



National Pg 2

Africa urged to take immediate climate action



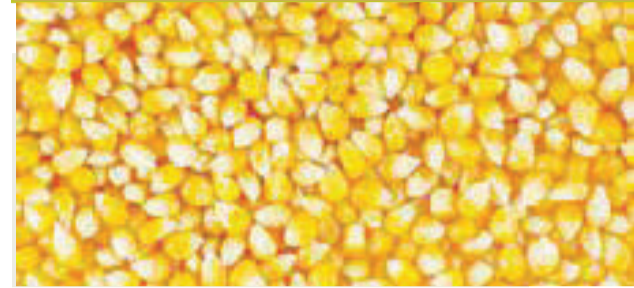
National Pg 3

Strategies for boosting agriculture



National Pg 4

Investor gives maize schools to schools



Tanzania Cooperative Development Commission chairman (TCDC) Abdumajid Nsekela addresses journalists in Dar es Salaam yesterday, welcoming players in the cooperative sector to a meeting organised by the commission to deliberate on modalities of strengthening the sector. He is with Registrar of Cooperative Societies-cum-TCDC executive director Dr Benson Ndiege (C) and Tanzania Federation of Cooperatives chairman Charles Jishuli. TCDC is legally mandated to regulate and promote development of country's cooperative sector. Photo: Guardian Correspondent

Samia: We aren't receiving queries from grid project frustrated bidders

By Francis Kajubi

PRESIDENT Samia Suluhu Hassan has called upon contractors who have lost tenders for implementation of the national grid stabilisation project not to file complaints to legal bodies as entertaining such complaints will delay project commencement.

At a State House signing ceremony in Dar es Salaam yesterday for 26 contracts worth 1.9trn/- took up by different companies for the first phase one scheduled to last four years, the president took distance with losers rushing to filing complaints with the Prevention and Combating of Corruption Bureau (PCCB) and the Public Procurement Regulatory Authority (PPRA).

"If you lose and opt to file complaints to the legal bodies you are holding back the execution of the project. PPRA and PCCB you should be careful with complaints filed by tender losers. I will not tolerate the delay of projects in this way," she declared.

She was affirmative that the selection of contractors was conducted wisely, cautioning officials over delays in issuance of employment permits. Bureaucracy in issuing permits to

project's implementing authorities will not be tolerated, she said, asking heads of public institutions to immediately suspend officials proved to hold back the project.

"We need the right people for the right decisions," she asserted, underlining that the government will not accept intimidation from foreign contractors engaged in implementing the signed projects.

The project should be implemented in line with the government's development vision, the president intoned, asserting that this way it will strengthen micro-economy, targeted to improve the lives of the majority low income earners. "Connecting rural places with electricity boosts the growth of information flows, all part of the vision of 'Building a Better Tomorrow' embedded in irrigation-based block farming.

The projects will encourage smallholder farmers to take part in agribusiness, while security and safety will be strengthened by installing street lights in most areas, she stated.

"The projects are going to improve small miners' productivity by applying heavy duty

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Govt wants donor plans, priorities link

By Henry Mwangonde

THE government has called on development partners to align donor funding priorities with those in the respective year's national development plans to facilitate growth of key sectors.

Dr Mwigulu Nchemba, the Finance and Planning minister, issued this appeal at a high level meeting with development partners in Dar es Salaam yesterday, urging that funding be directed in the same channel by donors and the government for assurance of effect.

The relevant sectors will grow fast and thus address poverty among the majority of the

population, he said, noting that this method is the right way to spur economic growth.

The government has highlighted key priority areas which, if well-developed, can spur the growth of other sectors hence moving faster in alleviating poverty, he stated.

Tanzania has signed contracts with China, the European Union and Belgium aimed at finding markets for Tanzanian products, he said, listing the products as fish, avocado and cereals.

The government has similarly put in place strategies to boost production levels,

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Child mortality: Tanzania evades sub-Saharan trend

By Correspondent Marc Nkwame, Arusha

TANZANIA leads in Africa in cutting down the number of deaths among children aged five years and below, global stakeholders have said.

A regional consultative meeting for strengthening implementation of the integrated management of childhood illnesses (IMCI) in Africa was told here yesterday that demographic surveys indicate that under-five mortality in Tanzania dropped from 147 in 1999 to 43 per 1000 live births last year.

The World Health Organisation, the US Agency for International Development (USAID) and the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF) are the key participants in enabling the facility and community components of IMCI, officials said.

Dr Zaboloni Yoti, the WHO country representative said IMCI involves key strategies for alleviating high levels of child mortality and morbidity in low income countries with insufficient public resources.

He asserted that just as Tanzania cuts children deaths from illnesses, the Sub Saharan Africa region still has the highest rates of child mortality, as in the past year, of the five million estimated children deaths worldwide, 2.7m deaths occurred in this region.

The bigger proportion of neonatal deaths and the first years were recorded in West and Central Africa, he said, describing the common causes of child deaths as largely preventable.

Dr Felix Bundala, the ministry's acting director for reproductive and child health, said common infectious diseases, pneumonia, malaria and diarrhea remained the leading causes of under-five deaths alongside neonatal

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Tanzania, Malawi join forces on rise in cross-border crime

By Guardian Correspondent, Mbeya

TANZANIAN and Malawian defence and security officials for the respective border regions met here yesterday to discuss border security and how to stamp out crime in the zone.

Mbeya regional commissioner Juma Homera declared that the meeting was called to set out precautions against incidents of

robbery with violence terrorising people and potentially endangering peace in border areas.

Opening the meeting, the RC said discussions are important to stem the increase in criminal activities along the border, affirming that in recent months there has been an increase in cross border crime.

This includes trafficking people, smuggling of goods and robbery with violence that caused deaths of innocent people, he said, citing incidents of motor vehicle thefts with motorcycles stolen in Tanzania and sold in Malawi and vice versa.

At times the thieves kill those whose motorcycle they want to steal and then rush across the border, thus the need for security organs to cooperate to stamp out the criminal tendency, he said.

Cooperation will similarly assist the

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Nipashe Guardian IPPmedia





Richard Mwangoka, managing director of GDM factory of Mlowo ward in Mbozi District, Songwe Region, makes an on-location briefing to Prime Minister Kassim Majaliwa yesterday on the processing of improved coffee. To the PM's right is Songwe regional commissioner Waziri Kindamba. Photo: PMO

Govt wants donor plans, priorities link

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like setting up cluster farms for thousands of youth showing interests to engage in farming, he elaborated.

"Global calamities have taught us lessons," he told the delegates, affirming the country now wants to enhance production capacity for cereals and industrial raw materials so that if calamity were to strike again "we do not suffer as we did the last time."

He named key challenges occasioning a drop in economic growth as the war in Ukraine, the Covid-19 pandemic and impacts of climate change, affirming that he government drew up plans to address these challenges.

The main aspect is boosting production in key agro-sector aspects like cereals, by investing in irrigation systems, a position hailed by UK High Commissioner David Concar, the co-chairman of the Development Partners group envoys. "Tanzania has made

strides in economic recovery and development partners are impressed," he said, pointing out that there is now a need now to work on ensuring that economic growth goes together with poverty alleviation by investing heavily in key sectors.

Tanzania has managed to renew important regional and international relationships, while making progress domestically on political reconciliation and reaffirming its reputation for economic and social stability, he declared.

Dr Saada Mkuya Salum, the Finance and Planning state minister in the Zanzibar President's Office, had earlier said that Zanzibar was focused on locally available resources to spur economic growth, citing the blue economy strategy. "We are trying to embrace technology to ensure that people practice modernised fishing and improve their economic status," she added.

Child mortality: Tanzania evades Sub-saharan trend

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conditions.

Many African countries have achieved significant reductions in child mortality in the past two decades but the annual average rate of reduction of three percent is still much lower than the 10 percent required for achieving targets set out in the sustainable development goals, the meeting was told.

Tanzania started implementation of IMCI in 1996 in two pilot districts, followed by the national rollout in 1998 through 11-days classroom IMCI case management training, the director noted.

In 2000, multi-country evaluations were conducted in Brazil, Peru, Bangladesh, Uganda and Tanzania whose results showed that IMCI had reduced child mortality by 13 percent in Tanzania.

It has also improved the quality of care and rational use of medicines across a range of countries, after the country embraced IMCI and consistently supported implementation, achieving 80 percent coverage for many districts, the report noted.

The rapid coverage was attributed to adoption of distance learning techniques, with significant

investments into ensuring IMCI training during health programmes for graduates, allied health fields and training of nurses, it stated.

Reviews by UNICEF, WHO and partners, including a 2016 global IMCI stocktaking, indicate that the coverage remains low worldwide, failing to attain the 60 percent target of sick children seen by IMCI-trained health workers.

Anne Detjen, senior child health specialist at UNICEF headquarters in New York, said that multiple health system factors were associated with the slow scale-up and limited sustainability.

These include costs, inadequate human resources, lack of essential supplies and poor referral systems, she said, noting that too many children still face multiple risks to their health and well-being that are often missed by programs and services.

Children dying from these preventable causes are often amongst the poorest families or communities, facing multiple deprivations and risks. These include lack of access to quality health care as well as immunisation services, along with malnutrition, lack of safe water and pollution, the specialist added.

African governments urged to take immediate climate action

By Guardian Reporter

"Climate change is high on the global policy agenda, and Afrobarometer is committed to amplifying the voices and experiences of African citizens to inform these debates," Afrobarometer CEO Joseph Asunka said at the Harvard University Centre for International Development (CID) speakers' series.

Asunka's talk, under the theme 'Climate change in Africa: Exploring citizens' experiences and perspectives' is part of a series of talks leading up to the CID's May 2023 Global Empowerment Meeting (GEM23), 'Growing in a green world'.

Afrobarometer is a pan-African survey research organisation that provides reliable data on African experiences, evaluations, and aspirations regarding democracy, governance, and quality of life.

Data collected by Afrobarometer are essential in giving African publics a voice in policy making.

In his address, Asunka highlighted the startling fact that only about half of Africans are aware of climate change.

"This varies significantly, from a high of three-quarters of people in Botswana to less than a quarter in Tunisia," he told participants at the virtual event last Friday.

Afrobarometer data collected in 20 countries in 2021-2022 indicate that among Africans who are aware of climate change, there is a broad consensus that it is making life difficult. On average, close to eight

in 10 respondents (77 percent) said climate change is making life worse, including the overwhelming majority in most of the countries surveyed.

Almost three-quarters of those with post-secondary education are aware of climate change, compared to only 36 percent of those with no formal education.

Awareness is also lower among rural populations and women. However, the data also present a puzzling insight: The highest rate of climate awareness is recorded in Malawi, a country with one of the lowest rates of formal education; in climate-change awareness, it is on a par with Botswana, a country with the highest concentration of people with formal education.

It appears that climate awareness is not solely dependent on formal education; it may also be a function of experience. Asunka invited participants and the academic community to explore this and other puzzles that AB data often generate.

On average across 20 surveyed countries, more than half of citizens (51 percent) gave their governments failing marks on their climate-change mitigation performance; however, governments of Benin, Togo, Niger, and Sierra Leone received positive reviews from their citizens.

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machines in mining activities. In this case, clear contractors' certificates on time," she told responsible officials.

Hassan Thabit, the Rural Electrification Agency (REA) director general, said that in 2007 electricity connection in rural areas stood at five percent and has been improved to 69 per cent at present.

The projects will help small scale industries in rural areas, small scale mining sites end power outages, along with water pumping stations, connecting to electricity all villages or parts of villages skipped in current REA projects, he stated.

Of the total number of 12,345 villages countrywide, 9,467 have been covered by rural electrification, with engineers at work to connect the remaining 2,878 villages.

Village portions connected were 28,424 out of 64,760 and work is being pursued on the remaining 36,336 parts of villages and small settlements.

The European Union and France

Samia: We aren't receiving queries from grid project frustrated bidders

in particular disbursed 385bn/- for three major projects listed as complementary projects, where 234bn/- was sourced from the French Development Agency - AFD.

The project will connect 1,522 settlements in nine regions to hydro-power, with 88,200 households set to be connected to electricity.

The second project is meant for connecting small scale mines and agricultural projects and is billed to cost 115bn/-, targeting 336 projects across 26 regions countrywide.

The third project component is directed at connecting rural health centers and water pumping stations, billed at 35.6bn/- and covering all the regions. A total of 63 health centers will be connected with electricity as well as 333 water pumping stations. Solar panels will be installed in eight sites distant from the main grid.

During the current fiscal year, three additional projects are being implemented namely a peri-urban project connecting 416 villages in eight regions, pegged at 76.9bn/-.

A complementary project for connecting 1,752 villages at 293bn/- in Songwe and Kigoma regions is tied up with a project that will cover 654 settlements, pegged at 100bn/- which the director said was sourced from International Monetary Fund (IMF) credit.

During the past two years REA has signed several contracts worth 2.2trn/- of which 1.7trn/- is from the central government's fund, he said, while

TANESCO director general Maharage Chande said that annual electricity demand has been growing at 11 percent annually.

The grid stabilization project thus covers infrastructure

improvements in the Tanzania-Zambia interconnection project, the north east grid and south west grid frameworks.

Early findings showed that the project needs 4.4trn/0, he said, noting that the main grid rehabilitation project involves the procurement and installation of 6,000 machines, 380,000 electric poles, electric wires covering 46,200 kilometers, 700,000 electricity meters, 14 grid sub stations, 27 power transformers, along with high voltage electric cables (132 kilovolt and 220 kilovolt) covering 948 kilometers.

During the current fiscal year TANESCO has been allocated 500bn/- for the project implementation, with the whole project scheduled across four years as the first phase is projected to take two years.



Finance and Planning minister Dr Mwigulu Nchemba (with microphone) pictured in Dar es Salaam yesterday co-chairing a high-level meeting involving strategic discussions between the Tanzanian government and development partners. He is with (from-L) Dr Saada Salum Mkuya, Minister of State (Finance and Planning) in the Zanzibar President's Office; meeting co-chair David Concar, the British High Commissioner to Tanzania; and Kyle Nunas, Canada's High Commissioner to Tanzania, Zambia, Seychelles and the Comoros. Photo: Correspondent Benny Mwaipaja

Tanzania, Malawi join forces on rise in cross-border crime

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neighbouring countries to control smuggling as it denies revenues to both countries, he said in the presence of Brig Gen. Charles Feruzi, head of the Tanzanian team of defence and security experts at the meeting. The TPDF commander said the meeting was convened to discuss ways of dealing with cross border crime that was on the rise in the area, citing human trafficking,

smuggling and threats of terror as among issues to be discussed and mapping out a course of action.

"During the age of technological advances, we understand that criminals invent various strategies to achieve the results they want, hence we as defence and security organs have the responsibility to work together to fight the criminals," he said.

Brig Gen. Polycarp Chilangwe,

the head of the Malawi delegation, said for his part that Malawi had experienced adverse effects from crimes associated with illegal trade across the border.

These include loss of revenue from cross border smuggling as some traders evade import taxes, also affirming that signs of terrorism were visible as Malawi security agents arrested one person who they later discovered was linked

with Islamic State terror group that is setting up cells in the region.

The Ugandan national had a firearm and upon interrogation he confessed to being linked with the terrorist organisation, he stated.

That incident showed that there are hidden activists for terrorist organisations at work in our border areas hence it is essential to work together to control the situation, he added.



Jacqueline Mshana, a TotalEnergy Valentine's Day usher, gifts a motorist a bar of chocolate in Dar es Salaam yesterday. It was at one of the firm's 100+ filling stations across Tanzania where the gesture of love went the way of each motorist refuelling. Photo: Guardian Correspondent

Govt in strategies for boosting farming sector through science

By Guardian Correspondent, Morogoro

THE government has created strategies for enhancing benefits in the farming sector through the utilisation of science in order to bring desirable results for economic growth. Under the strategies, Sokoine University of Agriculture (SUA) and other institutions involved in the development of farming inputs under the Ministry of Agriculture have signed agreement that will help in achieving the intended goals. The institutions include Tanzania Agricultural Research Institute (TARI), Agricultural Seed Agency (ASA), Tanzania Official Seed Certification Institute (TOSCI), National Irrigation Commission (NIRC), Tanzania Fertilizer Regulatory Authority (TFRA), Tanzania Plant Health and Pesticides Authority (TPHPA) and Ministry

of Agriculture Training Institute (MATI). Speaking here on Monday at the signing event, SUA Vice Chancellor (Research and Professional Advice) Prof Maulid Mwatawala said in the past it was about to enter into agreement with ARI, ASA and TOSCI for receiving practical training students. Prof Mwatawala said that later, Agriculture Minister Hussein Bashe directed for increase of all other institutions under his ministry. "This agreement does not aim at transferring the responsibility of the responsibilities of one institution to another, but to help each other in their implementing in order to bring about intended results to the community and the nation in general," he said. He called on the heads of the institutions to appoint a person who will be a coordinator in the implementation of the agreement.

For his part, Acting TPHPA director Prof Joseph Ndunguru said the cooperation will help in putting in place joint plans that will themselves help to produce results that will have a huge contribution to the nation as well as in sourcing for funds and other resources to run the institutions. TFRA managing director, Dr Stephen Ngailo said his institution has been collaborating with some of the institutions in various fields but this new agreement has increased the scope of the collaboration. Stanford Chijenga, TOSCI representative said as seeds stakeholders they have been collaborating with the institutions at various times including receiving SUA students as well as in issues regarding seeds from TARI and ASA, but now a much bigger door for cooperation has been opened that he believes will help in boosting agriculture.

No dependency on central government funding - PM

By Guardian Reporter

PRIME Minister Kassim Majaliwa has said the two years of Phase VI Government has implemented numerous social services projects countrywide, therefore local council officials are required to invent big projects and implement using their own internal revenues instead of solely depending on the Central Government. Majaliwa also called on public officials to do away with bureaucracy and red tape when serving people and instead they should work professionally, faithfully when implementing their duties. Majaliwa made the remarks on Monday when addressing official, workers and Songwe District Councillors while in his official visit to inspect development projects implemented in Songwe Region. He also instructed Songwe District Police Commander (OCD) to investigate Silas Meshileki, a TFS officer and Michel Bangu, a carpenter, the former for unlawfully taking seized timber and furniture to the latter. In regard to the drop in ethics in the country, he called on Education inspectors to go to schools to find out what children are being taught including inspection of their books. "Some of the books contain wonderful teachings that do not conform with Tanzanians' customs and traditions," he said. Recently, addressing Tanzania Higher Learning Institutes Students Organisation (TAHLISO) and its Zanzibar counterpart ZAHLIFE, President Samia Suluhu Hassan called on the students to protect Tanzanians' children against non-Tanzanian customs, culture and traditions. For his part, Deputy Minister in the President's Office - Regional Administration and Local Government (PO-RALG), David Silinde said President Samia prefers

positive results from work performance and has great faith on public officials, hence she called for them to work hard. Deputy Works and Transport Minister, Godfrey Kasekenya said already the

government has finalised feasibility studies for the construction the 118-km Mbalizi-Changombe-Mkwajuni-Saza-Patamela-Makongorosi road and called for patience.



Right to Play (RTP) is a global organization committed to Protect, educate and empower children to raise above adversity using the power of play. We play for change in 4 key areas (Quality education, Child protection, Girls Empowerment and health and well-being) RTP is headquartered in Toronto, Canada with national offices in Canada, the Netherlands, Norway Switzerland, the United Kingdom, and the United States. In Tanzania we are committed to advancing the UN's Sustainable Development Goals of quality education and gender equality. Our strategic thematic areas for 2021-2025 are Education quality and Girls' Empowerment.

Vision Statement: Seeing every child and youth have access to quality early childhood and basic education for them to be able to realize their full potential.

Mission Statement: To protect, educate and empower children to rise above adversity using the power of play. In accordance with Non-Governmental Organization (Amended) Regulation, 2018, RTP is pleased to publish its received funds and expenditure from **January 2022 to December 2022**

Right to Play - Tanzania Annual Income and Expenditure for the period from January 2022 to December 2022

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL PERFORMANCE	Note	2022		Total JAN - DEC 2022
		JAN-JUNE	JULY - DEC	
TZS				
REVENUE				
Grant income received from HQ	2	1,081,050,983	1,536,460,414	2,617,511,397
Total amount received		1,081,050,983	1,536,460,414	2,617,511,397
EXPENDITURE				
Personnel costs	3	485,637,325	557,826,758	1,043,464,083
Program activities	4	409,198,064	915,054,578	1,324,252,643
Operating expenses	5	185,346,064	193,153,435	378,499,498
Finance costs	6	4,208,316	5,150,159	9,358,475
Office Equipment & Fixtures	7	-	5,044,000	5,044,000
Total Expenditure		1,084,389,769	1,676,228,930	2,760,618,699
Surplus/(deficit) for the period		(3,338,786)	(139,768,516)	(143,107,302)

In sum, RTP Tanzania received grants from the following donors: NORAD, LEGO FOUNDATION, GAC and AKF

RTP received the funds for project activities on monthly bases from its HQ- CANADA and some expenditures are recorded and reported under Inter Country Expenses

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President Mwinyi commends Sweden for supporting economic, agriculture projects

By Guardian Reporter, Zanzibar

ZANIZBAR President Hussein Ali Mwinyi has commended the Swedish government for its efforts to support the government of Zanzibar through provision of assistance in various economic and development issues. Dr Mwinyi made the statement yesterday at the State House in Zanzibar when he met and held talks with the Swedish Ambassador to Tanzania, Charlota Ozaki Macias. He said the decision of the Swedish government to assist Zanzibar in the education and marine agriculture sectors, including the cultivation of seaweed has improved the lives of women in Pemba Island. He said the assistance in fish farming compliments government efforts towards its mission to increase employment among isle residents, especially empowering women through various economic activities. He said seaweed farming in Zanzibar is an activity done by women; we appreciated your support in this area because it empowers women economically. Dr Mwinyi asked the Swedish government to also assist Zanzibar in the energy sector, whereas efforts are underway to ensure Zanzibar tarts

producing its own electricity. He said the government is ready for negotiations with any Swedish company so that they can start to conduct feasibility studies. He said the Zanzibar Electricity Company (ZECO) is ready for such projects, adding it will be impressive if Zanzibar becomes independent in the production of electricity. "Zanzibar receives only 100MW from Tanzania mainland," said Dr Mwinyi. In regard to strengthen the blue economy, President Mwinyi thanked the Swedish government for its continued efforts in supporting the particular sector. Swedish Ambassador said the Swedish government is working closely with the Zanzibar government in various fields including education. Macias promised President Mwinyi that the government of Sweden and Zanzibar will continue to strengthen the existing bilateral cooperation in promoting the energy sector and investment. The envoy assured President Mwinyi that the government of Sweden is ready to undertake energy projects with Zanzibar as well as conducting feasibility studies in various issues.

REQUEST FOR EXPRESSION OF INTEREST FOR THE PROVISION OF Modular Containers

REF ETJ-BB-PR-EI-GEN-GE-0114

BESIX Ballast Nedam Limited, executing Early Services for the Jetty and Load Out Facilities in the Tanga Bay for the East African Crude Oil Pipeline (EACOP) Project, invites qualified suppliers to express their interest for:

- Modular Container, Office/WC/Oil Storage Containers.

The Republic of Uganda, the Uganda National Oil Company (UNOC), the United Republic of Tanzania and/or Tanzania Petroleum Development Corporation (TPDC), as well as other international oil companies are partaking in the implementation of the EACOP Project.

The EACOP Project development involves the engineering, construction, operation and maintenance of a crude oil export pipeline crossing Uganda and Tanzania incl. a Jetty with Load Out Facility for Oil Tankers, near Tanga in Tanzania.

BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE SCOPE OF THE MATERIALS / SERVICES:

- Brand New or used containerized/Flat Pack Office building.
- Flat pack Office/WC/oil storage containers 20 ft and 40ft.
- Deliver and put in place fully ready to use containers with all services including but not limited to, Mechanic, Electric, plumbing, consumables, and paints.
- All items (faucet, washbasin, closet etc.) are included

for WC containers.

- Containers should be ready to use (plug and play)

MINIMUM REQUIREMENTS:
Companies expressing their interest are invited to document their request with:

- This call for Expression of Interest (EOI) is intended to lead to the identification of suppliers that can demonstrate having sufficient capacity and experience to provide flatpack modular container services in a manner that meets BBN Limited expectations.
- Company profile with proof of sufficient financial and capable resources.
- Company Tax Clearance Certificate for the previous year 2022
- Provide evidence of compliance from relevant regulatory modular container and licenses.
- The profile of the organization clearly showing the years of experience in the business of Modular Containers.
- ISO 9001:2015, ISO 14001:2015
- Compliance with petroleum (local Content) regulation of 2017 and local company definition for Tanzania.
- Proof of registration/application to Local Supplier Service Provider (LSSP) database at the time of submission of the response to this expression of interest is highly recommended.
- Compliance with Local Content Regulations, 2017 and Local Company definition.

Interested companies which meet the minimum requirements and have the capacity to provide the services listed above should express their interest by sending together with the above listed documents an email to procurement@bbnld.co.tz (Max. Email Size: 20 MBs & All documents must be submitted in the English language) on or before 28th February 2023, 18:00hrs Tanzania Time.

Email subject should be: ETJ-BB-PR-EI-GEN-GE-0114 (EOI-reference number mentioned in the header)

Companies satisfactorily meeting the above minimum requirements will be evaluated and if selected will be invited, subject to the signature of a Non-Disclosure Agreement (NDA), to participate in the bidding process.

Note: Only pre-qualified companies will receive an invitation to submit their bid in furtherance of the Call for Tender process.

REQUEST FOR EXPRESSION OF INTEREST FOR THE PROVISION OF Warehouse/Precast/Workshop Area for Rent

REF ETJ-BB-PR-EI-GEN-GE-0022

BESIX Ballast Nedam Limited, executing Early Services for the Jetty and Load Out Facilities in the Tanga Bay for the East African Crude Oil Pipeline (EACOP) Project, invites qualified suppliers to express their interest for:

- Warehouse/Precast/Workshop Area for Rent

The Republic of Uganda, the Uganda National Oil Company (UNOC), the United Republic of Tanzania and/or Tanzania Petroleum Development Corporation (TPDC), as well as other international oil companies are partaking in the implementation of the EACOP Project.

The EACOP Project development involves the engineering, construction, operation and maintenance of a crude oil export pipeline crossing Uganda and Tanzania incl. a Jetty with Load Out Facility for Oil Tankers, near Tanga in Tanzania.

BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE SCOPE OF THE MATERIALS / SERVICES:

- At least 10000 sqm one piece of land for workshop, warehouse, precast yard
- Area must be fenced either by block or concrete wall.
- Land must be clean and flat condition.
- Land must have wide gate (min 8 meter or adaptable)
- Land must have water supply & electric.
- There must be proper access road, min 8 meters

(preferable next to one of the main roads)

- 20 min (10 km) away from Tanga port

MINIMUM REQUIREMENTS:
Companies expressing their interest are invited to document their request with:

- This call for Expression of Interest (EOI) is intended to lead to the identification of suppliers that can demonstrate having sufficient capacity and experience to provide estate agency services in a manner that meets BBN Limited expectations.
- Company profile with proof of sufficient financial and capable resources.
- Company Tax Clearance Certificate for previous year 2022
- Provide evidence of compliance from relevant regulatory estate agency and licenses.
- The profile of the organization clearly showing the years of experience in the business of real estate agency
- ISO 9001:2015, ISO 14001:2015
- Compliance with petroleum (local Content) regulation of 2017 and local company definition for Tanzania.
- Proof of registration/application to Local Supplier Service Provider (LSSP) database at the time of submission of the response to this expression of interest is highly recommended.

Interested companies which meet the minimum requirements and have the capacity to provide the services listed above should express their interest by sending together with the above listed documents an email to procurement@bbnld.co.tz (Max. Email Size: 20 MBs & All documents must be submitted in the English language) on or before 28th February 2023, 18:00hrs Tanzania Time.

Email subject should be: ETJ-BB-PR-EI-GEN-GE-0022 (EOI-reference number mentioned in the header)

Companies satisfactorily meeting the above minimum requirements will be evaluated and if selected will be invited, subject to the signature of a Non-Disclosure Agreement (NDA), to participate in the bidding process.

Note: Only pre-qualified companies will receive an invitation to submit their bid in furtherance of the Call for Tender process.



Some of the books contain wonderful teachings that do not conform with Tanzanians' customs and traditions

Mwinyi underlines need to use ICT in judicial operations

By Guardian Reporter, Zanzibar

THE Government of Zanzibar has called upon public institutions to change their old systems in work performance and service provision by establishing modern systems that use Information Communications Technology (ICT) in order to simplify their work performance to go in tandem with the pace of modern technology.

The remarks were made on Monday by Zanzibar President Dr Hussein Ali Mwinyi at the event to mark Law Day celebrations held in Tunguu, Unguja South region.

President Mwinyi said in the present science technology world, running institutions by the use of paper work is outdated hence he called upon public institutions, including the judiciary and its stakeholders to change their mode of performance.

He said ICT simplifies work as well as supporting government efforts on the country's economic growth and strengthening social services, adding that ICT also saves a lot of funds spent on the old system.

He lauded Zanzibar High Court which for the first time has introduced an electronic system in registering advocates who he said will be filing cases and follow up proceedings while at home or in their own offices.

He said the modern ICT system will also save time used in the judicial institutions to enable them to engage in other activities for income generation, strengthen transparency, stress accountability, good governance and boost revenue collection.

Regarding ICT's benefits in judicial institutions, Dr Mwinyi said these include speedy trials and the giving of judgements, sourcing of

the correct statistics and better administration of cases.

"Also there won't be any necessity for the Honourable Judges of the High Court to travel to Pemba to listen to cases because the said cases will be heard and decided through the ICT system.

"Likewise, it will not be necessary for a witness to give testimony whilst inside a court building, he can do so even via his mobile phone," said Dr Mwinyi.

He pledged to accord priority to the budget that incorporates the use of ICT for the Zanzibar High Court in order to boost infrastructures of judicial institutions, and that the government will spend more than 4bn/- for the construction of four High Court buildings and district courts for both Unguja and Pemba to incorporate the use of ICT.

Meanwhile, Chief Justice of Tanzania High Court, Prof Ibrahim Juma said the 21st century calls for all institutions and officials thereof to embrace conceptual and mind-set changes that go in tandem with the present world of technology, and added that technology changes will help in meting out of justice as well as boosting Zanzibar's economy.

Zanzibar Chief Justice, Khamis Ramadhan Abdallah, said the Law day marks the beginning of the new judicial calendar saying among strategies in regard to their changes for attaining work achievement is to reach out the public by providing better services.

"Also there won't be any necessity for the Honourable Judges of the High Court to travel to Pemba to listen to cases because the said cases will be heard and decided through the ICT system."



National Economic Empowerment Council executive secretary Beng'i Issa updates journalists in Dodoma city yesterday on developments at the council. Photo: Correspondent Ibrahim Joseph

Farming investor provides 30 tonnes of maize to 42 schools in Kili region

By Guardian Correspondent, Hai

African Plantation Kilimanjaro (APK), a farming investor has relieved residents of Hai and Moshi rural districts in Kilimanjaro Region by offering to provide meals to schools for three months.

APK has donated 300 bags (30 tonnes) of maize for 42 primary schools in the two districts.

Speaking here yesterday at the brief event to hand over the maize, APG general manager, Donald Temba said the grain, produced

by the firm that invested in coffee farming, will benefit 10,367 students.

He said in Moshi rural area, three schools within the KirimaBoro AMCOS, 1,250 students provided with 36 bags of maize will benefit.

He added that in regard to Ukoko AMCOS, seven schools with 1,619 students will benefit from 47 bags of maize while in Manushu-Narumu AMCOS area with three schools and 1,068 students will benefit from 31 bags of maize.

In Hai district, Temba said Lyamungo AMCOS whose area has

seven primary schools with 1,237 students have received 36 bags of maize whilst in the Manushu-Narumu AMCOS area with six schools having 1,981 students have received 57 bags of maize as food aid.

Receiving the food aid, Acting Hai District Executive Director, David Lekei said the 30 tonnes of maize donated is enough to provide school meals to 42 primary schools for three months.

Meanwhile, Machame-Narumu Ward Education Officer, Flora

Ulomi said:

"On behalf of 42 primary schools in Hai and Moshi Rural Districts I thank APK for the food assistance. We believe that this food aid can boost examination passes, and this you have been doing since 2014."

Chairman of Lyamungo AMCOS, Gabriel Ollomi said the food assistance is of great benefit to the people in the two district councils because there are some families have no food at home.

"The APK food aid has been provided in good faith to help students to get meals," she said and appealed to all the schools that received the maize not to sell or divide them among teachers.

VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT: Human Resources Manager

Our client, **Zambia Cargo & Logistics Limited**, is seeking to recruit a **Human Resources Manager** who will lead the HR functions and report to the Chief Executive Officer. By leading the HR Leadership Team, he/she will be responsible for providing support in various human resource functions, which include recruitment, conditions of employment, salary and wages administration, manpower planning training and development, performance monitoring and employee counselling.

Responsibilities:

- * Co ordination of staff recruitment and selection process by developing job descriptions, reference checks and manage all employees' contracts and offer letters.
- * Development of Human Resource Policies and Compliance by ensuring that employment practices are fair, legal and in accordance with the Employment and Labour Relations Act.
- * Staff salary and benefits administration
- * Periodic self-assessment of risk and controls
- * Co ordination of Staff Performance and Performance Appraisals
- * Training and Human Resource Development, Identifies training needs in liaison with departmental heads. Develops a comprehensive training Program in line with the approved budget
- * Manpower Planning, workforce planning aiming at matching human resource with business need expressed in planned activities levels based on getting and keeping numbers and quantity of staff needed.
- * Overseeing HSE and all Industrial relations related issues.

Attributes:

- * Impeccable integrity and customer focus
- * Experience in strategy implementation, translation to daily practise with a team and assessment of impact in the business
- * Good working knowledge of the legal HR requirements
- * Experience in dealing with trade unions, de-escalation potential issues, preventing, managing conflicts and negotiating.
- * Interest in people's development, including listening, coaching, team building and leading by Example.

Qualification & Experience:

- * Bachelor Degree in Human Resources or its equivalent
- * At least 5 years employment experience in human resource related role, of which 4 years at minimum middle management level.
- * Detailed knowledge and understanding of Human Resource Policies and Procedures including Employment Legislation.

Application Process: Interested candidates having met the above requirements are requested to submit their application letter, updated CV and associated educational and professional certificates to recruits@zamacargo.co.tz.

The closing date for application is Monday, 24th February 2023 at 17:00 hrs EAT.

1. No late receipt of the applications will be entertained
2. Only shortlisted candidates will be contacted.

Zungu hails Stanbic on 'Madawati Initiative'

By Guardian Reporter

NATIONAL Assembly Deputy Speaker Mussa Hassan Zungu, commended Stanbic Bank and its Madawati Initiative for donating 150 desks to two secondary schools, Gerezani and Dar es Salaam.

In a keynote speech at the event held at Dar es Salaam secondary school, Zungu stated that the donation aligns with the government's agenda of improving the quality of education and the learning outcomes and environments for children, youth, and adults at all educational institutions.

He added that the donation demonstrates the bank's commitment to supporting the education sector and appealed for further support from other

stakeholders.

Zungu said: "This is an excellent initiative not only is the bank donating desks but is also planting trees across the country in each school it donates to. This will have a lasting impact by mitigating the environmental impacts of tree cutting which adversely affects the climate making the initiative commendable and worth replicating".

On the other hand, Omari Mtiga, Head of Consumer and High Net Worth Clients at Stanbic Bank, said that the donation is part of the ongoing Stanbic Madawati Initiative to distribute desks and trees across the country to create a conducive learning environment for students.

He added that the bank is committed to improving

livelihoods through programmes that support sustainable development, including education.

"This year, the StanbicMadawati Initiative aims to donate 1000 desks in different schools to curb desk shortages and provide students with a suitable learning environment," Mtiga noted.

Dar es Salaam Secondary School Headteacher Hossain Ally Njau applauded the bank for the donation saying that the donation has completely eliminated the shortage of desks in the school and every student will now have access to a comfortable desk and chair which will greatly enhance their performance.

The event was also attended by local government officials, students from the school, and staff from Stanbic Bank.



Serengeti Breweries Limited Pilsner Lager brand manager Wankyo Marando (R) speaks virtually from Dar es Salaam on Monday to the winners of the first draw of the firm's raffle dubbed 'Kapu la Wana'. Seven of the brand's customers in the Lake Victoria South and North zones won smart television sets, smart phones and a motorcycle. Left is Gaming Board of Tanzania representative Salim Mgafi. Photo: Guardian Correspondent

EAC planning to develop regional diaspora policy and plan of action

By Guardian Reporter

THE East African Community (EAC) Secretariat is developing a Diaspora Policy and Plan of Action to establish a strategic framework for mobilising and integrating East African Diaspora in the regional integration process and harnessing communication links within the East African Diaspora community.

The process, which is supported by the International Organisation for Migration (IOM), includes assessing Diaspora-related information and proposing the ideal data sharing and protection principle among the key stakeholders.

The EAC convened a meeting in Nairobi last Thursday to conduct a

desk review of existing legislation, policies, institutional structures, and coordination mechanisms on Diaspora engagement of all Partner States.

The meeting sought to gather information from the relevant ministries, departments, directorates in the Partner States responsible for Diaspora matters, investment promotion and facilitation.

The EAC is looking at formulating Diaspora associations by Diaspora members abroad.

In addition, the EAC is consulting with Partner States and other partners about what kind of information is needed from Diaspora members to facilitate their work or analysis on Diaspora contribution,

and suggest how the data should be compiled and safely stored, ensuring the human rights and data protection principle.

The EAC is seeking to get views on the expectations of the diaspora on the regional Diaspora policy and what type of information to be shared as part of Diaspora registration.

The meeting is set to conduct a regional analysis of Diaspora engagement in EAC, including relevant legal, regulatory, policy and institutional frameworks, trends, good practices, challenges, and recommendations, including a comprehensive stakeholders' analysis to identify key role players responsible for Diaspora engagement.



Zanzibar's Tourism and Antiquities minister, Simai Mohammed Said (in specs), has a quick word with his Omani counterpart, Ibrahim Al-harous, in Muscat yesterday shortly after the signing of a pact on the reconstruction of Zanzibar's Beit al-Ajaib (House of Wonders) with Omani government funding to the tune of US\$ 21 million. Photo: Guardian Correspondent

150 health experts get special training on crisis management

By Guardian Correspondent

A TOTAL of 150 health experts from various regions in the country have been integrated in a special international training on the provision of appropriate services during disasters involving pandemics.

Speaking at the opening of the training seminar in Dar es Salaam on Monday, the Director of Cure Services in the Health Ministry, Prof Pascal Ruggajo said that the training has been organised by the World Health Organisation (WHO) and lasts for one month.

Prof Ruggajo who represented the Chief Medical Officer, Prof Tumaini Nagu who was to be the event's official guest, said the training was important as it involves health experts from various fields including

farming and nutrition, community development as well experts in human and livestock health.

"The Covid-19 pandemic that erupted in various parts of the country provided a lesson to Tanzania, hence this training is important, as it has been organised by a special team that will be used any time in disseminating education on how to fight pandemics that can erupt," said Prof Ruggajo.

He added that the training seminar is also important because it has involved all sectors related to health because some infectious diseases come from animals or plants.

Acting WHO Country Representative, Dr Zablon Yoti commended the government of Tanzania for the important step taken in enabling the country to be ready in identifying and fighting

health emergencies.

He said the world is faced with various types of hazards from health emergencies, hence all countries including Tanzania are in such hazards.

"Recent research on health strategic hazard conducted in September 2022 showed that several African countries were in great danger from the eruption of infectious diseases," he said.

Dr Yoti said health emergencies do not respect international boundaries, and this has been proven several times following the eruption of infectious diseases in various countries.

He explained that out of 2,000 community health incidents recorded in Africa in the last 20 years, more than half of them were related to weather conditions.

He added that more than 200 diseases are caused by eating foods contaminated by bacteria, germs and chemicals.

Emergency and Critical Care services coordinator, Ministry of Health thanked the management team of all partnering facilities for their leadership and support during the execution stage.

"I do encourage partnering institutions to continue innovating sustainable health projects in Dar es Salaam and countrywide to create more impact across the population. The government under President Samia Suluhu Hassan, is in favour of multi-sectoral public private partnerships to address community and health system needs."

Dr Thomas Rutachunzibwa, Mwanza Regional Medical Officer on behalf of the implementing facilities stated that Aga Khan Health Service, Tanzania is exemplary in public-private partnerships in its effort to complement governmental endeavours to strengthen health systems. He added that the equipment and training provided will improve our capacity to provide emergency care in Dar-es-salaam and Mwanza.

Dr Hussein Manji, Project Coordinator, Aga Khan Health Service, Tanzania said: "Emergency medicine is a specialized field of its own and it is not enough to know what to do and when to do it but to have the resources and capacity to be able to apply the knowledge into practice. When we strengthen the infrastructure through making equipment for diagnosing and managing emergency cases available, we give patients with critical emergencies a better chance at survival."

succumbing to emergencies." He commended the Polish government for financing the project and AKHT for implementation well to ensure that it produces positive outcomes in the country's health sector.

He noted that the IMECT Project also encompasses first aid training of first responders such as traffic officers, police force, fire fighters and more to heighten the response to emergencies at first contact. The equipment included diagnostic and therapeutic tools like ECG machines, Vein finders, nebulizer machines, intraosseous access drivers, laryngoscope sets, oxygen flow meters and more as well as consumables like oxygen masks, cervical collars, endotracheal tubes, chest tubes and more. There were also fully equipped first aid kits and CPR pocket masks for the first responder organisations to facilitate effective provision of first aid on the ground.

Dr Wojtek Wilk, PCPM chief executive officer said: "We are happy and proud to work with the Government of Tanzania through the Aga Khan Health Services to strengthen emergency care in Dar-es-salaam and Mwanza. This equipment will complement the medical training over the 3 years of this project by providing the opportunity to learn using modern training equipment and will enable the establishment of modern equipped emergency departments."

Dr Erasto Sylvanus, Head of



PERSONAL SERVICES CONTRACTOR (PSC) VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENTS

These are Personal Service Contract (PSC) positions, to be based at Peace Corps' office in Oyster Bay, Dar es Salaam. They are full-time, 40 hours per week positions. The schedule may vary, based on operational requirements and may include evening, holiday and weekend work. The anticipated contract will be for a base period, with up to four option periods, exercisable at the unilateral option of the Peace Corps based on satisfactory performance, continued need for the position, and availability of funds. Preference will be given to personal services candidates who are citizens of Tanzania at the time of application.

Training Manager: The Training Manager is under the supervision of the Director of Programming and Training (DPT) and is responsible for the design, implementation, and evaluation of a competency-based training model to prepare Peace Corps Trainees/Volunteers for two years of Volunteer service in Tanzania. The Training Manager is expected to be based at the Pre-Service Training (PST) site location for an extended period of time as required for the position.

Qualifications and Evaluations: Applicants must address each qualification listed below with specific and comprehensive information supporting each item. Failure to do so may result in a determination that the applicant is not qualified.

- 1. Education Requirements:**
 - Master's Degree in Education, Training, International Development or a related field, or a Bachelor's Degree of the same subjects and 5 years of practical experience in education and training.
- 2. Language:**
 - English Level IV (fluent) and Swahili Level IV (fluent) in speaking/reading/writing is required. Excellent verbal and written communication skills in both languages required.
- 3. Work Experience:**
 - Minimum of five (5) years related work experience, preferably with an international organization in Tanzania or the region.
 - At least five (5) years demonstrated hands on experience in the design, delivery, management, and evaluation of adult education training programs utilizing participatory, experiential, and non-formal adult education techniques in large group settings in Tanzania.
 - A minimum of two (2) years demonstrated supervisory and managerial/leadership background, including organizational and representational capabilities.

- 4. Skills and Abilities:**
 - Excellent facilitation and presentation skills.
 - Demonstrated ability to manage multiple projects, teams, deliverables, expectations, and deadlines.
 - Proficient in software programs including Microsoft Excel, PowerPoint, and Word.
 - Demonstrated savviness with IT skills needed to support regular use of digital communication and training tools such as Zoom, Teams, Padlet, Mentimeter, etc.

Training Coordinator: The Training Coordinator is under the supervision of the Training Manager and the Director of Programming and Training and is to assist in the overall planning, implementation, management, and evaluation of the training in language learning, technical skills, and cross-cultural skills program for Peace Corps Trainees and Volunteers. The Training Coordinator is responsible for coordinating all logistical arrangements for Peace Corps training events, for bolstering integration of Swahili language into all aspects of training, and for overseeing the homestay identification, preparation, and monitoring of PST homestays. The Training Coordinator is expected to be based at the Pre-Service Training (PST) site location for an extended period as required for the position.

Qualifications and Evaluations: Applicants must address each qualification listed below with specific and comprehensive information supporting each item. Failure to do so may result in a determination that the applicant is not qualified.

- 1. Education Requirements:**
 - Bachelor's Degree or higher in a relevant field, such as Adult Education, Sociology, Education, and Community Development.
- 2. Language:**
 - English Level IV (fluent) and Swahili Level IV (fluent) in speaking/reading/writing is required. Excellent verbal and written communication skills in both languages required.
- 3. Work Experience:**
 - At least four (4) years of professional experience in planning, conducting, and evaluating training required, preferably with learners of a second language, adult education, or training.
 - Experience managing complex logistical arrangements and managing activity budgets required.
 - Related work experience with an international organization in Tanzania or the region preferred.

- 4. Skills and Abilities:**
 - Strong organizational skills and attention to detail.
 - Demonstrated ability to manage multiple projects, teams, deliverables, expectations, and deadlines.
 - Proficient in software programs including Microsoft Excel, PowerPoint, and Word.
 - Demonstrated savviness with IT skills needed to support regular use of digital communication and training tools such as Zoom, Teams, Padlet, Mentimeter, etc.

Communications Partner Relations Specialist: The Communications Partner Relations Specialist is under the supervision of the Director of Programming and Training (DPT) and is responsible for overseeing the communications related to the mission, programming, protocol, and partner relations for Peace Corps Tanzania. S/he leads staff and volunteers to establish a culture and practice of responsible and respectful

communications based on ethical storytelling principles, as well as supporting PTE in administrative areas as needed.

Qualifications and Evaluations: Applicants must address each qualification listed below with specific and comprehensive information supporting each item. Failure to do so may result in a determination that the applicant is not qualified.

- 1. Education Requirements:**
 - University/college degree required in any subject, with a preferred background to include international relations, journalism, media and/or communications.
- 2. Language:**
 - English Level IV (fluent) and Swahili Level IV (fluent) in speaking/reading/writing is required. Excellent verbal and written communication skills in both languages required.
- 3. Work Experience:**
 - A minimum of 3-5 years of relevant professional work experience.
 - Experience working with Tanzanian government agencies and/or NGOs and other voluntary agencies.
- 4. Skills and Abilities:**
 - Excellent communication skills, including the ability to deliver presentations in English and Swahili, create correspondence, develop promotional materials, and coordinate activities/events
 - Ability to create professional public relations materials, including press releases, pamphlets and brochures, and an annual report.
 - Skills in social media management to include Facebook, Instagram, Twitter, and the program's website.
 - Demonstrated savviness with IT skills required, particularly Power Point
 - Basic skills in graphic design, photography, and videography.
 - Demonstrated skills and experience as a translator in Kiswahili and English.

Applicability: Contract offer is contingent on availability of funds, reference checks, background check, medical examination, submission of proof of required vaccinations or other medical information.

All applicants must identify in the application whether or not they have ever served Peace Corps as a Trainee or Volunteer (including Response), or as a staff member (USDH, PSC, or FSN), and if so, to identify the position location, position type, title, and starting and ending dates.

Procedures for Employment Applicants: Peace Corps Manual Section 611 is applicable to this position. This section prohibits the employment of certain persons previously engaged in intelligence activities or connected with intelligence agencies. If you have ever worked for an intelligence agency, you are NOT eligible for employment at the Peace Corps in any capacity, and you should not apply for employment.

NOTE: Peace Corps reserves the right to withhold an offer of a personal services contract to an individual that is a relative or household member of a current Peace Corps staff member.

Peace Corps reserves the right to not evaluate or to withhold an offer of a personal services contract to an individual that has a history of poor past performance or conduct as a Peace Corps Trainee, Volunteer, or staff member (USDH, PSC, or FSN).

The individual selected will be required to follow any workplace health and/or safety rules indicated for their position - including complying with any medical and/or training requirements specified for their position in accordance with public health and/or occupational health or safety policies.

Peace Corps will not discriminate against an applicant because of that person's race, color, religion, sex (including gender identity, sexual orientation, and pregnancy), national origin, age (40 or older, except when the applicant is beyond the mandatory retirement age in the country of assignment), disability, or genetic information.

The individual selected may be asked to complete one or more temporary duty assignments at other Peace Corps posts, transfer to another Peace Corps post, or to complete a detail with another USG Agency, a Peace Corps Headquarters office, or with a post other than the post of assignment. As part of an approved detail, the individual may be requested to perform work that may be specifically in line with or may add to the duties stated in the contract.

For Further Information: The complete position descriptions for all three (3) positions listing all of the duties, responsibilities, required qualifications, etc. may be obtained by sending an email to TZ-DMO@peacecorps.gov.

How to Apply: Individuals meeting the minimum qualifications should submit a cover letter with one-inch margins in Times New Roman font size 12, justifying your qualifications and proven track-record for the position. Also submit a maximum two-page Resume (even if your experience exceeds two pages, summarizing your qualifications). **Training Manager applicants** - send both items to the following email address: tz-applicants2@peacecorps.gov with the subject line: PC 23-01-Training Manager_Last Name_First Name.

Training Coordinator & Communications PR Specialist applicants - send both items to the following email address: tz-applicants@peacecorps.gov with the subject line: Reference No. (for example PC 23-02)_Position Title_Last Name_First Name.

Shortlisted applicants will be convened to sit for a written test.

NOTE: Due to the high volume of applications received, we will only contact applicants who are being considered. Thank you for your understanding.

2/15/23

Mhagama praises ministry's workers for donating blood

By Guardian Reporter

JENISTA Mhagama, Minister of State in President's Office (Public Service Management and Good Governance), has said officials in her office are supporting President Samia Suluhu Hassan's efforts on the protection of human resources in the country by donating blood at Dodoma Regional Referral Hospital to help those in need.

The minister made the remarks on Monday when rounding out community services provided by her office in the City of Dodoma aimed at building good relations with the community.

She said officials in her office have donated blood in order to boost up supply at the hospital's blood bank for those in need.

Meanwhile, Deputy Minister in the President's Office (Public Service Management and Good Governance), Deogratias Ndejemi

has said blood donated by his office will help all Tanzania who are in need. He called upon workers and staff in other public institutions countrywide to emerge and donate blood to boost up blood banks at hospitals that can be used to save people's lives.

One of the ministry's workers who donated blood, Mariam Mwanilwa from the salaries and allowances department said she was happy after donating blood which she believed will save the lives of Tanzanians in need.

For his part, Head of Safe Blood unit at Dodoma Regional Referral Hospital, Dr George Mkira thanked the management of the President's Office (Public Service and Good Governance) for the decision to donate blood in order to save the lives of other Tanzanians in need.

He said a total of 50 pints of blood donated will serve not less than 150 sick children in need of blood.

Shanta Gold Ltd upbeat on production at Singida mine

By Guardian Reporter and Agencies

SHANTA Gold Ltd has said it is delighted with progress in Singida, its gold project, as it looks to start production next month.

Overall construction activity at the project is 93 percent complete; the East Africa-focused gold producer, developer and explorer told investors, while all essential equipment for operation has now been delivered.

"We are delighted with the great progress being made at Singida, with construction on schedule for first production next month. The completion of this mine will transform Shanta Gold into a 100,000 ounces per annum producer with a diversified resource base, de-risking the balance sheet and providing the business with

further financial flexibility," said CEO Eric Zurrin.

However, the stockpile of crushed ore at Singida has reached 32,300 tonnes, equal to over one month of supply. Shanta Gold said this has significantly de-risked the ramp-up period of operations.

The run of mine stockpile at the process plant is currently at 127,000 tonnes with an average grade of 3.34 grams per tonne, containing 13,581 ounces of gold equal to four months of processing.

Looking ahead, the company said that hot commissioning of the NCP-manufactured milling circuit is on track for the second half of February, while the tailings storage facility HDPE liner for partial deposition should be complete by March.



Foreign Affairs and East African Cooperation minister Dr Stergomena Tax (R) and the Comoros' Foreign Affairs minister, Dhoahir Dhoulkamal, sign an MoU at the Tanzanian Embassy in the Ethiopian capital, Addis Ababa, yesterday on the formation of a Joint Permanent Commission between Tanzania and the Comoros. The agreement has been signed at the Embassy of Tanzania, Addis Ababa, Ethiopia yesterday. Photo courtesy of Foreign Affairs ministry

Court adjourns economic sabotage case against Temeke's former DED

By Correspondent Zuwena Shame

THE Kisumu Resident Magistrates Court in Dar es Salaam yesterday adjourned an economic sabotage case facing former Temeke District Executive Director, Lusibilo Mwakabibi and his colleague until March 15th 2023 this year.

Mwakabibi and Eduward Haule are facing two counts-abusing of office and misuse of power.

Before Kisumu Principal Resident Magistrate, Evodia Kyaruzi, State

Attorney, Monica Ndekidemi told the court that investigation into the case is not complete.

It was alleged that the accused persons committed the offences between March 2020 and 2021 while in Dar es Salaam city.

On the first charge, it was stated that when Mwakabibi was the government employee, working as the Temeke District Executive Director and coordinator of Dar es Salaam Metropolitan Development Project (DMDP), he illegally

implemented a project to construct the Buza bus stop at a plot owned by Anglican Church without consent.

On the second charge, it was alleged that Mwakabibi used his powers as the district director and violated the Land Act.

Meanwhile, the Kisumu Resident Magistrates Court has adjourned a drug trafficking case facing a Dar es Salaam resident Hussein Hariri and others until February 28th this year.


Early January this year, the prosecution side told the court that

they have filed information to the High Court and they are waiting for the reply.

Principal State Attorney, Sylvia Mitanto told the Principal Resident Magistrate, Yusto Luboroga that they are waiting for the reply from the High Court and that investigation into the case is still going on.

Apart from Hariri, other accused are Benson Muro and Ramadhani Almas, both Dar es Salaam residents. They are accused of committing the offence in March last year at Mbezi Chini area.

It was alleged that the accused were found trafficking 1001.17 kilograms of heroin.



GLOBAL HEALTH SUPPLY CHAIN PROGRAM
TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE - TANZANIA

CONSULTANCY OPPORTUNITY
STATEMENT OF WORK

Purpose: To support the Ministry of Health in the implementation of supply chain initiatives for both Tanzania mainland and Zanzibar.

Provider(s): Two (2) Health Commodities Supply Chain Advisors

Period of Performance: February to May 2023 (69 days)

Place of Performance: Various locations- Tanzania mainland and Zanzibar

1. Background

The Government of Tanzania, through the Ministry of Health (MOH) and President's Office, Regional Administrations, and Local Government (PORALG) has increased focus on the continuous availability of health commodities at health facilities. This has been demonstrated through undertaking ownership in strengthening supply chain systems in the country and strategic collaboration with implementing partners.

The Government of Tanzania in collaboration with development partners have invested in improving the health commodities supply chain but due to dynamics in global health systems and supply chain evolution, it necessitates a review of health logistics systems including working tools. Furthermore, technical support to healthcare workers is recommended for effective supply chain practices such as proper inventory management of health commodities (medicines, medical supplies, vaccines, laboratory reagents, etc.), supply chain supervision and oversight, and responding to public health emergencies, just to mention a few.

The Global Health Supply Chain (GHSC-TA-TZ) has been working closely with both Ministries of Health Tanzania mainland and Zanzibar in developing agile, robust, and sustainable health supply chains that will contribute towards improving medicines availability and ultimately the health status of Tanzanians. Various initiatives have been deployed to strengthen the health commodities supply chain. These initiatives include; Redesigned Logistics System (RLS), Bottom-Up Quantification (BUQ), Information Mobilized for Performance Analysis and Continuous Transformation (IMPACT) approach, Health Commodities Revolving Fund (HCRF), National Key Performance Indicators (KPI), e-learning modules for the health supply chain, etc.

Purpose:

To provide technical support for the implementation of health commodities supply chain initiatives in both Tanzania mainland and Zanzibar between January and May 2023. Technical support is ranging from review of logistics systems and tools, capacity-building activities, assessment of vaccine temperature monitoring, and updating the e-learning materials contents as per current operationalization.

Objectives:

- 1) To review Zanzibar logistics system tools and provide capacity building.
- 2) To provide capacity building on immunization services to Regional and Councils health management teams and offer technical support to Immunization and Vaccines Development team.
- 3) To provide technical support in the assessment of vaccine temperature monitoring
- 4) To Review and update the e-learning health supply chain modules.

1. Activities


- 1) To review and update existing eLearning modules of Key Performance Indicators (KPIs) & Health Commodities Revolving Fund (HCRF)
- 2) To review scripts and record eLearning modules of KPI, Data Analytics & HCRF
- 3) To support the assessment of vaccines temperature monitoring
- 4) To provide technical support during capacity building of National, Regional, and Council vaccine immunization officers on the supply chain management of vaccines and related supplies.
- 5) To conduct a TOT on Standard Operating Procedure (SOP) for Zanzibar health commodities monthly distribution
- 6) To conduct roll-out training on monthly distribution to PHCU/PHCU+ in Zanzibar

2. Deliverable

- Activity Report

If you are interested in applying this position please send your resume, cover letter to ghsc.recruitment@gmail.com before 24th February, 2023.

217281501



GLOBAL HEALTH SUPPLY CHAIN PROGRAM
TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE - TANZANIA

CONSULTANCY OPPORTUNITY
STATEMENT OF WORK

Purpose: To provide capacity building to IMPACT teams in Tanzania mainland for improved data use and supply chain performance

Provider(s): 2 advisors - TBD

Period of Performance: March 2023 to June 2023 (42 days)

Place of Performance: Various location Tanzania Mainland

1. Background

The Global Health Supply Chain - Technical Assistance - Tanzania (GHSC-TA-TZ) project provides Tanzania with specialized technical assistance (TA) to strengthen the country's supply chain systems in all areas of health, such as malaria, family planning (FP), HIV/AIDS, tuberculosis (TB) and reproductive, maternal, newborn and child health (RMNCH). In coordination with in-country and development partners, the GHSC-TA-TZ supports the Government of Tanzania's health programs and stakeholders through technical assistance in four areas/objectives. The project aims to support the development of flexible, robust, and sustainable health supply chains that contribute to improving the availability of medicines and ultimately the health status of the Tanzanian population. The activities implemented by GHSC-TA-TZ are structured into different objectives and interventions, such as supporting strategic planning and implementation, improving the delivery of health commodities at service delivery sites, increasing stakeholder understanding and commitment to the supply chain system, and strengthening the enabling environment to improve supply chain performance.

Under the third objective, the project is supporting the Ministry of Health (MOH) and the President's Office, Regional Administration and Local Government (PORALG) to implement the Information Mobilized for Performance Analysis and Continuous Transformation (IMPACT) approach to institutionalize the use of supply chain data and data quality at all levels of the supply chain: national, regional, council, and health facilities, including regional referral hospitals in mainland Tanzania. The project, in collaboration with the Ministry of Health and PORALG, has so far conducted IMPACT trainings in 25 regions in mainland Tanzania and 16 regional referral hospitals.

Purpose: To provide capacity building to IMPACT teams in Tanzania mainland for improved data use and supply chain performance

Capacity building of stakeholders is a core component of interventions to improve the use of health supply chain data by IMPACT teams at all levels. To strengthen and ensure effective implementation of the IMPACT approach in the country, trained IMPACT teams need to be followed up to monitor implementation progress and technical assistance. Also need to engage other stakeholders through meetings to align and support supply chain activities by IMPACT teams in the regions and councils. And finally, IMPACT team members should be empowered, improve their competence in extracting health supply chain data from various electronic systems including e-LMIS, DHIS 2, AFYA CARE, GOHOMIS, PMD and NHIF Portal through data processing, analysis and interpretation for informed supply chain decision making. Therefore, the contractor, in collaboration with the GHSC TA-TZ, is expected to work with key government stakeholders, including MOH and PORALG to facilitate the implementation of the IMPACT approach and capacity building for improved supply chain in the country.

Activities

The contractor for this work will be responsible for:

1. Review and update operational documents
2. Technical assistance to established IMPACT Teams
3. Support National level IMPACT Team Coordination Meeting
4. Documentation of IMPACT best practices for a selected team.

Objectives:

- 1) Review and update the operational manual and Training Materials.
- 2) Monitor the progress of established IMPACT teams and provide coaching and capacity building for the identified gaps during implementation.
- 3) Technical assistance to stakeholders' meetings in the regions which implement IMPACT approach to stir up stakeholders' engagement and support to IMPACT teams for improved data use and supply chain performance.
- 4) Document lessons learnt, best practices and success stories in course of implementation

The scope will be implemented as per schedule shown in the chart below:

Sn	Activity	Mar	Apr	May
1	Review and update of IMPACT operational documents			
2	Support Monitoring of established IMPACT Teams			
3	Support Stakeholders data use & supply chain coordination meetings			
4	Support National level IMPACT Team Coordination Meeting			
5	Documentation of IMPACT best practices			

Deliverables/Outputs

- 1) Draft of IMPACT operational Manual
- 2) Technical reports from Monitored IMPACT Teams
- 3) Technical reports from Regional Stakeholders Meetings in Selected Locations
- 4) Technical reports from National IMPACT teams
- 5) IMPACT best Practices Documentation and Technical Report

If you are interested in applying this position please send your resume, cover letter to ghsc.recruitment@gmail.com before 24th February, 2023.

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Geita district commissioner Col Boniphace Maghembe presents sunflower seeds to farmer Mhanda Juma (in jacket) at the weekend. It was Geita Gold Mining Limited gesture of goodwill that also benefited a number of other members of the local farming community. Third-right (foreground) is Gilbert Mworira, the firm's senior manager for sustainability. Photo: Guardian Correspondent

Mining firm distributes 23 tonnes of sunflower seeds in Geita district

By Guardian Reporter

GEITA Gold Mining Limited (GGML) has distributed 23 tonnes of sunflower seeds with a distribution of 13.8 tonnes in Geita District Council and 9.1 tonnes in Geita Town Council.

The support reflects GGML's ambition to transform the agriculture sector in the communities surrounding the mine since 2015 where most of the farmers relied on their smallholdings to mostly cultivate maize, cassava, groundnuts and raise livestock.

The seismic shift in the crops grown, following a special capacity building programme as part of the Mine's Environment Social and Governance (ESG) initiatives in the area to impart knowledge and best practices to small farmers, led to the introduction of sunflower farming under technical support by the Cholima Agriculture Institute, an agriculture research organisation engaged by GGML.

Speaking during the ceremony to handover the sunflower seeds to Kasota farmers in Geita District Council, GGML's

Senior Manager for Sustainability, Gilbert Mworira said that the company had spent 108m/- to procure the sunflower seeds targeting 5,875 farmers from both Geita Town and district councils.

"GGML aspires to benefit the host community by initiating sustainable projects which will outlast mining activities. We are delighted to distribute these seeds during the rainy season because this is the opportune time for farmers to start growing their seeds," he said.

The Geita District Commissioner, Colonel Boniphace Maghembe commended GGML for the donation and called upon Geita farmers to fully utilize the support in the current rainy season.

"Geita district has a population of 1.4 million people, and a large percentage of this population depends on agriculture. We have a very huge role to play by encouraging our farmers to practice modern agriculture technologies because it can easily transform our economy.

The climatic condition of this area allows farmers to cultivate twice a year, something which could maximize their harvests," the

DC said, reminding farmers that agriculture is the backbone of the country's economy.

SaaKumi Makungu, a sunflower farmer at Kasota and chairman of the NYABUSAKAMA cooperative society was delighted to receive the support saying it would improve their yield tremendously.

Whilst giving a brief historical reference in his remarks, Makungu revealed that sunflower crops had not yet been introduced in Kasota until 2015, following a joint capacity building initiative between GGML and Cholima Agriculture Institute.

Makungu further explained that varieties of record seeds from Agriculture Seed Agency have yielded wonderful results, producing between 12 and 18 litres of sunflower oil per 100 kilogrammes of sunflower seeds. With the demand for edible oil growing exponentially, the future for these farmers supported by GGML is bright.

AngloGold Ashanti - Geita Gold Mining Limited GGML has supported NYABUSAKAMA with two oil producing factory machines with capacity to process sunflower seeds at a very high speed. One machine processes the sunflower plant to get the seed and the second machine processes the seed to get the sunflower oil as its end product. The process only takes 25 minutes for 600 kilograms of sunflower seeds.

EA Community lands US\$1.4 m for feasibility study of key road project

By Guardian Reporter

THE East African Community (EAC) has secured \$1.4 million for a feasibility study on a key section of the Northern Transport Corridor linking Kenya and Uganda.

The EAC Deputy Secretary General in charge of Planning and Infrastructure, Steven Mlote, disclosed that the funding from the African Development Bank (AfDB) would be used to conduct feasibility studies on the 256 km multinational Kisumu-Kisian-Busia/Kakira - Malaba-Busitema-Busia expressway project.

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

Mlote further revealed that the Secretariat had also secured a commitment of 10 million Euros from the Federal Government of Germany in December 2022 for purposes of financing feasibility studies towards upgrading trade infrastructure in the region.

Eng. Mlote was speaking during the opening session of the EAC Sectoral Council on Transport, Communications and Meteorology (SCTCM) that was held in Bujumbura, Burundi from 6th - 10th February, 2023.

Speaking during the opening session, the Chairperson of the Meeting who is also Burundi's Minister for Infrastructure, Equipment and Social Housing, Captain Dieudonne Dukundane, emphasised the importance of introducing performance indicators in the TCM report in future as a way of assessing progress in the implementation of the directives of the sectoral council.

The SCTCM directed the United Republic of Tanzania and the Republic of Burundi to implement the EAC Roaming Framework by August 30th, 2023 and provide the status of implementation to the next Summit of the EAC Heads of State.

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

In addition, the ministers directed Tanzania to ensure that the amendments are done in the following areas: wholesale tariff (i.e. inter-operator tariff) shall be capped at \$0.07/Min

for traffic originating and terminating within EAC; retail tariff shall be capped at \$ 0.10/Min, inclusive of taxes, for traffic originating and terminating within EAC.

Also, there shall be no charges for receiving roaming calls originating within the EAC in addition to the removal of surcharges for international traffic originating and terminating within the EAC.

The EAC Roaming Framework or One Network Area was meant to harmonise mobile and data roaming charges across the region and make affordable calls starting from and ending within the region, in addition to enhancing intra-regional trade.

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

The framework was developed and approved by the 30th Meeting of the Council of Ministers in 2014 and endorsed by the EAC Heads of State in February 2015. So far, the Republics of Kenya, Rwanda, Uganda and South Sudan have implemented the framework.

On the roads sector, the meeting directed the Secretariat in collaboration with Partner States to develop a performance measurement toolkit (PMT) to assist in assessing the performance of the OSBPs in the EAC with a view to inform policy decision making.

The TCM Meeting further directed the Secretariat to convene a regional meeting of Partner States experts to consider the initiatives being undertaken under the OSBP Phase 2 programme and to receive new border points connecting to the DRC, the bloc's newest EAC Partner State.

On the water transport sector, TCM directed the Secretariat to fast track the development of the Regional Maritime Transport Policy and report progress to the 19th TCM meeting. The ministers also directed the Secretariat to convene a meeting of maritime transport experts to review progress in the development of the Regional Maritime Transport Policy.

The Ministers further recommended to council to establish the position of Maritime Officer in the Directorate of Infrastructure at the EAC Secretariat to handle regional maritime matters, as proposed in the new EAC Institutional Structure.



DISCLOSURE OF FINANCIAL STATEMENTS AND FUNDING SOURCES FOR MSPH TANZANIA LLC FROM JANUARY 1ST TO DECEMBER 31ST, 2022.

MSPH Tanzania LLC, also known as ICAP, is a non-governmental organization operating in Tanzania since 2004. MSPH Tanzania LLC receives fund mainly from the President's Emergency Plan for AIDS Relief (PEPFAR) through the U.S. Centre's for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC). In line with the countrywide scale up of HIV services to reach 95-95-95 goals in Tanzania, ICAP at Columbia University's Mailman School of Public Health is a recipient of a five-year PEPFAR-funded cooperative agreement beginning 30th September 2021 from the Centres for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) to support comprehensive community and facility-based HIV and voluntary medical male circumcision (VMMC) services in Mwanza region. ICAP also is currently supporting the Tanzania HIV survey 2022-2023 being led by the Government of Tanzania (GoT) through the Tanzania Commission for AIDS (TACAIDS), Zanzibar AIDS Commission (ZAC), the Ministries of Health (MoH) of mainland and Zanzibar, National Bureau of Statistics (NBS), the Office of Chief Government Statistician (OCGS), and the President's Office Regional Administration and Local Government (PORALG).

Statement of financial position as at 31st December 2022		
Item	2022 (TZS'000) Provisional	2021 (TZS'000) Audited
Assets		
Current assets		
Cash and cash equivalent	10,602,865	1,278,339
Receivables	785,915	821,438
Total Assets	11,388,780	2,099,777
Liabilities		
Fund balance	11,388,780	2,099,777
	11,388,780	2,099,777
Total Liabilities	11,388,780	2,099,777

Statement of Comprehensive income for the year ended 31st December 2022		
Item	2021 (TZS'000) Provisional	2022 (TZS'000) Audited
Income		
Grant income	42,726,777	35,622,478
Total income	42,726,777	35,622,478
Expenses		
Operating expenses	1,879,448	1,678,545
Program expenses	27,812,480	23,782,506
Staff expenses	13,034,848	10,161,427
Total expenses	42,726,777	35,622,478
Surplus for the year	0	0

Statement of cash flow as at 31st December 2022		
	2022 (TZS'000) Provisional	2021 (TZS'000) Audited
Cashflow from operating activities:		
Changes in:		
(Increase)/ decrease in Receivables	35,523	(386,491)
(Increase)/ decrease in Payables	0	0
Increase/ (decrease) in fund balance	9,289,003	(422,848)
Net decrease in cash from operating activities	9,324,526	(809,339)
Movement in cash and cash equivalents		
At start of the year	1,278,339	2,087,678
Increase/ (decrease)	9,324,526	(809,339)
At end of the year	10,602,865	1,278,339
Cash book balance	10,602,865	1,278,339

Expenditure Analysis by Project for the year ended 31st December 2022			
No.	Project Name	2022 (TZS'000) Provisional	2021 (TZS'000) Audited
1	Sustain and Accelerate a Comprehensive HIV Response in the United Republic of Tanzania under PEPFAR	29,741,116	32,738,643
2	HIV-Focused Population Surveys in Countries Supported Under the President's Emergency Plan for AIDS Relief	6,735,684	1,392
3	Community-Based HIV Services for Key Populations and Adolescent Girls and Young Women	1,744,763	212,082
4	Tanzania COVID-19 Vaccinator Training	753,629	2,339,957
5	Covid 19 vaccination Mwanza GlobalVax activities	1,239,233	0
6	Covid 19 vaccination Mwanza ARPA activities	2,330,463	0
8	ICAP New York funded activities (Unrestricted funding)	181,888	330,403
Grand Total		42,726,777	35,622,478

The statement of financial position published for 2022 to cover the period of January 1st, 2022, to December 31st, 2022, is unaudited as approved by ICAP management in pursuant to regulation 13 of the Non-Governmental Organizations Act (Disclosures) Regulations, 2018).

Financial transparency, accountability, and disclosure of fundraising activities.

In subsequent to regulation 12 and 13 of the Non-Governmental Organizations Act section 32 regulations 2018 on financial transparency, accountability and disclosure of fundraising activities requirements. Subject to availability of funding MSPH Tanzania LLC has received a Cooperative agreement Notice of awards (NOA) entitled "Sustain and Accelerate a Comprehensive HIV Response in the United Republic of Tanzania" and "HIV-Focused Population Surveys in Countries Supported Under the President's Emergency Plan for AIDS Relief" under the President's Emergency Plan for AIDS Relief (PEPFAR) funding. The expected funding amount is subjected to funding availability to support projects work plan and budgets with implementation period starting from September 30, 2022, through September 29, 2023, are as follows.

Award	Funding	Activities
Sustain and Accelerate a Comprehensive HIV Response in the United Republic of Tanzania under PEPFAR HIV-Focused Population Surveys in Countries Supported Under the President's Emergency Plan for AIDS Relief	TZS 73 billion	The purpose of this funding is to support the Government of Tanzania (GoT) strategy for comprehensive HIV prevention, testing, care, and treatment (C&T) addressing the entire continuum of care in Mwanza region in both community and facility settings. MSPH Tanzania LLC will be implementing innovative, evidence-based, client centered and culturally appropriate interventions to enhance identification of HIV-positive individuals; linkage to C&T clinics (CTC) for same day initiation antiretroviral therapy (ART); support for community-based HIV services; access to HIV services for clients with special needs; retention on treatment and patient adherence to ART, monitoring viral load (VL) to attain viral suppression; support for HIV prevention services (e.g. PrEP, DREAMS, VMMC, etc) and utilization of appropriate data for continuous quality improvement (COI). MSPH Tanzania LLC will collaborate with regional and council health management teams (R/CHMT) to implement HIV prevention, testing, C&T activities to achieve PEPFAR and GoT's National Multi-Sectoral Strategic Framework IV (NMSF IV) goals. Focus is on children and adolescents, men and boys, adolescent girls and young women, pregnant women, breastfeeding mothers and infants, key populations, and at-risk groups so no sub-population is left behind.
HIV-Focused Population Surveys in Countries Supported Under the President's Emergency Plan for AIDS Relief	TZS 33.8 billion	Tanzania HIV survey 2022-2023 is being led by the Government of Tanzania (GoT) through the Tanzania Commission for AIDS (TACAIDS), Zanzibar AIDS Commission (ZAC), the Ministries of Health (MoH) of mainland and Zanzibar, National Bureau of Statistics (NBS), the Office of Chief Government Statistician (OCGS), and the President's Office Regional Administration and Local Government (PORALG). The survey will be implemented by NBS, OCGS, and ICAP in collaboration with local partners, including the National Institute of Medical Research (NIMR), the Zanzibar Institute of Health Research (ZAHRI), public health laboratories, the National AIDS Control Program (NACP), and the Zanzibar Integrated HIV, Hepatitis, Tuberculosis and Leprosy Program (ZIHHTLP).

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Surely culture change will help slash huge health bills

THE country mission of the World Bank has been mapping out huge benefits to be obtained from universal access to water supply, sanitation and hygiene, abbreviated as WASH. A recent report says this could reduce economic burdens by \$1.9bn/- per year by 2030, enabling the country to potentially generate more than \$2.4bn each year in savings on excess medical costs and lost productivity. It means we have to pay for the burden of disease, much of which rises from lack of access to proper water, sanitation and hygiene. Implicitly, the report is about the need to privilege this sector, and the reasons are plentiful.

Seeking out the most plausible elements in economic projection, the report says that achieving WASH goals can support the jobs agenda while mitigating adverse effects on workforce productivity. It would thus advance Tanzania's objectives for inclusive growth and poverty reduction, all of which can hardly be put at issue. What is questionable is whether the issue is just inadequate access or there is an element of cultural resistance, ingrained attitudes at work.

When it comes to explaining backwardness and traditional structures and how to change them, there is a wealth of starting points. On this occasion the key starting point was water, while at another occasion it is education, and one similarly notices that water access is pursued in a universal accent, while education quite often has a gender element to be a transformative agent. There are other demands, often not held with that universal accent but as basic needs.

Thus, while the 18th edition of

the Tanzania Economic Update is subtitled 'Clean Water, Bright Future,' it is possible to furnish other preliminary prefixes to the 'bright future' agenda, not just clean water.

At the same time the issue of universal access to water, sanitation and hygiene is only partially a matter of policy priority as it is also an issue of fiscal potential under specific economic conditions.

The report says 61 percent of households have access to basic water supply while just 32 percent have basic sanitation. These figures are prone to be revised if not reversed periodically, as water supply is often erratic, unreliable.

Still there is something to be elated about if 48 percent of households have access to basic hygiene by quality accepted in the sustainable development goals framework.

Surprisingly, upwards of nine percent of the population still practices open defecation which entails serious health risks, the report affirms, a situation that is scarcely reducible to water accessibility. Even in planned units like schools, there is a habit of pinching money for toilets, by some kind of limited cultural consensus, to push for more money but reflecting these habits.

Cultural forces at times exercise a profoundly negative influence for behaviour change, as routine body rhythms are treated as tribal rituals of a sort, so those guarding the ritual life of a village or a family detest seeing toilets. It is an area where modernisation has constantly battled customs but this isn't stated as such, as we usually fall back on what we know as ignorance. That is why breaking up much of traditional society by parcelling out land permits easing some burdens.

With AfCFTA operational, the tax burden has to be cut

STAKEHOLDERS and the relevant government agencies are setting out the modalities of effective entry into the African Continental Free Trade Area (AfCFTA) starting July 1. The government says that processed coffee and tiles top the list in a schedule of ten product types for export drive under the new scheme, with others whose modalities are still under discussion with industrial processors of those products. They weren't made public on the export drive.

This arrangement was set out in a meeting between the relevant ministries (Investments, Industry and Trade along with Finance and Planning) where responsible ministers discussed a wide range of issues with members of the Confederation of Tanzania Industries (CTI). This is agenda that ought to have come up 20 years ago with the US law, African Growth and Opportunity Act (AGOA) which all the same had an impact on the language of the local industrial sector. The vibrant demand for effective protection from imports dimmed somewhat, but tax prerogatives remained basically unaltered, then.

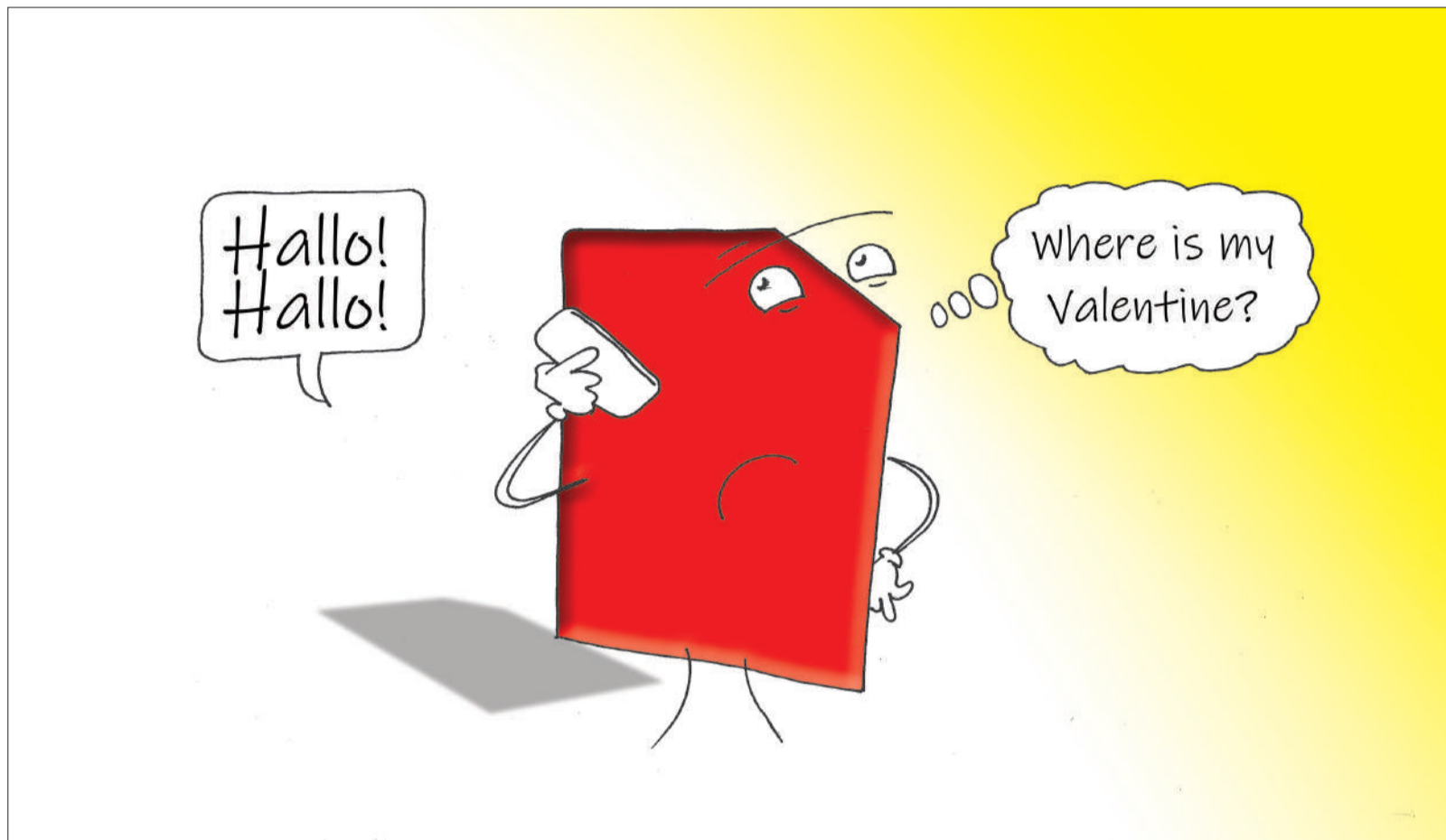
Another moderating factor was the East African Customs Union, which started effectively in 2006 and has proved sustainable, while the East African Common Market has failed to come into force. AfCFTA is like an extension of the customs union to the whole of Africa. The meeting was told that Tanzania is among seven initial countries according priority to AfCFTA, implying that trading based on the scheme will be patchy, crossing territories not involved in the framework, to reach a participating country. It is thus just a starting point.

While the government team was urging manufacturers and traders

to seek out those opportunities, the manufacturers were stressing some unfinished business in the tax environment for local goods to be competitive on the wider market. What we have seen so far is that the government is receptive to tax reforms, and this demand comes up not on its own but in the wider context of attracting investors to Tanzania for reducing our own import needs and making use of wide ranging export opportunities. In all those occasions where the matters are discussed, further adapting the tax framework unavoidably comes to the fore.

While AfCFTA is a good development, it is from an institutional point of view a game changer as it brings the whole of industry to seek a better tax climate not just to produce for export but to survive competition. Yet strategically speaking the change is vastly more important in relation to unused potential in relation to AGOA, as at one time Kenya was exporting most of the 300 plus commodities under both AGOA and EBA (the European Union arrangement for exporting 'all but arms') more or less duty free. High taxes, low credit levels and high interest rates impedes using these facilities, but things may gradually change.

That means a necessary adaptive outlook on the government, to scale down expenditure such that taxes are affordable for manufacturers to pay and still compete in quality and in the price. There are areas like high costs of electricity and lack of access to coal (even if internationally it is hard to use coal for energy and access global markets). State monopoly services are reinforced by high local taxes (often known as corporate social responsibility) that the Investments ministry is on record to have sharply deplored in the past months.



Will a state of disaster fix the electricity crisis?

By N Thomas Stacey Ground

THERE are good reasons to be sceptical Eskom's financial reports from December 2022, read by candlelight as they may have been, paint a picture that may surprise. The embattled utility has been able to bring its debt burden down to about R400-billion, from a peak well over R500-billion in 2020. It has trimmed its other liabilities enough to bring its losses down to R12.3-billion which means that, were it not for debt servicing costs of R70-billion, Eskom would be a profitable venture.

That financial picture, on its own, would suggest that it wouldn't take much outside intervention to restore Eskom to a profitable entity, capable of growth. Some of that outside intervention has already occurred, with NERSA approving an 18.65% tariff hike for 2023/2024. In the absence of other factors, this would add enough revenue to restore Eskom to profitability by 2024.

But the financial discipline required to claw Eskom back to this point came at a high cost to all of us. The economic losses due to loadshedding have been estimated at R900-million per day, a figure which, if allowed to continue to the end of the year, would exceed Eskom's entire annual revenue of about R240-billion. On the surface, then, the State of Disaster declaration appears to have some merit. Electricity supply has national importance far beyond Eskom's business prospects.

But there are a multitude of reasons to worry about the declaration. These include constitutional questions - allowing a government to grant itself

By Special Correspondent

IF anything adds to the heat in Parliament to legislate for a very high minimum mandatory sentence for rapists, and 20 years has been suggested, the decision by a regional magistrate sitting in Marondera to pass an effective seven-year sentence on a 21-year-old man for pre-meditated rape of an 11-year-old will add the required fuel.

The facts are fairly simple. The girl was walking from school.

The man following his premeditated plan was lurking near a bushy and hilly area, had dressed himself as a woman, had masked his face and was carrying a knife and a piece of cloth to use as a gag.

As the girl came up he approached her, and since he was dressed as a woman she did not run, then he grabbed her, produced his knife, dragged her off the road, gagged her and raped her. He fled when her mother came looking for her. As he fled his face was unveiled.

The girl pulled off the gag and called for help, and her mother found her weeping.

additional powers in response to a crisis for which it is itself largely responsible is a dangerous precedent and creates appalling incentives.

There are also clear financial concerns - the State of Disaster declared during the Covid pandemic triggered frenzied looting of emergency funds. There is also a dangerous operational precedent. In 2015, then-Deputy President Ramaphosa promised that loadshedding would end within 18 months. That promise very clearly didn't come to fruition but 18 months after it was made it looked as though it had, as South Africa had no loadshedding in 2016 and 2017. Behind the scenes, however, this short-term success was accomplished by imposing strict performance targets on coal-fired power stations that couldn't reach them without compromising maintenance and accumulating long-term damage.

It seems likely that the same approach may be in the pipeline now, given that the proposed rescue plan outlined by the utility's new board largely consists of increasing performance at existing plants without any specifics on how those improvements are to be achieved. It is not clear whether a State of Disaster could achieve those targets in a sustainable way. The coal fleet's performance issues are not easily fixed - they result in large part from a range of issues with coal quality standards, the most fundamental being too much sulphur in coal resulting in corrosive damage to boiler tubes, leading to high failure rates.

A State of Disaster could perhaps be used to justify a Force Majeure declaration on contracts supplying sub-standard coal but it would still

take considerable time for alternative supplies to be secured and used. The other potential advantage would be that the declaration could be used as a justification to disregard emissions laws that prevent boilers being operated at higher oxygen content, which lowers the rate of sulphidation corrosion.

But neither of these measures would yield rapid results. The damaging effects of sulphidation are gradual so even if their source is removed, elevated failure rates would persist as a result of accumulated damage that has already occurred. Moreover, there has been no indication that there is political will to reform coal supply contracts, and Eskom is already flouting emissions laws throughout its fleet.

Thus, the benefit of a Force Majeure is unlikely while lower emission laws are already disregarded.

Consequently, political pressure to extract higher performance from the coal fleet has to be viewed as more likely to result in long-term deterioration than long-term improvement.

Other measures mentioned by President Ramaphosa in his State of the Nation Address are perhaps more promising. He mentioned tax incentives for rooftop solar panels, and the future establishment of a competitive electricity market, which can be presumed to include feed-in tariffs. The latter must be treated as an urgent priority. The rapid and accelerating installation of private solar panels already threatens Eskom's business viability and the revenues of municipalities that heavily depend on electricity sales. Feed-in tariffs offer a quick fix for this issue, by turning

private solar into a source of cheap energy for the grid.

But these measures don't require a State of Disaster to be implemented and were in the pipeline already. One could argue that bundling them into a disaster response plan would worsen their long-term viability because, firstly, it would place them under the management of temporary structures that will in principle later be dissolved and because it will loosen financial oversight.

The only genuine benefit of the State of Disaster that is readily apparent from the details of the speech is that President Ramaphosa discussed using emergency measures to exempt key sectors and industries from loadshedding or to otherwise provide emergency assistance to mitigate its effects. This would likely mean secure power supply for hospitals and water reservoir pumps, mainly, along with key points in the food supply chain.

While highly important, it's debatable whether these items necessitate a national state of disaster, or if they could have been dealt with through other avenues. The creation of the post of minister of electricity, as was also announced, would likely provide suitable funding mechanisms in and of itself. Besides, if there were genuine political will to deal with these issues, they could have been dealt with years ago.

Purely from an engineering and energy availability standpoint, the State of Disaster declaration is poorly justified, and carries some risk of actively worsening our long-term energy security.

The author lectures in Wits University's Chemical Engineering Department.

Rape sentences need full review urgently

They fortunately went straight to the police, so the required medical evidence was obtained promptly.

The mother had brought along one of her friends on the search, so there was a witness.

This set of decisions meant the case was open and shut and the conviction followed in just over a week.

Then came the sentence, 10 years with three years suspended.

While a judicial officer has to take into account all aggravating and mitigating factors when passing sentence, many will feel the starting point for the sentence was low, and the present set of legal precedents are considered low by many.

There will be reasonable agreement by critics of the sentence that the serious aggravating factors of the age of the little girl, and the high level of planning and premeditation of the assault would severely outweigh the age of the young man, but he was more than three years into adulthood, and the probable fact that he was a first offender.

As with all longer sentences passed by a magistrate the case will be reviewed by a High Court judge, and that judge could well find that the sentence does not meet the standard of real and substantial justice.

But it is likely that the regional magistrate was simply following precedent when setting the sentence, and here is the basis for the Parliamentary pressure for much higher sentences, with minimums of 20 years being proposed.

The judiciary strongly dislikes mandatory sentences, even when there is provision for the sentencing judicial officer to have discretion when exceptional circumstances can be found.

Others are also troubled, since mandatory minimums also mean magistrates and judges cannot take all factors involved in each case and with each accused into account.

Every judge and magistrate who presides over a criminal trial says the sentencing is easily the hardest part.

The question of guilt or innocence

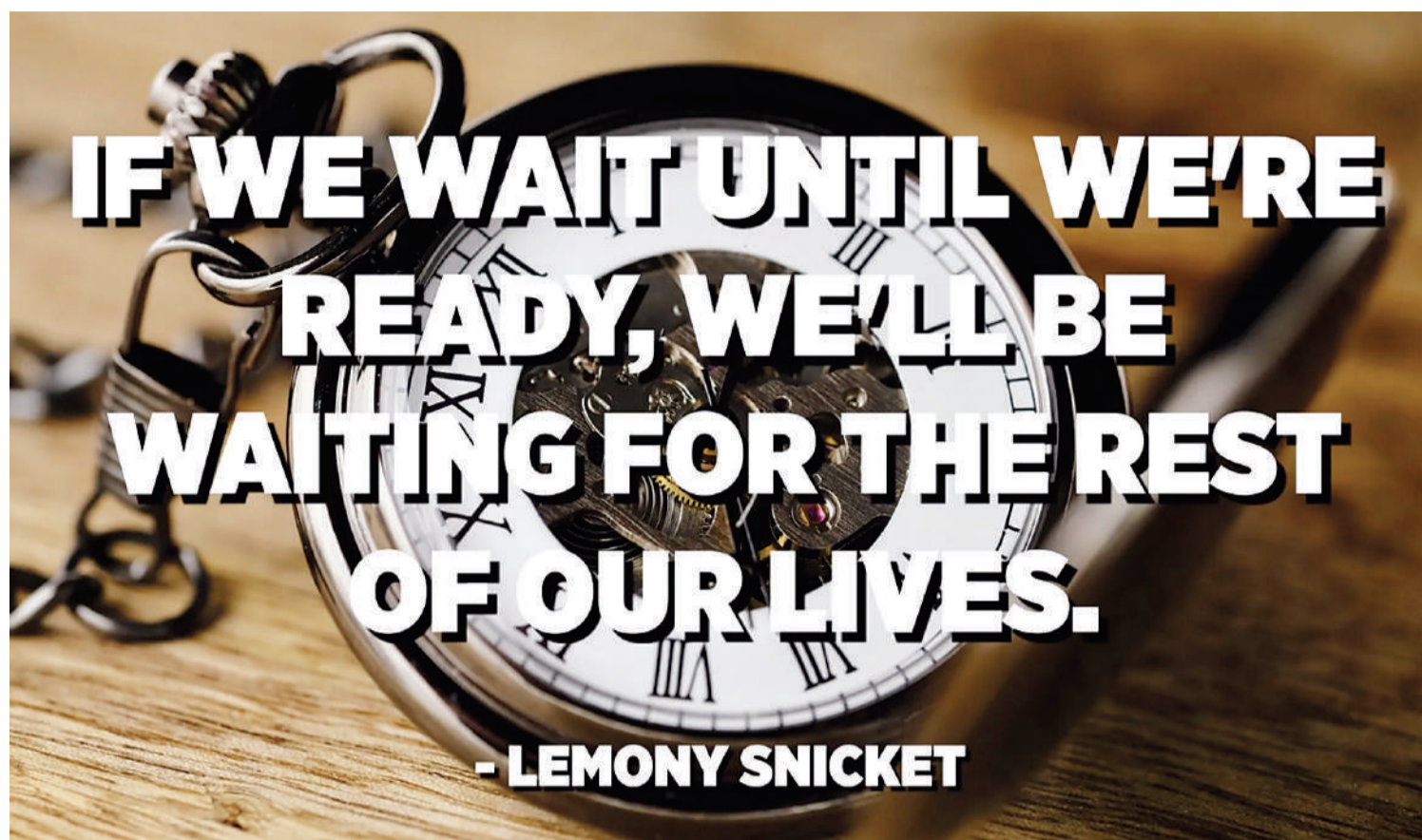
involves applying well laid down rules to the evidence to see if guilt is proved beyond reasonable doubt, and in fact some countries allow a jury of lay people to do this, once a trained and legally educated judge has set out the rules and points that apply in the particular case.

Every guilty person, even when guilty, is still an individual and circumstances in every case are different, both in the way the crime was committed and with the convicted person.

So generally judges and magistrates have discretion on sentencing.

But one of the factors in sentencing is also public opinion about the crime, and the nature of the crime, and judicial officers need to think about that. And now a large and growing block of public opinion thinks judges and magistrates are out of kilter with the growing weight of public opinion concerning the heinousness of rape assaults, at least in many cases and especially in the cases where the assaulted person is a little girl.

Our world is digital and superfast but sometimes we just have to wait



Experts say that waiting develops character that's for sure. Just like an old photograph needs time to develop in the dark, often our strong character hence chances of success builds during our waiting.

The study of any problem involving waiting situations invariably assumes that people dislike having to wait. It is generally accepted that after having to wait for a certain amount of time, anxiety and stress start to build up in an individual due both to the sense of waste and the uncertainty involved in the situation.

According to experts, there are many factors that psychologically affect our waiting. Always, the more people engage with each other, the less they notice the waiting time. Solo waits feel longer than group waits. Sometimes the waiting depends on the value of the thing you are waiting for. Anyone can stand in long queue to buy a new laptop than to buy a new tooth brush.

When you have something to distract yourself, time passes more quickly, that's a very common experience for many of us. Anxiety makes waits seem longer. If you think you have chosen the slowest line at the store, or you're worried about getting a seat on the

plane, the wait will seem longer.

Studies also proved that unknown waits are longer than known, finite waits. People wait more calmly when they're told, "the doctor will see you in 30 minutes" than when they are told "the doctor will see you soon."

Waiting always reminds me about a play 'Waiting for Godot' I read in my literature class. This play is written by Irish writer Samuel Beckett in which two characters: Vladimir and Estragon were waiting for the titular character Godot who never arrives. This play is about the meaning of life in human existence. According to the author, human life is absurd and they can escape their absurdity only by creating a purpose like the two characters were waiting for the person created a new purpose in their life.

So, like the play is our real life, we need to create purpose to live a meaningful life and of course for that purpose you have to wait with patience to reach your goals. The waiting for different things in our lives will give meaning to our lives. Only we have to be patient to reach our goals with waiting. Waiting is an inevitable part of life that we cannot escape from.

ARE you waiting for something in your life? How well do you handle waiting? When have you shown patience? When have you given up? Does it ever seem like life is an endless waiting? It is as if waiting is inevitable!

It can be hard to wait for the things you want. Waiting can be about longing for a partner or long term friends, the anticipation of a vacation or maybe you are waiting for your job or dream job exact. Yes, waiting can be for anything but the procedure of waiting is the same and hard for everyone.

But for me, waiting is the only thing that adds meaning to life, gives us motivation to fulfil our goals and dreams which makes life exciting and meaningful.

Just imagine if people get everything in their life easily without any waiting! In this case their rest of their lives must be boring and meaningless because they do not have to wait for anything to achieve something.

Isn't it pretty disgusting and impossible to live someone else's life?

I have often failed at waiting in the past. When I experienced a

period of waiting, I got tempted to feel it was the end of my happiness.

Most of us experience that waiting is never easy. Instead of striving anxiously or being frustrated in the waiting, try to remember that if you have no patience in life, it is almost impossible to achieve your goals.

Fate knows more than we can and when it asks us to wait, it's not because it is withholding good things but rather wants to protect us from the rush that is human nature. Waiting create and increases our chances of success. The rush and despair that comes with it ends many dreams.

Sometimes our long wait for transport or in the traffic make us impatient hence we blame our lack of luck but the moment we learn that a fatal accident occurred ahead of us is when we understand that our waiting was not that bad.

Sometimes our waiting to reach our goals also makes us impatient and frustrated but the truth is that success is reserved not for those who rush but those who wait. It is only those with patience who achieve the best or permanent goals in life.

Teacher returns to childhood passion after classroom job proves elusive

By Correspondent Emmanuel Onyango

IS there anything else you can do for a living apart from your current profession? It matters because we live in a world where jobs are hard to come by, thanks to a mismatch between employment opportunities created and the number of people entering the labour market annually.

Nothing proved that having an extra skill comes in handy like the COVID-19 pandemic which saw traditional businesses close as much of the exchange went online to avoid crowds. Various reports indicate that while traditional physical business entities closed shop, online ones boomed and only people who were digitally literate benefitted.

Meet Kamala Alex, a man who was passionate about teaching since his days in secondary school. Like many of his peers then, he had genuine affinity for the profession and brimmed with confidence throughout his learning that one day he would practise as a teacher.

So, when he was admitted at the Dar es Salaam University College of Education (DUCE), he knew that on completion of his studies, he would finally get a job as a teacher and juggle between staffroom and classroom with chalk and exercise books.

But things didn't work out according to his expectation as vacancies in the public sector—his preferred employer—take time to be announced. So, by default, he found himself in that club of jobless graduates walking around with brown envelopes containing resumes and academic papers and looking for any job available.

The 29-year-old teacher in science subjects walked the streets of Dar es Salaam looking for a job for three good years after graduating and decided that instead of waiting for any job, it was time for him to do any job that he could. It was at this time that he remembered his childhood talent and passion since primary school: drawing.

He didn't think twice because he did not have to rob a bank to get a starting capital. All he needed were graphite pencil, charcoal pencil, colour pencil, pens, blending stamps, erasers, manila sheet, ruler and tissues.

But it was not over because he needed a space for a studio and display area. Again, he didn't need to borrow money to rent a room because there was his father's house in Temeke suburb that could serve the purpose. He turned that room into a studio-cum-display area and the rest, as they say, is history.

Alex says the only regret he has is starting late while looking for a job. For, he has attracted quite a number of customers who like his talent especially in drawing portraits of various sizes.

"When the final product is irresistible, people are willing to pay and that is why I can't complain," he said in an interview with this writer recently during an art exhibition at the National Museum of Tanzania's House of Culture in Dar es Salaam.

Alex says he is lucky to have this unique talent which enables him to earn a living. Most of his fellow teachers with whom they graduated, especially science teachers who had high hopes, are still looking for or waiting for vacancies to be announced.



Kamala Alex, a trained teacher-turned painter speaks during an art exhibition staged at the National Museum of Tanzania's House of Culture in Dar es Salaam last month. Photo/Emmanuel Onyango

The government has done well in construction of classrooms and related facilities such as laboratories but the challenge still remains when it comes to hiring and retention of qualified teachers.

Education stakeholders say that more needs to be done to meet required quality standards because in some newly-built secondary schools there are very few teachers, especially for science subjects which are crucial for technology and innovation for economic development.

But even teachers serving in government schools say that there are areas that need more investment to boost the morale of the educators. Challenges include low rates of remunerations and absence of incentives such as housing near or within schools.

Sikitiko Salehe, Headmistress at Ulongoni secondary school in Ilala District, Dar es Salaam Region said that the school has only four science teachers and that the government has not responded to their request to employ others.

She noted that her school needs about 12 science teachers to accommodate the total number of 2,365

pupils in the school from form one to four.

The education system in Tanzania currently consists of two years of pre primary education, seven years of primary education, four year of ordinary secondary education, two years of advanced secondary education and three or more years of tertiary education.

Makumba Mwemezi, Policy Analyst at The HakiElimu says the government needs to increase its budget for Education in order to cater for the need of teachers in most government schools in the country.

According to a recent research carried out by the organization, there is a scarcity of teachers by about 40 per cent in government schools, whereas the greatest percentage rate lies in science teachers.

Sakina Juma, Assistant Lecturer at the National Institute of Transport (NIT) who is a scientist, said in an interview that the government needs to take into serious consideration science subjects taught in secondary schools in the country.

She said science is most important in the world especially at this time when globalization has dominated with current hand-held gadgets used as new media

outlets, enabling the world to become a single digital village.

Human resource in education report issued by the Ministry of Education indicates that the country currently needs 19,216 basic mathematics teachers but only 5,537 are employed, implying a shortage of 71 per cent. This may inform why 83 per cent of examinees in the form four national exams in 2022 failed in the subject.

The country requires 16,334 physics teachers in secondary schools but only 3,758 are posted, a shortage of 77 per cent which is blamed for failure of 82 per cent of pupils who sat the 2022 form for exams.

The demand for chemistry teachers is pegged at 16,664 but only 6,074 are on payroll, hence a deficit of 10,590 teachers or 64 per cent. This caused a failure of 67 per cent of students in last year's four results.

Demand for biology teachers is 17,813 but only 5,795 are available, a deficit of 67 per cent shortage, resulting in 53 per cent of pupils' failure of the subject in the last exams.

Humanitarian aid to earthquake victims hindered by politics, limited access

By Thalif Deen

AS the toll in last week's earthquakes in Turkey and Syria exceeds a staggering 28,000 people dead and more than 78,000 injured and counting - the United Nations is in an emergency-footing struggling to provide humanitarian aid, along with several international humanitarian organizations.

The devastated cities in both countries - by an earthquake described as one of the world's top 10 deadliest in history at a magnitude of 7.8 - are urgently in need of food, water, medicine, clothes and shelter - even as after-shocks have triggered the collapse of additional buildings with a new search for more survivors in a doomed scenario.

But the flow of aid is being hindered by several factors, including power politics, sanctions and limited border crossings in a 12-year long civil war in conflict-ridden Syria.

Asked about these limitations, UN Secretary-General Antonio Guterres told reporters last week: "This is the moment of unity, not to politicize or to divide, but it is obvious that we need massive support, and so I would be of course very happy if the Security Council could reach a consensus to allow for more crossings to be used, as we need also to increase our capacity to deliver on crossline operations into Idlib from Damascus."

Over the years, Russia and China, two veto-wielding permanent members of the Security Council, have remained supportive of Syrian President Bashar al-Assad, while the remaining three permanent members, the US, UK and France, have been critical of

Assad's authoritarian regime accused of war crimes and use of chemical weapons.

But the humanitarian crisis in Syria is not likely to change the power politics in a divided Security Council.

Louis Charbonneau, United Nations Director at Human Rights Watch, told IPS: "We hope the UN Security Council moves quickly and Russia won't block expansion of cross-border aid, as the secretary-general has requested."

But Security Council approval, he pointed out, is not a legal prerequisite to conduct cross-border aid operations into Syria. Cooperation from de facto authorities on both sides of any border, in line with humanitarian law obligations, is.

"If the Security Council is deadlocked, and the UN determines it's feasible and safe, the UN should push ahead to address the crisis and help victims," he declared.

The White Helmets, a civil society organization which has been operating in opposition-held areas in Syria, was critical of the slow movement of aid.

"Had international rescue teams come into Syria in the first hours, or even the second day, there was a big hope that these people who were under the ruins could have been brought out alive", Mohamed al-Shibli of the White helmets was quoted as saying.

At his press briefing, Guterres said: the first United Nations convoy crossed into northern Syria through the Bab al-Hawa crossing, and it included 6 trucks carrying shelter and other desperately needed relief supplies. "More help is on the way, but much more, much more is needed."

But the New York Times ran a hard-hitting story February 10 under the headline: "UN Aid Trickle into Syria, but Residents say it is



The United Nations is in an emergency-footing struggling to provide humanitarian aid in Turkey and Syria. Credit: WHO

too little, too late".

Still, the UN and its agencies have responded with all the means at their disposal, including assistance from the International Organization for Migration (IOM), the World Food Programme (WFP), the UN children's agency UNICEF, the World Health Organization (WHO), the UN Population Fund (UNFPA), among others, and a task force led by the Emergency Relief Coordinator Martin Griffiths.

After his arrival in the Syrian capital February 12, United Nations Special Envoy for Syria

Geir O. Pedersen told reporters the earthquake was "one of the biggest humanitarian or natural disasters that we have seen recently".

While expressing his condolences, he said: "And I think, you know, when we see the images, the heartbreaking images, we really feel the suffering. But we're also seeing a lot of heroism, you see, you know, individuals, civilians, humanitarians trying to save lives, and it is this effort that we need to support."

He assured that "the UN humanitarian family will do whatever they can to reach out to everyone that needs support. So, we are trying to mobilize whatever support there is. We are reaching out to countries, we are mobilizing funding, and we're trying to tell everyone to put politics aside because this is a time to unite behind a common effort to support the Syrian people".

Still, Pedersen said: "We need all the access we can have, crossline, cross-border and we need more resources. So, I'm in close touch with the UN humanitarian family, we're working together to try to mobilize this support and that of course is my key message during this visit to Syria."

The issue of access was also raised by the US Ambassador to the UN Linda Thomas-Greenfield who said last week that she spoke with Presidents of InterAction and the International Rescue Committee, who both underscored the dire situation on the ground as humanitarian workers and first responders attempt to save lives while also facing personal tragedy.

She also spoke with representa-

tives of Save the Children, CARE, and the White Helmets, who described the urgent need for shelter, clean water, and cash assistance, as well as increased access into Syria to allow local NGOs to deliver life-saving aid.

Ambassador Thomas-Greenfield voiced U.S. support for additional cross-border access points from Türkiye into northwest Syria to facilitate deliveries of earthquake-specific aid. She commended the search and rescue efforts by the White Helmets, which have saved thousands of people from collapsed buildings in northern Syria.

So far, the UN has released about \$50 million from its emergency fund. But it is making a "Flash Appeal" for more funds from the international community.

Asked how much was needed, UN Spokesperson Stephane Dujarric said February 9: "We are trying to figure out how much. We're still doing the needs assessment and I would also encourage - the public can also give through on the OCHA (Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs) website, the UN Foundation websites. There are ways for people, for the public to give to the appeal," he said.

Meanwhile, the crisis in Turkey has also been tainted with domestic politics. The slow or belated response has been blamed on the Turkish government led by President Recep Tayyip Erdogan, up for re-election on May 14.

Kemal Kilicdaroglu, the leader of the opposition party and a potential presidential candidate, was quoted as saying: "It is the ruling party that has not prepared the country for an earthquake for 20 years".

IPS UN Bureau Report

VALENTINE'S DAY

How fake dates help Indians find love and intimacy

By Cherylann Mollan

AKANSHA* could feel anxiety well up inside her as she sat opposite her date. So the 26-year-old began fidgeting with the cutlery on the table and avoiding eye contact.

But then her date leaned in and told her that it was okay to be anxious, and that she could steady herself and appear less nervous by clasping her hands under the table and taking a deep breath.

The person opposite her wasn't a real date, but a "dating surrogate" - someone hired to go on mock dates with her, observe her behaviour, and share tips and insights in real time to help her deal with anything preventing her from enjoying herself.

Akansha says she turned to a dating surrogate, a service offered by the Intimacy Curator - an online platform providing "dating, relationship and intimacy coaching services" - about three months ago.

It's among a bunch of firms and apps - such as Dating Accelerator and haveyoumeturself - that have come up in India over the past few years, pointing to a shift in the way relationships are formed and perceived in the country. While the majority of Indians still opt for arranged marriages and pre-marital sex is mostly a taboo subject, these companies are teaching their customers new ways to date and fall in love.

Their users - mostly people who live in big cities and follow global trends - vary in age and what they are looking for. Some, like Akansha, want to shed their inhibitions around dating, while others may be trying to relearn the rules

around relationships.

People who sign up for The Intimacy Curator's dating surrogacy package - which can cost anywhere between 12,000 rupees (\$145; £120) and 80,000 rupees - participate in various online sessions held by dating coaches. They explore questions including why they want to date and what they're looking for in prospective partners. Then they're assigned a dating surrogate who plans mock dates and coaches them.

"The experience helped me get comfortable with being on a date," says Akansha.

Akansha came out as queer a few years ago and says that while it was liberating, it also threw up problems in the dating arena. She found it hard to date women because while she came across many how-tos and dating guides for cisgender (non-transgender), heterosexual people, it was tough to find resources around dating etiquettes for queer people.

When she went on dates, she was confused by questions such as who should hold open the door or pull out a chair for the other person - chivalrous gestures conventionally performed by men.

"As a woman, I also knew how compliments made me feel objectified at times. But while I didn't want to be perceived as a creep, I also wanted to express my interest," she says.

Simran Mangharam, a dating coach, says "Gen Zers" such as Akansha are "more pragmatic in their approach to sex, dating and relationships".

"They are choosing to date based on their needs and lifestyle choices, rather than fol-



Arranged marriages are still common in India

lowing long-held Holy Grails of dating, like finding a life partner or entering monogamous relationships," she adds.

That partly explains why situationships - which lie somewhere between a committed relationship and a casual hook-up - were among last year's top Gen Z dating trends while ethical non-monogamy or multi-partner relationships have been on the rise.

Aili Seghetti, founder of the Intimacy Curator, is also one of the five dating surrogates it offers. To help Akansha become comfortable with dating women, Ms Seghetti went on three dates with her - to an art gallery, on an outdoor walk and for dinner.

On the dates, Ms Seghetti would give feedback to Akansha about her body language, share tips on how to manage anxiety, and grooming and styling advice.

"It's scary and awkward to ask a person if you can put your arm around them or kiss them, but the mock dates helped me get comfortable with having these conversations," says Akansha, adding that she has been on many successful dates since then.

But while some like Akansha find the swiftly-changing dating space exciting and inclusive, it can be a minefield for others, especially if they are returning to the dating game after a hiatus or have had a conservative

upbringing and are now dating people with a different value system or relationship vocabulary.

Mumbai-based Rajeev*, 40, went on his last date in 2012. When he tried to re-enter the dating pool about a year ago, he was confronted with a range of things he had no idea about, from terms such as "ghosting" and "dry dating", to people stating their preferred pronouns or saying they wanted open relationships.

Rajeev says he had always found it difficult to connect with women. Having experienced childhood trauma and battled substance abuse, he struggled to trust people and talk about himself on dates. The changed world of dating

added to his discomfort and made him feel lost.

But with the help of his surrogate date, Rajeev gradually learnt to ask women out, flirt and practise consensual physical intimacy. She also helped him find the best way to talk about his difficult past, identify and process his emotions and communicate them in a safe way.

Since the quest to find love could include rejection, Rajeev was also taught to reject his date and be rejected by her. He and his surrogate date roleplayed the scenario, where she told him over a phone call that she didn't have romantic feelings for him.

"The scariest part about dating is rejection," he says.

"But I learnt that it's okay to end things that aren't working for me, and to respect someone else's decision when they feel the same way."

Ms Seghetti says that the point of her work isn't to help people manipulate their way into another person's heart, but to help them take a journey into their own.

"The point about these mock dates isn't to help you spew the best pick-up lines or become a skilled serial dater. It's to help you understand yourself better so that you get better at revealing yourself," she says.

"After all, vulnerability is a must for any kind of intimacy."

BBC

South African stone fruit back on track after port issues are resolved

By Special Correspondent

SOUTH Africa's stone fruit industry is back running at full speed and exporters say they are in a stronger position following last year's port strikes.

A port and rail worker strike last October caused holdups in fruit sendings out of South African ports, however with the industrial action now resolved and efforts in the off-season to smooth the service, European buyers can expect efficient and high-quality deliveries.

Jacques du Preez, general manager of trade and markets at Hortgro, explained that a huge amount had been learnt from the experience of last year.

"There is a much closer working relationship between the port users and the port itself now, as well as more collaboration and information sharing. While we have experienced some delays due to the port going wind and fogbound, and some vessel ranging, shipping has been much more reliable and even so far this year."

For this season, plum quality is looking very good, despite slightly smaller sizing for the early cultivars and volumes lower

than expected. As a result, the estimate for the remainder of the season has been adjusted downwards, however Hortgro stressed there is enough fruit to service all markets. The outlook for sizing on the mid to late season cultivars is expected to be much better.

The latest forecast comes against the backdrop of a tough year in terms of profitability for plum growers, and Du Preez believes it will be several years before the sector is back in growth. "After the terrible past three seasons for returns, we anticipate the industry will go into a consolidation phase."

"Plum growers have suffered average net losses for the past three seasons. There are still a lot of younger orchards that need to reach their full crop, but we will most likely not see an increase in the total area planted to plums in the next couple of years," he said.

Despite the challenges growers are continuing to focus on improving their environmental footprint. The industry has used a carbon calculator since 2011 as part of the Confronting Climate Change (CCC) initiative, which set out to support the



South African fruit and wine sectors by identifying the risks and opportunities around climate change.

The CCC initiative includes a regularly updated online carbon footprinting

platform, as well as a series of regular industry engagement workshops, a range of commodity-specific industry benchmark reports, and the latest energy and emissions-related news and informa-

tion. "Reducing our carbon footprint is an important part of our plans, and we've had numerous research projects ongoing for a number of years now," Du Preez concluded.

Call for fresh coordinated efforts to end stigma against people with epilepsy

By Getrude Mbago

STIGMA towards people with epilepsy is one of the main factors preventing patients from seeking treatment and thus causing many negative impacts, health experts have warned.

Dr Patience Njenje, a Neurophysician and member of the Tanzania Epilepsy Association (TEA) said that many people with epilepsy are denied their basic rights including the right to marriage, education and many others, which makes the challenge complicated.

He said this on the sidelines of the event to commemorate the International Epilepsy Day held in Dar es Salaam and organ-

ised by the Tanzania Epilepsy Association bringing together over 70 participants including health specialists, general doctors and other stakeholders.

"Many children with epilepsy do not go to school and adults are denied work, the right to drive and even to get married. These human rights violations experienced by people with epilepsy need to come to an end," he noted.

He said that due to stigma and poor awareness, the majority of patients with epilepsy in the country seek support from traditional healers and spiritual leaders first because of the belief that the cause of attacks is possession by evil spirits and

only five per cent seek medical services in hospitals and health centres. He then advised that effective interventions for prevention of epilepsy can be delivered as part of broader public health responses in maternal and new-born health care, communicable disease control, injury prevention and cardiovascular health.

Screening for pregnancy complications and the presence of trained birth attendants can help prevent injury around the time of birth; immunization against pneumonia and meningitis; malaria control programmes in endemic areas; initiatives to reduce road traffic injuries, violence and falls; and

health and community interventions to prevent high blood pressure, diabetes, obesity and tobacco use can all help reduce epilepsy rates."

Dr Njenje also said that public information campaigns in schools, workplaces, and the broader community to help reduce stigma as well as coming up with policies and laws to people with epilepsy.

"Tanzania can succeed in reducing the high prevalence of epilepsy which affects one million people annually if it can sustain preventive measures including good antenatal care, a neurology specialist has declared.

This should go hand in hand

with training health workers on the causes, prevention, early diagnosis and appropriate treatment for patients with the disease, and the government working to ensure availability of anti-epileptic medication in all major hospitals, the don elaborated.

He said when matched for age, patients with epilepsy in Tanzania have six times as high mortality rate compared to the general population with youth being the most at risk of.

He said it was sad that the general population's attitude towards people with epilepsy remains negative in the country and Africa in general and thus needing more robust strategies

to transform the mind-sets and rescue patients from harm.

Fides Uiso, founder of Tanzania Epilepsy Organisation called on the government to make Epilepsy as one of its priorities so as to rescue lives of many as well as curb stigma.

"Fighting Epilepsy hasn't been a priority, they do not have policy and laws to super-charge this area that's why the majority of persons with Epilepsy are left at home untreated," she said.

Three quarters of people living with epilepsy in low-income countries do not get the treatment they need, increasing their risk of dying prematurely and condemning many

to a life of stigma, according to the World Health Organisation (WHO).

The risk of premature death in people with epilepsy is up to three times higher than for the general population. In low- and middle-income countries, early death among people with epilepsy is significantly higher than in high-income countries.

Reasons for this premature mortality in low- and middle-income countries are likely associated with lack of access to health facilities when seizures are long-lasting or occur close together without recovery in between, and preventable causes such as drowning, head injuries and burns.

Over 40 South Sudanese killed by measles in 2022, says WHO

JUBA

AT LEAST 46 South Sudanese children have died of measles since January 2022 to date, the World Health Organisation (WHO) noted in a report.

South Sudan's ministry of health and the World Health Organization lamented that the country has been struggling to contain a rapid increase in measles since the outbreak in January 2022.

There were about 4,339 suspected cases with 388-8.9 per cent-of them being laboratory-confirmed, according to the report by WHO.

Meanwhile, 3,187 (73.5 per cent) of the suspected cases involved children who have not been vaccinated. There are 2,398 children under the age of five and 1,021 children under the age of one, making up the unvaccinated population.

The cases of measles were reported from 55 counties in all 10 states and three administrative areas.

The ministry of health declared a measles outbreak in February 2022 after receiving reports of cases in Torit, Eastern Equatorial State, Maban, and Upper Nile State.

Following a gradual increase in the number of cases across the country, the second outbreak was declared in December 2022.

The Central Equatorial State had the most number of deaths (18), Cueibet County in Lakes State had eight deaths, and other counties had fewer than five mortalities in total.

According to a WHO report, the country's measles outbreak has killed 46 people out of approximately 400 confirmed cases.

There are concerns that the current outbreak would have serious public health consequences.

WHO attributes this to "low level of measles immunization

which is below the expected 95 per cent coverage" and cannot "interrupt the ongoing transmission."

The WHO also cautioned that such an outbreak could last into the New Year due to a variety of risk factors such as armed conflict, food insecurity, and the situation in IDP camps.

However, between March and November 2022, an estimated 770,581 children were vaccinated as part of reactive vaccination campaigns.

The World Health Organization and the Ministry of Health intend to launch a nationwide measles vaccination campaign in March 2023.

Dr Alexandra Anthony, a paediatrician at Al Sabha Children's Hospital, warned in an interview with The City Review last year that the country needs to ramp up its measles vaccination campaign.

"They carry their children and come out to mix with other kids, and that is one of the causes of spreading of measles, sometimes we get measles patients where they are not supposed to be," Anthony said.

"If possible make the vaccine available for everybody who is in need."

Measles is potentially fatal. The virus causes a high fever as well as a distinct rash that starts on the face and spreads throughout the body. Pneumonia, severe diarrhoea, blindness, brain swelling, and death are all serious complications.

Dr Anthony said his team frequently struggles to keep measles-infected children alive.

"Sometimes we have more than one patient who needs oxygen but it is hard to get oxygen," he lamented.

"The same oxygen we are using is brought from the emergency ward or the OPD and then they take it and give it to whoever needs more."

Despite the availability of a safe and cost-effective vaccine, the World Health Organization reports that more than 140,000 people have died from measles in African countries since 2018—the majority of whom were children under the age of five.

WHO stated that the vaccination reduced death cases by 73 per cent between 2000 and 2018.

In 2018, approximately 86 per cent of the world's children received one dose of the measles vaccine through routine health services, up from 72 per cent in 2000.



Request for Quotation/Proposal (RFQ/RFP)

Commodity/Service Required:	Provision of Vehicle Hire Services (Passengers vehicle)
Scope of Work:	RTI International's Act to End Neglected Tropical Diseases (NTDs) East program in Tanzania is funded through USAID. Act to End NTDs East supports Tanzania's MoH to reach their NTD control and elimination goals through proven, cost-effective public health interventions. Act to End NTDs East Tanzania project implemented by RTI international is seeking offers from reputable, well established, and experienced Car Hire Firms duly incorporated in Tanzania to provide vehicle transportation Services for RTI Act to End NTDs East Tanzania staff members or assigned non-staff; at a fixed price for a period of one year renewable for an additional year based on satisfactory performance.
Type of Procurement:	Provision of vehicle hire services for period ending Aug 31 2023 with a possibility of awarding Master Service Agreement (MSAs) until April 2024, and with a possibility of renewing for an additional one year subject to satisfactory performance.
Type of Contract:	Master Service Agreement
Term of Contract:	Provision of vehicle hire services for period ending Aug 31, 2023, with a possibility of awarding Master Service Agreement (MSAs) until April 2024, and with a possibility of renewing for an additional one year subject to satisfactory performance.
Contract Funding:	USAID
This Procurement supports:	RTI - Act to End NTD's East Tanzania Project
Request RFP document from:	lanyisile@rti.org and tmwakasege@rti.org CC wmhando@rti.org

Sierra Leone's gender law boosts women's participation in politics, business

By Francis Kokutse

SIERRA Leone's new gender equality law will benefit women with political aspirations - as well as stimulate development, say analysts.

The country's President, Julius Maada Bio, signed the new Gender Equality and Women Empowerment into law in January 2023. It has shaken the foundations of previously held ideologies that restricted females' involvement in various aspects of the country's life.

Reacting to the enactment of the law, Janet Bangoura, a 35-year-old administrative worker in the capital, Freetown, said: "A year ago, I only nursed the dream of ever becoming a politician because the playing field has never been equal for women. This has changed with the signing of the Gender Equality and Women Empowerment (GEWE Act 2022), which guarantees at least 30 percent of female participation in Parliament and at least 30 percent of all diplomatic appointments to be filled by women."

In addition, the law stipulates that not less than 30 percent of all positions in Local Councils should be reserved for women, same with 30 percent of all jobs in the civil service and at least 30 percent of jobs in private institutions with 25 and more employees. It also extends maternal leave extended from 12 weeks to 14 weeks.

Bangoura sees this new law as "shaking the status quo because it has brought a change that women of my generation had not expected. Now, we do not have any excuse but to seek our dreams in the political field. I know things will not immediately change, but the foundation has been laid for those of us who want to break the political glass ceiling."

It is not only the women who are happy that the country has achieved the "unthinkable". With the coming into force by this law, Sierra

Leoneans of all ages and sexes are glad their country has overtaken neighbouring countries in the West African region by taking the lead in giving equality to women. Though such a law has been talked about by the countries in the region, the head of the United Nations Women's office in Sierra Leone, Setcheme Jeronime Mongbo, said the September 2022 data on women's representation in English West Africa shows that Ghana has 14.8 percent of women in Parliament, Gambia, 11.6 percent, Liberia, 9.7 percent and Nigeria, 7.2 percent, adding that, "Sierra Leone is leading the way."

Minister of Gender and Children's Affairs, Manty Tarawalli welcomed the law, which she said has been late in coming but noted that it was better late than never. She attributed the lateness in enacting the law to the lack of political will that existed before. This changed with the current President's role, adding that, "The climate wasn't right in terms of women's readiness and men not being accommodating for this sort of growth until now."

Tarawalli said Sierra Leone was a "typical" African society. "We know the way things are, and to effect that sort of change that really needs a transformation and what shakes the status quo, it required time and understanding from both men and women for the change to happen."

She said there were initial challenges in discussing the Bill. So, they had to cross massive hurdles to be able to change "the conversation from rights-based to economic growth, and it changed organically from our consultation," adding that "those who were opposed became willing and ready to have the conversation."

Tarawalli was of the view that the law was about economic growth meant to move Sierra Leone to a middle-income country,



Sierra Leone's President, Julius Maada Bio, signing the Gender Equality and Women Empowerment Bill into law. Credit: Francis Kokutse/IPS

adding that "this cannot happen when 52 percent of the country's population who are women are outside the economy and leadership position."

She identified the unwillingness of men to accommodate women when they start getting into companies and institutions as a challenge they anticipate and said there was, therefore, the need to put in place structures to create a network to support females who will be in elective positions to know there is help for them.

Tarawalli said they would educate women to understand that "economic empowerment does not mean neglecting their duties as mothers and wives at home by abandoning the care of their children and other things that are expected of them. We will also make the men understand that economic empowerment contributes to the community and contributes to Sierra Leone."

Speaking just before he appended his signature to the Bill, Bio said the law has come to address the gender imbalances in the country comprehensively, and among other things, the provisions under the law provide for "inclusion, representation, participation, and a more responsive posture on gender."

Bio said his signature on the law was to announce that a change has come to "our great country" and assured the country's girls that it is a license for them to "get quality education, work hard and aspire beyond their wildest imagination to be the best at anything they do."

"With this law, we break barriers to parliamentary representation and look forward to a more vibrant and diverse parliament with greater numbers of women and women's voices. When compiling their proportional representation lists, I urge political parties to

go beyond the legal minimum of the number of women," he said.

Bio said his assent to the GEWE Bill has put the country on an irreversible path to achieving a more inclusive, equal, more just, more resilient, more sustainable, and more prosperous society for generations to come, adding that "with more women on the ballots, women voting, more women winning, and more women in Parliament, the country's politics and the future of Sierra Leone will improve."

It was his hope that the law would see more women in leadership and politics and more men supporting and acknowledging the central status of women as we work together for a vibrant, prosperous, inclusive, and democratic Sierra Leone. In addition, he believes the law ensures women equal access to credit and other financial services. To make it effective, those who discriminate on the basis of gender could face up to five years in prison as well as fines.

"Women dominate the informal economy, and data has shown that they are better at doing business, managing investments, and managing proceeds from those investments. Beyond that, as a government, we are eager to work with the private sector to create more jobs for women, harness business cultures that promote diversity and inclusion, and invest in training programmes tailored to create more job opportunities for women," Bio said.

IPS UN Bureau Report

greater inclusion of women within every aspect of the peace process. It's a goal in keeping with the mandate of Bineta Diop, the AU's special envoy on women, peace and security, who is called upon to "ensure that the voices of women and the vulnerable are heard much more clearly in peace-building and in conflict resolution".

The scale of the atrocities - many of which are still coming to light - insists upon the full adoption of Article 10 of the cessation of hostilities agreement, which calls upon the Ethiopian government to implement an all-inclusive transitional justice policy "aimed at accountability, ascertaining the truth, redress for victims, reconciliation and healing".

The agreement calls for the policy to be crafted with "inputs from all stakeholders, and civil society groups through public consultations and formal national policymaking processes".

The issue of accountability, or lack thereof, has beleaguered many peace efforts in Africa. Yet, genuine accountability can be the greatest contribution to healing and the strongest guarantee against a repeat of the violence. Let us not ignore it in the eagerness to move on.

I pledge my life's work to prevent mass atrocities in memory of the victims whose agonies I witnessed in Rwanda. It would be nothing short of a tragedy if the achievement of the Ethiopian peace deal, and the hopes of so many people, were thwarted by a return to more pointless, tragic war. War is not a party.

DM/MC

By Dismas Nkundo

Ethiopian peace deal must be bolstered to prevent further slaughter and war atrocities

I have had the misfortune to witness the worst of humanity. In 1994, as a journalist for the Ugandan newspaper The Monitor, I arrived in Rwanda a few days after the plane carrying President Juvénal Habyarimana and Cyprien Ntaryamira - the president of Burundi - was brought down in Kigali.

Over the next months of genocide, I was horrorstruck by the dead bodies littering paths, hilltops, gardens and rivers.

In a village in Nyamagana, we found a six-month-old baby whose mother had died two days earlier. The little girl was still suckling her dead mother's breast. Flies had taken over her entire body. We picked her up and bathed her.

The tales of the Rwanda genocide are more than this article can easily detail. The experience changed me. I knew I could never be satisfied with counting bodies and empathising with the dead. I needed to prevent atrocities from ever happening.

Like many, I was uplifted by the news that the African Union (AU) had brokered a permanent cessation of hostilities agreement between the Ethiopian government and the Tigray People's Liberation Front (TPLF) in Pretoria in November 2022.

Political tension in the country was roiled by the two-year war, which was centred in northern Ethiopia and served as a spur to other conflicts elsewhere in Ethiopia. More than half a million civilians have died. And yet



An Ethiopian woman weeps during an event marking the one-year anniversary of the war in Tigray in the capital Addis Ababa, Ethiopia, 3 November 2021. (Photo: EPA-EFE / STR)

the world's media and politicians haven't paid attention. The war in Tigray was a hidden conflict, cloaked behind an internet, telecommunications and banking blackout that is only now lifting.

Ethiopia is important for all Africans. It is the

home of the AU, the political organisation we trust to advance Africa's aspirations for continental development and equal participation in global affairs. As such, it is our home, too. African voices and actors have a crucial role to play in supporting and

helping Ethiopians find peace. The deal reached in Pretoria is a cause for optimism. But we cannot ignore its gaps.

It is now incumbent on us all to do what we can to prevent a worsening of the slaughter. The public and social media space in Ethiopia and its diaspora is riven by angry debates that often rise to the level of hate speech. We are all called upon to avoid antagonistic, overly politicised, and simplistic positions.

More signatories needed

At the moment, the only signatories to the peace agreement are the Ethiopian government and the TPLF.

Absent from the negotiating table are representatives of Amhara special forces and militias and Eritrean troops, both of which fought on the side of the federal government. Excluded too are representatives of the Oromo Liberation Army (OLA), which allied with the TPLF and has been conducting a long-running insurgency against the government.

Read more in Daily Maverick: "Ethiopia needs a peace coalition to underpin its new accord with Tigray People's Liberation Front"

The situation has been worsening in other parts of Ethiopia, particularly in western Oromia and southern Amhara. In recent weeks, tensions have flared over the decision of a group of Oromo clerics to break away from the main body of Ethiopia's Orthodox Church. A truly inclusive peace process is urgently required.

The appalling levels of sexual violence in the conflict - one source estimates that more than 120,000 women and girls were victims in Tigray - demand

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 HALLI 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 UDONDZOZI WA MAGAZETI 07:40 AM KUMEPAMBAZUKA II 08:00 AM HABARI NYEPESI 08:10 AM KUMEPAMBAZUKA III 09:00 AM HABARI ZA BIASHARA 09:20 AM BRAND TALK 10:00 AM NEWS BRIEF 10:03 AM DEATH ANNOUNCEMENTS 10:10 AM YALIVOMO YAMO 13:00 HRS DEATH ANNOUNCEMENTS 13:10 HRS DEATH ANNOUNCEMENTS 13:30 HRS DJ SHOW 16:00 HRS NEWS BRIEF 16:03 HRS DEATH ANNOUNCEMENTS 16:30 HRS HOJA YA LEO 18:30 HRS DIRA YA DUNIA BBC 19:30 HRS SPOTI LEO 20:00 HRS NEWS BULLETIN 20:10 HRS RADIO ONE DOCTOR 21:00 HRS NEWS BRIEF 21:05 HRS DAKIKA 45 21:15 HRS AFRO TIZI 23:00 HRS NEWS BRIEF 23:03 HRS AFRO TIZI 01:00-05:00HRS MUZIKI (MCHANGANYIKO)	05:00 AM HALLI 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 UDONDZOZI WA MAGAZETI 07:40 AM KUMEPAMBAZUKA II 08:00 AM HABARI NYEPESI 08:10 AM KUMEPAMBAZUKA III 09:00 AM HABARI ZA BIASHARA 09:20 AM BRAND TALK 10:00 AM NEWS BRIEF 10:03 AM DEATH ANNOUNCEMENTS 10:10 AM YALIVOMO YAMO 13:00 HRS DEATH ANNOUNCEMENTS 13:10 HRS DEATH ANNOUNCEMENTS 13:30 HRS DJ SHOW 16:00 HRS NEWS BRIEF 16:03 HRS DEATH ANNOUNCEMENTS 16:30 HRS HOJA YA LEO 18:30 HRS DIRA YA DUNIA BBC 19:30 HRS SPOTI LEO 20:10 HRS NEWS BULLETIN 20:10 HRS MATANGAZO / MUZIKI 21:00 HRS NEWS BRIEF 21:05 HRS CHAGUO LA DJ 21:15 HRS AFRO TIZI 23:00 HRS NEWS BULLETIN (24 HRS) 23:03 HRS AFRO TIZI 01:00-05:00HRS MUZIKI (MCHANGANYIKO)	05:00 AM HALLI 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 UDONDZOZI WA MAGAZETI 07:40 AM KUMEPAMBAZUKA II 08:00 AM HABARI NYEPESI 08:10 AM KUMEPAMBAZUKA III 09:00 AM HABARI ZA BIASHARA 09:20 AM BRAND TALK 10:00 AM NEWS BRIEF 10:03 AM DEATH ANNOUNCEMENTS 10:10 AM YALIVOMO YAMO 13:00 HRS DEATH ANNOUNCEMENTS 13:10 HRS DEATH ANNOUNCEMENTS 13:30 HRS DJ SHOW 16:00 HRS NEWS BRIEF 16:03 HRS DEATH ANNOUNCEMENTS 16:30 HRS HOJA YA LEO 18:30 HRS DIRA YA DUNIA BBC 19:30 HRS SPOTI LEO 20:10 HRS NEWS BULLETIN 20:10 HRS MATANGAZO / MUZIKI 21:00 HRS NEWS BRIEF 21:05 HRS CHAGUO LA DJ 21:15 HRS AFRO TIZI 23:00 HRS NEWS BULLETIN (24 HRS) 23:03 HRS AFRO TIZI 01:00-05:00HRS MUZIKI (MCHANGANYIKO)	05:00 AM HALLI 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 UDONDZOZI WA MAGAZETI 07:40 AM KUMEPAMBAZUKA II 08:00 AM HABARI NYEPESI 08:10 AM KUMEPAMBAZUKA III 09:00 AM HABARI ZA BIASHARA 09:20 AM BRAND TALK 10:00 AM NEWS BRIEF 10:03 AM DEATH ANNOUNCEMENTS 10:10 AM YALIVOMO YAMO 13:00 HRS DEATH ANNOUNCEMENTS 13:10 HRS DEATH ANNOUNCEMENTS 13:30 HRS DJ SHOW 16:00 HRS NEWS BRIEF 16:03 HRS DEATH ANNOUNCEMENTS 16:30 HRS HOJA YA LEO 18:30 HRS DIRA YA DUNIA BBC 19:30 HRS SPOTI LEO 20:10 HRS NEWS BULLETIN 20:10 HRS MATANGAZO / MUZIKI 21:00 HRS NEWS BRIEF 21:05 HRS CHAGUO LA DJ 21:15 HRS AFRO TIZI 23:00 HRS NEWS BULLETIN (24 HRS) 23:03 HRS AFRO TIZI 01:00-05:00HRS MUZIKI (MCHANGANYIKO)	05:00 AM HALLI 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 UDONDZOZI WA MAGAZETI 07:40 AM KUMEPAMBAZUKA II 08:00 AM HABARI NYEPESI 08:10 AM KUMEPAMBAZUKA III 09:00 AM HABARI ZA BIASHARA 09:20 AM BRAND TALK 10:00 AM NEWS BRIEF 10:03 AM DEATH ANNOUNCEMENTS 10:10 AM HIZI NAO 13:00 HRS DEATH ANNOUNCEMENTS 13:10 HRS DEATH ANNOUNCEMENTS 13:30 HRS DJ SHOW 16:00 HRS NEWS BRIEF 16:03 HRS DEATH ANNOUNCEMENTS 16:30 HRS SPOTI LEO 18:30 HRS DIRA YA DUNIA BBC 20:00 HRS NEWS BULLETIN 20:10 HRS MATANGAZO / MUZIKI 21:00 HRS NEWS BRIEF 21:05 HRS KIPIMA JOYO 23:00 HRS WEEKEND SHOW 01:00-05:00HRS MUZIKI (MCHANGANYIKO)	05:00 AM HALLI YA HEWA / KUMEPAMBAZUKA I 06:00 AM AMKA NA BBC 06:30 AM NIPASHE 06:50 AM COMMERCIALS 07:00 AM NEWS BULLETIN 07:15 AM NEWS PAPERS REVIEW 07:30 AM KUMEPAMBAZUKA - FAMILIA 09:00 AM WATOTO SHOW 10:00 AM NEWS BRIEF 10:03 AM DEATH ANNOUNCEMENTS 10:15 AM SUNDAY SPECIAL 11:00 HRS TOP 20 13:00 HRS NEWS BULLETIN 13:10 HRS DEATH ANNOUNCEMENTS 13:30 HRS CHAGUO LAKO 15:00 HRS MUZIKI NA MICHEZO 16:00 HRS NEWS BRIEF 16:03 HRS DEATH ANNOUNCEMENTS 16:15 HRS MIDUNDO 18:00 HRS BONGO TEN 19:30 HRS SPOTI LEO 20:00 HRS NEWS BULLETIN 20:15 HRS CHEMSHA BONGO 21:00 HRS NEWS BRIEF 21:05 HRS MAMBO MSETO 22:00 HRS NEWS BULLETIN (24 HRS) 22:15 HRS WEEK END SHOW II 23:00 HRS NEWS BRIEF 23:03 HRS WEEK END SHOW III 01:00-05:00HRS MUZIKI (MCHANGANYIKO)	05:00 AM HALLI YA HEWA / KUMEPAMBAZUKA I 06:00 AM AMKA NA BBC 06:30 AM NIPASHE 06:50 AM COMMERCIALS 07:00 AM NEWS BULLETIN 07:15 AM NEWS PAPERS REVIEW 07:30 AM KUMEPAMBAZUKA - FAMILIA 09:00 AM NEWS BRIEF 10:00 AM DEATH ANNOUNCEMENTS 10:15 AM SUNDAY SPECIAL 11:00 HRS TOP 20 13:00 HRS NEWS BULLETIN 13:10 HRS DEATH ANNOUNCEMENTS 13:30 HRS NANI ZAIDI 16:00 HRS NEWS BRIEF 16:03 HRS DEATH ANNOUNCEMENTS 16:15 HRS MIDUNDO 18:00 HRS MAMBO YA PWANI 19:30 HRS AFRICAN PANORAMA 20:10 HRS SPOTI LEO 20:00 HRS NEWS BULLETIN 20:15 HRS NEWS BRIEF 21:05 HRS MAMBO MSETO 22:00 HRS NEWS BULLETIN (24 HRS) 22:15 HRS RAFIKI I 23:00 HRS NEWS BRIEF 23:03 HRS RAFIKI II 01:00-05:00 MUZIKI (MCHANGANYIKO)

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Radio One

DCB Bank 'honoured' for buttressing financial sector growth in the country

By Guardian Reporter

DCB Commercial Bank a fast-growing mid-size bank, has been recognized for its outstanding support towards realization of vibrant growth of the financial sector in the country.

The commendation came during a function organized by the Tanzania Bankers Association (TBA), to hail financial entities for their roles, and which doubled as a party to see off former Bank of Tanzania

Governor, Prof. Florens Luoga and usher in his successor, Emmanuel Tutuba.

In the function, held in Dar es Salaam recently, TBA awarded various members banks - including DCB Commercial Bank, as a signal to reciprocate the contributions of the entities towards ensuring the financial sector in the country moves forward in tandem with the noble target of the current administration of realizing universal financial inclusion.

Speaking in Dar es Salaam, DCB Commercial Bank Acting Managing Di-

rector, Isidori Msaki, thanked TBA for recognizing contribution of the bank, adding that they regarded the award as a debt repayable by DCB through continuing to play the role of coming up with relevant solutions that offer better banking services that augur with needs of customers.

"On my part and on behalf of DCB, I wish to state that we feel great pride to receive this award, we assign great importance to it and regard it as catalyst that prompts us to perform better and improve our banking services so that they bring froth productivity to our customers, stakeholders and Tanzanians in general," said Msaki.

"DCB bank will continue to uplift the quality of its services and also add options to its expanding product portfolio that meet the needs of our customers, I take this opportunity to call upon Tanzanians to use our products which are superior, and assure them that they will be satisfied with the value for money propositions."

The award punctuated DCB's existing history of being recognized for its



Bank of Tanzania governor Emmanuel Tutuba (second right) presents an award to Acting DCB Commercial Bank managing director Isidori Msaki in recognition of the contribution of the bank to the success of the financial sector in the country. The function, which doubled as farewell party to former BOT governor Prof Florens Luoga (L) and to usher in his successor, was organized by the Tanzania Bankers Association (TBA). Right a chairperson TBA Theobald Sabi.

contribution towards delivery of better services and for the bank's support for growth of the banking sector.

At the end of 2022, DCB scooped the award for delivery of better banking services to customers, and also bagged the award for better

presented financial reports in the mid-sized bank docket - issued by the National Board of Accountants and Auditors (NBA).

'Treasury bought Sh6bn stake in Telkom 4 days to elections'

NAIROBI

THE Treasury overruled the Controller of Budget and paid Sh6.09 billion to acquire a 60 percent stake in Telkom Kenya from a UK-based private equity fund, just four days before last year's General Election.

Controller of Budget Margaret Nyakango says she refused to authorise the withdrawal of the billions to buy out Helios Investment Partners in Telkom Kenya in a deal that made the company fully State-owned.

The Treasury withdrew Sh6.09 billion on August 5, 2022 and paid Jamhuri Holdings Ltd, a Mauritius-based subsidiary of Helios in a trans action that lacked parliamentary approval.

The deal was closed in the last days of Uhuru Kenyatta's presidency and came at the height of campaigns to succeed him by then Deputy President William Ruto and the opposition leader, Raila Odinga.

Dr Ruto won the August 9 presidential election race by a narrow margin of votes.

"I rejected some of the withdrawals including the Sh6,091,140,702 that was funding to cater for the exit of Helios Investment in Telkom Kenya Ltd. And this was in writing," Dr Nyakango told Parliament's Budget and Appropriations Committee (BAC).

The Controller of Budget must approve withdrawal of cash from the government's main accounts and has powers to block access of funds suspected to breach the law.

Article 223 of the Constitution allows the Treasury to spend on emergencies without the approval of



The National Treasury building in Nairobi

Parliament. The law demands that the Treasury table a mini-budget two months after withdrawing funds from the Consolidated Fund without the approval of MPs.

Besides the Telkom Kenya deal, the Treasury spent another Sh16 billion without the approval of Parliament in the weeks leading up to the inauguration of President Ruto.

It disbursed Sh810 million to State House, Sh2.2 billion for building the military research hospital, and Sh4.5 billion for the discontinued maize flour subsidy. Another Sh9.45 billion was allocated for road construction.

Dr Nyakango says the Treasury's increased triggers of Article 223 undermines the legal requirement for public participation

in the budget-making process.

"This Article of the Constitution is a bit vague and accounting officers are taking advantage to seek funds through Article 223 which should not be the case. The money withdrawn under Article 223 is not revenue from KRA but proceeds of borrowings including bonds which is compounding public debt," Dr Nyakango said. Dr Ruto's coalition in Parliament has criticised the withdrawals done in Kenyatta's last days.

"One of the most glaring issues is that in the days to the General Election, Sh22 billion was approved under Article 223. We will interrogate these payments, including the Sh6.09 billion paid out to Jamhuri Holdings Ltd, a Mauritius-based firm for

Helios' shareholding in Telkom Kenya," said Ndindi Nyoro, the BAC chairperson.

The Helios deal marked a rare return of a privatised company to State ownership, derailing initial plans for the listing of Telkom Kenya at the Nairobi Securities Exchange (NSE) through an initial public offering (IPO).

France's Orange bought a majority share in Telkom Kenya when it was privatised in 2007 but then sold its stake to London-based Helios Investment in 2015 for undisclosed fees.

At Sh6.09 billion, the deal values Telkom Kenya at Sh10 billion, equivalent to one percent of the nearly Sh1 trillion valuation of Safaricom—the dominant market leader.

A former Treasury official in Kenyatta's government reckons that the State exercised its pre-emptive rights after Helios notified the government of its intention to exit Telkom. Pre-emptive rights are privileges extended to shareholders, giving them preference to buy the stake in the business should one of the owners opt to exit.

"We bought the shares because the government was afraid Helios was going to sell to an investor that did share the same vision with us in the turnaround of Telkom Kenya," the official said earlier.

Telkom Kenya, which is Kenya's third-biggest telecommunications company by users, has been losing subscribers in recent years. The operator's mobile phone subscribers dropped from 4.23 million users in 2019 to 3.42 million in June, representing a 19.1 percent fall, in a period when its rivals, Airtel and Safaricom, gained customers.

The Sh6.09 billion that the State wired to Helios is part of the Sh23 billion that the Treasury spent with MPs' approval between July and August.

Helios is the latest international operator to quit Kenya, where Safaricom, part-owned by Vodacom and Vodafone, has 67 percent of 36 million mobile users.

India's Essar Telecom, Kuwait-owned Zain, and France's Vivendi have exited Kenya over the past 20 years after failing to return profits in a market under the control of Safaricom.

Banking shares gain from foreign investors' Sh300m NSE injection

NAIROBI

FOREIGN investors pumped in a net of Sh301 million into the Nairobi Securities Exchange (NSE) last week, eyeing stakes in banking stocks ahead of full-year results announcements that are expected to reveal higher profits.

The net inflows helped claw back some of the foreign investor capital that has bled out of the bourse in recent weeks on the continued flight to the US, which has raised interest rates on its bonds to counter high inflation.

NSE shows that KCB attracted the bulk of last week's foreign investor purchases into the banking

segment with a net inflow position of Sh157 million. "We believe the increased net buying position was driven by investors taking up positions in banking sector counters, in anticipation of the positive full year 2022 results," said analysts at AIB AXYS Africa in a market report covering last week's trading.

KCB was second only to Safaricom in the market last week in terms of net inflows after the telco saw net buys of Sh212.4 million on continued appetite from investors keen to enter the stock at a relatively lower price.

In Monday's trading, KCB eclipsed Safaricom in terms of traded turno-

ver, moving shares worth Sh9.44 million versus the telco's Sh9.26 million. Co-operative Bank, meanwhile, matched Safaricom's turnover with trades worth Sh9.26 million as well.

This year, foreign investors have been predominantly on the selling side, recording net outflows of Sh3.2 billion since the beginning of January, pulling down share prices among the large-cap counters.

The banking sector has, however, periodically bucked the trend, owing to the growth in profits recorded by the lenders that have resulted in more stable dividend payouts than other segments.



TransCentury cash call results out next week

NAIROBI

INVESTMENT firm TransCentury will announce the results of its rights issue - which seeks to raise Sh2 billion - on Wednesday next week according to an updated timetable.

The Nairobi Securities Exchange-listed firm was initially set to announce the performance of the cash call on February 9 but got an extension as it sought more time to accept payments from shareholders.

The offer was to close on January 23 but the date was

moved to February 3.

The results publication will show the performance of the cash call which the company says is earmarked for recapitalizing the business, reducing debt and unlocking working capital.

TransCentury shareholders

were offered 1.87 billion new ordinary shares at a price of Sh1.10 each.

Private Equity firm Kuramo Capital is expected to be the biggest participant in the rights issue, having outlined plans to invest up to Sh1.1 billion which could bring its

shareholding in the investment firm to at least 48 percent.

Weak participation by other minor investors could however bring Kuramo's hold on TransCentury above the 50 percent mark.

The private equity firm

had however received the approval of the Capital Markets Authority to increase its ownership in the company without making a buyout offer to minority investors.

TransCentury's share price had risen to trade above the rights issue price in the weeks

to the closing of the offer period, incentivising investors to take up their rights if they wanted to defend or boost their stake in the firm.

The company's stock initially at a significant discount which made it cheaper the shares on the open market.

Why Kenyans easily get jobs in Uganda hotels...

KAMPALA

WHEN an opportunity to work in Uganda as the general manager of Crystal Lodges arose, Patrick Wachira did not hesitate.

His job in Tanzania had ended and the Covid-19 pandemic had stalled the tourism industry. There was little chance that he would get a job in Kenya.

He started scouting for job opportunities in other African countries.

"Uganda is the pearl of Africa and there are many opportunities here in the tourism industry," he says.

He now oversees Crystal Lodges which comprises Crater Safari Lodge in Fort Portal, and Gorilla Safari Lodge in a facility in Kidepo National Park.

One of the lodges sits at the edge of the Bwindi Impenetrable Forest National Park, a lush jungle in Uganda.

A new workplace can be exciting – but not when your first task is to grow the business during a pandemic.

Mr Wachira reported when most hotels were closed due to Covid-19 restrictions and when they reopened, it was tough to convince domestic travellers to stay in lodges.

"It was not easy to market the lodges and to get Ugandans

to come to a five-star hotel and spend a night or two. Most days we would stay without a guest," he says.

However, when travel resumed, tracking the chimpanzees in the Kibale Forest and trekking with gorillas in Bwindi moved to the top of the bucket list of most travelers.

They come in droves to watch the wild gorillas, forest elephants and bird species in the area.

Working outside the country is a great opportunity to explore and gain experience, Mr Wachira says. He advises Kenyans to seek out opportunities and investments abroad.

"There are a lot of opportunities for tourism in Uganda, especially for those who desire to invest in the industry. There are national parks like Bwindi, Queen Elizabeth, and Kibali where they can earn good money. Even those who would love to start colleges for five-star hospitality training colleges can make money here. The training is not at the same level as it is in Kenya. There are also plenty of opportunities to work in the industry," he says.

Working in Burundi

Dixon Ndichu, another Kenyan, got a job in Burundi as an executive sous chef, also during the pandemic.



Patrick Wachira, general manager of Crystal Lodges in Uganda.

"I used to run my consultancy firm, Dixon Culinary Consultancy. During the pandemic, I closed it. It was barely three years old. Luckily, friendship and networking in the hospitality industry paid off. I got an opportunity in Burundi through a friend," he says.

After finishing his paperwork on September 7, 2020, Mr Ndichu started work at Kiriri Garden Hotel in Bujumbura, Burundi. There is the good and the bad side to working abroad as Dixon notes.

"Burundi is quite small and densely populated. People are friendly and welcoming. The cost of living is way more manageable and affordable than in Kenya," says Mr Ndichu.

Kiriri Garden, a four-star hotel, is one of the best in the country. Mr Ndichu says he interacts with the who's who.

Challenges

However, working abroad, with people from different cultures and varying levels of expertise, comes with its challenges.

"There is a lack of education which means that most people are not exposed and don't have professional skills. This has made dealing with staff to be such hefty work, more mental than physical. The language barrier is another challenge as most of the population speaks in the native language Kirundi," he adds.

Another thing is that the country is still healing from trauma which has made people suspicious of foreigners. There is also a challenge when it comes to investing back home.

"The country is forex contraband making it illegal to trade with dollars. Consequently, it's hard to invest or send money home.

This is also the case with credit cards; the

local currency Burundian Francs cannot be accessed outside the country even when transacting with a credit card and conversion is not allowed either," he says.

However, Mr Ndichu advises Kenyans not to fear working abroad.

"Anyone willing to join a hospitality firm outside Kenya would have the best opportunity to grow their career as they say if you do not travel you would have an assumption that your mum cooks the best food. Go out and explore," he says.

When it became hard to get a job in Kenya, Elizabeth Amolo Ouda sought work in Uganda as a front office and assistant general manager at Rushaga Gorilla Lodge.

"A bishop told my sister [who lived in Uganda] to look for someone to help him run his homestay as he was transforming his home into one," she says.

She started working at the homestay but quit after months of non-payment. She now works at Rushaga Gorilla Lodge, a luxurious rustic hotel nestled in a dense forest.

For the six years that she has been working in Uganda, Ms Ouda says that while Uganda and Kenya are the same in many aspects, the cultures are different.

"Opportunities are a lot over here. Everywhere you go you'll find a Kenyan employee and Ugandans love employing Kenyans. They say that one Kenyan can do the job of five Ugandans. Many new lodges are coming up," she says.

As a tip for working abroad, she urges Kenyans to be patient and cognisant of other people's cultures.

"Working abroad is nice especially when you find an employer and people who will appreciate your work and understand you. When you go to Rome do what the Romans do. Be tolerant and flexible and proactive and always know that you are not at home and things might not be easy," she says.

Before Covid-19 pandemic struck, tourism was generating about \$1.6 billion into the economy.

Engen, Vivo Energy combine African businesses

CAPETOWN

ENGEN and Vivo Energy have announced a combination of their respective African businesses to

create one of Africa's largest energy distribution companies.

The combined group will have over 3,900 service stations and more than two billion litres of storage capacity across 27 African countries.

Engen is the clear market leader in South Africa and has around 1,300 service stations across seven African countries while Vivo Energy is a major pan-African retailer and distributor of fuels and lubricants to retail and commercial customers, with over 2,600 service stations across 23 African countries, using the Engen and Shell brands.

PETRONAS will sell its 74 percent shareholding in Engen to Vivo Energy at completion.

The Phembani Group, PETRONAS' long-standing partner in Africa and Engen's B-BBEE shareholder, is continuing its strong association with Engen and will remain invested as a 21% shareholder in the South African business.

The transaction will further benefit employees of Engen through a newly implemented

5% employee share ownership programme, resulting in Engen South Africa being 26% owned by previously disadvantaged parties.

Stan Mittelman, CEO of Vivo Energy said: "Vivo Energy's focus has been to invest to grow our business, and I am proud that we have more than doubled the size of our network since our formation in 2011. Four years ago, we acquired the Engen business in nine African markets, and have since worked to enhance and develop these".

"Vito's acquisition of 100 percent of Vivo Energy last year brings more opportunity to grow even faster.

Completion of this transaction, which reunites the Engen brand across Africa, will be a step change in our growth and represents a significant commitment to the South African market whilst enhancing Vivo Energy's portfolio in other important markets," he added.

Seelan Naidoo, Managing Director and CEO of Engen said: "This is an exciting opportunity for

Engen to build on its market leading position in South Africa and a number of southern African countries.

It allows us to leverage our strong brand equity, leading re-



tail footprint, extensive supply chain capability and unrivalled customer service to be a leading contributor to Vivo Energy and Vito's ambition to build a stronger and more successful pan-African energy champion.

He said: "Engen is excited to become part of the enlarged business and this will set up our business to be stronger and more

successful than ever before."

Phuthuma Nhleko, Chairman and Co-founder of Phembani Group said: "The Phembani Group is proud to have been a long-term shareholder in Engen since 1999, partnering with PETRONAS and helping to grow Engen into a valuable South African corporate citizen, meeting the needs of millions of ordinary

South Africans. We are pleased to partner with Vivo Energy in the next phase of Engen's growth. We are confident that together we will support Engen's continued growth, enabling it to realise its vision."

Chris Bake, Chair of Vivo Energy said: "Vivo Energy has been a success story since its inception. It has grown consistently,

both organically and by investing in modern quality assets. It has a highly professional and capable management team with a deep understanding of Africa's unique energy requirements. Engen is South Africa's market leader and this powerful combination will benefit customers in South Africa and across the continent."

The transaction is currently pending regulatory approvals and fulfilment of conditions precedent.

Rand Merchant Bank (a division of FirstRand Bank Limited) and Standard Bank advised Vivo Energy. Morgan Stanley and Rothschild & Co are advisors to PETRONAS on this transaction.

Printing corporation's profit declines by Shs2.2 billion

KAMPALA

UGANDA Printing and Publishing Corporation (UPPC) recorded a 60 percent reduction in profit in the period ended June 30, 2022, according to the Auditor General's report.

The report, which details financial performance of UPPC and other 50 government agencies, indicates that the Corporation's profit dropped by more than half to Shs1.204b, down from Shs3.383b recorded in the same period ended June 2021.

Auditor General John Mwangi indicated that UPPC blamed its profit reduction to stiff competition in the market from the growing printing business.

However, economists and analysts say in a liberal mar-

ket, stiff competition is not washed away but entities have to plan to deal with it.

Dr Fred Muhumuza, a renowned economist, told Daily Monitor that it will be wrong for UPPC to point out stiff competition as the reason for its reduced profit is pegged to their failure.

"If it was about stiff competition, those enterprises in the same business would not be in the game," he noted.

He added that enterprises like the Monitor Publication's management have done everything possible even when they faced state threats to close the business.

"They (Monitor) did everything to stay afloat, because competition is where we hire the best and if someone eats into your space, either you

are going to sleep or you are incompetent," Muhumuza added.

Adapt new technology

Muhumuza's advice to UPPC is to consider adapting to the changing technologies to offer the best to their clients and grow the business into profitability.

"Let management of UPPC do self-reflection, scan the environment and adapt to the changing world and innovate to survive in the market," Muhumuza concluded.

UPPC is mandated to print and publish all laws of Uganda as passed by Parliament. We are the only publishers of the Uganda Gazette-the official Government newspaper of record, ideally gives them a privilege. But what went wrong?

Mr Kenneth Oluka, managing director UPPC breaking down other reasons behind the reduced profit in the period ended June 2022 said: "Some Ministries, Departments and Agencies (MDAs) do not respect the President's directive that requires them to give their printing jobs to UPPC".

He added that the situation was worsened by the Covid-19 pandemic that ravaged the economy resulting in a reduction in funding to MDAs.

To manage the situation, these MDAs are now forced to prioritise and rationalise their printing activities.

To turn around sales, UPPC is looking into diversifying its product and revenue streams in addition to building strategic partnerships.

The Corporations broadened product pillars are; publishing (including e-publishing), commercial printing, promotional items, stationary production, branding solutions, and projects.

"Not forgetting digitalisation, debt management, and recapitalisation of UPPC through the acquisition of new and modern assets (machinery) boost revenues," Oluka added.

Scores

Auditor General further, indicated that return on assets (ROA) which shows the percentage of how a company's assets are generating revenue, with emphasis on measuring management's efficiency in using the enterprise's assets to generate earnings, UPPC was among the entities that scored 5 percent.

"Management explained that it has income generating strategies such as utilising one of the properties as a printing school. Should resources become available, the properties shall be overhauled to attract investment opportunities," Auditor General shared in the report.

Debt

Ideally, Public Corporations and State Enterprises should meet their short and long-term debt obligations.

Gearing (debt) ratio measures the proportion of the enterprises' assets that are financed by debt. Although the risk levels vary from industry to industry, a debt ratio of more than 50 percent is considered undesirable.

Further analysis noted that UPPC was among the eleven Public Corporations and State enterprises which had very low gearing levels below 10 percent.

During the period, the Auditor General also noted that UPPC was rated at 0.13 percent, indicating availability of untapped source of financing for growth.

Liquidity assessment

Ideally, the ability of Public Corporations and State enterprises to meet their short-term financial obligations, the ratio of Current Assets to Current Liabilities between 1.5 and 2 is desirable, although acceptable current ratios vary between different industries or sectors.

WORLD

UK suffers worst year for strike action since 1989

LONDON

THE United Kingdom recorded the highest number of working days lost to labor disputes in 2022 for more than 30 years, official data showed yesterday, as a cost-of-living crisis led employees to walk out in demand of higher pay.

The Office for National Statistics

(ONS) said nearly 2.5 million working days were lost to industrial action last year, the highest since 1989 when 4.1 million days were lost.

With inflation at its highest in four decades, workers across a range of sectors from train drivers to teachers and healthcare workers have held strikes over the last few months.

The ONS data showed 843,000



This Jan 23, 2023 photo shows ambulance workers hold cardboard signs and flags of the UK's trade union UNISON as they take part in a rally at a picket line outside the Docklands Emergency Operating Centre, Newham Docks, in London. AFP

days were lost to strike action in December alone, with border force staff, around 100,000 nurses and thousands of ambulance workers among those who staged walkouts either in the run up to or during the Christmas period.

While some smaller disputes have been resolved, the most high-profile show little sign of abating.

Up to half a million teachers, civil servants, and train drivers walked out earlier this month in the largest coordinated strike

action for a decade and many trade unions have further days of strike action scheduled.

The British government has so far refused to budge on public sector pay and is instead in the process of tightening laws to make it harder for those in key sectors to strike.

It says the pay rises being demanded are unaffordable and hiking pay to match inflation would only worsen the problem.

UN experts gravely concerned over deaths at hands of US police

UNITED NATIONS

UNITED Nations experts have expressed grave concern over the deaths of two Black men in January in the United States at the hands of police, saying the use of force may have violated international norms.

Keenan Anderson died on Jan 3 at the hands of the Los Angeles Police Department and Tyre Nichols died on Jan 7 after he was beaten by police in Memphis, Tennessee, according to the UN experts.

"The brutal deaths of Keenan Anderson and Tyre Nichols are more reminders of the urgency to act," Yvonne Mokgoro, chairperson of the UN International Independent Expert Mechanism to Advance Racial Justice and Equality in the context of Law



Activists hold signs addressing the Tyre Nichols case at a Memphis City Council meeting, Feb 7, 2023, in Memphis, Tennessee. AP

Enforcement, said in a statement released last Friday.

The experts stressed that in both cases, the force used appears to have violated inter-

national norms protecting the right to life and prohibiting torture or other cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment.

It is also not in line with standards set out under the United Nations Code of Conduct for Law Enforcement Officials and the Basic Principles on the Use of Force and Firearms by Law Enforcement Officials, they noted.

Responding to the death of Tyre Nichols, the experts emphasized that in addition to effectively investigating, prosecuting and punishing the perpetrators and providing redress to victims and their families, US authorities should show determination in questioning and reforming an institutionalized police culture that permits criminal assault under the guise of law enforcement and public safety.

"We have called on authorities to ensure prompt accountability and reparation," said Tracie

Keese, member of the Expert Mechanism.

Mokgoro said the Expert Mechanism will be conducting an official mission to the United States in April "to ensure that police brutality is addressed with determination and that victims and their families obtain justice".

The UN International Independent Expert Mechanism to Advance Racial Justice and Equality in the context of Law Enforcement was established in July 2021 to make recommendations, inter alia, on the concrete steps needed to ensure access to justice, accountability and redress for excessive use of force and other human rights violations by law enforcement officials against Africans and people of African descent. *Xinhua*

Adani crisis: Modi's party has 'nothing to hide'

MUMBAI

INDIAN Prime Minister Narendra Modi's party has "nothing to hide or be afraid of" on the controversy over Adani group, the home minister said yesterday, responding to opposition allegations of favoring the conglomerate attacked by a US short seller.

Led by billionaire Gautam Adani, the business house's seven listed companies bearing his name have together lost about \$120 billion in market value since a Jan 24 report by Hindenburg Research alleged improper use of offshore tax havens and stock manipulation. The Adani group has denied the allegations and threatened legal action against Hindenburg.

"The Supreme Court has taken cognisance of the matter. As a minister, if the Supreme Court is seized of the matter it is not right for me to comment," Amit Shah, widely considered the most powerful politician in India after Modi, told the ANI news agency.

"But in this, there is nothing for the BJP to hide and nothing to be afraid of," Shah added, referring to the ruling Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP).

He denied allegations of crony capitalism and suggested the opposition to go to court if they had proof.

The Adani crisis has stalled parliament, ignited street protests by the opposition, sparked off investigations by regulators



A business visitor interacts with an official at the Adani Gas stall during an exhibition held as part of the ongoing 'India Energy Week 2023' under India's G20 Presidency, in Bengaluru on Feb 7, 2023. Indian Prime Minister Narendra Modi's party has "nothing to hide or be afraid of" on the controversy over Adani group, the home minister said yesterday. (PHOTO / AFP)

and weighed on the broader markets in a challenge to Modi ahead of a string of state elections this year and general elections next year.

Rivals including the main opposition Congress party accuse Modi and the BJP of longstanding ties to the apples-to-air-

ports Adani group, going back nearly two decades when Modi was chief minister of the western state of Gujarat. Gautam Adani and Shah also come from the same state.

Modi's immense popularity, however, appears intact for now, according to ap-

proval ratings.

Without referring to Adani, Modi told parliament last week that the "blessings of 1.4 billion people in the country are my protective cover and you can't destroy it with lies and abuses", as opposition lawmakers chanted "Adani, Adani".

Shares of Adani Enterprises, the group's flagship, fell nearly 4 percent in early trade on Tuesday. The company, which pulled a \$2.5 billion share sale earlier this month after the stock rout, will announce quarterly results later in the day.

Adani Power and Adani Green Energy fell too in a wider Mumbai market that was up slightly.

India's Economic Times daily reported on Tuesday that Adani group executives had been holding negotiations since last week with Abu Dhabi's International Holding Corp (IHC) for capital infusion into Adani Enterprises or other group entities.

Adani and IHC did not immediately respond to requests seeking comment.

The Adani group has appointed accountancy firm Grant Thornton for independent audits of some of its companies, Reuters reported on Monday, citing sources, even as India's market regulator said it was investigating the report by Hindenburg, as well as market activity immediately before and after the report was published.

Agencies

Sudan peace deal fragile due to lack of funding and political uncertainty

JUBA

THE peace agreement signed in August 2020 to end decades of conflict in neighboring Sudan has stalled largely due to political uncertainty and lack of international support, mediators said on Monday during the opening of a five-day workshop to review the peace agreement in Juba, the capital of South Sudan.

Dhieu Mathok Diing, the South Sudan minister of Investment and a member of the mediation team, said the ongoing political uncertainty created by disagreement over power-sharing among some of the signatories is hurting the implementation of the peace deal.

"Some of the major challenges that we know is the political instability in Sudan, the government is not stable, there is a lot of political turmoil in the country, and if these things are not resolved then it is going to be very difficult for the agreement to be implemented," Mathok said.

The agreement signed between the Sudan Sovereign Council led by Abdel Fattah Al-Burhan and various opposition groups has also been slowed down by a lack of funding from the international community.

The Sudan political crisis deepened after Al-Burhan declared a state of emergency on Oct. 25, 2021, and dissolved the Sovereign Council and the transitional government which was headed by the then Prime Minister Abdalla Hamdok.

Mathok said the agreement signed with opposition groups from the Darfur region alone requires the funding of 13 billion U.S. dollars to cover the resettlement of refugees and internally displaced persons (IDPs) and rehabilitation of the affected areas for a period of ten years.

"We have seen also there are differences among the signatories to the peace agreement, since the time they went to Sudan there are a lot of divisions among themselves, we hope that this workshop which is being organized by the government of South Sudan will help in creating harmony and unity among them," Mathok said.

Salwa Adam, the secretary general of the Sudan People's Liberation Movement-North (SPLM-N) faction led by Malik Agar in the Blue Nile region, said the political situation in Khartoum has affected the peace implementation because there is no legitimate government at the moment.

In December 2022, a limited selection of Sudan's military and civilian political actors signed a Framework Agreement (FA) in order to relaunch the country's transition to civilian government, but this has not yet materialized. Adam added that failure to establish joint monitoring and evaluation mechanisms has for example caused a resurgence of conflict in Sudan.

Yassir Adha, the representative of the Sudan Sovereign Council, expressed optimism on the peace process succeeding if hold-out opposition groups like the SPLM-N sector led by Abdel Aziz Al-Hilu, and Sudan Liberation Movement under Abdul Wahi Al-Nur join the peace process.

Suliman Mohammed Dibelo, the chairperson of the Sudan Peace Commission, expressed hope with the recent framework agreement reached between the Sudan Sovereign Council and civilian opposition members.

"Sudanese people of different political factions have now opted to reach an agreement, and we hope when they reach an agreement a government will be installed, and the ministers will start acting on implementation of different items in the Juba peace agreement," he said.

Xinhua

Zambia refutes erroneous reporting on debt restructuring process

LUSAKA

THE Zambian government on Monday refuted a Western media report that it does not support China's call for the World Bank and other multilateral lenders to join Zambia's debt restructuring process.

Zambian Minister of Finance and National Planning Situmbeko Musokotwane said that contrary to the Financial Times report, which was based on a recent interview with him, the southern African nation is "in no position to reject any proposals between China and the World Bank."

"The headline did not accurately reflect the minister's comments or Zambia's position," he said in a statement, while expressing satisfaction that the Financial Times has corrected its misrepresentation in an updated version of the story.

Zambia's focus was on achieving debt relief as soon as possible, he said, adding that delays in debt talks were affecting ordinary Zambians and their livelihoods.

Calling the interactions with creditors positive and constructive, he said the government was hopeful of the good progress made so far in debt discussions. Also on Monday, Chinese Foreign Ministry Spokesperson Wang Wenbin said, "China attaches high importance to Zambia's debt issue. We have played a constructive role in handling Zambia's debt under the G20 Common Framework and facilitated the success of three meetings of the Creditor Committee for Zambia."

Xinhua

Northeast China's Changchun enjoys fruitful results in expansion of urban greenery

HIT by a heavy snow, Jingyuetan National Forest Park in Changchun, northeast China's Jilin province, recently put on a "white coat".

As far as the eye can see, there were towering pines and cypresses and a lake covered by ice. Squirrels were sometimes seen running in the woods.

"I'm here with my family to get some air. It took us around half an hour to get here by subway. It's very convenient," said a visitor surnamed Liu, who was strolling in the park.

Nowadays, spending some time in the parks has become a lifestyle of Changchun residents. According to statistics, the number of parks in the

city increased from 66 to 186 in the past decade, and the total area of urban parks from 1,244 hectares to 4,761 hectares. After decades of planning and construction, a man-made forest has been built in Jingyuetan National Forest Park, which is one of the biggest in Asia.

With 96 percent of it forested, the park covers 96.83 square kilometers and has a water area of 5.3 square kilometers.

Over the recent years, Changchun has been committed to strengthening urban governance, making huge efforts to expand green space and launching campaigns to rectify practices such as

the violation of public green space.

Changchun has built a variety of featured landscapes by constructing green parks, reforming topography, and planting decorative vegetation. Besides, it also launches colorful activities centering around the culture of the city in parks.

The city has worked to advance the construction of pocket parks to further beautify its urban space over the past two years.

By the end of 2022, it had built more than 200 pocket parks, making park visits happy experiences that are easier to access for residents.

At the end of 2021, 37.17 percent of

the city's residential area was covered by greenery, and the figure stood at 42.17 percent citywide. Besides, the city's per capita space of public parks reached 13.13 square meters.

In winter, mists are always seen on the Yitong River, the mother river of Changchun, and crystal-clear rime ice is formed on tree branches. They constitute a pure and clean picture together with the vast snow-covered ground on the banks of the river.

However, such a scene was rare years ago, as the river performed poorly in water security, environment, and landscape. Besides, riverside transportation and industries were also under-

developed.

In 2016, Changchun launched a comprehensive treatment program for the Yitong River to improve riverside landscape, facilities, and functions.

"By adding greenery, establishing ped-and-bike systems, and building waterside pavilions, we have created waterside space with complete functions, which is pleasing to Changchun residents," said Nie Tianpu, an official with the Yitong River management committee.

So far, 17 new roads, over 100 sightseeing and fitness sites, as well as 1,350 hectares of green space have been built along the whole course of the

river, creating a soothing and comfortable environment for citizens to walk and ride.

Besides, Changchun is also working to improve the public services in parks. According to Yu Yang, an official with the Bureau of Forestry and Landscaping of Changchun, the city has built many footpaths, sports facilities, and intelligent gyms in recent years to meet the fitness demand of the citizens. It has also opened science museums, exhibition halls, and mini libraries to nurture a thick cultural atmosphere.

People's Daily

Cementing Sino-Iranian relations tops Raisi's agenda

IRANIAN President Ebrahim Raisi's China visit will highlight the two countries' strong mutual support as well as Beijing's lasting commitment and actions to promoting peace and prosperity in the Middle East as well as the world, officials and experts said.

They made the observation as Raisi (pictured) was scheduled to arrive in Beijing yesterday for a state visit through Thursday, his first trip to China since taking office in 2021.

According to the Foreign Ministry, President Xi Jinping will hold talks with Raisi to "jointly chart the course for and navigate the future development of bilateral relations", and the two leaders will have an "in-depth exchange of views on regional and international issues of common concern".

During his visit, the Iranian president will also meet with Premier Li Keqiang and Li Zhanshu, chairman of the Standing Committee of the National People's Congress.

China-Iran relations are based on a traditional friendship, and "cementing and developing the ties is the joint strategic choice of both sides", Foreign Ministry spokesman Wang Wenbin said on Monday.

Beijing looks forward to working with Tehran to "take the visit as an opportunity to strive for greater progress of the China-Iran comprehensive strategic partnership", Wang said at a news conference in Beijing.

The two nations will also seek to further "play constructive roles in boosting unity and collaboration among Middle East countries and facilitating the region's security and stability", he added.

China's trade with Iran reached \$12.32 billion in the first nine months of last year, up 18 percent year-on-year, according to the General Administration of Customs.

Mohammad Jamshidi, deputy director of political affairs at the Iranian president's office, said on Sunday that the visit will be of "economic, political and strategic importance", Iran's Islamic Republic News Agency reported.

Raisi said in an article published in Monday's edition of People's Daily that "Iran will, as always, uphold policies to strengthen Iran-China bilateral ties, and this will not be affected by any changes in the regional and international situation".

"China's economic growth and its outbound investment benefit the people of China and other countries, and we welcome initiatives proposed by China for promoting world peace, security and development," he added.

He said his country appreciates China's important role in the fight against COVID-19 and its support for Iran's efforts to become a member of the Shanghai Cooperation Organization.

Raisi also envisioned greater bilateral cooperation under the plan for China-Iran comprehensive cooperation, a blueprint that the two countries signed in 2021. Li Shaoxian, director of Ningxia University's China-Arab Research Institute, said that "China and Iran have a long history of friendly relations and are natural partners" who support each other's core interests.

Iran is an ideal country in the Middle East for advancing the Belt and Road Initiative, and "cooperation with China is key for Iran's economic development", he added. Observers noted that also high on the agenda for the Iranian president's visit is advancing negotiations on resuming compliance with the Joint Comprehensive Plan of Action, a landmark Iran nuclear deal enacted in 2016.

Ma Xiaolin, a veteran researcher on Middle East and Mediterranean studies at Zhejiang University, said that current prospects for the Iran nuclear deal have been dampened by sanctions and verbal attacks by the United States.

China's consistent position on this issue is to reject attempts to politicize the deal and stay focused on negotiations, and "the upcoming meeting between Xi and Raisi may bring more hope" in terms of the resumption of negotiations on the deal, Ma told Chinese media ahead of the visit.

Speaking to reporters, Wang Wenbin, the Foreign Ministry spokesman, noted that the two countries "have kept good communication and coordination over international and regional affairs". **Agencies**

India tax officers search BBC offices after critical documentary

NEW DELHI

INDIAN tax officers searched the BBC's bureaux in New Delhi and Mumbai yesterday, the British broadcaster said, weeks after the government came down hard against a BBC documentary critical of Prime Minister Narendra Modi's role in 2002 riots.

The documentary had focused on the Hindu nationalist politician's leadership as chief minister of the western state of Gujarat during the deadly communal riots, in which at least 1,000 people were killed, most of them Muslims, though activists put the toll at more than twice that number.

"The Income Tax Authorities are currently at the BBC offices in New Delhi and Mumbai and we are fully cooperating. We hope to have this situation resolved as soon as possible," the BBC said in a statement. The tax department did not respond to emails, messages and calls seeking comment.

One of two sources in the BBC's New Delhi office told Reuters that tax officials were speaking with the accounts officer and no one was allowed to leave.

While the search was underway, television news crews set up outside the office near Connaught Place, in central Delhi, to report developments.

The Editors Guild of India, which calls itself a non-partisan association of editorial leaders, said it was deeply concerned by the visits by the tax officers.



Namibian children voice for themselves through self-produced radio programmes

WINDHOEK

A group of Namibian children on Monday recorded audio programs to be aired on the national Namibian Broadcasting Corporation.

Mathew Haipare, 13, along with his peers, was speaking his mind about social issues of children's concern in a studio, dubbed Utiani Childline Radio, in Windhoek, the capital of Namibia.

As a brainchild of Lifeline Childline Namibia, an institution that provides free counseling to locals, the studio was launched in 2005 to allow children to drive their own messaging for greater impact.

The content, which is produced from the studio and lasts 30 minutes to an hour for one show, is pre-recorded and aired on the Namibian Broadcasting Corporation and social media platforms.

Stanley Similo, director general of Namibian Broadcasting Corporation, said the children's program is broadcast every Saturday morning and has grown into a popular slot for local children keen to be informed about their rights.

"It has reached children in the deepest rural areas, and its impact is immeasurable," he said. About 20 children are currently attached to the studio as presenters, creating content, said Elizabeth Hamurenge, the



Mathew Haipare (L) poses for a photo with his mother (C) and Elizabeth Hamurenge, the coordinator of a studio, in Windhoek, Namibia, on Feb. 13, 2023. Xinhua

coordinator of the studio, who guides the young presenters, and oversees the quality of the programs. According to her, since its establishment, the studio has given young people a place to advocate for their peers through content appropriate for their age and speak their minds.

"I wanted to join it because I have been trying to help homeless kids. I wanted to use my voice to be their voice," said Haipare, who joined the studio in February 2022.

Haipare's role includes conducting research on the topics and interviewing experts to provide better insight into the issues.

With the guidance of the coordinator, Haipare chooses topics ranging from bullying, abuse, careers, and internet safety to empowering youngsters to tackle social challenges.

"It has not only allowed me to demonstrate my talent, but is resourceful to kids because we talk what kids talk about, and nobody knows chil-

dren's struggles like children do," he said.

The children-produced shows have become instrumental in shaping the mindset of many children in Namibia, gaining children's trust, and becoming their confidante.

"I like listening to the shows because I learn new things and can relate to the topics. It has also allowed me to stand up for myself in difficult situations," said 14-year-old Eline David, an avid listener of the show.

Far and beyond the studio walls and instruments, the young aspiring presenters also undergo training to be equipped with technical and soft skills.

"We were trained by professionals who taught us aspects like punctuality and conduct," Haipare said. Haipare also got chances to travel to local places as part of the fieldwork, which he said has exposed him to different cultures and enhanced his understanding of the challenges children face.

Away from the studio microphone, children in the community engage him on various topics he hosted on the radio and equally seek advice.

As Namibia joined the rest of the world in commemorating World Radio Day under the theme of "Radio and Peace" Monday, Haipare said the radio remains critical to fostering unity, and it has helped him exude passion for positively impacting the lives of fellow children.

"It is important because it helps our listeners to communicate about their daily struggles and help each other find solutions. Radio is a safe platform, and the more we find solutions to problems, the more we promote peace," he said.

The studio is sustained with funding from Lifeline Childline, donors, and key partners, said Hamurenge, the coordinator of the studio, adding that the studio is in the process of applying for a broadcast radio license to become an independent and live station, enabling more robust interaction of children and impacting children who face challenges in their communities.

Repressions against the Russian language in Ukraine

MOSCOW

SINCE Ukraine became independent, Ukrainian authorities have committed to fighting against the Russian language. There has been a notable increase in these efforts after the 2014 anti-constitutional coup, that was blatantly anti-Russian and Russophobic in nature.

The situation in this area has not changed for the better either with the change of the leadership of Ukraine and the coming to power of Vladimir Zelensky.

During his election campaign Vladimir Zelensky, who became President of Ukraine in May 2019, presented himself as "the president of peace" and promised to revise the language legislation that divided the already polarized Ukrainian society.

In his interview to major Western media in 2019, Vladimir Zelensky said: "Article 10 of the Constitution of Ukraine: The Ukrainian language is the State language. The country and the authorities should support and develop the Russian language and minority languages. We should not suppress their languages, we should not suppress the Russian language."

On 25 April 2019, he wrote on his Facebook page (Facebook is currently banned in Russia): "The draft law on the State language was under consideration during the electoral cycle, which made it hostage to the political rhetoric. The law was approved without a sufficient preliminary discussion with the public." "After I take office as President, a detailed analysis of this law will be undertaken to make sure that it respects all constitutional rights and interests of all citizens of Ukraine."

Following the analysis, I will respond in line with the constitutional powers of the President of Ukraine and in the interests of the citizens."

However, after he took office, the situation of the Russian language and the Russian-speaking population has only grown worse.

Measures to suppress the Russian language adopted under Vladimir Zelensky:

- Law on Complete General Secondary Education (2020);
- Concept of the State Targeted Social Programme for National Patriotic Education Until 2025 (2020);
- Law on Indigenous Peoples of Ukraine (2021);
- Law on National Minorities (Communities) of Ukraine (2022);
- Decision by the Committee on Television and Radio Broadcasting of Ukraine to introduce an absolute ban on the import and distribution of Russian publishing products, including in order to "avoid a cultural and informational influence of Russia on Ukrainians" (2022).
- Recommendations of the Education Ministry of Ukraine (2002) to remove courses in Russian and Russian language

from the secondary school curriculum for 2022-2023 academic year as well as withdraw the literature works by Russian and Soviet authors therefrom.

As a consequence of those legislative initiatives,

- Russian language and literature have been removed from the learning process;
- Import of the printed products from Russia has been fully terminated;
- Ethnic Russians do not fall under indigenous people;
- Ethnic Russians have been expressly limited in their rights as compared to other nationalities;
- Extended usage of the Russian language in Ukraine has been recognized as menacing;
- Russian language is subject to multiple discrimination as compared to the Ukrainian, indigenous languages and EU Member States languages.

The above listed set of legislative measures led to the full ban on the Russian language in science, culture, education, state governance, mass media, and advertising.

The mentioned legislative acts contradict the national law and international obligations of Ukraine.

The Ukrainian officials are open in speaking hatred about everything that is Russian, and in talking about their intention to get rid of the Russian people and Russian language.

In August 2021, President Zelensky overtly requested all those citizens of Ukraine who felt to be Russians to leave the country.

In April 2022, Ukrainian language ombudsman Taras Kremen stated that it was necessary to get rid of the Russian-language locality names in the country while declaring that "Ukraine was for the Ukrainians". He advocated the ban of the Russian language in the educational institutions in the country later on.

According to Alexey Danilov, Secretary of the National Security and Defense Council of Ukraine (NSDC), "the Russian language must disappear" from the territory of Ukraine.

By now, the battle against the Russian language in Ukraine has taken grotesque forms that sometimes evoke dreadful associations with Nazism.

In November 2022, the mayor of the almost Russian-speaking city of Kharkov was fined for using Russian on TV.

In 2022, the Ukrainian nationalists initiated a Russian books de-

struction "flash mob".

Thus, in April 2022, a Russian literature merchandiser in Kiev was forced to burn down the books. After that a video address recording with apologies was squeezed from him.

In May 2022, Alexandra Koval, Director of the Ukrainian Book Institute, stated that almost all Russian books were to be withdrawn from libraries and sent for recycling. According to her, they made almost half of the library fund, i.e. over 100 million copies of books.

On 4 September 2022, Kiev municipal council reported on recycling the waste paper collected by the city citizens. The harvesting continued for a month and a half in a municipal bookshop. A total of 48 thousand books in Russian were destroyed.

In January 2023, reports on children in Kiev going door to door asking for Russian books to destroy them afterwards appeared.

In Chernigov Oblast, the workers of library stacks informed about books in Russian being taken away and the people in camouflage that came for them with machine guns.

As known, the Law on the State Language (2019) does not prohibit the use of a non-Ukrainian language in everyday communication and for religious ceremonies, however, certain devotees decided to deprive the people of the right to the title that was left to them after the adoption of laws on total Ukrainization.

In November 2022, an alert warning was put on the doors of St. Nicholas Church in Nikolaeiv to avoid using the Russian language during services as far as it could allegedly cause various misfortunes. One should turn to God exclusively in "Mova".

In January 2023, the information came up on the total ban of communication in Russian for students, professors and administrative staff on the premises of Kiev-Mogilyansky Academy. The rector said that this ban was not linked to a punishment and nobody was to control the communication inside the educational institution, however the "internal public opinion would imply that this would contribute to "Mogilyanka" being fully a Ukrainian-language university."

Ombudsman in charge of protecting the Ukrainian language Taras Kremen supported the decision of the university administration and expressed hope that other universities would follow Academy's lead.

Agencies

Israeli parliament in uproar over Netanyahu justice plans

JERUSALEM

ISRAELI lawmakers traded insults on Monday over government plans to overhaul the judiciary while tens of thousands of protesters gathered outside parliament, as the president warned the country was on the brink of "constitutional collapse".

The plans, which would give right-wing Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu greater control of appointments to the bench and weaken the Supreme Court's ability to strike down legislation or rule against the executive, have triggered angry protests across Israel for weeks.

On Monday, the Knesset Constitution Committee voted to send the first chapter of the plan to the plenum for a first reading, after a rowdy start to the meeting in which several lawmakers were thrown out forcibly, to shouts of "shame, shame".

As lawmakers traded calls of "fascist" and "traitor", sang protest folk songs and even cried inside the Knesset, tens of thousands of protesters massed outside.

Netanyahu, currently on trial on corruption charges which he denies, says the changes are needed to restore balance in the system and curb activist judges who have overreached their powers to interfere in the political sphere.

"I call on the heads of the opposition: Stop it. Stop deliberately dragging the country into anarchy," he said in a statement. "Most Israeli citizens do not want anarchy. They want a substantive discourse and in the end they want unity."

But the plans have exposed deep splits within Israeli society, pitting the economic establishment and more liberal sections of the country against supporters of Netanyahu and his right-wing religious and nationalist coalition allies.

"I'm protesting for the country my father fought for, my brother fought for, my uncle died for," said protester Hila Morzevahi. "They fought for Israel to be a democracy, not a fascist's country."

Critics say the plans risk destroying democratic checks and balances and isolating Israel internationally by weakening the courts, handing unbridled power to the executive and endangering human rights and civil liberties.

Israeli public broadcaster Kan



published a poll on Sunday which showed 28 percent of Israelis support the judicial overhaul as it is and 50 percent oppose it.

'Constitutional collapse'

On Sunday evening, in a rare intervention, President Isaac Herzog made a televised plea for consensus, saying that the bitterness had left Israel on the brink of "constitutional and social collapse" and calling for all sides to come together.

The standoff comes at a time of heightened anxiety over security in Israel after two deadly attacks by Palestinians in recent weeks that killed 10 people and piled pressure on Netanyahu's hardline government allies to react.

Netanyahu's Likud party and its allies have denounced opponents of the proposals as embittered leftists who refuse to accept the results of last year's election that brought one of the most right-wing governments in Israel's history to power.

But as well as the parliamentary opposition, warnings have come from Israel's banks and tech sector that the changes risked undermining the civil institutions that underpin Israel's economic prosperity.

US President Joe Biden has urged Netanyahu to build consensus before pushing through far-reaching changes, saying in comments published by the New York Times on Sunday that an independent judiciary was one of the foundations of US and Israeli democracy.

Rothman, one of the driving forces behind the proposals, said he welcomed Herzog's calls but the opposition had to compromise.

"I urge, again, everyone who wants to negotiate with good faith to come to the president and do it," he told Reuters.

Agencies

SPORT



Tanzania's Yanga midfielder, Khalid Aucho (R), challenges Tunisia's Union Sportive Monastrienne midfielder during the 2022/23 CAF Confederation Cup's Group D match which took place in Tunisia on Sunday. PHOTO: COURTESY OF YANGA

For once, foreign 'derby' replaces old 'Nani Mtani Jembe' dramatics

By Correspondent John Kimbute

THERE was a sort of city derby at the weekend when the city archrivals participated in continental tournaments in foreign capitals, meeting strong opposition and both losing their matches, but with different impressions for onlookers.

At the end of the day, no side was in the mood to celebrate their victory over the perennial adversary as neither side obtained a straight 'result,' in the sense of a win.

But there was a difference in the two losses, both on the margin and on the playing level.

Here there was little doubt that the Msimbazi Street squad as well as its rank and file came to the victor, both for the narrow win of the home side and the evident capacity of the visiting team to send the hosts on interminable errands, in a manner often being repeated during the game.

Little of that could be said for their next street rivals, as they fell two goals fairly early, and for the rest of the game, their opponents did not seem to be battling too hard to increase the score.

The fact that they relaxed and survived in that mood attested to the limited ability of the visitors.

Observers had noticed in discussions across mid-morning on Sunday that social media was eerily quiet, despite that Simba SC had already conceded and lost their away encounter.

Only their archrivals could have celebrated if they were not in any competition, as they usually did in the past, but rather modestly as they were not in contention on the major tournaments so they can't be the wiser.

This time they were right in the cooking pot when the rivals lost, and we are definitely uncertain how their encounter was going to be, and admittedly, they are a weaker side now.

Pundits were pointing out that since the Mapinduzi Cup appearances in Zanzibar the Jangwani Street side appears to have lost its polish, and its finesse, and seems to be struggling when it earlier had things more or less sorted out.

The singular reason or explanation being put across is the absence of Feisal Salum, as apparently, his role was the pivot around which the midfield turned, and his precipitated departure left a gaping hole that calls for an arduous effort to get it filled.

It is a question of how to play differently by using available players as no one can play exactly like Feisal.

There was a faintly plausible technical dispute as to whether the side desperately either

needed Feisal or simply used one player in like manner as Feisal, but trying to 'factorize' how to use a player in like manner as Feisal implies that he plays like him.

And affirming in all seriousness that Yanga is not in dire need of Feisal but of a player who can handle moves exactly as he did, that is, with the same speed and quick thinking, knowing where to pass the ball before it has arrived at his feet, etc did not appear plausible.

To wish for a player who can handle the ball or tempo of the game in the same manner as Feisal is to wish him back, to recruit him.

Alternatively, it means going out in other leagues and obtaining a player of the same caliber, and admittedly such a player will not break a contract or fail to extend a contract to earn what Feisal was earning there, or even twice as much.

So there is a crisis in the club in a tactical context as the current situation is being put to intense questioning, as to the sustainability of a two-grade listing of players.

The locals are largely priced because of local salaries and living conditions, and the foreign players are valued by Africa-wide applicable emoluments for quality rank.

Simba SC in a sense won the 'Mtani Jembe' contest in that regard as well, as in the past they lost Luis Miquissone and Claotus Chama and soldiered on, despite the widespread anguish among the fans.

Among professionals, they also lost Taddeo Lwanga and then reclaimed or invited back Chama after a season or so.

Feisal is comparable to any of these players, and to its credit, Msimbazi Street was hardly institutionally shaken as Jangwani Street appears to have been, not just in words but not now clearly in practice. Finding a winning formula has been a testy situation.

That means Yanga is visibly in a problem as its key replacements in Salum Abubakar 'Sure Boy' or Mudathir Yahya are seemingly as plausible as Simba SC is with John Bocco or another veteran, not an exceptionally skillful player.

It is possible that Yanga leaders lost valuable time in combating the precipitous departure of their midfield dynamo instead of putting heads together to figure out what player they can find, in the near region or a bit further - who could rapidly be pinpointed by their technical bench officials with the aid of a few video runs.

As Jean Baleke in the other team came at the same time and is playing, that could have been done it is a failure to make a stitch in time, so Yanga will likely have to settle for ten stitches now.

SPORTS

Simba SC and Yanga now with a steep mountain to climb

By Correspondent Lloyd Elipokea

FOLLOWING a spell of nervy anticipation Simba SC's CAF Champions League Group Stage campaign has finally gotten underway but unfortunately, they have made a lackluster start.

Playing in front of a hostile crowd in Conakry, Guinea, Simba SC took on their hosts Horoya AC to hopefully claim their first scalp in the group stage of the elite competition.

Sadly though, Horoya AC had other ideas and at the end of what was a compelling contest, the Guinean side was able to secure a wafer-thin 1-0 win against Simba SC.

Indeed, Simba SC's disappointing start now means that they face an uphill battle in their quest to progress to the latter stages of the CAF Champions League.

Indisputably, the Msimbazi Street outfit can ill-afford any more slip-ups as another stumble could greatly imperil their chances of advancing from the group phase to the quarterfinals of the august championship.

Disappointingly, our flag-bearer in the CAF Confederation Cup Group Stage, Yanga, also fared badly in their opening face-off against their Tunisian hosts US Monastir, in which they lost 2-0.

This regrettable result then means that Yanga now find themselves in the same boat as Simba SC as both clubs will have to unfailingly produce blemish-free displays in their ensuing matches so that they can get back firmly on track in their respective competitions.

Let us now turn to women's tennis where the Tunisian gem Ons Jabeur has been going through a rough patch thus far this year following her tremendously outstanding 2022.

Indeed, despite heading into the year's first grand slam, the Australian Open with high hopes, Jabeur's progress in the championship was halted in its tracks in only the second round by the unheralded Marketa Vondrousova.

As if that was not enough on the likable



Tanzania's Simba SC midfielder Sadio Kanoute (L), challenges Guinea's Horoya Athletic Club defender, Salif Coulibaly, as they locked horns in a 2022/23 CAF Champions League's Group C clash in Conakry last weekend. Horoya Athletic Club won 1-0. PHOTO: COURTESY OF SIMBASC

Tunisian's plate, Jabeur was forced to miss last week's Mubadala Abu Dhabi Open because she is sidelined with an injury and requires minor surgery.

Jabeur's woes this year are all a far cry from her standout displays last year when she boldly climbed up the global women's tennis rankings to successfully break into the exclusive top 10.

But her superb heroics last year did not end there. Indeed, the Tunisian sporting heroine would go on to become the first African woman to reach the final of two consecutive grand slams, Wimbledon and the US Open.

Lest we forget, the grand slams are the most cherished championships in men's and women's tennis and these treasured competitions are namely: the Australian Open, the French Open, Wimbledon, and the US Open.

Returning to Jabeur's challenges this year, one certainly hopes that the Tunisian sensation can draw inspiration from her bedazzling exploits last year to rise once again like a phoenix from the ashes.

After all, as that famous saying in sports goes, form is temporary but class is permanent.

Let's hope then that it proves true in this case.

Tanzania's junior golfers set for Uganda Open

By Correspondent Nassir Nchimbi

TANZANIA's junior golfers will take part in the inaugural NCBA Uganda Open at Lake Victoria Serena's course in April.

The event which is expected to be played from April 9-10 will take place at the Lake Victoria Serena Golf Resort and Spa.

Tanzania Ladies Golf Union (TLGU) honorary secretary, Madina Iddi, said that the country's junior golfers have been invited to participate in the high-profile event.

She said this is a vital platform for young Tanzanian golf players to test their skills and gain much-needed experience in the competition to grow stronger.

Madina added that the country has a good number of young players who have attended various golf development training sessions, hence

the Ugandan tour can be useful for their development.

The NCBA Uganda Open, which is part of U.S. Kids Golf international events, offers the best chance for young golfers to compete against their counterparts from across the world.

The international events began with the inaugural European Championship in 2008.

Uganda has taken a step forward in East African countries to organize the maiden event at the Lake Victoria Serena Golf Resort and Spa course which has outstanding views of the lake and ample bird life.

It is rated among the best courses in the East African region because of its unique features.

The NCBA Uganda Open offers young golfers the opportunity to compete in multi-day championship events and qualify for U.S. Kids Golf Priority Status.

By earning different levels of Priority Status, players can qualify for other U.S. Kids Golf Major Championships including Regional, International, and World or World Teen Championships, according to tournament Director Lola Geerts who is also a U.S. Kids Tournaments Development Europe, Africa, and Middle East.

Geerts revealed: "Please note that the deadline to earn Priority Status towards the World Championships via multi-day tournaments (including Regionals, State Invitationals, International Championships, International Partner Events, and our all-new Teen Series) is May 31 of each year."

The official added: "Because this event falls before the May 31 deadline, this International Partner Event does serve as a qualifying event for the 2023 World Championships."



Masala women's soccer outfit's coach, Maalim Seif (L), demonstrates goalkeeping skills to the side's goalies during training at Jakaya M. Kikwete Youth Park in Dar es Salaam early this week. PHOTO: CORRESPONDENT JUMANNE JUMA

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Only their archrivals could have celebrated if they were not in any competition, as they usually did in the past, but rather modestly as they were not in contention on the major tournaments so they can't be the wiser.

Pressure on Potter to deliver return on Chelsea investment

LONDON

CHELSEA may have spent over £500 million (\$603 million) on new players, but their first season under new ownership will end without any trophies to show for it unless they can conquer Europe in the coming months.

The Blues travel to face Borussia Dortmund in the first leg of their Champions League last 16 tie on Tuesday already out of both domestic cups and languishing 10th in the Premier League.

Winning the Champions League for a third time could even by Chelsea's best route back into the competition next season as they sit 10 points adrift of the top four in the English top flight.

Graham Potter's men have won just two games in their last 12 since European football shut down for the winter.

Potter has had to juggle a lengthy injury list and bed in an avalanche of January signings, while also trying to maintain harmony in a bloated squad of 33 first-team players.

The former Brighton boss has already had tough choices to make for the rest of his side's European campaign. With only three new players allowed to be added to Chelsea's Champions League squad and eight new signings, Benoit Badiashile, Noni Madueke, Andrey Santos and David Datro Fofana have been left out, while Malo Gusto will spend the second half of the season back on loan at Lyon.

- Three 100 million euro men - But the three additions of Joao Felix, Mykhailo Mudryk and Enzo Fernandez should add firepower and a creative spark to a side badly lacking in a goal threat.

All three have commanded a 100 million euro (\$107 million) fee at some point in their careers.

Fernandez's 121 million euro move from Benfica last month broke the British transfer record just weeks

after Mudryk was signed from Shakhtar Donetsk for an initial 70 million euros that could rise to 100 million.

Felix failed to live up to his 126 million euro price tag in three-and-a-half years at Atletico Madrid, but has looked lively in the early days of his loan spell at Stamford Bridge either side of a three-game ban for a red card on his Premier League debut.

The Portuguese international scored his first goal for the club from Fernandez's fine cross in Saturday's 1-1 draw at West Ham. But Felix's strike was just Chelsea's third in the last seven games.

"The second-half is probably more of a reflection of where we are as a group and as a team," said Potter after Chelsea's bright start at the London Stadium quickly fizzled out.

"In terms of players getting up to speed, returning from injury and players adapting to the Premier League."

Potter is aware patience is wearing thin among a fanbase that got used to a hire-and-fire culture under Roman Abramovich that reaped rewards.

In each of the two seasons Chelsea won the Champions League during the Russian's 19-year tenure, they changed managers mid-season.

Chelsea have already done that this season as Potter replaced Thomas Tuchel in September.

A nine-game unbeaten run to start his spell in charge now seems a long time ago for Potter with the pressure ramped up to produce results, even if the bulk of Chelsea's unprecedented level of spending has been on young players.

"You can't talk about the long-term because that doesn't exist in this job," added Potter.

"You have to acknowledge there's a long-term but there's a short-term and medium-term that is challenging for us in terms of results."

"We have to understand that, go to Dortmund with humility, with respect, and try to get the result."

Qatar will bid for Manchester United in its entirety

MILAN

A bid from Qatar Investment Authority to buy Manchester United in its entirety will come by the end of the week in time for the deadline set by the New York merchant bank selling the club, Telegraph Sport understands.

It marks a major development in the sale of United which the Glazer family have put on the market for around £5 billion. It is not yet clear how Qatar would square ownership of Paris St-Germain and United with Uefa's rules banning multi-club ownership should they be successful.

QIA is a \$450 billion sovereign wealth fund that owns - among others - the Shard building in London and the department store Harrods. It acquired PSG through the subsidiary Qatari Sports Investments in 2011 and has made them one of the most powerful clubs in the world.

The Qatari state put on hold all discussions of bidding for either United or Liverpool, the two clubs put on the market by their American owners at the end of last year, until they had staged the Fifa World Cup finals in November and December. QIA's involvement changes entirely the picture heading into Friday when the US bank Raine Group has set the deadline for initial bids for the club.

As things stand there is no bidder for United as powerful as the sovereign wealth fund from Qatar created in 2005 to use the wealth generated from the Gulf state's vast oil and gas reserves to diversify the country's economy. The only other declared interested party is Sir Jim Ratcliffe, one of Britain's wealthiest individuals.

A number of US private equity groups have looked at a full takeover or a minority investment.

As well as PSG and its considerable property investments QIA has stakes in Barclays Bank, the Volkswagen Group and Sainsbury's to name but a few.

The chief executive Mansoor Ebrahim Al-Mahmoud's mission statement is to "ensure the prosperity of future generations of Qataris ... as

a world-class investment institution and a positive force for good in the global economy."

The key detail will be how Qatar squares any takeover of United with Uefa. There would be no issue with the QIA passing the owners and directors' test set by the Premier League, which has no current club owned by Qatar. The major hurdle to be cleared would be article five of Uefa regulations which prohibit multi-club ownership or even a stake in more than one club participating in Uefa club competitions.

Uefa stipulates that "no individual or legal entity may have control or influence over more than one club participating in a Uefa club competition". Nevertheless, a version of the same issue has been overcome before with the Austrian Red Bull energy drink conglomerate. "The political landscape in European football remains febrile

Red Bull came to an agreement with Uefa to scale back its involvement in the Austrian club it owns, Red Bull Salzburg as a compromise to permit its German club RB Leipzig to compete in the Champions League as well. Both clubs have played in the same competition for the last four years.

Qatar's potential involvement with two of the biggest clubs in European football would be much more high profile than the Red Bull multi-club project, although it would not be insurmountable. Saudi Arabia's Public Investment

Fund (PIF), that nation's sovereign wealth fund, proved it was legally distinct from the leadership of the kingdom to the Premier League's satisfaction in 2021. That was required to demonstrate who would have ultimate control over Newcastle United.

The political landscape in European football remains febrile. Uefa president Aleksandar Ceferin still faces an existential threat to his organisation from the three European Super League rebels Real Madrid, Barcelona and Juventus, with a renewed push last week from the ESL's sister company A22 Sports Management.

Dortmund face Chelsea with faith in 'final puzzle piece' Haller

BERLIN

BORUSSIA Dortmund host Chelsea in the first leg of their Champions League tie today hoping to have recaptured the elusive stability that has hampered their title chances in recent years.

Dortmund, who limped into the winter break with two straight losses to fall nine points behind leaders Bayern Munich, come into the clash with six wins on the trot, having cut Bayern's lead to just three.

Crucial to this resurgence has been the return of several of the club's key players from injury, not least star summer signing Sebastian Haller, who missed the first half of the season battling testicular cancer.

"He's a piece of the puzzle that we've unfortunately been missing for a long time," said sporting director Sebastian Kehl on Monday.

"A fit Sebastian Haller not only enriches our team with his profile, but also with his personality."

"We have waited longingly for him, he has been working towards this for a long time... we're happy that he's back, and so is he."

Haller, 28, was signed to channel the club's array of young, attacking talent - each of Youssoufa Moukoko, Karim Adeyemi, Jamie Bynoe-Gittens, Gio Reyna and Jude Bellingham are 21 or under -- into goals.

While the Ivory Coast striker, who underwent two operations and four bouts of chemotherapy, admits he is not back to full fitness just yet, Haller has already demon-



Sebastian Haller

strated his maturity and vision up front.

There was no better example of this than in his Dortmund starting debut at Leverkusen in late January, where he expertly let a cross run through his legs to an unmarked Karim Adeyemi to score his first league goal for Dortmund.

- Europe 'is his stage' - Dortmund know all too well the damage Haller can do on European nights.

The former Ajax striker scored two and assisted two more against Dortmund in the clubs' group stage fixtures in last season's Champions League, on his way to chalking up 11 goals in eight appearances.

"The Champions League is his stage" Kehl said on Monday, recalling "the games against Ajax where he hurt us a lot."

"I hope that he can put in a really good performance again on Wednesday and, above all, I hope he stays healthy in the long run."

Manager Edin Terzic on Saturday sought to emphasise the quality of the squad at his disposal, including those who may be straddling the bench.

"There are guys who start the game for us, guys who finish the game for us and guys who decide the game for us," Terzic said.

Their opponents on Wednesday can also boast a squad of incredible

quality, although Chelsea's recent run has been anything but stable.

The off-season spending spree at Stamford Bridge, which Kehl called "wild", sent shockwaves across the continent, even among Europe's biggest spenders.

As yet, splashing the cash has failed to yield an on-field turnaround, with the club having won just one of their last eight matches in all competitions.

- Hopefully 'seven in seven' - The sides' contrasting fortunes has meant Dortmund have surprisingly been given favourite status by some pundits and bookmakers.

Dortmund midfielder Julian Brandt spoke of the "euphoria" running through the team after the sixth straight win, while Kehl said the side had shown "we are a force to be reckoned with."

As has happened more and more often on the pitch recently, Dortmund's 19-year-old midfielder Bellingham on Saturday urged calm among his teammates, quickly turned their focus to Wednesday's match.

"There's no point looking at the run to be fair, as soon as you finish one game and get the right result, you need to move on and focus on the next one," he said.

"Six in six (in 2023) in all competitions. Getting ready for Chelsea now and hopefully we will be going for seven in seven."

"As soon as you've got a run going, you don't want to be looking in the past."

AFP

Benfica looking within to fill Enzo Fernandez void

LISBON

BENFICA sold Enzo Fernandez for a British record transfer fee in January but are looking within their ranks to fill the gap in their midfield as the Champions League returns.

The Portuguese side have always shown an impressive capacity for recovery after losing star players and are already finding their feet without the Argentine World Cup winner.

Benfica, five points clear of Porto at the top of the Portuguese league, visit surprise package Club Brugge in the last 16 of Europe's premier club competition on Wednesday with high hopes despite Fernandez's departure.

Handed a tough group featuring Paris Saint-Germain and Juventus, Benfica went unbeaten and finished top to reach the knock-out rounds, with the Italian giants - the two-time winners of the competition - eliminated.

Fernandez played a key role in that progress but departed for Stamford Bridge in exchange for a stratospheric fee of 121 million euros (\$129 million) on the last day of the January transfer window, just six months after making his debut for Benfica.

The Lisbon-based side made a huge profit on the 10-million-euro fee they paid Argentinian club River Plate in the summer of 2022, in yet another demonstration of the club's knack for finding bargains and developing players.

Joao Felix and Darwin Nunez are two other high-profile big money sales Benfica have made in the past few seasons, the latter replacing the former after his departure to Atletico Madrid.

When Liverpool signed Nunez last summer, Goncalo Ramos stepped up a level to help replace the Uruguayan striker's goals, and is enjoying the best season of his career.

Benfica's plan to replace Fernandez has to be promoted from within.

Midfielder Chiquinho, 27, largely used as a squad player in the first half of the season, has started each of the three games since Fernandez's departure.

Although accustomed to playing further forward, he has adapted well to playing in Fernandez's deep-lying position alongside Florentino Luis.

"I think he has already confirmed that he is capable of playing great games," said Benfica's German coach Roger Schmidt.

"He showed all his qualities, with

the ball, his versatility, his physical capacity. I think he has done a very good job."

"He is always a very positive player, even when he wasn't playing he trained at a top level."

"He's adapting very well to his new position, I think he's a good example of what you can achieve with a good attitude."

- 'Who is Enzo?' -

Chiquinho's commitment has quickly won over Benfica fans, while reports that the Portuguese midfielder rejected a lucrative approach from a Saudi Arabian side in January only endeared him further.

"Who is Enzo? I don't know - Chiquinho!" Benfica fans have started singing.

With Chiquinho fitting in well into Fernandez's position, Schmidt will not divert from his system, which uses two deeper midfielders and three players in front of them, behind Ramos up top.

"We are going to play with the same formation, two players in the centre of the midfield, and we have five options," said the coach.

"After that, it will depend on the opponent and how it plays, we can find the best solution for each game."

The former PSV Eindhoven and Bayer Leverkusen coach said he agreed with the club's decision not to splash out on a replacement.

"Enzo's exit was unexpected, but the decision was to leave it at that - it's difficult to make a quick transfer, and if you do, it has to be a player of unequivocal quality," Schmidt said.

"The players we have for that position are top quality. I'm also keeping an eye on the youth players."

"This was our decision and I believe it was the right one. We want to be champions with the players we have."

Benfica's other midfielders are also

pulling together to help replace Fernandez's contributions.

Along with Chiquinho, Norwegian midfielder Fredrik Aursnes, Luis and Joao Mario demonstrated their quality in two consecutive 3-0 league wins over Arouca and Casa Pia, with Mario netting twice in each game.

Benfica would have preferred to keep Fernandez but won't let his departure to the Premier League disrupt their bid to win Europe's premier competition for a third time, 61 years since their last in 1962.

Meanwhile, a surprise hire by Club Brugge in December, former England midfielder Scott Parker is preparing to coach in the Champions League for the first time as the Belgian side take on Benfica in the last 16.

Parker, 42, had been out of work since being sacked by Bournemouth in August following a 9-0 defeat to Liverpool and his criticism of the Premier League club's approach in the transfer market.

"Stepping in as head coach halfway through the season means you want to see what you want to change quickly," Parker said at his unveiling.

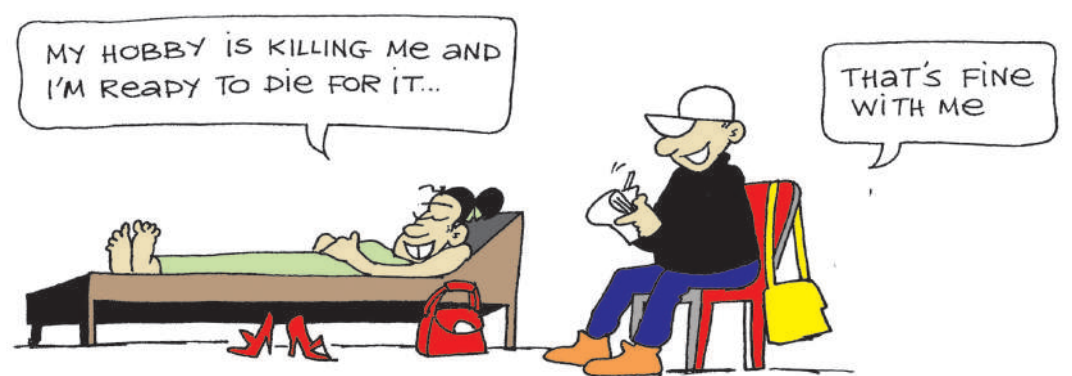
"There is no doubt we can be successful with this team. It's now up to me to stimulate this and keep going."

Despite qualifying from the Champions League group stage for the first time, the Belgian champions have struggled domestically this season and sit a distant fourth - 20 points behind leaders Genk.

Brugge have won just once in seven games under Parker, who spent the entirety of his playing career in England before retiring in 2017 and promptly turning to coaching.

After a season with Tottenham's under-18s, he rejoined Fulham to serve as an assistant to former boss Slavisa Jokanovic and then Claudio Ranieri after the Serb was dismissed.

Gwiji by David Chikoko



SPORT

Dortmund face Chelsea with faith in 'final puzzle piece' Haller

COMPREHENSIVE REPORT, PAGE 19

Pluijm delivers honest assessment ahead of Premier League second round

By Correspondent Nassir Nchimbi

SINGIDA Big Stars FC head coach Hans van Pluijm has admitted that his outfit is out of the race for the 2022/23 NBC Premier League's top honour but the quest for finishing in the top four is in the team's hands, should it make the most of the remaining home and away matches.

The Singida-based is a debutant in Mainland Tanzania's top-tier football tournament with an ambition to take part in CAF Confederation Cup next season.

Pluijm said the second round is always difficult due to each team needing good results, so his club needs to notch good results in all games to finish in one of the top four positions.

"We need good results in the second round and this (finishing in the top four) is achievable at this time, that's why I say the fate of finishing in the top four is in our hands since we are far away from winning the league and that is the reality check for us," Pluijm said.

Pluijm revealed that every game in the league is now treated like a final and the goal is to get good results.

"We have different ambitions in the league and that makes it difficult heading into these last games, we will face teams that want to survive relegation," the gaffer revealed. "Some are chasing the league title and these kinds of battles sum up how strong we have to be in the remaining games to fulfill our ambitions."

"I have already spoken to the players and told them that we need to play at a high level for the remaining matches and use every chance we get in the upcoming games and the chance is in our hands," Pluijm disclosed. The outfit has garnered promotion to the Premier League this season after performing well in the previous season's Championship League, whilst being known as DTB FC in the tier.

The squad is made up of strong players both local and foreign including its top scorer, Brazilian midfielder Bruno Gomes with nine goals, and former Simba SC star Meddie Kagere who has scored five goals in the league this season. Singida Big Stars FC is flying high, as the club has amassed 44 points and is sitting third in the 2022/23 NBC Premier League standings.

The squad has come out victorious in 13 duels, losing five games and drawing five in the process whilst having played one more match ahead of fourth-placed Azam FC with 43 points. They had a good run of form in their last five games until the 3-1 loss to Simba SC and 1-1 draw with Ifehu SC slowed their pace.



APOLOGY: In The Guardian's Tuesday edition back page, we erroneously published a photo of Irene Mutiganzi, mentioning her as the Kilimanjaro Premium Lager Brand Manager. We want to clarify that Pamela Kikuli, shown in the photo, is Kilimanjaro Premium Lager's Brand Manager. We apologize for any inconvenience caused by the error.

TO NIGHT @ 9:00

EATV WEDNESDAY

11:00 DADAZ
12:00 KIPENGA XTRA
13:00 MJADALA (r)
13:30 Movie
13:55 Dondoo Za Michezo
14:00 Movie
15:00 Funguka
15:30 Mpera Mpera
15:55 Dondoo Za Michezo
16:00 Hot Spot
16:30 Zote Kuntu
17:00 SSELEKT
17:55 Kurasa
18:00 Kali Za Wana
18:30 #HASHTAG
19:00 EATV SAA 1
20:00 DADAZ (f)
21:00 UJENZI
21:30 Mid Week Movie
23:00 KURASA
23:05 Club Bangers

UJENZI provides information and ideas on residential construction, interior decor and residential appliance markets values. The show aims to enhance residential construction. It provides free expert advice, news and commentary.

eastafrika RADIO

06:00 Supa Breakfast
10:00 MAMAMIA
12:00 Kipenga Xtra
13:00 Planet Bongo
14:00 EA Drive
20:00 Kipenga
21:00 The Cruise

88.1FM
DAR ES SALAAM



Kiunsi Sports Network's Chairman, Noel Kiunsi (L), presents various sports items to Kisoriri Secondary School's netball players in Singida recently. PHOTO: COURTESY OF NOEL KIUNSI

Kiunsi donates sports items to Singida school

By Correspondent Joseph Mchekadona

A prominent sportsman in Tanzania, Noel Kiunsi, last weekend donated various sports items to Kisoriri Secondary School located in Iramba District, Singida.

Kiunsi, an alumnus of the Hungarian University of Sports Science (TF), said yesterday he has donated the items to promote sports in Singida and the country in general.

He said this is not the first time that he has donated sports items to the region through his institution, Kiunsi Sports Network.

"In the past years, I have been donating volleyball and netball jerseys to various schools in Singida, I aim to see that sports are developed in our region," the sportsman stated.

"I promise to continue with the donation, I'm asking stakeholders to support by donating sports equipment to various regions of our country," he said.

Kiunsi recently pioneered the introduction of water polo sport in the country. He was studying International Coaching Course in Budapest, Hungary.

He said water polo is one of the aquatic sports, other aquatic sports are swimming diving, high diving, open water swimming, and artistic swimming.

Kiunsi promised to share his knowledge with Tanzania's swimmers, coaches, Physical Education (PE) teachers, and other stakeholders.

Water polo is a competitive team sport played in the water between two teams of seven players each, it consists of four quarters in which two teams attempt to score goals by throwing the ball into the opposing team's goal.

As is the case with many sporting events, the team with the most goals at the end of the game wins the match.

Water polo is regarded as one of the world's hardest sports to master as it requires a rare mixture of stamina, strength, aerobic fitness, and the desire to win.

The course is not new to Kiunsi's exploits in swimming internationally, given he was recently the only Tanzanian to officiate the eighth edition of the FINA World Junior Swimming Championships held in Peru.

Kiunsi, who studied international coaching in swimming at Semmelweis University, is the only Tanzanian in the latest FINA officials with the capacity to officiate in any level of swimming championships including the Olympics.

Wheelchair tennis players finish third in World Team Cup African Qualifiers



Female wheelchair tennis players put their skills to show at a training session that took place at Dar es Salaam Gymkhana Club (DGC)'s courts recently. PHOTO: CORRESPONDENT JUMANNE JUMA

By Correspondent Joseph Mchekadona

TANZANIA's national wheelchair tennis team finished third in the 2023 BNP Paribas World Team Cup African Qualification Tournament which took place at the Tennis Centre, Moshod Abiola National Stadium in Abuja, Nigeria.

National wheelchair tennis squad's head coach Riziki Suleiman said the team won 6-4, 6-2 and 6-2, 6-4 against Ghana's team on Sunday.

The BNP Paribas World Team Cup African Qualification Tournament was used as qualification for the BNP Paribas World Team Cup which will be held in Portugal in May this year.

Suleiman could not say if Tanzania has qualified for the BNP Paribas World Team Cup.

"We have finished third, we are very happy with the achievement made and we are just keeping our fingers crossed so that we

will see if we have qualified for the BNP Paribas World Team Cup," he said.

Tanzania was placed in Group A of the BNP Paribas World Team Cup African Qualification Tournament.

Last Thursday, the squad's performer Lucy Shirima lost 6-2, 6-1 to Morocco's Samira Benichi while the former's compatriot, Rehema Suleiman lost 6-1, 6-2 to Najwa Awane of Morocco.

Group A had only two teams, Tanzania and Morocco, while Group B included Nigeria, Egypt, and Ghana.

Suleiman had earlier noted he is confident that his players will do well in the coming encounters.

Before the Thursday ties, Lucy took part in the Vemp ITF Wheelchair Tennis Tour which took place at MKO Tennis Center in Abuja.

Tanzania wheelchair tennis team has battled it out in many editions of the BNP Paribas World Team Cup and performed well.

The BNP Paribas World Team Cup African Qualification Tournament was used as a qualification event for BNP Paribas World Team Cup set to take place

in Vilamoura, Portugal.

Eight countries, Egypt, Morocco, Kenya, Tanzania, Rwanda, Ghana, Cameroon, and Nigeria, participated in the qualifiers.

The BNP Paribas World Team Cup will be held in May and 28 teams have earned a direct entry for the showdown.

The BNP Paribas World Team Cup is often referred to as the wheelchair tennis version of the Davis Cup and Billie Jean King Cup.

The initial event took place in California in 1985 involving six men's teams.

The women's competition began the following year, with quad and junior events introduced in 1998 and 2000 respectively.

Over 100 teams from around 50 countries take part in the competition each year, with regional qualifying tournaments held for the men's, women's, and quad events.

BNP Paribas has been the event's title sponsor since 2012, while UNIQLO, the title sponsor of the UNIQLO Wheelchair Tennis Tour, is an official partner of the BNP Paribas World Team Cup.

Flexibles by David Chikoko



“
I am very focused here, I don't know anything about the plan to go to another club