to apply part of the proceeds toward payments under the contract for the Employment of Procurement Expert to support Project Coordination Unit (PCU).
- The Ministry of Health (MoH) Zanzibar is now seeking an experienced individual Procurement Expert to support PCU. The objective of this assignment is to ensure the timely implementation of the TMCHIP procurement process in accordance with the procurement plan which will guarantee the timely acquisition of goods, works and consulting services and also enhance the procurement capacity of Ministry of Health (MOH) staff. The selected Consultant is expected to play a key coordination role between all stakeholders in the procurement cycle. The duration of services is twelve (12) months. Full ToR can be obtained at the PMU Office
- In order to qualify for these positions, the candidates shall meet the following experience and competence requirements below:

a) Education:

- Minimum of Advanced Diploma/degree in Civil Engineering, Construction Management, Quantity Surveying or Procurement from recognized Universities.
- Master's Degree in Civil or Structural Engineering, Engineering Management, Construction Management, or Procurement will be added advantage.

b) Working experience:

- Minimum of ten (10) years cumulative experience in procurement for Building Construction Projects.
- Must have participated in procurement of Works, Goods, Services and associated elements for Donor Funded Projects for not less than five (5) years in the last ten (10) years.
- Experience in preparation of Contracts and Contracts management;
- Knowledge of Multilateral Banks Procurement Guidelines and Regulations;
- The candidate should be eligible and have no Conflict of Interest as per Bank's Procurement Regulations.
- Should have well developed interpersonal and communication skills strong negotiations skills and ability to cultivate team spirit.
- Must be a person of proven honesty and integrity with no criminal record, result oriented and proactive.
- Must be able to work under pressure and tight deadlines; and
- Computer knowledge and skills in Ms word, Ms excel and internet/email is a mandatory requirement. Knowledge in using World Bank STEP will be an added advantage.

c) Language and regional experience:

- Must have a working experience of at least three (3) years in developing countries and
- Proficiency in written and spoken English is mandatory.

- The Consultant will be selected in accordance with the World Bank 'Procurement Regulations for IPF Borrowers, July 2016, revised November 2017 and August 2018 edition, under Individual Consultants (IC) selection method. The attention of interested Consultants is drawn to paragraph 3.14, 3.16 and 3.17 of the said Regulations, setting forth the World Bank's policy on conflict of interest.

The interested applicants should submit the curriculum vitae with expressions of interest and references indicating that you are qualified to perform the services. Expressions of interest must be delivered to the address below or no later than 14th August 2024 (submissions via email are also acceptable). Only short-listed candidates will be contacted.

**Principal Secretary,
Ministry of Health
P.O.BOX 236
First Floor, Mnazi Mmoja
Zanzibar – Tanzania
Email: pmu@mohz.go.tz**

**The Principal Secretary
Ministry of Health
Zanzibar**



**REVOLUTIONARY GOVERNMENT OF ZANZIBAR
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 - The Ministry of Health (MoH) Zanzibar is now seeking an experienced individual Financial Expert to support PCU. The objective of this assignment is to ensure the timely implementation of the TMCHIP by providing technical assistance to ensure that financial transactions within TMCHIP program at MoH- Zanzibar are executed timely and in accordance to approved budget, Project's Covenant Documents, World Bank Financial Regulations for Borrowers under Investment Project Financing, Fourth Edition, November 2020) and that of the United Republic of Tanzania as the case may be, to provide technical assistance to ensure that financial management within TMCHIP program at MoH are well coordinated and comply with the World Bank Financial Regulations as agreed in the Financial Agreement, to provide technical advisory services on all aspects of the project financial management. The duration of services is twelve (12) months. Full ToR can be obtained at the PMU Office
- In order to qualify for these positions, the candidates shall meet the following experience and competence requirements below:

a) Education:

- Must have a degree from a recognized University in any of the following specialist: Accounting, Business Administration, Commerce, Finance, Economics and must be a qualified and registered Accountant – CPA(T) or ACCA or any other relevant qualification recognized by the National Board of Accountants and Auditors (NBAA)

b) Working experience:

- Minimum of eight (8) years working as a financial expert/specialist on the donor financed projects, out of which at least five (5) years must have been on financial management, on the World Bank funded projects/programs
- The candidate should be eligible and have no Conflict of Interest as per Bank's Financial Regulations
- Should have well developed interpersonal and communication skills, strong negotiations skills and ability to cultivate team spirit.
- Must be a person of proven honesty and integrity with no criminal record, result oriented and proactive.
- Computer knowledge and skills in Ms word, Ms excel and internet/email is a mandatory requirement. Knowledge in using World Bank STEP will be an added advantage.

c) Language and regional experience:

- Must have a working experience of at least three (3) years in developing countries and
- Fluent in both, spoken and written English is mandatory.

- The Consultant will be selected in accordance with the World Bank 'Procurement Regulations for IPF Borrowers, July 2016, revised November 2017 and August 2018 edition, under Individual Consultants (IC) selection method. The attention of interested Consultants is drawn to paragraph 3.14, 3.16 and 3.17 of the said Regulations, setting forth the World Bank's policy on conflict of interest.

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**Principal Secretary,
Ministry of Health
P.O.BOX 236
First Floor, Mnazi Mmoja
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Email: pmu@mohz.go.tz**

**The Principal Secretary
Ministry of Health
Zanzibar**



BARRICK
NORTH MARA

REQUEST FOR TENDER

North Mara Gold Mine, a fully owned subsidiary of Twiga Minerals Corporation, which is ultimately owned by Barrick Gold Corporation and the Government of the United Republic of Tanzania requests the submission of Tenders from reputable, experienced, certified, and qualified parties to provide the following:

Supply of Networking Equipment

Specifications

Non-Industrial Switching			
Core Switches - Cisco 9300X Catalyst Switches (4 Units)			
With Dual 1900W PSU, Switch and Power Stacking, SFP+ Network Modules, DNA Advantage, Peripherals			
C9300X-48HXN-A	C9300-SSD-NONE	C9K-ACC-SCR-4	TE-EMBEDDED-T
CON-L1NCD-C9300XM4	STACK-T1-50CM	CAB-GUIDE-1RU	TE-EMBEDDED-T-3Y
PWR-C1-1900WAC-UP	CAB-SPWR-30CM	C9300-DNA-A-48	D-DNAS-EXT-S-T
PWR-C1-1900WAC-P/2	C9000-HSEC	CON-L1SWT-C93A48	D-DNAS-EXT-S-3Y
C9K-PWR-CAB-AC-SA	C9K-ACC-RBFT	C9300-DNA-A-48-3Y	C9300X-NM-8Y
Fiber Core Switches - Cisco 9500 (6 Units)			
With Dual 650W Power Supplies, DNA Advantage, Peripherals			
C9500-24Y4C-A	C9500-SSD-NONE	SFP-25G-SR-S=	C9K-PWR-650WAC-R/2
CON-L1NCD-C95024YA	C9500-DNA-24Y4C-A	SFP-10G-SR=	C9500-DNA-L-A-3Y
CAB-C13-C14-AC	CON-L1SWT-C9524Y	SFP-10G-LR=	
Fiber Distribution Switches - Cisco 9500 (6 Units)			
With Dual 650W Power Supplies, DNA Essentials, Peripherals			
C9500-24Y4C-E	C9500-SSD-NONE	SFP-25G-SR-S=	C9K-PWR-650WAC-R/2
CON-L1NCD-C95024EY	C9500-DNA-24Y4C-E	SFP-10G-SR=	C9500-DNA-L-E-3Y
CAB-C13-C14-2M	CON-L1SWT-C9524Y	SFP-10G-LR=	
Industrial Switching			
Industrial Fiber Distribution Switches - Cisco IE9300 (12 Units)			
With Dual Power Supplies, DNA Essentials, Stacking Cables, Peripherals			
IE-9320-22S2C4X-E	SIE9300UK9-1711	IE9300-DNA-E	GLC-LX-SM-RGD=
CON-SW-IE932CXE	CAB-STK-1M	IE9300-DNA-E-3Y	SFP-10G-LR=
PWR-RGD-AC-DC-H	IOT-OTHER	PWR-RGD-AC-DC-H=	SD-IE-4GB
Industrial Copper Rack Switches - Cisco IE9300 (12 Units)			
With Dual Power Supplies, DNA Essentials, Stacking Cables, Peripherals			
IE-9320-16P8U4X-E	SD-IE-4GB	NO-IOT-SOLUTION	SFP-10G-LR=
CON-SW-IE930U4E	IE9300_SW	IE9300-DNA-E	SD-IE-4GB
PWR-RGD-AC-DC-250	PWR-RGD-AC-DC-25	IE9300-DNA-E-3Y	
Industrial 10Gbps Access Layer POE Switches - Cisco IE3300 (20 Units)			
With Power Supply, DNA Essentials, Mgi Network Module, Peripherals			
IE-3300-8U2X-E	CON-SW-IEM330U4	CON-SW-IEM3308S	GLC-LX-SM-RGD=
CON-SW-IE330X08	STK-RACK-DINRAIL=	SFP-10G-LR=	IEM-3300-8S=
SD-IE-4GB	IEM-3300-4MU=	PWR-IE480WPCAC-	
Industrial 1Gbps Access Layer Switches - Cisco IE3300 (10 Units)			
With Power Supply, DNA Essentials, Peripherals			
IE-3300-8T2S-E	IE3X00_SW	SD-IE-4GB	GLC-LX-SM-RGD=
CON-SW-IE33008E	SFP-10G-LR=	WR-IE65W-PC-AC	STK-RACK-DINRAIL=
Industrial 1Gbps Access Layer POE Switches - Cisco IE3300 (40 Units)			
With Power Supply, DNA Essentials, Peripherals			
IE-3300-8P2S-E	IE3X00_SW	SD-IE-4GB	IE240WPCAC-
CON-SW-IE33008S	SFP-10G-LR=	GLC-LX-SM-RGD=	STK-RACK-DINRAIL=
Industrial Wi-Fi			
Wireless Controller - Cisco 9800 (2 Units)			
With Licensing and Peripherals			
C9800-40-K9	C9800-PWR-BLANK	CAB-C13-C14-2M	SFP-10G-SR=
CON-L1NBD-C98004KA	C9800-AC-750W-R	LIC-C9800-DTLS-K9	
Wireless Heavy-Duty Access Point - Cisco IW9165 (10 Units)			
With Licensing, Peripherals			
IW9165DH-ROW-AP	CON-L1SWT-IW6DNA	AIR-DNA-NWSTACK-A	AIR-DNA-A-T-3Y
CON-L1NBD-IW91ROWP	IW-DNA-A-3	D-DNAS-EXT-BUN-T	IW-DNA-A
SWIW9165-CAPWAP-K9	AIR-DNA-A-T	D-DNAS-EXT-BUN-3Y	
Wireless Industrial Access Point - Cisco IW9167 (20 Units)			
With Licensing, Peripherals			
IW9167IH-ROW-AP	IW-DNA-A	AIR-DNA-A-T	D-DNAS-EXT-BUN-3Y
CON-L1NBD-IW9167IRP	CON-L1SWT-IW6DNA	AIR-DNA-A-T-3Y	D-DNAS-EXT-BUN-T
IW-AP-UNKNOWN	IW-DNA-A-3		

Qualification Criteria

No	Reference no	Description of work	Qualification Criteria
1	NM019/2024	Supply of Networking Equipment	i. Price competitiveness and detailed cost breakdown ii. Cisco Partner level - Premier or higher iii. Competitive Lead Time and Incoterm iv. Local Content Plan Approval Letter or Acknowledgement of Submission from the Mining Commission v. BRELA detailed Search document indicating company ownership

Submission of Proposals

If your company meets the qualification criteria and would like to participate in this tender, please submit your quote along with your company

profile and evidence of compliance with the qualification criteria to nm.proposal@barrick.com.

Applicants must quote the tender description(s) and the respective reference no.(s) in the subject line of the email.

NB: The Company reserves the right to invite any other supplier(s) through this advertisement.

Qualification of any company submitting a "Proposal" shall be at the sole discretion of NMG.

If you do not hear from us in 21 days after the deadline date, please consider your submission unsuccessful.

Key Dates

- Last Date to Submit Proposals: **7th Aug 2024**

North Mara Gold Mine Limited

By Guardian Correspondent, Arusha

TANZANIA needs 870bn/- to restore water intakes countrywide, which has been destroyed by anthropogenic factors.

Segule Segule, director of the Pangani River Basin unveiled this here on Tuesday when speaking at the stakeholders' meeting on water catchment conservation planning in the country.

He said that, based on the current situation in water catchment areas, the board has put in place permanent strategies. One of these strategies is securing 870bn/- over 15 years to improve the catchments.

"Due to the problems identified in the catchments, we have estimated 870 billion for the rehabilitation of all the catchments in the country, a total of nine. However, the Pangani board alone needs 180bn/- due to

870bn/- needed to restore water intake countrywide

significant damage. This estimate does not mean that the board or the Ministry of Water is providing this amount alone; it is to be done in collaboration with stakeholders, the public, and the water boards," he said.

He added: "If the community collaborates to conserve and protect the catchment and we come to value it, it will already be part of this financial estimate. However, if a private institution (NGO) takes action, we will make similar estimates. We believe that things will progress, and within the next 15 years, our catchments will be in a better state."

Herbert Kashikilah, national chairman of the Water Forum urged stakeholders to be

innovative in solving problems facing water catchment areas.

Rosemary Rwebugisa, Assistant Acting Director for the Water Department in the Ministry of Water, advised water experts to assess and select one example of water intake to ensure a joint effort in maintaining and encouraging stakeholders to conserve catchments in their areas.

Maurus Msuha, World Wildlife Fund (WWF) coordinator said that as stakeholders, they will continue to collaborate with the Ministry of Water to recognize the importance of water catchments in the country.

The meeting was held under the theme 'Stakeholder Participation in Water Source Conservation is Our Strength.'



Mohamed Mchengerwa, Minister of State in the President's Office (Regional Administration and Local Governments), issues an order to local government directors to ensure the completion - by the end of next month - of the implementation of projects involving the construction of infrastructure for new girls' secondary schools in various regions. He was addressing a project execution assessment meeting held in Dar es Salaam yesterday. Photo: Guardian Correspondent

By Correspondent Valentine Oforo,

Dodoma

Cotton board launches drive to revive, expand the cotton processing industry

THE Tanzania Cotton Board (TCB) has embarked on a strategy to revive the number and performance of cotton ginneries in the country.

Among others, the ongoing strategy focuses on ensuring the country stands on a more professional side in attaining additional value chains for the crop. James Shimbe, TCB acting director said here that there are at least 92 cotton ginneries in Tanzania.

"Out of the number, 58 factories are operating, with 35 ginneries currently active on the market," he said.

He briefed that the state-owned board is currently working to attract potential investors from within, and outside the country to chip in and invest in the economic sector.

"Cotton is currently grown within a total of eleven regions across the country, and there's a serious intervention to improve the crop's production and productivity, and thus, such efforts must go in tandem with the revival of relevant ginneries," he said.

He added that the vision is to ensure the country produces cotton fibres and clothes in finished form, to cater to domestic, as well as exportation.

Dwelling on the fact that Tanzania ranks first in the world for the production of organic cotton, Shimbe expressed high optimism that the country also stands an opportunity to excel in the processing sector.

"We have started to receive some applications from several investors who wish to invest in the ginneries sector, and we're looking forward to keep on receiving more applications," he unveiled.

He hailed the Tanzania Agricultural Research Institute (TARI) for running the special project for upscaling the production of the economic cash crop in the country.

Executed through the TARI Ukiriguru center, the project, christened, Cotton Victoria Project' is currently operating effectively to revive and improve cotton production within at least eleven regions.

The regions include Mwanza, Simiyu, Geita, Shinyanga, Tabora, Katavi, Kigoma, Singida, Tunduma, Morogoro, and Mara.

"Implementation of the project is playing a vital role in helping elevate the country's ability to produce quality cotton, the move which will now enable ginners to

expand and improve production," Shimbe observed.

Implementation of the project involves several stakeholders, including the Ministry of Agriculture of Tanzania, the Brazilian Cooperation Agency (ABC), the Brazilian Cotton Institute (IBA), the Federal University of Lavras (UFLA), the Tanzania Agricultural Research Institute (TARI-Ukiriguru) and the Tanzania Cotton Board (TCB).

Dr Paul Saidia, the Director of TARI Ukiriguru Centre, said the around 5,802,019.08 USD worth project has been providing training, technical assistance, and demonstration plots to thousands of cotton farmers who have been working hard to improve their crop management and increase their yield.

Among others, the initiative under the financial auspices from Brazil is training the cotton growers over the recommended new planting space of 60 centimetres from row to row, and 30 centimetres from hole to hole, bringing the number of cotton plants to 44,444 per acre from the formal 22,222 plants.

Currently, the cotton sector contributes at least 14 percent to the country's Gross Domestic Product (GDP).

By Correspondent Valentine Oforo

Tabora beekeepers hail TFS for supporting the sector's growth

BEEKEEPERS in Tabora Region have hailed the government for working tirelessly to improve the performance of the apiculture sector within the area, through the Tanzania Forestry Services (TFS).

The development has been unveiled incorporating the rolling out of trees, as well as the modern beehives.

Halima Bedui, chairperson of the 'Kazi Kazi' Beekeeping Entrepreneurship Group (KKBEG) expressed delight for the patriotic manner in which the government, through TFS, has freely given them 4000 trees.

The support, according to her, went in sync with tailor-made training to impart the bee farmers with needed practices and skills in beekeeping.

"Provision of the training, and the trees motivated us to become more serious and professional to the tune of donating money for purchasing at least 30 modern beehives," she said, adding that, from the development, the group is currently managing to harvest more than 15kg of honey per hive annually.

She further said that after being trained, the group is currently processing and packaging honey that reflects the set international standards, the development which has enabled them to cheat the shackles of poverty by selling honey, inside and outside the country.

"Apart from producing honey, we're also engaging in the

production of several honey-related products, such as juice, soaps, candles, wine, and others that also attract huge demand in the market," she said.

"We are grateful to our government for helping us, we started this group at a low ebb, but through government support, we have been able to go to Uganda and Burundi to market our products," she explained.

Bedui also explained that Tabora honey does not contain tobacco as some people doubt it when they go to various exhibitions thus, appealing to the customers to turn out in large numbers to buy the honey from Tabora.



Elizabeth Lazaro, a beneficiary of the Epic/DREAMS project, shares her story at the launch of a life skills training centre for girls in Iringa municipality yesterday. The facility, which is supported by FHI360/USAID through the project, is primarily meant to empower out-of-school girls to achieve economic self-sufficiency and avoid risky behaviours that could lead to HIV infections. Photo: Correspondent Friday Simbaya

Dr Nchimbi vows to curtail HWCs, water woes in Lindi

By Henry Mwangonde, Lindi

THE ruling CCM has pledged to address key challenges affecting the people of Lindi Region, including a surge in elephant invasions and a severe water shortage exacerbated by recent floods.

Speaking during a rally here yesterday, CCM Secretary General Dr Emmanuel Nchimbi promised robust government action to control the elephant invasions and ensure fair compensation for affected residents.

In recent years, Lindi has faced

increasing wildlife invasions, particularly from elephants, which have caused significant damage to crops and property.

These invasions are partly attributed to habitat loss and changes in land use.

Concurrently, the region is grappling with a critical water shortage as revealed by one of the regional water agency officials at the rally.

He said water demand is at 5 million liters, while production has plummeted to just 2 million liters due to the recent floods, which have

further damaged infrastructure.

He indicated that plans are in motion with the Ministry of Water to address this dire situation.

During the rally, former Regional Chairperson for the Alliance for Change and Transparency (ACT-Wazalendo) and former Mchinga constituency legislator Hamidu Bobali, among others, defected to the ruling CCM party.

They were welcomed and introduced by CCM's Secretary for Ideology, Publicity, and Training, Amos Makalla, highlighting a trend of opposition figures joining CCM.

The party has reassured new members of a peaceful transition and reiterated its commitment to serving the people of Lindi.

The ruling party Secretary General is in Lindi after completing his visit to Mtwara in a party-strengthening tour. Dr Nchimbi's tour is accompanied by National Executive Committee Secretary for Organization Issa Usi Haji Gavu, Secretary for Ideology, Publicity, and Training Amos Makalla, and Secretary for Political and International Relations Rabia Hamid Abdalla.

Over 30000 Dodoma residents set to attend SGR train launch fete

By Polycarp Machira, Dodoma

OVER 30,000 residents of Dodoma Region are today expected to attend the official launch standard gauge railway (SGR) speed train from Dar es Salaam to Dodoma, to be officiated by President Samia Suluhu Hassan.

Briefing journalists in Dodoma yesterday ahead of the inauguration, Dodoma Regional Commissioner, Rosemary Senyamule said the region is ready for the event, noting that the railway service is likely to spur economic growth in the city.

She said: "All is set for this great revolution that is destined to open up our region economically, broadening trade links with other neighboring regions."

She noted that there are already gains made by city residents as the passenger train launched on 25th July 2025 picks and drops between 900 and 1000 passengers every day. She called on residents to tap opportunities that come along with the new development.

According to RC Senyamule, the train has also been a kind of tourism attraction as different people have been gathering at the station to take pictures near the train.

She noted that the investment provides a rare tourism opportunity for Dodoma's renowned grapes and that the business community should rise to the occasion and advertise strategic areas and things found in the region.

President Samia is to officiate the historic launch after successful initial runs between the two cities five days ago.

The speed train services involve modernized electrically powered engines and signalling systems, where the government has emphasized the project's significance in fostering economic growth and elevating cargo and passenger haul efficiency locally

and in the region.

Electrified train services will stimulate economic activities in sectors like trade and tourism, while production sectors like manufacturing, as well as the transit cargo landscape, will be substantially altered.

When cargo services commence, a standard load goods train will have a 10,000 tonnes capacity, by implication replacing upwards of 500 trucks, he said, noting that the train service is environment friendly and will help the country to save forex reserves to import fuel.


The grid supply of electricity cuts fuel costs to a third compared with operating diesel engines on the same distance, he stated, urging the public to use the new means of transport to speed up business growth in their respective areas.

Speaking at a press conference in Dar es Salaam on Tuesday, Masanja Kadogosa, the Tanzania Railways Corporation (TRC) director general, said that for the past two weeks, speed trains carried over 100,000 passengers, with one standard passenger train hauling 1,400 passengers across the distance.

TRC operates electric multiple units that are undergoing a driving test, set to operate as quick service special passenger hauls, in like manner as large rapid transit buses in urban areas, officials say.

The SGR's entire route will run from Dar es Salaam to Mwanza on the shore of Lake Victoria, as well as Kigoma at the northern reach of Lake Tanganyika, while from Kigoma it stretches to Burundi and from Isaka-Shinyanga Region in will branch off towards DRC and Rwanda.

Construction is nearing completion in the sections up to Makutupora, the next major transit point after Morogoro and Dodoma, while the distance to the capital is put at 460 kilometers (285 miles).



BARRICK

NORTH MARA

REQUEST FOR TENDER

North Mara Gold Mine, a fully owned subsidiary of Twiga Minerals Corporation, which is ultimately owned by Barrick Gold Corporation and the Government of the United Republic of Tanzania requests the submission of Tenders from reputable, experienced, certified, and qualified parties to provide the following:

Supply of 240mm Cable for Gokona Power Relocation

Qualification Criteria

No.	Reference no.	Description of work	Qualification Criteria
1	NM018/2024	<p>Supply CU 240mm2x3C, XLPE, 6.35/11KV, LH, SWA, Blue Strip</p> <p>Cable Specifications Brand: Aberdare/Neelkanth i. Cable Description: CU 240mm² 3C XLPE IS (0.1) PVC(LH) SWA PVC(LH) BLU/BLU VUL TEX 6.35/11KV ii. Conductor Diameter: 18.3mm iii. No. of Cores: 3 (Stranded circular compact CU) iv. Insulation Details v. Conductor Screen: SC XLPE 0.8mm Thickness vi. Insulation: XLPE 3.4mm Thickness. vii. Core Screen: SC Strippable 0.8mm XLPE Thickness. viii. Core diameter: 27.5mm. ix. Metallic Screen i. Copper Tape Screen. ii. Screen area per Core: 8.3mm² iii. Diameter: 27.9mm x. Layup Details i. Type of Fillers: Shaped PVC (LH) ii. Diameter over Binders: 60.8mm iii. Bedding type: PVC(LH) 1.8 Thickness iv. Diameter: 64.2mm xi. Armour Details SWA p. No. Diameter: 60/3.15 (467.6mm²) q. Diameter: 70.5mm xii. Sheathing Details r. Type: PVC (LH) 3.4mm Thickness s. Diameter: 77.3mm Length per Drum: 500M Total Quantity: 3000M (6 Drums)</p>	<p>i. Company Profile and project profiles over the last three years for assessment of the cables supplied per month for the last 24 months.</p> <p>ii. Confirm the lead time, number of weeks after PO is received.</p> <p>iii. Confirm the incoterms.</p> <p>iv. Share the manufacturing QA/QC document.</p> <p>v. Applicant to submit technical data sheets.</p> <p>vi. Warranty & Guarantee period to be specified as per Manufacturer.</p> <p>vii. Provide contacts of references.</p> <p>viii. Provide the safety, health, and environmental ISO compliance certificates.</p> <p>ix. Local Content Regulations compliance.</p>

Submission of Proposals
 If your company meets the qualification criteria, submit your proposal alongside all relevant documentation to nm.proposal@barrick.com

Applicants must quote the tender description(s) and the respective package reference no.(s) in the subject line of the email.

Queries should also be directed to nm.proposal@barrick.com


NB: The Company reserves the right to invite any other supplier(s) who did not submit a proposal through this advertisement.

If you do not hear from us in 21 days after the deadline date, please consider your submission unsuccessful.

Key Dates

- Last Date to Submit Proposals **7th Aug 2024**

North Mara Gold Mine Limited



BARRICK

NORTH MARA

REQUEST FOR TENDER

North Mara Gold Mine, a fully owned subsidiary of Twiga Minerals Corporation, which is ultimately owned by Barrick Gold Corporation and the Government of the United Republic of Tanzania requests the submission of Tenders from reputable, experienced, certified, and qualified parties to provide the following service:

Supply, Fabricate and Installation of one Containerized Data Center

Qualification Criteria

No.	Reference no.	Description of work	Prequalification Criteria
1	NM017/2024	Standardized 40ft Data Center Container	<p>i. Contractor should be specialised in design, manufacture, supply, and installation of 40Foot containerized IT data center, CRB Certificate - Specialist Class 3 and above.</p> <p>ii. Experience with similar works - List of previous projects carried out in the last 3 years.</p> <p>iii. Confirm the lead time, number of weeks after PO is received.</p> <p>iv. Competence/experience with similar works within the Barrick Group and fully conversant with the risks and control measures of working in Mining industry.</p> <p>v. Share Manpower Resources with organization chart for the respective project - Team with multi discipline members (Mainly - Supervisors / Safety officer / QA&QC officer / E&I Engineer / Multi skilled) should have sound Knowledge of Mine Health & Safety acts. QA / QC officer should be NACE certified or equivalent.</p> <p>vi. List of equipment's - Resource list - specifying quantities - List of all tools and tackles (with detailed specifications of important equipment).</p> <p>vii. Provide contacts of references.</p> <p>viii. Provide the safety, health, and environmental ISO compliance certificates.</p> <p>ix. Local Content Regulations compliance.</p>

Expression of Interest (EOI)
 If your company meets the prequalification criteria and would like to be considered for the trial, send your request along with your company profile to nm.proposal@barrick.com

Applicants must quote the tender description(s) and the respective reference no.(s) in the subject line of the email.

NB: The Company reserves the right to invite any other supplier(s) who did not submit a request through this advertisement.

Qualification of any company submitting an 'Expression of Interest' shall be at the sole discretion of NMGM.

If you do not hear from us in 21 days after the deadline date, please consider your submission unsuccessful.

Key Dates

- Last Date to Submit Proposals **7th Aug 2024**

North Mara Gold Mine Limited

THURSDAY 1 AUGUST, 2024

Taking A New Look
At The News
ESTABLISHED IN 1995

Revised trade policy has to include agro-sector transits

JUST how trade facilitators can effectively apply the just-released blueprint of sorts is a subject for brainstorming among all officials and organisations concerned.

It is also debatable if the tabling of the revised National Trade Policy in the country's legislature will actually propel value increase for local products, as the government says this is vital in improving the competitiveness of Tanzanian products in regional and global markets.

The wider reason for this push is the thrust for exports in order to diminish the creeping foreign exchange shortage that has persisted for a year.

A challenge relating to this motive is that it is a supply side situation that also requires optimal or suboptimal resource investments, and that is not how it is supposed to work.

A situation where a stakeholder is expected to invest resources in a specific business orientation does not need a blueprint, just the rollout of opportunity, the most important of which is cutting down non-tariff trade barriers as is now the case in grain trade especially maize.

The other factor is reducing taxes, with a view to lowering the cost of initiating such business -including exports.

The government issued these instructions at the recent launch of the revised policy setting before a diverse audience of diplomats, cabinet ministers, top government officials and trade sector stakeholders.

The remarks were chiefly directed at government officials, who one could safely say they are mostly hamstrung by decisions that don't belong to trade facilitators, like obtaining a permit to buy grain in local markets or by a dealer network.

Businesses have piled up complaints over the number of taxes they have to comply with at each stage of business, with some border officials having reached the

extent of going on strike.

It was at the Namanga border post, arguably the most sensitive of the country's one-stop border posts as policy designers make them out and then tax collectors make it a multiple step post where everything is checked separately.

It is thus evident that even the idea of having a new policy is hard to actually accommodate in the current trade mood where crop trade at a market environment rather than trade agencies is effectively proscribed. Tanzania is trying one way advantage where it hinders others to buy gain while it sells industrial goods.

One problem with this trade outlook is that it distinguishes between the benefits of traders and benefits of the country, whereas the market formula is that benefits of the country is merely the sum total of individual traders' benefits.

But the government is unable to observe a level playing field with individuals when it comes to grain prices in urban areas, and then as regards optimal taxation of all businesses - including for that matter export oriented trade.

The idea of a new policy asking producers to check on the quality and develop regional networks to obtain markets, outside freedom of trade in sugar, maize, etc., doesn't look rosy.

The whole idea of a trade uplift is conditioned on the basic stratagem the state is taking, whether it frees up markets and builds confidence among investors to put up vaster cash into this or that sphere, or it hesitates, cramps the market and shuts out potential investments.

When maize is freely sold, the government can buy as much as it wants for the national grain reserve, and subsidize retail prices if exports affect it. The following year there will be a heavier crop as well as the next, and buyers will start to accommodate slightly higher prices.

Sugar belongs to that sphere, that a short-term shock opens the gate for higher investments.

Those who object to leasing islands have no alternate business to initiate

RATHER familiar voices of opposition are being raised by some groups concerning the leasing of small islands in Zanzibar to private investors.

The argument is that the procedure used had elements of corruption and needs to be worked on to rectify the situation.

Those with memories of what was happening in the Union legislature some 10 years ago know where that road leads to, with a blank cheque of suspicions becoming the main order of business - and sowing instability.

Issues like bypassing official channels and demanding personal gains from investors are not matters to be claimed in rallies but in the relevant bodies or filing a claim in court and being tasked to substantiate it, as making such claims at public meetings flouts the principle of fairness in law.

There is meanwhile need for a policy position especially at the level of the legislature that issues arising from the Report of the Controller and Auditor General, or in response to committee views on a motion tabled by the government, ought to be duly tabled and heard.

Claims arising from the streets could find their way to court or any civic body without having to be honoured with excessive preoccupation with their contents at the legislative level.

The reason for this is that most such claims arise from

lack of appreciation for the 4Rs (reconciliation, resilience, reform & rebuild) philosophy in looking for areas to hit.

The point is that the islands our country's coastline is dotted with are favourable for attracting tourists, when someone puts up the right facilities, and could be safely leased in a way that is reassuring for the security of investments.

The spirit of picking tabs on what happened particular investors to be selected isn't of much use as the group or individual raising the matter has no way to demonstrate that this was the case or that there are no such tendencies in one's own outlook or among one's followers.

Governance is a long-term task and, while public administrators are only human, we need to ascertain the bottom line - in that lawful leasing has taken place and jobs have been created even if there is tax holidays.

The claims were being made with obtuse interest in having the citizens protect the country's resources, citing remarks on the importance of national development and democracy.

A formula once cited was that there is no national development in the absence of people, land, good politics and good leadership - and hence the need for effective leadership. How many of us believe that things have since changed dramatically and this no longer applies?

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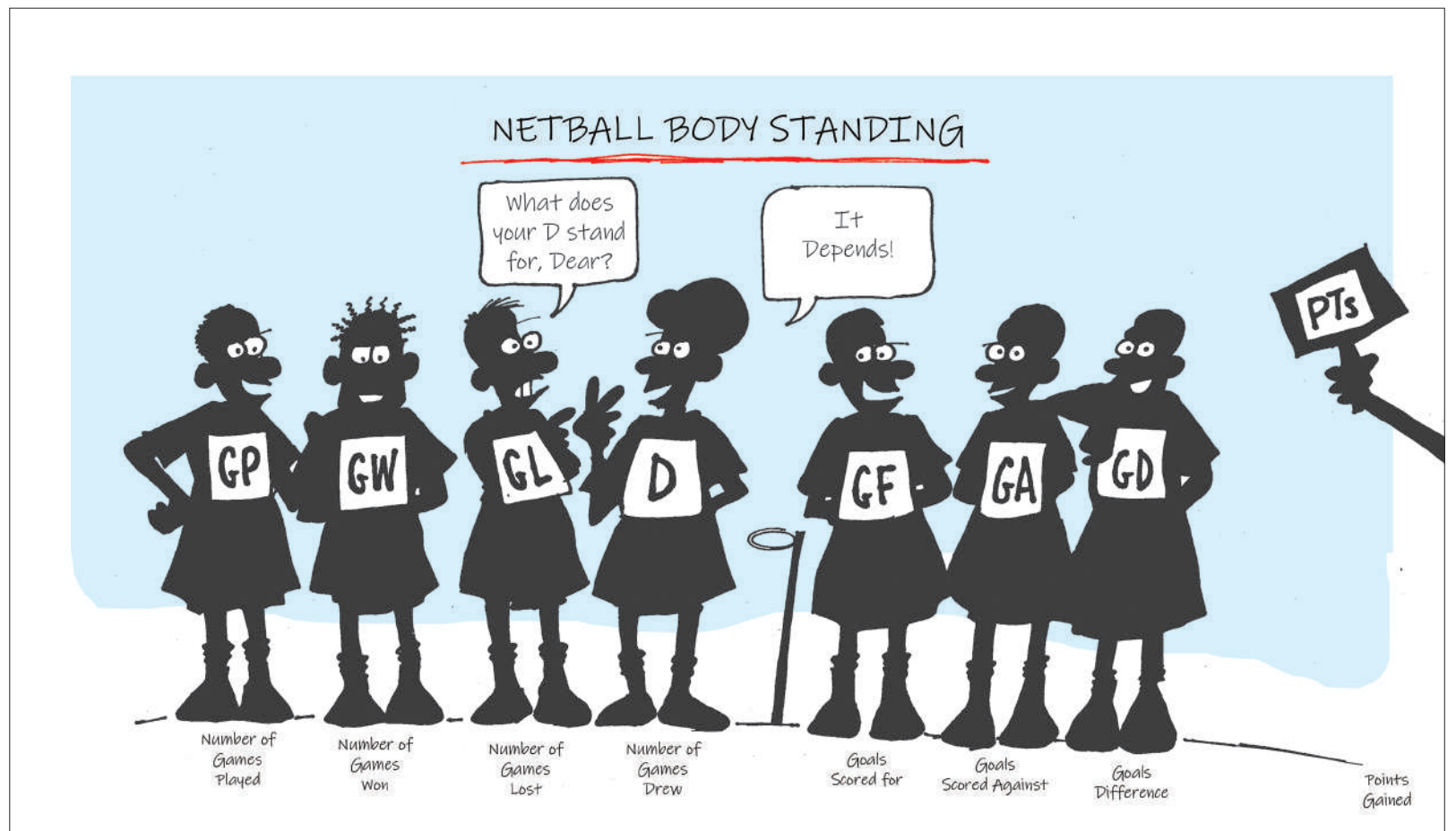
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The basket of HIV prevention options needs to be filled

By Yvette Raphael

WE stand at a thrilling precipice in the fight against HIV/AIDS. For the first time in history, the end of this devastating epidemic is within our grasp.

This isn't just hopeful thinking - it's a real possibility, thanks to an expanding basket of options that are revolutionising humankind's approach to HIV prevention.

In recent years, we have seen remarkable advancements such as oral pre-exposure prophylaxis (PrEP), which has proven highly effective when taken consistently.

Long-acting injectable PrEP, like cabotegravir, offers protection for months at a time and addresses some of the challenges that daily regimens present.

Promising research is under way for PrEP implants and antibody infusions, which could provide even longer-lasting protection.

But today, I want to highlight a ground-breaking addition that is discreet and doesn't require women to ask for permission from their partners to use it: the dapivirine vaginal ring.

The ring symbolises a shift towards truly empowering women in HIV prevention. It is the first long-acting, non-systemic, women-controlled HIV prevention method.

Women in six African countries, through 30 pilot projects, can now tap into this new product. Unfortunately, a major obstacle remains: the women and girls in the region who urgently need the products, particularly the dapivirine ring, cannot actually access them.

One young woman from Malawi who wrote to me said: "I do not have



access to the ring, but it would help me have control of my health by giving me the protection against HIV and it would give me peace of mind."

Another young woman wrote: "I have tried to access the ring for over a year now since I heard about it but, sadly, I could not have access to it because it's not yet approved to be used in Tanzania."

Another, in Zambia, says: "I have not tried the ring. I don't have access because it is not accessible in my country. But it will help me achieve my goals."

The problem is that the only way to access this product is through one of these pilot research projects. Women hear about the ring and ask their healthcare providers about it, but then they can't obtain the product to safeguard their health.

We need to do better because HIV/AIDS is a serious problem for women in sub-Saharan Africa. According to the United Nations, 82 per cent of all adolescent girls and young women (ages 15-24) globally who acquired HIV in 2022 live in sub-Saharan Africa.

Yet, in the 19 sub-Saharan African countries with a high burden of HIV infections, less than half of all locations with high HIV incidence have dedicated HIV prevention programmes that serve adolescent

girls and young women.

I believe the ring can be a critical component of these services. Made of flexible silicone, the ring slowly releases the antiretroviral drug dapivirine in the vagina over one month.

It was developed to provide long-acting prevention for women so that they could choose a method that best suited their lifestyle. A dapivirine ring that would work for three months is also undergoing the final stages of research.

Recent research has confirmed the importance of choice. After using both the ring and oral PrEP for six months each, 67 per cent of the participants chose the ring, 31 per cent chose oral PrEP, and only 2 per cent chose to use neither. Simply put, we need to make sure that women have better access to the ring.

In Eswatini, access will be scaled up once the pilot projects there have concluded and we expect that the other five countries with pilot projects - Kenya, Lesotho, South Africa, Uganda and Zimbabwe - will do so as well.

It is encouraging to see that Botswana, Malawi, Namibia and Rwanda have provided regulatory approvals for the ring, or authorisation for its use, through import permits.

Meanwhile, a South African pharmaceutical company plans on manufacturing the ring locally, which would lower the cost of the product.

It is also very exciting that, at the 25th International AIDS Conference, the Children Investment Fund Foundation (CIFF) and the Global Fund announced an initiative of US\$2 million to purchase approximately 150,000 dapivirine vaginal rings for countries that implement the Global Fund's grants.

We need more commitments to rapid and widespread implementation of the dapivirine ring beyond the pilot projects, from policymakers, governments and global health organisations.

The success of these pilots should trigger automatic scale-up plans in each country now especially that funding is available. I urge health ministries to work closely with NGOs and community organisations to develop comprehensive rollout strategies that reach beyond urban centres - into rural and underserved areas.

But the ring is just one piece of the puzzle. We must ensure that the full range of prevention options are made readily available to women and girls.

As part of my work with Advocates for the Prevention of HIV in Africa (APHA), we launched the Choice Manifesto to challenge and hold policymakers and governments accountable.

Equity must be at the forefront of these efforts. It is unacceptable that African women and girls, who have contributed their bodies and time to research studies, often face the greatest barriers in accessing the very interventions they helped develop. Instead, they should receive preferential access and pricing.

The time for half-measures and pilot projects is over. We need bold, comprehensive action to make the full range of HIV prevention options available to every woman and girl who needs them. Their lives and futures depend on the actions we take today.

• **Yvette Raphael (pictured) is a co-founder and Executive Director of Advocacy for Prevention of HIV in Africa (APHA) in South Africa.**

African women change leaders: Leading the charge on health

By Special Correspondent

JULY 31 is Pan African Women's Day and 2019 marked the 57th anniversary of the Pan-African Women's Organisation (PAWO), the Specialised Agency of the African Union dedicated to gender equality and women's empowerment.

Various women have stood out as change leaders in Africa making an impact in the field of health in matters affecting women and girls.

The continent has made significant strides have been made on a rich variety of social issues, yet numerous cross-cutting challenges persist, disproportionately affecting women and girls.

Healthcare, gender-based violence and gender inequality remain deeply entrenched problems across the continent.

The right to health for all individuals without any form of discrimination is set in stone in the International

Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights (arts. 2(2) and 12) and the International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination but women still face discrimination while accessing all forms of health care.

However, a growing movement of strong, brave female-led change leaders is emerging, shattering the glass ceiling and advocating policies on menstrual health, maternal health and genetic diseases that affect women and girls in marginalised communities disproportionately.

Women change leaders like Amina Guyo, Sylvia Awinja and Frida Karani from Isiolo, Kisumu and Embu counties in Kenya are making a profound impact towards addressing "Period Poverty" through menstrual health education.

In Nigeria, 21-year-old Margaret Aladeselu addresses period poverty by donating sanitary pads to schoolgirls and crusading for tax-free

sanitary products.

In South Africa, Siphesihle Ndwandwe is meanwhile championing one of the most common complaints amongst women prisoners - only issued with two sanitary pads for each day that they menstruate.

The efforts of these dedicated leaders are not isolated. Deborah Monari, Josephine Mwendu Kamene and Harriet Afandi - three women fighting as a united force - are campaigning against the dehumanising treatment of women during childbirth.

Through their ground-breaking report, they highlight obstetric violence within healthcare systems in Kenya and push for better treatment of women during childbirth.

In Nigeria, Onor Obassi Tawo and Mariya Bagudo are busy advocating the enactment of the national Sickle Cell Anaemia Control and Prevention Bill.

This bill is meant to make premarital genotype screening and counselling mandatory, thus rigorously addressing Nigeria's status as the epicentre for sickle cell disease globally.

Their work is to ensure that individuals are informed about their genetic compatibility before marriage, ultimately reducing the incidence of sickle cell disease in the country.

These Nguvu Change Leaders exemplify the transformative power of grassroots movements - as women driving systemic change. Their efforts challenge deep-seated cultural norms and push for legislative reforms that will have long-lasting impacts.

This growing movement is a testament to the resilience and strength of African women. It is a powerful reminder that, despite persistent challenges, change is possible when driven by passionate and dedicated individuals committed to making a difference.

Revolutionising of education: Tanzania embraces vocational training to propel youth into the future

By Adonis Byemelwa

In today's fast-paced world, where technology and job markets are ever-changing, practical skills are increasingly vital. It's perplexing that vocational training is often undervalued despite its crucial role—engineers rely on skilled workers to bring their designs to fruition. It was time we acknowledged and invested in its importance!

Recognizing this, Tanzania has decided to revamp its education curriculum to align with these needs, a move widely praised and supported by Kahama Member of Parliament, Jumanne Kishimba.

According to Kishimba, these changes are vital to ensure that young people acquire the practical skills required in the job market, enabling them to become self-reliant and contribute more significantly to national development. This initiative underscores the importance of strengthening educational systems with a focus on practical training and modern skills rather than clinging to outdated theories.

The concept of vocational education has gained significant traction in Tanzania's education sector, particularly following President Samia Suluhu Hassan's directive to revolutionize the education system. These reforms aim to enhance the curriculum for primary and secondary education, with "vocational education" emerging as a central theme in discussions among education stakeholders.

The goal is to improve students' practical skills, providing them with the knowledge and expertise needed in today's job market. However, there is a prevailing misconception among parents and guardians that vocational education is merely a path to becoming tradespeople, thereby diminishing the perceived prestige of such education.

On October 10, 2023, the Minister of Education, Science, and Technology, Professor Adolf Mkenda, clarified the objectives of vocational education. He stated that this form of education aims to equip students with skills that enable them to become self-employed or gain employment.

"In this vocational education program, we will include sports, agriculture, and technical skills, ensuring that upon completion, students receive a certificate in their field of study," Professor Mkenda explained, urging those ca-



Vocational education has proven to be crucial in reshaping Tanzania's education system.

pable of providing such education to collaborate with the government to improve teaching conditions.

Despite these clarifications, there remains confusion about whether vocational education differs from technical education, which has been offered for some time through Vocational Education Training Authority (Veta) colleges.

The vocational curriculum includes disciplines such as Electrical Installation, Mechanical Engineering, Construction Engineering, Automotive Engineering, Hospitality and Tourism, Business, Creative Arts, Information and Communication Technology (ICT), and Sports. These fields are similar to those offered in technical colleges, raising questions about the actual differences between these two educational pathways.

The Revolutionary Government of Zanzibar has initiated the construction of vocational training centers in Unguja and Pemba to assist students lacking the qualifications to pursue higher education. The Second Vice President of Zanzibar, Hemed Suleiman Abdulla, noted that the government is in the process of acquiring learning and teaching materials, as well as launching a project to enhance the quality of compulsory education.

"I want to see students we equip

with skills attaining international standards, enabling them to work anywhere in the world," stated Professor Carolyn Nombo, Secretary General of the Ministry of Education, Science, and Technology.

While the government promotes investment in vocational education, a significant challenge lies in the negative perception held by many parents, who view this education as preparing their children to be mere tradespeople rather than office professionals. Martin Lutahakana, a Tanzanian residing in the UK, observed that "In developed countries, those with vocational skills are economically far ahead, as they are in high demand for middle- and upper-income jobs."

The job market for vocational education graduates in developed countries is vast, and these graduates are highly sought after for practical work. However, Tanzania faces significant challenges in investing in resources and infrastructure for vocational education. Many young people graduating from technical colleges like VETA lack adequate skills and often receive practical training from artisans who may not have formal education themselves.

Paschal Malimi, a well-known computer technician in Kariakoo, exemplifies how vocational education can provide practical skills.

"I never completed a degree in computer engineering; instead, I learned from my brother, who started a computer school in Kariakoo, in 1998," said Malimi, highlighting the importance of integrating formal education with practical training. Vocational education has proven to be crucial in reshaping Tanzania's education system. Taking cues from developed countries, vocationally trained individuals are given significant importance in the job market. This suggests that vocational education can substantially contribute to the country's economic development if nurtured and supported effectively.

Fredy Mwambafula, a master's degree student in electrical engineering at the University of Sheffield in the UK, agrees. He notes that significant investments are made in vocational colleges to ensure graduates have international-standard skills.

He says, "In European colleges, many exams are practical, which endows graduates with a strong ability to compete in the global job market." Mwambafula points out that he often sees students from Asia and Europe struggling with theoretical subjects but excelling in practical ones, where considerable investment is made in research

without regard to the high costs borne by students.

In China, substantial investment in vocational education has yielded excellent results. Siima Katanga, a student at Guangzhou University in China, states, "China's investment in vocational education aims to ensure that graduates have the technical skills required in the job market. This is crucial in fostering economic growth and increasing employment." This focus has positioned China as a leader in industry and technology, with vocational college graduates playing a key role in this advancement.

Florence Mugarula, who lived in Birmingham, emphasizes that "Europe has successfully invested more in middle colleges, where studying for a bachelor's and master's degree is often not a priority. Instead, young people prefer to learn trades and demonstrate specific skills." This contrasts sharply with Tanzania, where higher education is still given more emphasis than vocational education.

Despite numerous challenges, such as the availability of modern equipment and the negative perception among parents, there is great hope that vocational education can bring about the desired changes. Paschal Malimi, a renowned computer technician in Kariakoo, is a living example of how vocational education can yield positive results. He learned computer skills practically from his brother and has since become self-reliant and employed many young people. "I never completed a degree in computer engineering, but I have man-

aged to build myself up through practical training," said Malimi.

The government and stakeholders must work closely together to ensure vocational education receives the necessary support. This includes providing modern equipment, enhancing teacher training, and improving teaching infrastructure. Additionally, society needs to change its perception of vocational education and recognize its value in building a robust economy and fostering social development.

In efforts to improve vocational education, the government has outlined plans to construct new vocational training centers and strengthen existing programs. This investment is crucial to ensuring that students acquire the skills needed in the modern job market. The government also encourages collaboration with the private sector to enhance the quality of training provided.

Drawing lessons from developed countries and local efforts, vocational education can be a significant catalyst for economic and social development in Tanzania. It is vital for all stakeholders—government, parents, teachers, and students—to collaborate to ensure the success of this initiative.

If implemented effectively, vocational education can create numerous job opportunities, reduce poverty, and improve the standard of living for many citizens. It is our collective responsibility to build a solid foundation for vocational education to deliver better outcomes for future generations.

By Telesphor Magobe

UN: Debt repayment shouldn't jeopardise basic social services

Many developing countries are overburdened by the vicious spiral of public debt due to, among other things, a high incidence of poverty, borrowing mentality, the mismanagement of public resources and debt servicing conditions. In 2023 public debt, comprising domestic and external general government debt, reached \$97 trillion, a \$5.6-trillion increase from 2022, according to UNCTAD world of debt report 2024.

"Over three-quarters of this debt are owed by countries in Asia and Oceania, while Latin America and the Caribbean account for 17 per cent and Africa for just 7 per cent." Africa's share of countries with debt-to-GDP ratios above 60 per cent has increased from 25-46 per cent between 2013 and 2023.

As a result, resources that are supposed to be spent on development and social services are spent on debt servicing, thus depriving citizens of development and basic needs. "During 2020-2022, there were 15 countries whose interest payments exceeded education expenditure, and 46 countries where they were higher than health expenditure," says UNCTAD.

UNCTAD recommends a roadmap to fast-track sustainable development in the sustainable development goal (SDG) stimulus package, focusing on three key areas, namely addressing the high cost of debt and rising risks of debt distress (improving the real and effective participation of developing countries in the governance of the international financial architecture), massively scaling up affordable long-term financing for development, and expanding contingency financing for needy countries.

"Developing countries must not be forced to choose between servicing



their debt and serving their people. The international financial architecture must change to ensure a prosperous future for both people and the planet. A reform is not only necessary, it is urgent."

Citing World Bank (2021), Economic Commission for Africa (ECA) report (2023) titled "Debt and Finance Profiles: Africa" says external debt comprises public and publicly guaranteed long-term debt, private non-guaranteed long-term debt, short-term external liabilities and government use of the trust fund, special facilities and special drawing rights of IMF.

As of September 30, 2022, a

total of 9 countries were in debt distress (when a country fails to fulfil its debt obligations), 28 countries were at high risk, 25 countries were at moderate risk (including Tanzania), and 7 countries were at low risk of debt distress. In Africa, 8 countries were in debt distress, namely Chad, the Republic of Congo, Mozambique, São Tomé and Príncipe, Somalia, Sudan, Zambia and Zimbabwe.

According to UNCTAD, in 2023 high public borrowing to meet necessary public spending demand was accompanied by rising levels of public debt, increasing debt repayment burden in particular in the context

of rising interest rates, which aggravated the vulnerabilities and risks of debt distress.

"Similarly, concerns related to debt data transparency in a number of countries remained very high. It is widely recognised that in such circumstances, the effective management of public resources and liabilities, including public debt, is a necessity."

In Tanzania, as of the end of June 2023, according to data from the Ministry of Finance, the national debt stock comprising public domestic and external debt, and private sector external debt, stood at \$42,681.0 million (53.4 per

cent of GDP), compared to \$38,265.63 million recorded in June 2022. Out of this, domestic debt was \$12,428.3 million, equivalent to 15.6 per cent of GDP, and external debt (including public and private) was \$30,252.7 million, equivalent to 37.9 per cent of GDP.

Public debt stock stood at \$35,255.8 million (44.1 per cent of GDP) at the end of June 2023 from \$30,891.6 million (42.8 per cent of GDP) recorded in June 2022, equivalent to an increase of 14.1 per cent. Out of the public debt, external debt accounted for 64.7 per cent, while domestic debt accounted for 35.3 per cent.

The stock of external debt (comprising public and private sector) was \$30,252.7 million at the end of June 2023, equivalent to an increase of 8.7 per cent from \$27,832.5 million recorded in June 2022. Out of that, external public debt was \$22,827.51 million and private sector debt was \$7,425.2 million.

As of June 7, 2024, Tanzania's debt sustainability analysis prepared by International Monetary Fund (IMF) and International Development Association (IDA) on Tanzania's Debt Sustainabil-

ity Analysis (DSA) indicated that its risk of external debt distress remains moderate. "Tanzania has some space to absorb shocks and risks are tilted to the downside. All external debt burden indicators continue to stay below the policy-determined thresholds under the baseline scenario. The public DSA analysis indicates that the present value of the public debt-to-GDP ratio remains contained at about 35 per cent, well below the 55 per cent benchmark based on Tanzania's debt carrying capacity."

According to this report, the DSA results signal the importance of accessing, to the extent possible, external financing on concessional terms. "To maintain current fiscal and debt sustainability, in line with the IMF Extended Credit Facility (ECF) objectives, the authorities should improve revenue mobilisation and public investment management, including selecting only investment projects with clear socioeconomic payoffs. Building resilience to climate change is also important to preserve debt sustainability amidst climate change effects."

'My baby girl was born on the street': A traumatic birth in Gaza

By Maram Humaid

EVERY morning, Alaa al-Nimer wakes up to bathe her six-month-old daughter, Nimah. There is no running water - there hasn't been for many months - and the water she uses sparingly is collected from distribution points close to a relative's house in Gaza City's northern Sheikh Radwan neighbourhood. Despite the hardships Alaa and her family now endure, she is determined to treat her green-eyed daughter to a daily bath.

The 34-year-old mother of three says her daughter's smile is a "balm for her soul" during a time of "darkness".

But her birth was more traumatic than Alaa could ever have anticipated. "My baby girl was born on the street," she explains shyly.

She describes it as the most difficult day of her life.

Displaced more than 11 times Alaa and her family - her husband, Abdullah, 36, and their sons, Mohammed, seven, and Yamen, five - have been on the move almost since Israel's war on Gaza began in October.

After Hamas-led attacks in southern Israel on October 7, in which 1,139 people were killed, Israel has launched a war on Gaza that has killed more than 39,000 people.

When their home in Gaza City's Zeitoun neighbourhood was targeted in October, the family first moved to a relative's home and then to neighbours' homes.

"We were displaced more than 11 times," Alaa says with a tired voice.

Her family had decided to remain in northern Gaza despite Israeli forces instructing people to move south.

"It was a matter of principle," Alaa says. "We realised that no place was safe."

On one occasion, Israeli tanks surrounded the building they were staying in and opened fire. Alaa, her sons and about 25 other people who were inside escaped through an opening created when a shell struck the building earlier in the war. She describes their escape as "miraculous".

But it was the middle of winter and Alaa was eight months pregnant. She walked eastward for four hours in the cold with her children to escape the tanks. At the time, her husband was elsewhere with his elderly mother, who has difficulty walking. Alaa, her sons and the people from the building took detours to reach the Old City, where they sheltered in a shop near a mosque until it was safe to return.

"Please, is there anyone?"

Alaa desperately hoped the war would end before she was due to give birth. "I never imagined going into labour during the war," she says.

She was at her sister-in-law's house when she first started to feel labour pains. "I tried to lie to myself," she says, by insisting she wasn't about to give



Alaa with Nimah less than 24 hours after delivery

birth. But the pain grew worse.

It was after 10pm on a wet, cold January night, and Alaa could hear the sounds of Israeli bombs landing nearby.

She called her mother and sister who were staying nearby while her husband went to look for a car to take her to the hospital. Alaa waited on the street. Her labour progressed quickly, but due to the lack of fuel and the late hour, Abdullah couldn't find a car, and the communication networks were too weak to call for an ambulance.

Alaa stood on the side of the street, screaming for help. She re-

members praying and thinking: "Please, God, not now. I want to be in the hospital." She was terrified for her baby's life.

But by the time her husband returned, she was already giving birth. Her mother and sister also arrived, running to her in shock. Abdullah caught his daughter's head in his hands and shouted out for scissors to cut the umbilical cord, which her cousin who arrived with Alaa's brother brought out from a medical kit.

Desperate to find medical care for his wife and newborn daughter, Abdullah eventually managed to

find a car to take them to a maternity hospital 5.5km (3.4 miles) away. Alaa climbed in with her baby and her mother while her husband and brother ran ahead of them.

But the car stopped after just a few metres. It had run out of fuel.

"The street around me was completely dark. There was no one in sight," Alaa recalls.

"My cousin carried the baby girl, wrapping her in his coat against the cold, and walked quickly in front of us, fearing for her life. He guided us with the flashlight on his mobile phone, saying, 'Turn right, then left' to guide us."

Alaa was bleeding. Her mother and sister walked alongside her, crying.

"My mother walked in the middle of the street, screaming, 'Please, is there anyone? Is there any car to take us? Please, we have a newborn baby girl and her mother just gave birth.'

"But there was no answer." They walked for about an hour before they found a minibus to take them the short remaining distance to the hospital.

"We got into the car, crying with both joy and fear," Alaa says.

At the door to the hospital, a doctor was waiting, informed by Alaa's husband and his brother who had arrived before them.

"The doctor took me in her arms and immediately took me to the maternity ward," Alaa recalls.

A healthy baby and a spoon of halwa

When she woke the next morning and the doctors told her her daughter was doing well, Alaa says her "happiness was indescribable".

"I believe God was with me," Alaa reflects.

Amid the joy of learning that her daughter had survived the harrowing birth, Alaa recalls a small moment when a cousin offered her a cup of fresh orange juice squeezed from an orange she had picked from some nearby land and kept hidden.

"It was the first and last time I had fresh juice during the war," she says.

Then there was the small box of halwa her husband had put in her birth bag.

"Every day before I gave birth, I checked the bag to make sure it was still there," she recalls.

That day she took a deep breath before savouring the first spoonful. "I had forgotten what it tasted like during the war," she says.

Six months have passed since then, and Nimah is healthy. Alaa continues to breastfeed due to the lack of baby formula and food, even as she herself is unable to eat properly, given the food shortages.

Nimah has begun to laugh and coo, and everyone in the house in Sheikh Radwan adores her. But her mother is sad that she was born and is growing up in such difficult circumstances.

Alaa's family has felt the full force of this war. Her children must survive on a quarter of a loaf of bread each day, and the family mourns Alaa's 26-year-old brother, also named Alaa, whose body was found near their bombed-out house at the end of December.

"My child was born from the heart of death," Alaa says. "But since that day, hope has not left my heart."



Nimah, now six months old. File photos.

CAPITAL RADIO

RATIBA YA VIPINDI JUMATATU - JUMAPILI

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

Tembelea mitandao ya kijamii ya CAPITAL RADIO



CAPITAL RADIO

Global race to raise millions for Africa's wildlife rangers

By Guardian Reporter

A ground breaking two-month series of extreme fitness challenges kicks off, designed to highlight the gruelling work of wildlife rangers and raise millions of dollars for the conservation of Africa's natural landscapes.

The ambitious initiative, known as the wildlife ranger challenge, connects over 170 ranger teams from 24 African countries, symbolizing a growing global solidarity with the wildlife ranger profession.

The challenge involves a rigorous series of mental and physical tests, culminating on September 21, 2024, with a multi-nation half-marathon through some of Africa's most remote and breathtaking landscapes.

According to a press statement issued on the World Ranger Day on July 31, the challenge has been organized by Tusk and the Game Rangers Association of Africa (GRAA), and supported by the Scheinberg Relief Fund.

The event builds on its successful debut in 2020, which raised over \$18.5 million. These funds have been instrumental in supporting more than 13,300 wildlife rangers who protect over 60 million hectares of Africa's wilderness—an area larger than Kenya.

Precious Malapane, Operations Manager, K9 Unit Ranger and Dog Trainer of Southern African Wildlife College said the challenge is about honouring rangers, who work as nature's eyes and ears.

"The more funds that are raised through WRC, the more boots on the ground there will be to protect the natural world. It is our duty to make sure we protect wildlife for future generations. I don't want my children to know about Rhino from photographs. They need to see them alive, free and walking on the savanna," she said.



Charlie Mayhew OBE, Founder and President of Tusk said: "We all know this is a critical time in the story of life on earth. In less than 50 years we have lost nearly 70 percent of the planet's mammals, birds, fish and reptiles. This loss of nature and biodiversity profoundly affects us all: we depend on it for survival. One pragmatic strategy to help halt the loss of nature is to fully recognise, respect and invest in the vital work of

wildlife rangers: thousands of brave men and women who work as guardians of vast areas of the planet's land and water."

Andrew Campbell, Chief Executive Officer of GRAA, said that despite the risks they take and the incalculable value of their contribution to conservation, Africa's wildlife rangers are often undervalued, under-resourced, under-paid and under-equipped. Campbell noted that Afri-

can rangers experience poor working conditions, long hours, absence of adequate training and the lack of essential equipment such as first aid kits, boots, radios, tents, and vehicles.

He added: "In order to protect the planet's remaining biodiversity, we must fully recognise that wildlife rangers are key workers of conservation and are integral to urgent global efforts to maintain the world's ecological balance."

Nick Bubb, CEO of Tusk said: "The internationally agreed biodiversity plan would require a huge increase in the number of employed wildlife rangers needed to achieve climate mitigation and biodiversity goals. Focused events such as the WRC allow Ranger teams to unlock much needed grants and galvanise international support for the profession."

The wildlife ranger challenge has become a lifeline for Africa's rangers. It raises vital matched funds that help to improve working conditions and provide professional training and field equipment.

Despite the vital nature of their varied work with both wildlife and people, the wildlife ranger profession is not fully understood. To be a ranger in Africa is to carry out hazardous and sometimes life-threatening work.

Rangers face threats to life from armed poachers and illegal wildlife trafficking networks, as well as attacks from predatory animals: violence, injury, disease and death are not uncommon in the line of duty.

They endure tropical diseases, dehydration, bushfires and the isolating effects of long periods away from home.

There is also a critical lack of insurance cover

for rangers and their families: 50 percent of Rangers have no life insurance.

The cornerstone of a ranger's role is liaison with local communities. Rangers act as diplomats, educators, intermediaries and peacekeepers, educating local people as to the broad benefits of wildlife conservation and encouraging them to live peacefully alongside endangered wildlife.

Wildlife rangers play an essential but often overlooked role in preserving Africa's diverse ecosystems. Their duties extend far beyond the public's perception of anti-poaching operations. Rangers are involved in habitat monitoring, environmental education, fire management, dog training, ecological research, intelligence gathering, collaring wildlife, and removing snares. They also assist injured animals and serve as emergency first responders for local communities.

The wildlife ranger challenge seeks to elevate the ranger profession, raise awareness of their diverse responsibilities, and secure vital funds for their conservation efforts. It also aims to foster a sense of community among participants, highlighting the collective commitment to protecting Africa's invaluable natural heritage.



The historic town of Gedi in Kenya's coastal region has been inscribed on the World Heritage List by the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO).

Kenya's ancient coastal town added to the UNESCO World Heritage list

NAIROBI

THE historic town of Gedi in the coastal region of Kenya has been inscribed on the World Heritage List by the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO), the National Museums of Kenya (NMK) has said.

According to the NMK, this recognition underscores Gedi's historical and cultural signifi-

cance, cementing its place as a vital part of Kenya's rich heritage and scenic attraction.

"We are deeply honoured by this inscription, which highlights the importance of preserving and promoting our cultural heritage," Mary Gikungu, director general of the NMK, said in a statement released in Nairobi, Kenya.

"The recognition of Gedi as a World Heritage Site not only elevates its status on the global stage but also reaffirms our

commitment to safeguarding our national treasures for future generations," Gikungu added.

An archaeological site that attracts hordes of tourists and anthropologists annually, Gedi town, which is now in ruins, showcases Swahili culture that thrived along the Indian Ocean coastline from the 13th to 17th centuries.

The ruins of Gedi include a series of stone houses, a palace, and a mosque sandwiched by a lush indigenous

forest. The site reflects the rich and sophisticated architecture of Swahili civilization.

It is expected that this designation will revitalize conservation efforts at the historic site, unlocking new opportunities for sustainable tourism, research, and international cooperation, said the NMK. Likewise, there will be concerted efforts to enhance visitors' experience at the site through improved infrastructure, educational programs,

and community engagement initiatives.

The eight World Heritage Sites hosted by Kenya include Lake Turkana National Park, Mount Kenya National Park/Natural Forest, Lamu Old Town, Sacred Mijikenda Kaya Forests, Fort Jesus, Kenya Lake System in the Great Rift Valley, Thimlich Ohinga Archaeological Site in western Kenya, and now the Gedi ruins, according to the NMK.

425m/- WASH facilities to benefit Hanang people

By Guardian Correspondent, Hanang

HANANG District Commissioner, Almishi Hazali said yesterday that the government is determined to ensure inclusive and safe Water, Sanitation and Hygiene (WASH) services to citizens, commending WaterAid Tanzania for constructing 425m/- worth facilities for residents at the area.

Hazali made the remarks when speaking during the handover of WASH facilities at Bashang and Laghanga dispensaries as well as Laghanga Primary School, in Hanang District, Manyara Region.

"WaterAid Tanzania funded implementation of projects for constructing toilet facilities, rainwater harvesting systems and water storage tanks. These projects will benefit nearly 20,048 people from Laghanga, Waretu, and surrounding villages," remarked the DC.

She called upon WaterAid Tanzania and other stakeholders to continue supporting government efforts towards ensuring inclusive and safe water and sanitation services.

WaterAid Tanzania Country Director, Ana Mzinga said the projects have been completed within one year with funding from The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints.

Mzinga said in September 2023, the organization launched implementation of the projects in Katesh during a stakeholder meeting, adding they are all completed and residents have started to benefit.

"We acknowledge the great cooperation we received from the government and experts as the projects are 100 percent complete," she said, mentioning them as the construction of improved toilet facilities, clean water distribution infrastructure, WASH facilities and provision of education to the community on the use of the new infrastructures.

Mzinga added that WaterAid Tanzania executes its activities in collaboration with the government for purposes of ensuring provision of clean and safe water, improved sanitation and safe hygiene environments to citizens.

Leah Kaguara, WaterAid Regional Director said the organization launched its new global strategy in 2022 and the East African Country programs including Tanzania developed and launched their strategies in 2023. She said the strategy will go up to 2028.

"Our 1st aim under this strategy focuses on supporting the attainment of sustainable inclusive and safe WASH services in the Hanang District for wider change while the second aim focuses on prioritizing WASH across the health sector to improve public health", she noted.

Kaguara said that ending the WASH crisis requires a massive shift, and that successes attained through the completed project contributes to the aimed shift.

WaterAid with support from donors like the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints will continue to work in Hanang District to support government initiatives that aim at ensuring that everyone has sustainable inclusive and safe WASH services.

Horror, grief, trauma in Ethiopia's Gofa a week after deadly landslides

By Samuel Getachew

FOR DAYS, retired teacher Meaza Tadelu has been holding on to hope that his missing wife may still be alive.

Barefoot and distraught, the frail 66-year-old looked on as younger volunteers dug through mud and earth in search of survivors in his village in Ethiopia's Gofa Zone.

"She left home in search of household goods in the nearby market and I suspect she was trapped by the mudslide," Tadelu, a local from the village of Daly, told Al Jazeera, his clothes and bony hands stained with mud.

The first disaster struck last Sunday, after days of torrential rains in the mountainous southern region triggered a deadly landslide that swept away houses and people.

Soon after, locals and police officers arrived to help. But another landslide on Monday swept even more people, including rescuers, away.

Tadelu's brother was among the volunteers who went to help.

"When my own brother went out to search for [my wife] at the landslide scene, he, too, died," he said, looking devastated.

Like most of the villagers, Tadelu has had barely any sleep all week. The ordeal has left him shaken and worried, bursting into tears whenever he speaks of the tragedy.

Ethiopian authorities say at least 257 people perished in the disaster, a death toll the United Nations's humanitarian agency, OCHA, expects to more or less double to 500.

According to OCHA, more landslides are feared, and some 15,500 people in the area are at risk of being affected, including at least 1,320 children under the age of five and 5,293 pregnant and lactating women.

On Sunday, a week after the tragedy, the wails of mourning women and crying children continued as mostly local men frantically excavated, searching for hundreds of loved ones who were swept away and buried beneath mud. Authorities said search operations were continuing through the weekend.

The mountainous region has made it nearly impossible for heavy machinery to reach the area. So dozens of people have been digging away throughout the day since Monday, excavating by hand, searching for the missing with the help of spades and pickaxes.

'He is gone'
Almaz Tadesae, a distraught mother in her 30s, sat in the embrace of her consoling sisters.

Tadesae lost her seven children in what felt like seconds, she said.

From her mud house in the hilly village of Daly, she witnessed her family engulfed by a tsunami of mud early on Monday morning.

They were returning home from a church service when the disaster ripped through the village. She had remained home that day, but now wishes she had not.

"I would be better dead than alive given the magnitude of grief that I am grappling with now," Almaz wept as she told Al Jazeera.

On a field perched atop a hill, which is typically used to host religious and national celebrations, people gathered on Thursday to attend a mass funeral for the dead.

The ceremony was quickly organised by the local government and attended by hundreds of villagers, including those who had



Hundreds of villagers attended a mass funeral for the victims of the landslide on Thursday



Locals dug through the mud with their bare hands in search of survivors

brought dead bodies on donkeys and carts to see them buried.

At the makeshift mourning ground, many people held photos of their missing family members, while donations were dropped off to help those affected by the landslides. On one side of the field, the dead were buried in unmarked graves.

There, 54-year-old Tamene Ayele was also mourning.

Ayele lost his family of four - including his youngest son who had rushed to the scene to find his siblings after the first wave of mudslides.

The 17-year-old was busy digging with his bare hands to help locate his family when the second landslide buried him alive.

Days on, with no trace of his son, bereaved Ayele is now convinced he, too, is dead.

"My son was a farmer like me, but had aspirations to go to college," Ayele said in between sobs.

"He worked and studied hard and was supposed to be the first [in the family] to go to college, but now he is gone," he added tearfully.

'Terrible loss'
Ethiopia, Africa's second-most populous

country, has one of the world's highest economic growth rates, and is one of the region's fastest growing economies.

Yet, the remote village of Daly and its grief-struck population are glaring evidence of the poverty that remains widespread.

Here, about 320km (199 miles) southwest of the Ethiopian capital, Addis Ababa, facilities are scarce, residents live in mud huts, infrastructure is desolate and no roads are paved.

The inability to get timely help, according to testimonies shared by locals, has made rescue efforts even more challenging.

In a statement, OCHA said the Ethiopian Red Cross only managed to arrive at the scene on July 23, with four trucks of life-saving supplies. Due to the heavy rains and difficult landscape, there are "significant challenges to physically access the affected areas", OCHA added.

Ethiopian Prime Minister Abiy Ahmed posted on X on Tuesday that he was "deeply saddened by this terrible loss", adding that the Federal Disaster Prevention Task Force has been deployed to the area and is working to reduce the impact of the disaster. But according to locals, the task force never arrived. Abiy, who paid a brief visit on Saturday with his wife to the disaster-struck village, planted a tree on the cemetery ground as a show of solidarity.

Plans to move the affected population are being finalised by the government, with more than 5,600 vulnerable people targeted for immediate evacuation, OCHA said on Friday.

Meanwhile, more than 500 people have been displaced, while locals said they are largely on their own trying to salvage the missing.

Amid lack of proper equipment and professional help, villagers spent days digging through the debris with anything they could improvise - including their hands, sticks, axes and shovels.

On Thursday, as they desperately dug away, young prisoners from a nearby detention centre were also brought in to help in the rescue efforts.

All the while, and despite assurances from local officials, the search for survivors has yielded limited success.

Increased landslides
Landslides have become a common phenomenon across the Greater Horn of Africa region, with experts attributing rapid deforestation in the mountainous zones as the leading cause.

In May 2016, about 50 people were killed following heavy rains and landslides, with some experts linking the extreme weather events to climate change.

Retired teacher Tadelu vividly remembers the 2016 landslide and the devastation it left behind.

Having lived near the struck site for 45 years, he said he had always anticipated this tragedy happening, but his efforts to alert local officials for possible mitigation measures bore no fruit.

And now he has been caught in it. Tadelu knows his brother is now lost, and with palpable anxiety he waits for news about his wife.

But with days having passed, he knows the chances of her being safe are slim.

At night, Tadelu said he grapples with sleeplessness as he cannot help replaying the natural disaster that wrecked his life.

Yet together with fellow villagers, he still waits - armed only with hope and fortitude - excavating through the debris around them in a desperate attempt to find at least some of their loved ones alive.

I just hope to find the closure I need to move onward," Tadelu said.

RADIO One RATIBA YA VIPINDI JUMATATU - JUMAPILI

MONDAY TIME PROGRAMME	TUESDAY TIME PROGRAMME	WEDNESDAY TIME PROGRAMME	THURSDAY TIME PROGRAMME	FRIDAY TIME PROGRAMME	SATURDAY TIME PROGRAMME	SUNDAY TIME PROGRAMME
05.00 AM HALI YA HEWA / KUMEPAMBAZUKA I 06.00 AM AMKA NA BBC 06.30 AM NIPASHE 06.50 AM MATANGAZO 07.00 AM NEWS BULLETIN 07.10 AM MATANGAZO 07.15 AM TAARIFA ZA BARABARANI 07.25 AM UDONDOZI WA MAGAZETI 07.40 AM KUMEPAMBAZUKA II 08.00 AM HABARI NYEPESI 08.10 AM KUMEPAMBAZUKA III 08.40 AM HABARI ZA BIASHARA 09.10 AM MATANGAZO 09.20 AM BRAND TALK 10.00 AM DEATH ANNOUNCEMENTS 10.10 AM YALIVOMO YAMO 13.00 HRS NEWS BULLETIN 13.10 HRS DEATH ANNOUNCEMENTS 13.30 HRS DJ SHOW 16.03 HRS DEATH ANNOUNCEMENTS 16.30 HRS HOJA YA LEO 18.30 HRS DIRA YA DUNIA BBC 19.30 HRS SPOTI LEO 20.00 HRS NEWS BULLETIN 20.10 HRS RADIO ONE DOCTOR 21.00 HRS NEWS BULLETIN 21.05 HRS DAKIKA 45 22.00 HRS NEWS BULLETIN (24 HRS) 22.15 HRS AFRO TIZI 23.00 HRS NEWS BULLETIN 23.03 HRS AFRO TIZI 01.00 - 05.00 HRS MUZIKI MCHANGANYIKO	05.00 AM HALI YA HEWA / KUMEPAMBAZUKA I 06.00 AM AMKA NA BBC 06.30 AM NIPASHE 06.50 AM MATANGAZO 07.00 AM NEWS BULLETIN 07.10 AM MATANGAZO 07.15 AM TAARIFA ZA BARABARANI 07.25 AM UDONDOZI WA MAGAZETI 07.40 AM KUMEPAMBAZUKA II 08.00 AM HABARI NYEPESI 08.10 AM KUMEPAMBAZUKA III 09.00 AM HABARI ZA BIASHARA 09.10 AM MATANGAZO 09.20 AM BRAND TALK 09.30 AM KUMEPAMBAZUKA SHERIA 10.00 AM NEWS BULLETIN 10.10 AM YALIVOMO YAMO 13.00 HRS NEWS BULLETIN 13.10 HRS DEATH ANNOUNCEMENTS 13.30 HRS DJ SHOW 16.03 HRS DEATH ANNOUNCEMENTS 16.30 HRS HOJA YA LEO 18.30 HRS DIRA YA DUNIA BBC 19.30 HRS SPOTI LEO 20.00 HRS NEWS BULLETIN 20.10 HRS MATANGAZO / MUZIKI 21.00 HRS NEWS BULLETIN 21.05 HRS CHAGUO LA DJ 22.00 HRS NEWS BULLETIN (24 HRS) 22.15 HRS AFRO TIZI 23.00 HRS NEWS BULLETIN 23.03 HRS AFRO TIZI 01.00 - 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Tembelea mitandao ya kijamii ya Radio One



Radio One



Thursday 1 August 2024

Recovery, favourable policies stimulate 'trillion' banks profitability

By Guardian Reporter

The country's economic recovery and improved business environment have continued to drive the positive performances of the banking industry, as many "trillion" banks ended the first half of this year smiling.

The second quarter's unaudited financial statements among selected large banks in Tanzania, with assets of more than 1trn/-, show positive trends on their books of account, specifically in the areas of profitability, assets recovery, deposits mobilization and lending.

Bankers say the increased profitability resulted from improvement of business environment, increased economic activities which led into the growing appetites for credits as well as the willingness of banks to lend more due to improved assets quality.

According to Bank of Tanzania (BoT) monetary report for July, credits to private sector have estimated to have grown by 16 percent, among the highest in East African Community (EAC).

Agriculture and personal loans contributed more to the observed credit growth, while personal loans, mainly directed to micro, small, and medium-sized enterprises, accounted for the largest share of total credit

to the private sector.

"Credit to the private sector is expected to remain strong, attributable to the recovery of economic activities coupled with an improving business environment and supportive policies," BoT says.

During the reported period, BoT says, the banking sector was liquid, profitable, and adequately capitalized, recording growth in deposits and assets.

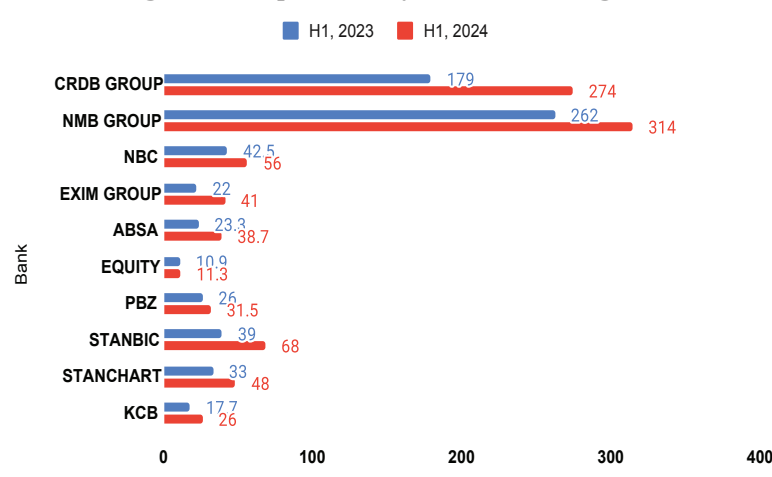
The increase in assets was in tandem with deposits, enabled by the agent-banking model, proliferation of financial products, and digital banking services, while the expansion of loans was attributable to the improved business environment, the central bank said.

"Liquidity in banks was adequate and enough for loan provision, with the ratio of liquid assets to demand liabilities, as well as to total assets hovering above the regulatory requirements," the report added.

The financial statements for the two leading banks of CRDB and NMB show that they recorded a combined net profit of 500bn/- during the first six months of this year, from 441bn/- recorded during the first half of last year, driven by both funded and non-funded incomes.

CRDB Bank, the largest bank in terms of assets, managed to expand its assets base to nearly 15trn/- during the end of June

Selected largest banks' profitability in billion shillings



this year, from 13.9trn/- at the end of March year, which has enabled it to consolidate its top position as the largest bank.

Its unaudited financial statement for the second quarter of this year, the bank also recorded the growth of profitability to 274.9bn/- during the first half of this year, of which 147bn/- were recorded during the second quarter, from a net profit of 179.9bn/- recorded during the first half of last year.

The bank's net interests income grew to 530bn/- during the first six months of this year, from 394bn/- attained during the first half of last year, while loans to various sectors of the economy expanded to 9.5trn/- at the end of June, 2024 compared to 8.8trn/- recorded in March 2024, with lowest NPLs rate of 2.3 percent.

The bank's customer deposits mobilization also experienced the posi-

tive trend, after closing the first half of this year at 9.9trn/- compared to 9.3trn/- recorded at the end of the first quarter of this year.

NMB Bank, the second largest in terms of assets and the most profitable recorded a net profit amounting to 314bn/- during the period of six months ended in June, compared to 262bn/- recorded during H1, 2023, pushing its earnings per share to 1,106/- from 1,048/- respectively.

Unaudited financial statement show the bank's deposits also went up to 8.9trn/- at the end of June this year, compared to 8.3trn/- recorded at the end of March this year, while lending to various sectors of the economy grew to 8.9trn/- from 7.8trn/- respectively.

Total assets increased to 12.9trn/- during the second quarter of this year, compared to 12.4trn/- recorded during the first quarter of this

year, maintaining its second largest position in Tanzania's banking sector.

During the period, the bank managed to increase the number of physical branches to 234 from 228, which also pushed up the number of employees to 3,776 at the end of June this year from 3,595 who were employed during the period ended in June last year.

The third largest NBC also recorded the considerable growth of profitability, after hitting 56bn/- during the first half of this year, from 42.5bn/- during similar period of last year.

The bank's unaudited financial statement shows the growth of profitability resulted into an increased funded and non-funded incomes.

Net interest income reached 120bn/- from 95bn/- as lending to various sectors of the economy expanded to 2.78trn/- at the end of June this year, compared to 2.5trn/- at the end of the first quarter of this year.

The bank's total asset increased to 4.1trn/- by June this year from 3.7trn/- by March this year, while customer deposits have hit 2.75trn/- from 2.5trn/- respectively. However, the number of branches remained unchanged at 47.

The statements show the fourth largest Exim Group attained a net profit of 41bn/- during the first half of this year, with expanded balance sheet as total assets reached 3.2trn/- at the end of June from 2.9trn/- at the end of March this year.

The group's loans also increased

to 1.68trn/- during the second quarter of this year from 1.60trn/- recorded during the first quarter of this year, while customer deposits increased by nearly ten percent to 2.4trn/- from 2.2trn/- respectively.

Stanbic bank total assets also expanded to 2.7trn/- with its net profit jumped to 68bn/- at the end of June, compared to 39bn/- recorded during similar period of last year.

Deposits mobilization slightly increased to 1.81trn/- during the end of June, compared to 1.80trn/- during the end of March, while lending to various sectors of the economy grew to 1.5trn/- from 1.3trn/- respectively.

Standard Chartered bank, with total assets of 2.3trn/- also recorded considerable growth of profitability after its net profit increased to 53bn/- from 40.2bn/-.

Deposits amounted to 1.4trn/- at the end of the second quarter from 1.29trn/- at the end of the first quarter, while the level of non-performing loans remained below the regulatory benchmark of five percent to 3.4 percent in Q2, from 3.6 percent in Q1, 2024.

Other trillion shillings banks which recorded an increase of profitability according to their unaudited financial statements include KCB (from 17.7bn/- to 26bn/-), Absa Tanzania (from 23.3bn/- to 38.7bn/-), Equity Bank (from 10.9bn/- to 11.3bn/-), People's Bank of Zanzibar from 26bn/- to 31.5bn/- and Diamond Trust Bank (from 8.4bn/- to 17.6bn/-).

Morocco trade with Tanzania rises ten times across 5 years

By Correspondent Daniel Semberya

The trade relations between Tanzania and Morocco grew remarkably to US\$285.5 million in 2022 from US\$28 million in 2016.

This was revealed yesterday in Dar es Salaam during the 25th Throne Day of the Kingdom of Morocco occasion hosted by the Ambassador of the Kingdom of Morocco to Tanzania Zakaria El Goumiri (pictured).

"This remarkable expansion not only highlights the potential for mutually beneficial collaboration but also raises optimistic expectations for our two countries progress and prosperity," the ambassador said.

The Ambassador commended the government for the existing strong bilateral cooperation between the two countries and the cordial relations between the two Heads of State, His Majesty Mohammed VI, King of Morocco, and Her Excellency Dr. Samia Suluhu Hassan, President of the United Republic of Tanzania.

"This Royal Vision resonates deeply in our longstanding relations with the United Republic of Tanzania. Our two countries are bound by 59 years of historic ties, rooted in our shared liberation struggle, and an unflinching commitment toward African causes and unity," he said.

He said that the King's visit to Tanzania in 2016 was a pivotal moment in the relationships of two countries.

"This Visit was not merely a symbolic gesture; it was a turning point in the evolution of our mutually beneficial relationship. It conveyed a deep commitment to advancing our bilateral collaboration, in line with the principles of South-South cooperation. It also successfully ushered in a new phase of engagement that is still yielding fruitful results today," he noted.

The historic visit resulted in the signing of 22 agreements and the opening of the Moroccan embassy in Dar es Salaam to further demonstrate enduring commitment to enhancing political dialogue and fostering deeper connec-



tions between the two countries.

"Since that momentous Visit, our cooperation has flourished across the board, and the frequency of political exchanges has grown significantly. Our two nations have also displayed excellent coordination and cooperation in various regional and international fora," he said.

"On the ground, our partnership is rapidly progressing, as evidenced by the notable presence of two major Moroccan companies operating in the Tanzanian market: Bank of Africa and OCP Group."

He explained that OCP Group embodies Morocco's commitment to fostering agricultural growth and sustainability of the sisterly Tanzania.

It is dedicated to improving soil fertility and productivity through the right fertilizers, technical guidance, and agronomic support, is truly commendable.

As a Moroccan global fertilizer player, OCP in Tanzania has been on the frontier to deliver the subsidized fertilizers to small holder farmers, an initiative that was launched by Her Excellency Dr. Samia Suluhu Hassan.

Over 180,000 tons of fertilizers supplied for the year 2023 and more than 800,000 farmers across Tanzania benefited directly and served by OCP Tanzania Limited, he said.

The ambassador said this move has contributed significantly in the Country's food Sovereignty as food security is Key.

The ambassador said the cooperation of two countries has also advanced significantly in the areas of training and education.

"This day celebrates a significant milestone in the history of our nation—the 25th anniversary of His Majesty King Mohammed VI's accession to the Throne of His glorious ancestors," he said.

"It is a day for all Moroccans to reflect and feel proud, as we honor the Vision and dedication of our Sovereign."

Bank launches innovative youth savings account

By Francis Kajubi

Absa Bank Tanzania has introduced a Youth Savings Account; a groundbreaking financial product designed specifically for young Tanzanians aged 18 to 30.

The new account will see customers deposit 1,000/- as an initial savings opening amount. Monthly interest rates on deposits of between four and six percent shall be offered depending on the amount deposited and the duration.

The bank has taken such a decision in consideration of the 21 million young population (34.5 percent) as per the National Bureau of Statistics (NBS) 2022 census as it sees potential in youths.

The new product marks a significant milestone in the bank's commitment to empowering the youth and fostering a culture of savings.

Addressing reporters yesterday in Dar es Salaam, Ndabu Swere, Head of Retail Banking at Absa Bank Tanzania, expressed her excitement in launching the new product and highlighted its importance.

"We are introducing an innovative product which targets young individuals aged 18 to 30, a demographic that represents a significant portion of Tanzania's population," said Swere.

She said the new product is designed to fill a crucial gap in the market. While the bank currently offers Child Savings Accounts for those under 18, managed by parents or guardians, there has been a lack of tailored products for young adults.

This gap has often forced young adults to seek financial services elsewhere, making it challenging for the bank to attract them back once they complete their education or start their busi-

nesses.

"Our new Youth Savings Account addresses this issue, aligning with our commitment to ESG principles and supporting the youth of Tanzania. At Absa Bank Tanzania, we are driven by our purpose; Empowering Africa tomorrow, together, one story at a time. We take a bold step forward with the introduction of the Absa Youth Savings Account, designed to foster a culture of savings among our youth," she said.

The product offers numerous benefits, including free unlimited deposits through Absa agents, ATMs, and branch channels, a free debit card upon account opening, free mobile and internet banking access, zero monthly maintenance fees, 24/7 account access via Absa's digital platforms, participation in youth-oriented programs and activities, such as career

fairs, youth events, and seminars and access to the Absa Twin Rewards cashback proposition.

Swere encouraged young Tanzanians to take advantage of this opportunity and open an Absa Youth Savings Account. This account is designed to help youth build a habit of saving and benefit from the unique advantages offered by the bank.

On his part, Aron Luhanga, Absa's Head of Marketing and Corporate Affairs, emphasized on the growth of the bank's brand in relation with the introduction of new products in the local market.

"This is more than a slogan; it's a commitment to walk alongside you, supporting you in your life's journey to help you write the best stories. We understand your past, envision your future, and pledge to support you every step of the way," he said.



Absa Bank Tanzania Head of Retail Banking, Ndabu Swere (C), addresses journalists at the launch of the bank's youth savings account in Dar es Salaam yesterday. She is with Aron Luhanga, Head of Marketing and Corporate Affairs, (L) and George Kaindoah, Product Manager, youth Account Liability. Photo: Guardian Correspondent

THE ROLE OF BRANCH BANKING IS CHANGING - PART ONE

BY KELVIN MKWAWA

As an increasing number of consumers use their mobile devices to conduct banking transactions, many wonder if this is the death knell for physical branches but I firmly believe that branches are still important for banks. There is no doubt now that consumers prefer products and services that are affordable, faster, and convenient; and that is the main reason why most of them prefer to use online and mobile banking products than physical branches.

But does this mean that the branches are dying? Not at all. Why? Because banking is fundamentally an industry of trust and branches play an important role in creating that trust between the bank and the customers.

The branches do that by creating a physical space where the customers have a chance to meet the people

whom they are entrusting their money.

Face-to-face personal interaction between consumers and banking officers remains essential in establishing trust for longer-term and more rewarding relationships.

Many consumers still prefer to speak to a banking officer for advice involving significant financial decisions even though they may be using mobile and digital banking products.

For example, if a customer has a problem or needs a piece of advice, where does he/she go? They go to the branch. This is where the banks can make a positive impression by resolving customer's problems and giving out financial advice that will help them achieve their goals. In addition, the branches allow the banks to differentiate themselves on customer experience and the value they offer.

Furthermore, it is worth noting that no technology can re-



Kelvin Mkwawa

place the physical presence of human beings in branches; there is no substitute for trust-building between consumers and bank employees.

Even though

technology cannot replace the physical presence of human beings, it did change customer behavior and the banks need to evolve with this change.

Also, technology offers the customers access to the bank at any time and this transformed the banking sector and how the role of bank branches.

The world is changing so the branches need to adapt to the new World hence their role has to change in this digitalization era. Most banks are reducing the number of their physical branches and streamlining the basic services within their branches.

However, if not carefully done, this might affect a bank's footprint, erode its market share, compromise its brand equity, and diminish customer trust.

As I have said earlier, fewer customers are visiting the physical branches so the banks need to ensure they extract maximum value for every customer's visit whilst maintaining excellent customer service. Therefore, the role of the bank branch needs to shift from a primary focus on making sales to offering

quality financial advice.

To do this, the banks need to re-evaluate the roles of branch banking, and here are my suggestions:

Offering Self-Services - Banks should transform branches into advisory service hubs. In this role, a branch becomes less about transactions and more about a positive consumer experience that leans on well-trained employees and "engaging self-service".

Branches should offer more self-service options; for example, deployment of 'smart ATMs (Automated Teller Machines)' in branches so the customers can deposit and withdraw funds themselves without the assistance of a branch employee. Still, the branch shouldn't replicate what can be done online or on a mobile app.

Instead, the branch should be used to educate consumers about the functionality of their digital channels and

to offer a connection with consumers that they can't get from digital.

Staff Re-alignment - Banks should staff branch employees differently. There should be greater utilization of general staff who can handle both sales and services to reduce the number of tellers in the branch. This can be done by training the branch staff to be more effective, faster, and efficient in performing traditional functions.

You can also employ new technologies to improve your employee's efficiency and digital tools to provide them with the knowledge they need to speak well and clearly to customers on the go.

Next week I will share two more suggestions for the new roles of branch banking.

Kelvin Mkwawa MBA is the seasoned banker. He can be reached through email address: Kelvin.mkwawa@gmail.com

CO-OPs SHARES OWNERSHIP IN THE KCBL



TheGuardianData



51%
Percentage of shares that Co-operatives likely to own in the KCBL's total shares



200,000/-
The value of shares that individuals in Co-operatives can secure in the KCBL



2 Million
The minimum value of shares that Co-operatives can secure in the KCBL

Billion
18 KCBL's working capital as of June 2024

Billion
7 CRDB Bank's value of shares in the KCBL

Million
190 Value of shares invested by KCU in the KCBL

Million
26 Value of shares invested by Magunga AMCOS in the KCBL

BANKING&FINANCE

all plans are well-organized with four branches namely: Dodoma, Kilimanjaro, Tandahimba and Tabora town.

"There will be maximum collaboration between the bank, the Agricultural Inputs Trust Fund and the Tanzania Agricultural Development Bank (TADB) in the execution of its duties. This partnership aims to strengthen financial services meant for Co-operatives," said Bashe.

Dr Cyril Komba, Senior Lecturer and Dean Faculty of Co-operative and Community Development, Moshi Co-operative University (MoCU), said that in South Africa cooperatives own many banks where there is no need for members to seek high interest loans from commercial banks.

He said that as at the end of last year, South Africa had more than 20 cooperative banks providing services to its members. Kenya comes first in the East African region with more than three cooperative banks.

According to the South African Co-operative Banking Sector Development Strategy of 2021 as prepared by the Cooperative Banks Development Agency in collaboration with the World Bank, in the decade following the end of apartheid, development partners provided assistance to grow the cooperative bank system based on the model of credit unions whereby all users are members.

The strategy states that these early efforts focused on developing a strong, independent association of cooperative banks that could aid with a 'train the trainer' approach.

The cooperatives operated under Exemption Notice No. 2173, which required membership in the Savings and Credit Co-operative League of South Africa (SACCOL) as a self-regulatory organization.

On the other hand, the South African Co-operative Banking Strategy Implementation report released in September 2023 by the Co-operative Strategy Implementation Steering Committee (SISC) there are about 29 Cooperative Banking Institutions (CBIs) and Co-operative Financial Institutions (CFIs), representing nearly 30,000 members, with the average membership of individual CBI being 1,000.

Collectively, cooperatives have mobilized over R400m in savings, which offers basic savings products. The total assets of the cooperative sector are over R500m.

It states that about R350m has been lent out to members in the form of loans; the majority of these loans are personal, and there is a trend toward productive loans (enterprise and housing loans). Relative to the assets in the sector, lending is very low.

"The main challenge is for the most of registered CBIs organized as community-based banks or as association-based, such as trade union based CBIs, as their common bond of membership;

There are also workplace and employer-based CBIs. In that regard, SISC proposes the establishment of the National Secondary Cooperative Bank to cater for existing and future possible challenges," reads part of the report.

To be continued.

SPECIAL REPORT

AMCOS eye majority ownership in proposed co-operative bank-3

By Francis Kajubi

THE Agricultural Marketing Cooperative Societies (AMCOS) and other cooperative unions have opted to inject a reasonable collective working capital in the Kilimanjaro Cooperative Bank Limited (KCBL) with the intention of achieving a 51 percent shares ownership in the new designed Cooperative Bank of Tanzania (CBT).

The anticipated investment percentage in the bank's portfolio is mostly likely to guarantee cooperative union members the ownership of the KCBL which shall be transformed into the CBT before the end of this year.

The decision comes after the Cooperative Societies under the custodian of the Tanzania Cooperative Development Commission (TCDC) have started investing in the KCBL and in economic projects for the purpose of transforming cooperatives operations to modern commercialized approaches and therefore generating handsome profits that will benefit members through the accumulation of handsome annual dividends.

Speaking to this journalist in separate interviews recently, some leaders from various cooperative unions expressed their intention of investing in the new bank which is expected to start providing financial services this year through the purchase of its

shares.

Ress Mashurano, Chairperson Kagera Co-operative Union (KCU) said that the union formed by 141 AMCOS has already invested shares worth 190mn/- in the Kilimanjaro Co-operative Bank Limited (KCBL) which is one of the two banks that are merged under the Bank of Tanzania (BoT) to form the CBT.

"It is important for cooperative unions to ensure that this bank becomes theirs through the ownership of a large percentage of its shares. We need a strong common voice for decision-making in the bank;

We at KCU believe that this bank will be safe under the ownership of Co-operative unions and not private investors," said Mashurano.

Monica Fidelis, Extension Officer and member of Magunga AMCOS in Korogwe district in Tanga region said that the AMCOS has invested shares worth 26mn/- in the capital of KCBL to ensure that it becomes part of the ownership of the new CBT bank.

"The plan of establishing the cooperative bank has been there since 2012. There was a working capital benchmark challenge for KCBL several years after the plan was put in place and it led to delays of its establishment;

We are currently encouraging each other to buy shares so that we have ownership that gives us the right to make final decisions," said Monica.

Jeremiah Pastory, KCBL Sales and Marketing Officer told The Guardian that CBT shareholders are categorized into six groups namely: cooperative unions, individuals, companies, government institutions, non-governmental organizations and community groups.

He said cooperative unions should have 51 percent majority ownership because they are the core owners of the bank and the remaining 49 percent should be owned by other shareholders.

"The process of transforming KCBL into a national Co-operative bank began in 2012. As of 2020, it was placed under the supervision of CRDB Bank Plc for four years until the end of this year where CRDB invested shares worth 7bn/- apart from deployment of five executives," Pastory said.

Pastory asserted that as of June this year, KCBL has managed to raise its working capital to 18bn/- while cooperative unions own 48 percent of shares, which is a shortfall of 2bn/- worth of shares needed to close the 51 percent ownership gap.

"That is why we have been in a campaign to encourage Co-operative unions to invest in their bank. When cooperative unions have a large ownership, it will make CBT prioritize the allocation of reasonable loans to cooperatives at low interest rates and that will be the difference with other commercial

banks," said Pastory.

He explained that KCBL will be merged with Tandahimba cooperative Bank Limited (TCBL) to form the CBT.

According to him, CRDB Bank Plc has already invested shares worth 3.2bn/- in TCBL to enable it to strengthen itself with the merger that is expected to bring about an investment revolution in the cooperatives sector.

Pastory asserted that currently the sale of shares is ongoing whereby individuals in cooperative unions are allowed to buy shares valued up to 200,000/- which is equal to 400 shares whereas for cooperatives the minimum investment capital is 4,000 shares which is equal to 2mn/-.

Samson Mwende, Chairperson Mombo Irrigation Scheme Agricultural cooperative society Limited, Korogwe Rural district in Tanga region said that the cooperative has so far invested 2mn/- in shares of the proposed bank.

"We did the investment of shares in KCBL at the beginning of this year; we expect it will enable us to become part of the ownership. There is a plan to invest another 2mn/- before the share purchase window is being closed," said Mwende.

Minister for Agriculture Hussein Bashe said that CBT will commence the offering of services with effect in September this year if



By Alley Mtatya

Digital marketing and its paradigms

Advertising and Marketing in the 4th and 5th paradigms is quite complex, sophisticated and likely uncontrollable in this new age of social media. Thought I'd leave this topic for later but how later than now! Anyone or everyone these days has a social media account be it on Facebook, Instagram, X, LinkedIn, TikTok, Snap Chat and the list goes on. These social media sites occasionally have trend setters that disrupt the market on a daily basis and once this happens it

becomes an opportunity for brands or products to relate their brands or products to this disruption. It could be outfits that a popular musician wears, popular food spot or lounge that pulls a certain crowd, a trending topic or video, but whatever it is brands take this opportunity to use what is trending to attach to their product and service. Each brand has its own persona, some brands can adapt to change and work with modern time or trends and some brands stick to traditional marketing culture whereby observing respect, ethics or professionalism.

Digital social corporate responsibility Vast amounts of data is being shared and debated on social media. Unwittingly some brands are funding and appearing on some inappropriate or negative trending events or digital pages putting their brand reputation at harm's way. Brand equity and brand reputation in this day and age, one should run parallel to brand safety and brand suitable content and this should also be a strategic narrative for any brand or business. Businesses or Marketers want to invest where consumers are and when they connect it should be in a meaningful and in a brand safe environment, this ensures that consumers have a meaningful connection with the brand. One can strategize on various ways that a brand can protect itself at this point. Marketers are acutely sensitive and conscious to the issue of brand safety and the level of knowledge on how to keep a brand safe. This is a hot topic in this paradigm. Both the 4th and 5th paradigms have brought about a new space for a new business service. Like two years ago a 'certain' company launched a product that offers very sophisticated contextual digital targeting solution for businesses. With

this solution brands are able to run their products and services adjacent to content that does not damage their reputation. 5th Paradigm. Sounds like a movie title! But unfortunately not. Marketing has transgressed through many paradigms. A paradigm is a collection of opinions and concepts, a set of theories and ideas that contribute to a particular field of study or work space. In short, in relation to marketing it is about how Marketers work and study these theories that have shifted the sector to a new direction. The theory goes as follow, Marketing started from the first paradigm which was product marketing, which then shifted to Emotional Marketing then to Data Driven Marketing then to Digital and Social Media Marketing and now we are in the fifth paradigm which is known as "The Metaverse or Quantum Marketing". For many developing countries that still remain or are accustomed to the Fourth Paradigm - Digital and Social Media Marketing, Brand safety is a difficult topic to fathom, while those in the developed world are in their second year of Quantum Marketing and have deployed brand safe technology, and at the same time shifted

much closer to their customers for a very personal and emotional brand experience. If you were fortunate to read my previous articles they go into "the deep" on the Metaverse Marketing. As these paradigms keep evolving brand safety and online marketing is becoming ever difficult to control. However, it has fortunately enough created a new business space on sophisticated contextual targeting solutions. The current technology is this new space (5th Paradigm) has allowed business to create software such as applications that can crawl the web and identify information based on the sentiment of the content and the semantic of the content. In short, this technology is able to identify the emotion of a content. Hard to believe! I know. Many of us marketers have been fortunate enough to have studied the Principles of Marketing from the very first edition by Philip Kotler. Kotler further released his book on Marketing 5.0 on February 2021. This book provides Marketers with insights into Marketing with integrated technology to address customer needs. For any Marketer, Kotler is considered the Father of Marketing who has helped us understand all 5 paradigms and apply them in the real world.

PM urges banks to support health-related programs



Prime Minister Kassim Majaliwa listens to head of communications and public Relations department, NBC Bank Godwin Semunyu (2nd L), during his visit to the exhibition booth of the bank's services specifically for stakeholders in the health sector at the National Human Resources for Health Conference organized by the Benjamin Mkapa Foundation in Dar es Salaam. Others present include Minister of Health, Umy Mwalimu (R), and Benjamin Mkapa Foundation CEO Dr Ellen Senkoro (C). Photo: Guardian Correspondent.

By Guardian Reporter

PRIME Minister Kassim Majaliwa has tasked the banking industry to venture more in developing the health sector in the country through banking services and various programmes aimed at improving the important sector. Majaliwa made the call on Tuesday in Dar es Salaam when visited the NBC's booth at the National Human Resources for Health (HRH) Conference organized by the Benjamin Mkapa Foundation (BMF). He said that it's high time for the Tanzanian banks to come up with products that promote the health sector, which is a key pillar in socio-economic development. He noted that the banking industry can develop if it works with a healthier population and to realise that is to come up with something that cherishes the health of the people. Majaliwa also applauded the bank's efforts in developing healthier products for the Tanzanian population, urging other banks to do the same for the development of the country.

He also stated that the government appreciates the significant contribution made by the bank and other stakeholders in supporting the important sector. "Just recently, I led the bank's organised Dodoma Marathon that took place in Dodoma, where a total of 300 million was raised for various healthcare initiatives, especially in saving the lives of mothers and children. In Zanzibar, they have also been funding free diagnostic services for pregnant women through mobile clinics, among many other efforts. We greatly value the significant contribution made by the bank and other stakeholders in supporting this important sector," he remarked. Health Minister, Umy Mwalimu also commended the bank for its efforts in the health sector, promising to continue collaborating with the bank in implementing various projects in the health sector, especially those targeting the health of mothers and children. Godwin Semunyu, the bank's head of communications and public Relations department outlined the bank's multifaceted approach to supporting the health sector. "In addition to providing banking

services and financing healthcare infrastructure and equipment, NBC actively sponsors and conducts numerous healthcare programs throughout the country," he explained. He further highlighted the bank's initiatives, such as the Dodoma Marathon, which raised funds to combat cervical cancer among mothers, as well as scholarships for 100 midwives in partnership with the Benjamin Mkapa Foundation. He also mentioned the bank's contribution to the construction of a surgical room at the Muhimbili National Hospital (MNH). Semunyu also emphasized the bank's efforts in providing collateral-free loans to healthcare service providers, enabling them to expand their businesses and improve access to quality medical services. "The bank has also donated critical medical equipment to hospitals across various regions, demonstrating its holistic approach to supporting the health sector," he added. The meeting provided a platform for key stakeholders in the health industry to showcase their contributions and collaborations.

BANKING & FINANCE



AfDB headquarters in Abidjan

AfDB partners Italian institution to bolster Africa's private sector

ABIDJAN

Italy's National Promotional Institution Cassa Depositi e Prestiti (Cdp) and the African Development Bank Group plan to jointly invest up to €400 million over five years, to boost the continent's private sector growth through the newly established Growth and Resilience Platform for Africa (GRAf). Under the new collaboration, both financial institutions will support the continent's economic growth through targeted strategic projects, promote the exchange of information among stakeholders, and facilitate joint investment opportunities. The new platform is expected to accelerate the implementation of new African private sector initiatives promoted by the private sector in and create a single access point for investment opportunities. Each institution will contribute up to €200 million which will be channeled into Africa's economy through private equity and venture capital funds operating in three main areas, namely food security, local SME growth and sustainable infrastructure. The Growth and Resilience Platform for Africa will mobilise an additional €350 million from other sources and bring the pool of investment capital to €750 million. These collaborative investments allow future investors to gain new insights into the African private sector and

share investment opportunities in funds operating on the continent. The platform is also expected to significantly contribute to job creation and improvements in the delivery of essential products and services across the continent. The initiative, presented by Prime Minister Giorgia Meloni at the recent G7 summit in Borgo Egnazia, is part of the Mattei Plan for Africa, the Italian strategic initiative unveiled in 2022, to forge a new era of mutual partnership and sustainable development. The Plan will focus on energy cooperation, security and stability, and cultural and scientific exchanges. According to Dario Scannapieco, CEO and General Manager of Cassa Depositi e Prestiti, "Through our renewed collaboration with the African Development Bank Group, we are establishing a significant new channel to mobilize up to €750 million for projects and initiatives that directly benefit Africa. This effort aligns with our government's commitment through the Mattei Plan. The long-term development of our country is intrinsically linked to the growth of the African continent, particularly its private sector. We are confident that this new partnership will generate substantial opportunities for our businesses in strategic sectors such as agriculture, infrastructure, and manufacturing, where our country excels."

Bank commits to nurture future leaders

By Guardian Reporter

THE Stanbic Bank Tanzania has launched the graduation of its latest cohort from the Graduate Trainee Programme, an initiative aimed at nurturing and developing the next generation of leaders within the banking sector. This transformative programme underscores the bank's commitment to fostering local talent and driving innovation in the financial industry. Since its inception, the bank's Graduate Trainee Programme has been instrumental in strengthening the bank's internal talent pipeline.

With a 93 percent retention rate, the programme has demonstrated its effectiveness in selecting and nurturing top talent. Graduates from previous cohorts, such as Mise Chikoma, now a Client Insights Manager, and Natasha Mbagi, a Relationship Manager at Stanbic Bank Uganda, exemplify the programme's success in building a strong leadership bench. Rabina Masanja, Head of the bank's People and Culture, emphasized the programme's impact, stating: "We take immense pride in the achievements of our previous cohorts. Their success stories are a testament to the programme's efficacy

and our commitment to developing top-tier talent." Manzi Rwegasira, the bank's CEO expressed his enthusiasm for the new direction of the programme, saying: "As we celebrate the graduation of this exceptional group, we also look forward to the implementation of a new 12-month model for future cohorts. This shift is designed to provide our trainees with enhanced expertise and quicker integration into substantive roles. We believe that this focused approach will not only benefit our graduates but also bring substantial value to the bank."

Rwegasira said the graduates have gained hands-on experience across various departments, preparing them for substantive roles within the bank. The graduation event celebrated the accomplishments of the current cohort, who have demonstrated resilience, innovation, and a commitment to excellence over the past 18 months. Rwegasira encouraged the graduates, stating: "As you step into your new roles, I urge you to embrace innovation and continuous learning. Your journey at Stanbic Bank is just beginning, and I am confident that you will make significant contributions, not just to our bank, but to the broader financial landscape."

WORLD

UK finance minister: We will need to raise taxes in Oct budget

LONDON

NEW British Finance Minister Rachel Reeves said on Tuesday she would need to raise taxes in her Oct 30 budget, confirming expectations of such a move after she earlier this week set out a 22 billion pound shortfall in this year's budget.

"I think that we will have to increase taxes in the budget," said Reeves, who took control of the Finance Ministry following the Labour Party's resounding election win on July 4. She made the comments in an interview with The News Agents podcast.

Reeves had previously stopped short of explicitly confirming that taxes would rise but had said "difficult decisions" would be needed in the budget, including on tax.

She did not say which taxes would be increased, and repeated her commitment not to raise the rates of income tax, National Insurance social security payments, value-added tax and corporation tax.

The tax increase will come on top of 13.5 billion pounds worth of spending cuts over the next two years that were announced on Monday. Reeves said the cuts were needed because the previous Conservative government had covered up the true state of the public finances.

The Conservative Party, which was in power for the last 14 years, denies those accusa-

tions and says Labour had always planned to increase taxes.

Higher housebuilding targets

Also on Tuesday, the new government set out mandatory housing targets for councils in England with a view to delivering 1.5 million more homes before the next election, aided by an overhaul of the planning system.

New Prime Minister Keir Starmer has made reforms to planning a key plank of his plans to reinvigorate Britain's growth after a Labour election victory, and his government has said the country needs to build more homes.

Deputy Prime Minister Angela Rayner said the government would aim for 370,000 new houses to be built each year, up from the current target of 300,000, as she outlined plans she acknowledged would be controversial but said were necessary.

"These are the right reforms for the decade of renewal the country so desperately needs, and we will not be deterred by those who seek to stand in the way of our country's future," Rayner told parliament.

Doubts persist

However, industry experts have questioned whether the policies will be enough, asking if local planning authorities will work with the government to quickly approve new projects.



Britain's Chancellor of the Exchequer Rachel Reeves speaks during a press conference at the Treasury in central London on Sunday. AFP

House builders, infrastructure groups and investors have long complained that planning laws have prevented them from building, with local communities often able to tie projects up in reviews and legal challenges.

Rayner said there would be an eight-week consultation on the National Planning Policy Framework, with a view to publishing revisions before the end of the year, to speed up the policy changes.

Building in Britain has been constrained by the "green belt", land that limits the expansion of towns and cities and which made up around 13 percent of the total land area in England in March 2023.

Polls show Britons are opposed to building across the land and Labour has proposed a new category of "grey belt" - lower quality parts of the green belt, near existing developments or roads, as well as old petrol stations and car parks.

The government has also restored mandatory house-building targets for local authorities and said that local people will be stopped from blocking new developments, meaning they would only be able to shape how, not if, projects are built.

"We need a 'robust' approach from the government to tackle local authorities dragging their heels on implementing new housing rules and clamping down on the ability of residents to block housing developments," said Graham Prothero, CEO of low-cost homebuilder MJ Gleeson.

As well as building new houses - Rayner said less than 200,000 homes were set to be built this year - the government is also trying to make it easier to build key infrastructure including onshore wind and solar projects, opens new tab

Pro-growth campaign group Britain Remade said "breaking the taboo on the green belt is brave and necessary".

But the government could still face a challenge from environmentalists, especially if it seeks a wide definition of grey belt.

Xi urges efforts to realise 2024 economic goals

BEIJING



Xi Jinping, general secretary of the Communist Party of China (CPC) Central Committee, has called for striving to realize economic and social development goals in 2024.

The CPC Central Committee held a symposium on July 26 with non-CPC personages to seek opinions and suggestions on the country's current economic situation and economic work for the second half of the year.

Xi (pictured) presided over the symposium and delivered an important speech. To do the economic work well for the second half of the year, the general principle of pursuing progress while ensuring stability should continue to be followed, Xi said.

China has set its annual GDP growth target for 2024 at around 5 percent. The country's GDP expanded 5 percent year on year in the first half of 2024.

Efforts should be made to fully and faithfully apply the new development philosophy on all fronts, accelerate the building of a new pattern of development, develop new quality productive forces in light of local conditions, and promote high-quality development, Xi said.

He also stressed further deepening reforms, strengthening macro regulation, boosting the vitality of market entities, stabilizing market expectations, boosting the positive economic recovery momentum and improving people's livelihoods.

Li Qiang, Wang Huning, Cai Qi and Ding Xuexiang, all members of the Standing Committee of the Political Bureau of the CPC Central Committee, attended the symposium.

Li briefed the symposium on the economic work in the first half of the year and considerations about the economic work for the second half. Leaders of eight non-CPC parties, the head of the All-China Federation of Industry and Commerce, and a representative of personages without party affiliation made remarks at the meeting, raising suggestions on such topics as deepening reform across the board, promoting high-level opening-up, strengthening the industrial and technological foundation for new quality productive forces, and lifting the confidence in the private economy.

The Chinese economy continued its recovery trend through the first half of the year, making new strides in high-quality development, Xi said.

He noted that the economy faces some difficulties and problems, yet these issues have arisen in the course of development and transformation, and can be overcome. He stressed the need to remain confident, maintain strategic resolve, and address problems and challenges proactively.

Xi called on non-CPC parties and personages to adopt the correct perspective on the situation and the problems that are encountered during reform and development, and to work together to overcome various risks and challenges.

He also urged research on major reform measures proposed at the third plenary session of the 20th CPC Central Committee, on major issues in social and economic development, and on preparations for the 15th Five-Year Plan (2026-2030), which would provide reference for the CPC Central Committee's scientific decision-making.

Xinhua

Venezuelan president blames opponent for post-election violence

CARACAS/MEXICO CITY

VENEZUELAN President Nicolas Maduro on Tuesday blamed the opposition's presidential candidate, Edmundo Gonzalez Urrutia, for the post-election violence unleashed across the nation.

"I hold you responsible, Mr. Gonzalez Urrutia, for everything that is happening in Venezuela, for the criminal violence, for the criminals, for the injured, for the dead, for the destruction," the president said in a message broadcast to the nation during a joint meeting of the Council of State and the Defense Council.

The president also announced the creation of a fund to aid victims of the violence. Venezu-

elan authorities have arrested 749 people for participating in violent riots following Sunday's presidential elections, Attorney General Tarek William Saab said Tuesday.

Those arrested face charges of "incitement, obstructing public roads, hate crimes ... resisting arrest and, in the most serious cases, terrorism," the attorney general said at a press conference.

According to Saab, as a result of the violence, 48 military and police officers have been injured, some by gunshots, and a military officer in northern Aragua state was killed.

Authorities have verified that far-right groups have been using minors and people under the



influence of drugs in riots in various cities in Venezuela.

The riots, Saab said, are not protests but rather the work of "armed criminals" looking "to

create chaos. They wanted ... this to escalate to the national level ... so there is foreign intervention."

Caracas cuts ties with Lima Also on Tuesday, Venezuelan

Foreign Affairs Minister Yvan Gil announced that the Venezuelan government has decided to sever diplomatic relations with Peru.

"The Government of the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela has decided to sever diplomatic relations with the Republic of Peru, on the basis of Article 45 of the Vienna Convention on Diplomatic Relations of 1961," Gil said on social media platform X.

Gil's announcement followed statements by his Peruvian counterpart, Javier Gonzalez-Olaechea, who said, "Peru will not accept the violation of the popular will of the Venezuelan people," referring to the country's presidential election.

Russia sees no basis for strategic stability dialogue with US – diplomat

MOSCOW

MOSCOW currently sees no real interest from Washington to engage in dialogue on strategic stability and arms control, Russian Foreign Ministry Spokeswoman Maria Zakharova said in a statement.

"As for paving the way for Russia-US dialogue on strategic stability and arms control, it's crucial for Washington to abandon - not in words, but in practice - its insane policy of trying to undermine our national security, maintaining confrontation with Russia and inflicting 'a strategic defeat' on our country, as well as its defiant disregard for Russia's interests.

Furthermore, any potential discussions on the issue must be comprehensive, focusing on resolving key security issues such as NATO's aggressive east-



ward expansion.

At this point, we see neither any real interest from Washington to engage in

dialogue nor any reason to launch it," the diplomat pointed out.

She also pointed to statements by Assistant Secretary of State for Arms Control, Verification, and Compliance Malory Stewart, who had said that Russia linked the resumption of arms control dialogue with the need for the US to end its support for the Kiev regime.

"Such an interpretation of Russia's positions appears to be at minimum oversimplified and one-sided. It's more than just about Ukraine," Zakharova went on to say.

"First of all, Stewart tried to shift the responsibility for the collapse of the arms control system to Russia. However, when she was reminded of the US withdrawal from the Anti-Ballistic Missile Treaty and the Intermediate-Range Nuclear Forces Treaty, she immediately changed her

tune, claiming that such accusations would lead nowhere, so they're better put aside," Zakharova stressed.

The Russian Foreign Ministry spokeswoman also noted that it was the US that pulled out of the Open Skies Treaty and refused to ratify the Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty.

In addition, Washington and its NATO allies sought to use the post-Soviet space for their own political and military purposes at the expense of Russia's core security interests.

"And when they faced resistance, they unleashed a hybrid war, seeking to inflict 'a strategic defeat' on our country on the battlefield," Zakharova emphasized.

She warned that such actions might lead to a direct clash between nuclear powers.

Agencies

Sunday at the Games shows need for mental strength

PARIS

Sunday may have only been the second day of competition at the Paris Olympic Games, but it highlighted an aspect that until recently seemed to be a taboo subject for athletes - mental health.

Women's mountain bike champion Pauline Ferrand-Prevot ended her three-Games medal jinx with a dominant display in her race and then explained that she thought it was just as important to train her mind as it was to train her body.

"I think mental preparation is half of your total preparation,

you train your body and push the boundaries and at times we forget what we do with our mindset," the French cyclist explained in her press conference.

"We have to suffer, so my mental preparation allowed me to accept and almost enjoy the pain," she added, whose new aim is to win the Tour de France.

Sunday evening saw British swimmer Adam Peaty in tears after winning a silver medal in the 100 meters breaststroke, but Peaty explained later that he was not crying because he had missed out on a third consecutive gold in the event by just two-hundredths

of a second.

"It's not about the end goal, it's all about the process. It doesn't matter what the scoreboard says. I'm already a winner. I'm not crying because I came second, I'm crying because of the journey," said the swimmer.

Peaty has documented his struggles in recent years, fully admitting that he was close to retiring after a "breakdown," and a "self-destructive spiral", which saw heavy drinking and a separation from his partner.

"It has been a very long way back (...) I gave my absolute all there," he commented as he re-

ceived hugs from his young son.

Kimberly Woods also beat the odds to take a surprise bronze medal in the women's K1 canoe slalom final.

The 28-year-old has previously spoken of suffering from childhood bullying due to her build, depression and self-harm incidents when injury stopped her from training, leading her to check herself into a mental health clinic.

"I can't believe how long my journey's been. I've been paddling for 20 years and finally have a medal around my neck. I'm hoping to be going for another 10 (years), but we'll see how my body

handles up," she said.

And of course, Sunday also saw the triumphant return of U.S. gymnast Simone Biles on her "redemption tour," after mental health issues saw her withdraw from several events in Tokyo and took her to the verge of retirement after two years out of the sport, but still very much in the spotlight.

Biles was back on Sunday, finishing her subdivision as the highest all-round qualifier. Watched by a host of Hollywood celebrities, to show that at the very highest level, it is not just one's body that has to be in shape.

Xinhua

I can't believe how long my journey's been. I've been paddling for 20 years and finally have a medal around my neck. I'm hoping to be going for another 10 (years), but we'll see how my body handles up



Moroccan King calls for mitigating severe water shortages

TETOUAN

MOROCCO'S King Mohammed VI highlighted the importance of mitigating water shortages that has taken its toll on the North African country which has been going through severe drought in the last six years.

"Six consecutive years of drought have had a profound impact on water reserves and groundwater, making the water situation more and more fragile and complex," said the Moroccan monarch in a speech to mark the 25th anniversary of ascending the throne.

King Mohammed VI (pictured) instructed the authorities concerned to take urgent, innovative steps in order to avoid water shortages.

"I have been insisting on the optimal implementation of all components of the 2020-2027 National Program for the Supply of Drinking Water and Irrigation Water, which has contributed - by the Grace of the Almighty - to mitigating the severity of the water situation," he stressed.

The monarch insisted on the regular updating of the national water policy mechanisms, and the establishment of a strategic goal - regardless of the conditions or circumstances - which is to provide drinking water to all citizens, and mobilize at least 80% of the irrigation water needed, across the national territory.

"In this regard, it is necessary to complete the dam construction program and to give priority to the dams planned in the areas receiving significant rainfall," he said.

He recommended accelerating the completion of large-scale projects for inter-basin transfers: those from the Oued Laou and Loukkos basins to the Oum Er-Rbia basin, through the Sebou and Bouregreg basins, which will make it possible to retain one billion cubic meters of water that is being lost to the sea.

"These projects will allow for a balanced distribution of national water resources across regions." He added.

The monarch called for speeding up



the completion of seawater desalination plants, according to the program set for this purpose, and which aims to produce more than 1.7 billion cubic metres annually.

"By 2030, Morocco will cover more than half its drinking water needs thanks to these desalination plants. This will also make it possible to irrigate vast farming areas, thereby helping to enhance the country's food security," he said, adding that the Casablanca desalination plant will be the largest of its kind in Africa, and the second worldwide to be 100% powered by clean energy.

"The greatest challenge remains the completion of the plants programmed and the related renewable energy projects on time and without delay," he said.

King Mohammed VI stressed the necessity to expedite the completion of the electrical connectivity project to transfer renewable energy from the southern provinces to the country's central and northern areas as soon as possible.

"With that in mind, I am calling for the development of a national water desalination industry as well as courses for the training of specialized engineers and technicians. I also encourage the creation of Moroccan companies specialized in the construction and maintenance of desalination plants," he said.

"In this regard, let me stress that there is no room for any negligence, delay, or mismanagement in such a crucially vital sector as that of water," he added.

Agencies

Daley: Sixth Olympic? You never know

PARIS

FOR Tom Daley, a silver on Monday was more like a bonus for his fifth Olympic Games in Paris. But the 30-year-old diving star, who thought he should have retired after the Tokyo Games, didn't rule out a next one.

Daley, 30, has been Britain's diving icon for quite a long time. At the age of 15, he stunned the world by triumphing in the 10m platform at the 2009 World Championships in Rome and kept along with many medal winning moments in major events in his starlit career.

Due to injury and fatigue, Daley considered retirement in 2018. But the birth of his son Robbie changed his perspective. "Diving is all the more important now because I have someone I want to make proud," Daley once said at that time.

When Chen Aisen and Cao Yuan from the Chinese diving dream team stumbled at the Tokyo Games, Daley and his partner Matty Lee held their nerves to take the chance.

Daley thought he was ready to say farewell to his diving career after this achievement and he did take a break for two years until he visited an Olympic and Paralympic Museum in Colorado Springs with his family in 2023.

"At the end we watched this inspirational video of all these amazing moments of the Olympics and what it means to be an athlete and the inspirational journey to get there," Daley recalled.

"I sat there with Robbie and I just wept. It was like I hadn't grieved diving. In theory I had retired but coming out of that museum something changed in me where I don't think I was ready to be done, especially when my son said to me, 'Papa, I want to see you dive at the Olympics'."

Daley resumed training but didn't want to believe that he was going to be in the fifth Olympics until he and new partner Noah Williams completed all of their training dives.

"Because even all the way through this, I know that at any moment you can get injured and not be able to compete," said Daley. "I knew that I got to the start line in one piece and be able to do that with Noah has been really special."

It's even more special as Daley's two sons as well as many family members

and friends were watching from the stands.

"Before we even started the competition, I felt like I had achieved what I wanted," said Daley. "To be able to dive in front of my kids and my family that was just something really special and an experience that I will never forget."

Daley still has a clear memory of his first Olympic Games in Beijing as a 14-year-old. "I had no idea what the scale of the Olympics was and how different it would feel to every other competition."

"I actually remember meeting Nadal and also Andy Murray for the first time which was kind of very surreal and to think that we're all still going at this point," he recalled.

Diving for one more Olympic Games? Daley's first reaction was "I don't know".

"I want to spend some time with the family and measure up everything and see what it might take," said Daley who is based in Los Angeles.

He admitted it would be a challenge for him and Williams training together "because we live an eight hour's time difference and an 11-hour flight away from each other." "I've never ruled that out. But for right now, I just want to enjoy this," he said. **Xinhua**



Thomas Daley and Noah Williams (front) of Britain compete during the men's synchronised 10m platform final of diving at the Paris 2024 Olympic Games in Saint Denis, Paris, France, on July 29, 2024. - Xinhua

China-Africa People-to-People Exchanges: A spirit of friendship and partnership

Yi Xin

IT is known that China-Africa people-to-people exchanges have deep roots in history. But few people may know the intriguing story about "giraffe diplomacy." It all started with the ocean voyages by Zheng He, one of the greatest navigators in China's Ming Dynasty (1368-1644), who reached as far as East Africa. In the 1410s, Zheng He brought back a creature that had never been seen in China--an African giraffe.

The Chinese assumed the giraffe was a unicorn, which according to tradition, meant the creature was blessed with immense wisdom and benevolence.

This is how the gift of giraffe initiated early exchanges between the Chinese and African peoples.

Since then, people-to-people ties between China and Africa have grown stronger, bringing the two peoples closer and injecting cultural vitality into China-Africa cooperation in the new era.

The Express Train toward a Better Future

Osman, one of the first 24 students enrolled at the Djibouti Luban Workshop, had a childhood dream of becoming a railway worker. The Luban Workshop helped Osman's dream come true. Set up in 2019, the workshop offers a three-year program including lessons on both engineering theories and practices. After graduation, Osman became an intern at the Addis Ababa-Djibouti Railway, the first China-built electrified railway in Africa.

China first announced the plan of setting up Luban Workshops in Africa in 2018. Such workshops are named after the ancient Chinese inventor Lu Ban (Spring and Autumn Period, 770-476 B.C.), who was famous for his ingenuity and craftsmanship. Now some 2,500 years later, Luban Workshops have already become a brand of Chinese vocational education in Africa.

As the old saying goes, "Give a man a fish and you feed him for a day."

Teach him how to fish and you feed him for a lifetime." 11 Luban Workshops have been established in 10 African countries, offering tailored courses to meet their development requirements. Up to now, Luban Workshops offer more than 70 majors in areas such as industrial robots, cloud computing, logistics management, traditional Chinese medicine, cross-border e-commerce and smart agriculture. Such professional training has equipped tens of thousands of young Africans such as Osman with skill sets fit for the fast-changing world, taking them on board the express train of China-Africa cooperation, but not just as passengers, but as qualified engineers and drivers who are able to earn a better future for themselves.



A Chinese teacher from Confucius Institute of Dodoma University teaches a local man to write Chinese calligraphy during an exhibition to commemorate the Chinese New Year in Dar es Salaam, Tanzania, Feb. 9, 2018. (Xinhua)

Speak the Same Language

Nelson Mandela once said, "If you talk to a man in a language he understands, that goes to his head. If you talk to him in his own language, that goes to his heart."

In recent years, as China's investments in Africa grow, so has interest in the Chinese language across the continent.

Asha Fum Khamis is a Chinese language teacher from Tanzania's University of Dar es Salaam. From 2010 to 2013, she had taught Chinese to more than 300 Tanzanian students, and about 50 of them later became Chinese language teachers as well. As China-Africa cooperation grows stronger in various fields, Chinese-learning becomes more and more popular among young Africans in pursuit of development opportunities.

Mandarin is increasingly featured on African school curriculums.

Apart from African students learning Chinese, more and more Chinese universities are offering courses on African languages. From Zulu, Amharic, Malagasy to Somali and Tswana, over 20 African languages are now taught in Chinese universities, building the bridge of culture and friendship among the younger generations.

A Chinese proverb says: "To learn a foreign language is to have one more window from which to look at the world." By learning each other's languages, the cultural-linguistic ties between China and Africa have grown stronger and the hearts of the two peoples are getting closer.

A Cultural Feast

"My dream is yours. Your dream is mine. You want happiness. And so do I. We are all the same." This is the lyric

of the theme song of the documentary Africans in China, a documentary on stories of Africans living and working in China co-produced by Chinese and African directors.

The resonance in the feelings of the humanity lays the ground for cultural exchanges. In recent years, more and more African countries provide platforms for Chinese TV series and films to make a debut. From Memories of Peking, a TV show that has gone viral in Nigeria and Côte d'Ivoire, to Operation Red Sea, a Chinese box office hit that was filmed in the wilderness of Morocco, the flourishing China-Africa film and TV cooperation are telling stories of China and Africa in the new era.

The long history and cultural link between China and Africa also offer fertile inspiration for film production. TV drama Welcome to Milele was based on true stories of generations of Chinese doctors stationed in

Africa, including the challenges and difficulties they faced and how they gradually bonded with the local people. The series was shot in six locations across China and Tanzania and will soon be aired in Africa.

In Africa, there is a term called "Ubuntu," which believes in a bond of sharing that connects all humanity. The Chinese civilization also advocates the idea of harmony and sense of community. Such cultural similarities are the source of strength for China and Africa to enhance friendship and partnership. With Chinese and African youths joining hands, a bright future beckons for China and Africa.

Yi Xin is a Beijing-based international affairs commentator.

El Chapo son pleads not guilty in US court after dramatic arrest

CHICAGO

A son of convicted Mexican drug lord Joaquin "El Chapo" Guzman pleaded not guilty to US drug charges on Tuesday, five days after his arrest in a dramatic operation in which he delivered his father's former partner to US authorities.

Joaquin Guzman Lopez, wearing an orange jumpsuit but no handcuffs, entered the plea at a hearing that lasted about 10 minutes in Chicago federal court before US District Judge Sharon Johnson Coleman, who ordered him detained pending trial. Guzman Lopez could face the death penalty if convicted.

Guzman Lopez was indicted in 2023 along with three of his brothers - known as the "Chapi-



This Feb 22, 2014 file photo shows Joaquin "El Chapo" Guzman, the head of Mexico's Sinaloa Cartel, being escorted to a helicopter in Mazatlan. AP

tos," or little Chapos - on US drug trafficking and money laundering charges involving their assumption of leadership of their father's Sinaloa Cartel after his 2017 extradition to the United States.

El Chapo, convicted on murder and drug charges in 2019, is serving a life sentence in a maximum

security prison in Colorado.

Guzman Lopez, who is in his late 30s, was taken into US custody on Thursday night near El Paso, Texas alongside Ismael "El Mayo" Zambada, the septuagenarian accused drug kingpin who founded the Sinaloa Cartel together with El Chapo.

The courtroom was packed during the hearing with onlookers and members of the US Marshals service. Guzman Lopez spoke in English and answered most questions by saying, "Yes, your honor" or "No, your honor."

The judge did not set a trial date and scheduled the next court date in the case for Sept 30.

The circumstances of Guzman Lopez's arrival in the United States were not discussed at the hearing. Many of the details

about the events leading up to his arrest remain murky.

Last week, US officials familiar with the situation said Guzman Lopez duped Zambada into boarding a propeller plane in Mexico by saying they were going to scope out real estate in the country's north. Instead, the plane brought both men to the United States - where Guzman Lopez had planned to surrender, but Zambada had not.

Zambada's lawyer, Frank Perez, disputed the version of events offered by US officials. Perez said that Guzman Lopez "forcibly kidnapped" Zambada and brought him to the United States against his will.

Zambada pleaded not guilty to drug charges last week in El Paso federal court. **Agencies**

Iran sees US as hostile, will bolster ties with Russia

MOSCOW

WASHINGTON has always pursued a colonial anti-Iranian policy, so Tehran will strengthen relations with the friends it found amid the hard times, such as Moscow, Iranian political scientist Professor Ruhollah Modabber told TASS.

"Throughout history, the US and the West looked at Iran, and the world in general, as colonies.

Even when Iran concluded a short-lived and

unsuccessful nuclear deal, the US and Europe did not invest in the Iranian economy because they do not regard Iran and others as independent and equal countries, so false US promises cannot be trusted," he said, when asked whether Tehran's relations with the West could warm up under the new Iranian president, Masoud Pezeshkian.

The president said in his inauguration speech earlier on Tuesday that he was ready to talk to Western countries about

reducing tensions.

"We should pay attention to what Iran's supreme leader said at the ceremony of signing the decree confirming Pezeshkian as president: That it is necessary to improve mutual understanding with friendly countries, meaning Russia, as it is a friend who has always supported Iran in difficult times. Relations between Moscow and Tehran will be strengthening," Modabber said.

After winning the elec-

tion, Pezeshkian called Russia "a valuable strategic ally and neighbor of Iran." The politician vowed to continue prioritizing cooperation with Moscow, especially in BRICS, the SCO and EAEU.

According to Pezeshkian, Russia and China "consistently supported Iran in difficult times." Speaking by phone with Russian President Vladimir Putin, Pezeshkian expressed readiness to sign a comprehensive strategic partnership agree-

ment with Russia at the BRICS summit in Kazan in October 2024.

At the swearing-in ceremony, the new Iranian president said he was ready to seek better relations with the West, normalize the country's economic ties with the world and would not stop in fighting sanctions.

The Russian delegation at the ceremony was headed by State Duma Chairman Vyacheslav Volodin.

Agencies

Singida Black Stars aim to fine-tune squad ahead of new season

By Correspondent Seth Mapoli

IN a bid to create a competitive team for the upcoming Tanzania Mainland Premier League, Singida Black Stars FC's head coach, Patrick Aussems, is utilizing friendly matches to refine his squad.

Despite affirming the team's readiness, Aussems (pictured) acknowledges the ongoing challenge of selecting his first-choice lineup.

Aussems' efforts were highlighted following a narrow 2-1 defeat to Dodoma Jiji FC. He indicated that the friendly provided valuable insights into his team's attacking strategy, which he began to solidify during the match, focusing initially on the forwards before addressing the defensive line.

"We've had a great experience in the Kagame Cup. Although the team wasn't fully prepared, the competition has revealed our weaknesses," Aussems said. "The match against Dodoma Jiji wasn't about the result. It was about evaluating our system and planning for the league start. I began with two attackers to develop them further."

The coach emphasized the need to fine-tune the attack, identifying room for improvement in finishing. In the upcoming match against Namungo FC, Aussems plans to field a single attacker and focus on the defensive system to pinpoint and address any weaknesses in the backline.

"My objective is to assess our defensive issues and make necessary improvements before the league begins, ensuring we are competitive against our opponents," Aussems explained. "Overall, the squad is in a good competitive position. The challenge now is determining the best first-team lineup."

Reflecting on the performances so far, Aussems noted that most players have demonstrated their readiness and physical fitness. The task ahead involves deciding who will start and who will support the team from the bench.

Apart from their Kagame Cup journey, Singida Black Stars FC have played three friendly matches, securing a 3-0 victory against Police Tanzania, a 2-2 draw with ACA Eagles, and a 2-1 loss to Dodoma Jiji FC. These matches have been crucial in assessing the team's progress and areas needing improvement.

Looking ahead, Singida Black Stars are set to play an international friendly against Aigle Noir of Burundi at the Big Day Festival on August 10 at Liti Stadium in Singida. Before this highly anticipated match, Aussems has another preparatory game against Namungo FC today, which he believes will be pivotal in addressing the team's finishing issues.

"The game against Namungo FC is essential for evaluating our finishing, which still needs work," Aussems stated. "These friendly matches are crucial for strengthening our players as we approach the new season starting on August 16."

Aussems expressed confidence that the friendly matches will significantly bolster the team's readiness for the Tanzania Mainland Premier League. He also noted that the Big Day Festival match will be a significant event, featuring various entertainment activities and serving as a crucial preparation for the season ahead.

"The upcoming season will be challenging, with every team well-organized and aiming for top positions in the league," Aussems said. He urged fans to turn out in large numbers for the festival, promising a difficult and highly competitive match.

Aussems is diligently working to build a formidable Singida Black Stars FC squad through strategic friendly matches. His focus on both attacking and defensive aspects aims to ensure the team is well-prepared for the competitive season ahead.

With the support of fans and the continuous refinement of strategies, Aussems hopes to lead Singida Black Stars FC to a successful campaign in the Tanzania Mainland Premier League.



Kiwani FC player Shaban Abdul (R) dribbles the ball followed closely by his teammate Michael Peter during a training session at the Kiwani Primary School grounds over the weekend. PHOTO: CORRESPONDENT JUMANNE JUMA

Manara's return sparks new era in Tanzanian football PR

By Correspondent Nassir Nchimbi

THE Tanzanian football scene has once again been thrown into a whirlwind of speculation and drama. Ali Kamwe, Young Africans' head of communications, made a surprise announcement of his resignation on Sunday, only to resume his position the following day. Many believe this was a calculated move to generate buzz ahead of 'Yanga Day'.

Adding another layer of intrigue, the club's spokesperson, Haji Manara, returned to his role after completing a two-year ban.

Despite significant strides, Tanzania's football landscape remains marred by gossip and off-field antics. Manara (pictured), known for his flamboyant and often controversial statements, is a master of this art. His return promises to reignite the heated rivalry between Simba and Young Africans.

As the dust settles on these developments, one thing is clear: the drama is far from over. The stage is set for a new chapter of intense competition, both on and off the pitch.

The return of Manara to Tanzanian football has sparked mixed reactions. While some view him as a divisive figure, others believe his unique brand of passion and charisma is essential for the sport's growth.

Manara possesses an in-depth knowledge of football, and his extensive experience as a commentator and sports journalist has equipped him with a sharp analytical mind and a knack for storytelling. His ability to craft compelling narratives and engage fans has made him a household name.

However, his outspoken nature and propensity for controversy have often overshadowed his contributions. His two-year



ban for insulting the TFF president Wallace Karia serves as a reminder of his unpredictable behavior.

Despite his flaws, Manara remains a powerful force in Tanzanian football. His ability to mobilize fans, attract sponsors, and enhance the overall spectacle of the game is undeniable. As a social media influencer with a massive following, he can significantly impact the sport's popularity.

Manara's return has ignited a new era of public relations in the sport. Known for his outspoken and often controversial style, Manara is a highly influential figure capable of capturing the public's attention.

While his unique approach has solidified his position, it's important to recognize the contributions of younger and senior PR professionals like Ahmed Ally of Simba, Kamwe of Young Africans, and Thabit Zakaria and Hasheem Ibwe of Azam FC. These individuals have demonstrated significant growth and skill, carrying the torch for the next generation of football communicators.

Despite the emergence of these talented young profes-

sionals, Manara's impact on the industry is undeniable. He has elevated the importance of effective communication in football and created a platform for others to follow. As the sport continues to evolve, the need for skilled communicators like Manara remains crucial.

As Young Africans prepare to unveil their new jerseys and players during the 'Wiki ya Mwananchi', it's clear that public relations will play a vital role in generating excitement and anticipation. While no one can match Manara's flair, the competition for attention in the digital age is fierce, and fans can expect to see even more creative and engaging content from clubs in the coming months.

Manara became the lightning rod for the club during challenging times, facing widespread criticism. His outspoken nature, often laced with sarcasm, intensified during periods of poor team performance.

Additionally, he has encountered personal challenges and controversies throughout his career. His return could be beneficial, fostering improved relationships and a renewed sense

of respect within the football community. While acknowledging his talent for communication, the emphasis should be on respect for individuals and the sport itself.

The priority should be the betterment of football. If he reverts to his previous controversial behavior, it could potentially lead to negative consequences. The two-year ban was a clear message that no individual is above the sport. While the rift might seem insurmountable, Tanzanian football benefits from characters like Manara. His unique style demands attention.

The football industry is rapidly growing, with increased player registrations, coaching talent, and significant financial investments. It's essential to maintain a balanced perspective. We must avoid damaging reputations or hindering progress. Football is now a major source of employment and livelihood for many.

Manara's return is more than just news; it's a game-changer. His unique brand of football marketing has been sorely missed. We need his flair, controversy, and even brashness to keep the game exciting. While we must always play fair and clean, there's no denying the power of a good story. Manara is a master storyteller. His ability to ignite passion and drive fan engagement is unparalleled.

A new generation of football enthusiasts is emerging, inspired by Manara's larger-than-life persona. Their enthusiasm is infectious and promises a bright future for Tanzanian football.

As Tanzanian football navigates its path to greater heights, the question remains: Can the benefits of Manara's return outweigh the potential risks? Only time will tell.



Simba end pursuit of AS Vita winger Elie Mpanzu

By Correspondent Nassir Nchimbi

SIMBA Sports Club have officially terminated its pursuit of AS Vita winger Elie Mpanzu after numerous failed attempts to secure the player's transfer.

The Tanzanian giants have decided to explore other options to strengthen their squad following the pro-

tracted negotiations, which proved to be both time-consuming and disruptive to their pre-season preparations.

Simba were unable to bridge the gap in transfer fee demands with the Congolese club, who held firm on their valuation of \$250,000. Despite multiple attempts and offers, including a fi-

nal bid of \$200,000, Simba couldn't convince AS Vita to lower their asking price.

Reports from DR Congo suggest that AS Vita are now in advanced negotiations with Belgian side KRC Genk for Mpanzu's transfer.

The 22-year-old winger had initially agreed to a two-year deal with Simba, but the deal was derailed by the

intervention of new investors at AS Vita, who imposed a hefty transfer fee.

With the Mpanzu deal falling through, Simba now turn their attention to other transfer targets as they look to strengthen their squad for the upcoming season.

According to sources from Simba, the deal has stalled on multiple occasions and it

was so disturbing and time-consuming as the new season approaches that they have decided to call it off and focus on other players.

"He's not coming anymore. We tried our best but maybe it wasn't enough. His side was very disturbing and there was no clarity to the matter. But let's see, hopefully, we will sign another

player instead of him, but probably on the same or higher level as Mpanzu," one of the sources revealed.

Simba intensified efforts to secure the signature of Mpanzu from AS Vita, sending representatives to the Democratic Republic of Congo on multiple occasions.

Despite the club's persistence, including the involve-

ment of the club's key figures, the transfer remained uncertain.

As the new season approaches, Simba are determined to continue strengthening its squad and will now shift focus to other potential signings to ensure a competitive team for the upcoming campaign.

Kylian Mbappe set to become majority owner of Ligue 2 side

By Chris Wilson

FRANCE forward Kylian Mbappe is reportedly set to become the new majority owner of French Ligue 2 side SM Caen as part of a £17m takeover.

The 25-year-old, who signed for Real Madrid earlier this summer after a long-running transfer saga and was unveiled in front of around 80,000 fans, is set to become one of the youngest football club owners in Europe.

He has reportedly invested around €15m (£12.6m) of his own money via the Coalition Capital investment fund.

The deal will see Mbappe acquire around 80 per cent of the club's capital, replacing the previous majority shareholder, American investment fund Oaktree, who recently took control of Inter Milan in May.

The remaining 20 per cent of the club is held by Pierre Antoine Capton, the president of the club's supervisory board.

The deal sees Mbappe maintain his presence in French football despite departing Paris Saint-Germain earlier this month. The Frenchman supposedly came close to joining Caen in 2012, before he chose Monaco as a teenager after the Normandy club were relegated.

Caen were most recently relegated from the top flight of French football in 2019, though it is understood that Mbappe and his family have maintained good relations with the club ever since he came close to joining.

Mbappe is expected to appoint close friend Ziad Hammoud, who oversees his image company, as the new club president, though it is unclear exactly what the Frenchman's other plans are in terms of appointments and funds invested into the club.

Reports in France suggest that Mbappe is keen to maintain the club's identity and focus on the development of young players.

Caen, who finished fifth in the league last season, begin their Ligue 2 campaign on 17 August against Paris FC, just one day before Mbappe will likely make his LaLiga debut for Real Madrid against RCD Mallorca.

THE INDEPENDENT

No Chelsea action against Fernandez for derogatory song

By Nizar Kinsella

CHELSEA will take no action against Enzo Fernandez for singing a derogatory song about France's black players, after he apologised to several French team-mates.

Fernandez was accused of "uninhibited racism" by Chelsea team-mate Wesley Fofana for a video posted to his social media account after Argentina beat Colombia 1-0 in the Copa America final on 14 July.

The Argentina midfielder, 23, landed in Atlanta in the United States on Monday and addressed the incident.

Chelsea instigated an internal disciplinary procedure which is now closed with no action taken, the Press Association reports.

Fernandez has made a voluntary contribution to an anti-discrimination charity. The amount will be matched by Chelsea.

A complaint was also made to world governing body Fifa.

The video Fernandez posted featured a song sung by some of the Argentina squad about France's black players, which the French Football Federation (FFF) said included an alleged "racist and discriminatory" chant.

Chelsea have seven France players who are black or mixed race in their first-team squad. Axel Disasi, Benoit Badiashile, Lesley Ugochukwu, Christopher Nkunku, Malo Gusto and Fofana were all part of the travelling group on Chelsea's US tour.

Fofana, who has one cap for France, had posted an image of the video on Instagram, describing it as "uninhibited racism".

BBC Sport understands several players appreciated the initial talks, with new manager Enzo Maresca expected to confirm the imminent return of the £107m midfielder.

Maresca played down the situation when questioned last week in his first media conference as manager, saying he did not think there would be "any problems at all" when Fernandez returned.

Chelsea winger Noni Madueke echoed those comments, saying the situation would "be fine", but captain Reece James said the circumstances were a "problem" and that he was ready to act as a mediator.

An investigation by Fifa is ongoing and could lead to Football Association (FA) involvement and a potential ban from domestic matches for Fernandez.

BBC

US men's soccer team ends 24-year wait to reach QF at Olympics. France now to meet Argentina

SAINT-ETIENNE, France

TO chants of "U.S.A." America's men ended a 24-year wait to reach the quarter-finals of the Olympic soccer tournament by beating Guinea 3-0 on Tuesday.

Victory in Saint-Etienne saw the U.S. reach the knockout phase of the Games for the first time since Sydney 2000, and it will play Morocco in Paris on Friday.

"Right now I'm living this moment and we'll analyze what it means once we are done with it," U.S. coach Marco Mitrovic said.

Two goals from Kevin Paredes and a brilliant free kick from Djordje Mihailovic secured the victory that meant the U.S. advanced in second place behind Group A winner France, which beat New Zealand 3-0.

The Americans – playing in the Olympics for the first time since Beijing 2008 – responded impressively to their opening 3-0 loss to France by winning back-to-back games against New Zealand and Guinea.

Next up is a Morocco team that finished atop Group B and beat Argentina along the way.

"I watched actually the first game against Argentina," Mitrovic said. "I was in my room, our game was 9 p.m., theirs was 3 p.m. I actually think they are a very, very good team."

A win against Morocco would see the U.S. emulate its



France's head coach Thierry Henri gestures during the men's Group A soccer match between France and the United States at the Velodrome stadium, during the 2024 Summer Olympics, Wednesday, July 24, 2024, in Marseille, France. AP

performance in Sydney when it reached the semifinals.

"We came here to be who we are and I think we did it again today and we just have to recover and go to the next game," Mitrovic said.

Mihailovic, who hit the bar when the score was still goalless in the game against France, scored a curling free kick from the edge of the area to give the U.S. the lead in the 14th minute.

Paredes slotted in his first in the 31st and powered in another in the 75th.

*France vs. Argentina

It will be a repeat of the World Cup final when France meets Argentina in the quarter-finals in Bordeaux on Friday.

Argentina won that epic contest on penalties after a 3-3 draw in Qatar in 2022 and rivalries between the nations could be intensified by racist chants made by Argentina's players after they won the Copa America this month.

"I won't talk about it," France coach Thierry Henry said Tuesday. "We just qualified. We're going to play a game. My head is still into this

game."

France maintained its 100% record at the tournament with victory over New Zealand in Marseille through goals from Jean-Philippe Mateta, Desire Doue and Arnaud Kalimoundo.

Thiago Almada scored a brilliant solo in Argentina's 2-0 win over Ukraine – securing back-to-back victories after the shock opening defeat to Morocco. Claudio Echeverri sealed the win, but it wasn't enough to advance atop Group B.

Morocco took top spot after

beating Iraq 3-0 in Nice.

Morocco and Argentina were level on points and had identical goal difference and goals scored. It meant Morocco took first place by virtue of its 2-1 win over Argentina at the start of the tournament.

*Palestinian protest

Play was briefly suspended during the second half in Nice after a man holding a Palestinian flag invaded the pitch. He was swiftly removed by police. Several dozen riot police were then deployed along the field to prevent further incidents.

At the Parc des Princes in Paris, where Israel played Japan, fans held a banner that read "Genocide Olympics."

*Egypt stuns Spain

Ibrahim Adel scored a pair of goals and Egypt advanced atop its group by beating Spain 2-1.

Spain had already reached the knockout round and was vying for a first-place finish in Group C but was instead leapfrogged after defeat in Bordeaux. Dominican Republic played to a 1-1 tie with Uzbekistan, which had already been eliminated.

Second place for Spain means it has a quarterfinals match against Japan, which maintained its 100% record in Group D when Mao Hosoya scored in stoppage time to beat Israel 1-0.

Egypt plays Paraguay, which finished runner-up in Group D after Marcelo Fernandez's goal secured a 1-0 win over Mali.

AP

Real Madrid new arrival Endrick has the perfect example to follow in teammate, says Brazil icon

MADRID

AT this point, it is safe to say that the heart and soul of Real Madrid's attack lies in Brazil.

Vinicius Jr, over the years, has established himself as one of the team's most trusted assets in the final third with Rodrygo Goes not too far behind.

The recent arrival of Endrick (pictured) only furthers the South American nation's influence on Los Blancos' attack as the trio could well define an era in Madrid.

Speaking to the media recently, Brazilian legend and renowned former free-kick specialist Marcos Assuncao spoke about two of Real Madrid's young Brazilian sensations - Endrick and Vinicius.

He began, unsurprisingly, with the club's latest signing who was only presented as a new Real Madrid player last weekend.

"He is a great player. He has just turned 18 and in Brazil he has already won several titles with Palmeiras, where I also played, being the protagonist. He has quality and personality," he began on Endrick.

"Praise showered on Endrick. The legend then went on to reveal that despite being just 18 years of age, the young forward had what it takes to succeed at the highest level.

"In other cases, I would say no, because young Brazilians go to Europe too early, but in Endrick's case I think so. The big difference is that



he has a winning mentality. And that he is going to join the most successful club in the world."

"Madrid is the best team that exists and just getting there means you are a champion. He is already a star, at 16 years old he was already the protagonist in Palmeiras, but now he must adapt to the culture of European football," he added.

Elaborating on how playing for Los Blancos would only catalyse Endrick's development, the legendary midfielder said,

"Just by training with those players, he will already learn a lot. Who can boast of training with football players of that world class? It's a privilege."

"He will have everything to grow as a figure. He will need time to adapt because the change is abrupt, but I think that little by little he will have minutes, he

is strength, speed and goal. He needs a field to run. In addition, he also fights a lot and usually positions himself well tactically," he added.

"On Vinicius

The Brazilian legend was then asked to comment on Real Madrid's protagonist in recent years, Vinicius Jr. Unsurprisingly, he was first asked if the youngster deserved this year's Ballon d'Or.

"Yes. He has just turned 24 years old and his progression has been enormous, both individually and collectively. Obviously, it has helped him to be on a team like Real Madrid, which almost always wins," he began.

Assuncao then urged Vinicius to be a role model for the team's latest signing and stated that Endrick had a similar path to greatness.

"He must be an example for Endrick. He arrived, had a time of adaptation, he integrated

into the culture of the country and the club and learned about the winning character of the club and its players."

"That's the path that Endrick should follow. Vinicius should be a reference for him," he added.

Finally, the former midfielder elaborated on Vinicius' growth in Madrid and how he overcame all obstacles to be what he is today.

"Many people said that Vinicius was not going to succeed at Real Madrid, but he has managed to transform all those opinions and show that you can go very far with work, ambition and the desire to learn."

"He has understood how important it should be for his team and is now a world star. He has a lot of merit what he has achieved in the best club in the world," he concluded.

Source: AS

Gwiji by David Chikoko



SPORT

US men's soccer team ends 24-year wait to reach QF at Olympics. France to meet Argentina

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5 EATV THURSDAY

TO NIGHT @ 9:00

SALAMA NA
Meet Salama with her renown friends who share their relatable stories on her one on one interviews to inspire fellow Tanzanians

11:00 DADAZ
12:00 KIPENGA XTRA
13:00 Mpera Mpera
13:30 Kali Za Wana
14:00 Kilimo Plus
14:30 Ujenzi (r)
15:00 Funguka
15:30 Dondoo Za Michezo
15:30 Ubongo Kids
15:58 Dokezo Za Michezo
16:00 Zote Kuntu
16:15 Dondoo Za Michezo
16:17 Zote Kuntu
16:45 Dondoo Za Michezo
16:47 Zote Kuntu
17:00 SSELECT
17:55 Kurasa
18:30 Kali za Wana
18:15 Dondoo Za Michezo
18:17 Kali Za Wana
18:30 Bongo Hits

18:58 Dokezo Alya
19:00 EATV SAA 1
20:00 DADAZ (r)
20:58 Dokezo Mamba Ya Pesa
21:00 SALAMA NA
21:30 Zote Kuntu
21:45 Dondoo za Michezo
21:47 Zote Kuntu
22:00 Bongo Hits
22:15 Dondoo Za Michezo
22:17 Bongo Hits
22:45 Dondoo Za Michezo
22:47 Bongo Hits
23:00 Kurasa
23:05 EATV SAA 1 (r)

eastafrica RADIO

05:00 Supa Breakfast
09:00 MAMAMIA
12:00 Kipenga Xtra
13:00 Planef Bongo
16:00 EA Drive
19:00 Kipenga
21:00 The Cruise

88.1FM
DAR ES SALAAM

Simba SC lower squad average age by two years following latest signings

By Correspondent Michael Mwebe

SIMBA have successfully reduced the average age of their squad by two years.

At the close of the 2023/24 main transfer window, Robert Oliveira's side had an average age of 27.8 years. A year later, the squad that Fadlu Davids will manage for the 2024/25 campaign now has an average age of 25.0, reflecting a strategic shift in recruitment policy.

Following an underwhelming campaign where the club missed out on the CAF Champions League and finished eleven points behind champions Young Africans, Simba underwent a significant squad overhaul.

Three veterans were released from the squad. Saido Ntibazonkiza, the oldest player, was let go despite being the club's top scorer. Saido is 37 years old.

John Bocco joined JKT Tanzania as a free agent, while Clatous Chama crossed over to city rivals Young Africans as another free agent transfer.

Bocco, 34 turning 35 early this month, and Chama, 33, were key figures whose departures mark a new era for Simba.

Shomari Kapombe is now the oldest player in the squad. The right full-back, from the 1992 generation, is 33 and will turn 34 in January.

Fabrice Ngoma is second, turning 31 next January. Mzamiru Yassin, Ayub Lakhred, and newly signed Yusuph Kagoma complete the top five oldest players at the club.

Both Mzamiru and Lakhred are 29, while Kagoma will turn 29 next February.

None of the newly signed players is over 30, with midfielder Kagoma being the only new signing close to that age.

The youngest player in the current squad is Nigerian midfielder Augustine Okejepha (20), who was recently signed from Rivers United.

He is only a month younger than Ladaki Chasambi, who was signed from Mibwa Sugar in the December/January transfer window.

Abdulrazack Hamza (21), signed from South Africa's SuperSport United, is the third youngest in the squad.

Other young signings include Joshua Mutale, Jean Ahoua, and Valentino Mashaka, all aged 22.

These additions signal a youthful transformation as Simba aim to build a more dynamic and energetic team for the upcoming season.

Simba's revamped squad, with a reduced average age and a mix of experienced players and fresh talent, is gearing up to tackle the challenges of the 2024/25 season.

Fans are optimistic about the team's prospects, hoping that this strategic overhaul will bring better results both domestically and in international competitions.

Gamondi backs strikers to shine after successful pre-season tour

season, including the Premier League, Federation Cup, Community Shield, and CAF Champions League.

The team returned to Tanzania on Tuesday following a series of pre-season friendlies in South Africa. They faced a mixed bag of results, suffering a 2-1 defeat to German Bundesliga side FC Augsburg before bouncing back with a 1-0 win over South African Premier League outfit TS Galaxy in the Mpumalanga Premier Cup.

The tour concluded on a high note with a resounding 4-0 victory over Kaizer Chiefs, managed by former Young Africans coach Nasreddine Nabi.

The introduction of new signings Prince Dube and Jean Baleke has created healthy competition in the attacking department, according to Gamondi. Dube,

who joined from Azam FC, and Baleke, on loan from TP Mazembe, have quickly made their mark, with the former netting twice and the latter once in their recent friendly matches.

These performances have eased Gamondi's reliance on attacking midfielders, a strategy employed in the previous season.

The Argentine tactician emphasized the importance of goal-scoring for strikers and expressed his desire to see Dube and Baleke continue their scoring form and convert more chances. Young Africans' impressive pre-season results, including victories over TS Galaxy and Kaizer Chiefs, have set a positive tone for the upcoming season.

"Baleke has been finding himself in excellent goal-scoring positions and has shown great composure to finish clinically. His move-

ment and anticipation in the final third have been outstanding throughout the pre-season. "Dube's return to form has been impressive. He's quickly adapted to our playing style and has already proven his goal-scoring ability. While his finishing is sharp, I expect him to increase his involvement in build-up play and create more goal-scoring opportunities for himself and his teammates," said Gamondi.

With the inclusion of Kennedy Musonda and Clement Mzize, Young Africans now have four strikers at their disposal, providing Gamondi with a wealth of attacking talent to choose from.

Due to his versatility, Zambian forward Musonda is expected to be deployed primarily on the wings, either right or left. Local forward Mzize will also continue to operate in wider areas, according to coach Gamondi,

based on his usage in the pre-season international friendlies.

Young Africans are set for a hectic start to their 2024/25 season. The team will face Zambian champions and CE-CAFA Dar Port Kagame Cup winners, Red Arrows, in the Mwananchi Week finale on Sunday.

The following week, Young Africans will kick off their domestic campaign with a Community Shield semi-final clash against arch-rivals Simba. The other semi-final will see Azam FC take on Coastal Union.

International commitments will also be on the cards for the Tanzanian giants as they prepare to face Burundi's Vital'O in the preliminary round of the CAF Champions League. Young Africans will be aiming to secure a place in the group stage for the second consecutive season.

By Correspondent Nassir Nchimbi

AFTER a successful pre-season tour in South Africa, Young Africans' tactician Miguel Gamondi is confident that his strikers will be a key factor in the upcoming 2024/2025 season.

Young Africans will compete on all fronts in the new



In collaboration with GSM Foundation, SportPesa Tanzania, and CRDB Bank Plc, the leadership of Young Africans Sports Club has donated essential supplies and equipment to Temeke Regional Referral Hospital. This initiative is part of the club's community outreach efforts leading up to the culmination of Mwananchi Week this Sunday. Dr. Joseph Kimaro, the Director of Temeke Regional Referral Hospital, received the donations on behalf of the hospital yesterday. The contributions aim to support the hospital's efforts in providing quality healthcare services to the community. This act of giving back to the community reflects the club's commitment to social responsibility and its ongoing efforts to positively impact the lives of those around them. Photo: Courtesy of YASC

...Yanga squad numbers revealed for 2024/25 season

By Correspondent Michael Mwebe

YOUNG Africans come into the new campaign as the team to beat after winning both the Premier League and Federation Cup in the 2023/24 season.

A series of departures and arrivals has led to a shake-up in their squad numbers, which were revealed during the pre-season tour of South Africa.

All new signings have received their numbers, and several players who were already with the club have changed from the numbers

they wore last season.

In the goalkeeping department, Aboubakar Khomein has been signed from Singida Black Stars to replace Metacha Mnata. Khomein, who is expected to be the third-choice goalkeeper, will take on shirt number 1.

The defense has seen the addition of Chadrack Boka, who replaces Joyce Lomalisa. The Congolese left full-back will compete for a starting place with Nickson Kibabage while donning jersey number 23.

To fill the void left by Zawadi Mauya in defensive

midfield, Young Africans have recruited Aziz Andabwile from Singida Fountain Gate. Andabwile will wear the number 2 shirt, previously worn by Ibrahim Bacca, who has now taken number 4.

Kenyan midfielder Duke Abuya has arrived from Singida Black Stars to provide more options in midfield following the exit of South African winger Mahlatse Makudubela. The versatile Abuya has been handed jersey number 38.

Further up front, Clatous Chama, who joined from

arch-rivals Simba, takes the same number 17 shirt that he wore at Msimbazi and for the Zambian national team. The number was previously worn by Farid Mussa, who has now taken number 12, vacated after the exit of Jesus Moloko.

Another marquee signing, Prince Dube, has taken number 29, the same number he wore at Azam before crossing over to Young Africans towards the end of last season.

The number nine shirt remains unfilled, with likely candidate Jean Baleke opt-

ing for number 11. He follows in the footsteps of Chrispin Ngushi, who vacated that jersey after two seasons following his permanent transfer to Mashujaa.

Another notable change is Kibwana Shomari, the right full-back who wore 33 last season but has now moved to claim the 15 shirt, which was vacant.

As the new season approaches, Young Africans have their squad numbers set and are ready to defend their titles on multiple fronts.

Flexibles by David Chikoko

Does Having Two 'D's' Give You a Double Digit in Mathematics?

GOSH!

