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# Speaker says MoU on Dar port is yet to be endorsed

By Getrude Mbagu, Dodoma

A PRIOR resolution of the National Assembly on the Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) between the government and the United Arab Emirates for strategic port development and improvement of operations in Tanzania is yet to be endorsed, House Speaker Dr Tulia Ackson told the House here yesterday.

She said that the resolution will be tabled in the debating chamber tomorrow for legislators to express themselves on the matter, refuting earlier reports that MPs had already adopted it.

The Speaker said that the parliamentary resolution is currently at committee level, at which views on the MoU will be collected from stakeholders.

Thus, on June 10 the House will receive and debate the resolution on the MoU," she specified, negating prior impressions to the contrary.

The Speaker said the House fully supports the government's development initiatives, adding that parliamentary committees are all the time ready to receive and debate views brought by citizens, with a view to improving

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Vice President Dr Philip Mpango pictured in Dar es Salaam yesterday viewing the statue of a coelacanth, a rare nocturnal fish species, at the World Oceans Day Exhibition's Tanzania Marine Parks and Reserves pavilion. The United Nations marks World Oceans Day each June 8 through an annual event coordinated by its Division for Ocean Affairs and the Law of the Sea. The inclusive event provides an opportunity to celebrate the importance of the ocean and to better understand how to interact with it in a sustainable manner. Photo: VPO

# Tanzania, Burundi consult on lake resources accords

By Guardian Reporter

TANZANIA and Burundi have discussed progress in a December 2021 agreement for cooperating in protecting Lake Tanganyika resources.

Selemani Jafo, the Union and Environment state minister in the Vice President's Office, said in a VPO statement yesterday that the pact is a step aimed at harmonizing social and economic benefits to the two countries.

The minister held discussions in Dodoma city with Prof Sanctus Niragira, the Burundian minister for Environment, Agriculture and Livestock.

A statement released yesterday by the

**“ We have discussed and shared experiences on how to preserve the environment of our lake**

Vice President's Office said Dr Jafo has assured Prof Niragira that the government will ensure that it fully administers the agreement on the sustainable management of Lake Tanganyika.

The riparian states agreement is meant to ensure that the resources contained in the lake generate productivity and benefits to lakeside residents in the two countries.

The visiting cabinet minister wanted to see the best way to manage Lake Tanganyika, he said, noting that the meeting brought together experts from both sides. "We have discussed and shared experiences on how to preserve the environment of our lake," he

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# Women chamber lauds ATCL on arrival of new cargo plane

By Guardian Reporter

THE Tanzania Women Chamber of Commerce (TWCC) has commended the government's acquisition of the Boeing 767-300F ATCL cargo plane.

Mercy Sila (pictured), the TWCC board chairperson, said in an interview yesterday that the plane facility will play a crucial role in driving economic growth and uplifting women's enterprises.

The plane, with a capacity for 54 tonnes, will push the country's integration into

regional trade networks, establishing essential connectivity at national, regional and international level, she said.

The facility, so far slated to cover eight destinations, will enhance national competitiveness with its strategic routes to China, India, South Africa, Nigeria, Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC), Kenya, Zimbabwe and Dubai, she stated.

The cargo carrier will further bolster Tanzania's participation in regional and global trade, so it is expected to particularly benefit women entrepreneurs involved in producing export goods, the director noted, pointing at women-led firms exporting agricultural, horticultural and fishery products.

The facility will also expedite exports of perishable items like fish and meat, cutting post-harvest losses due to lacking reliable and affordable freight services, she stated.

New horticultural exports like vanilla and avocados will be boosted, as more predictable transportation diminishes post-

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# Registrar receives 6.1bn/- Puma Energy dividends



By Felister Peter

TREASURY Registrar Nehemiah Mchechu (pictured) has praised the government's collaboration with private sector partners for mutual benefit, when

receiving a 6.1bn/- dummy cheque as 50 per cent of Puma Energy (T) 12.2bn/- total dividends.

At a shareholders' meeting in Dar es Salaam, the registrar said the partnerships make a positive contribution in supporting

economic growth. At the meeting, the firm announced a 12.2bn/- dividend to its shareholders for 2022.

"The government is supportive of collaboration with the private sector," he stated, noting that partnerships like the one with Puma Energy bring mutual benefits to both partners.

Urging the company's board of directors and the management to innovate and embrace creativity in providing services, he emphasized the need to expand Puma Energy's presence beyond the city.

Opportunities are rapidly opening up in the developing cities and municipal centres across the country at present, he stated, praising the company for its efforts in cleaner energy alternatives.

He cited the firm's recent initiatives in introducing future-oriented fuels such as liquefied petroleum gas, solar power and compressed natural gas.

Puma reported a net profit of 24.4bn/- (\$10.3m) for the year ended December 2022 with shareholder dividends set at 12.2bn/- (\$5.15m), pegged at 50 percent of net profits.

Fatma Abdallah, the firm's managing director, said that in relation to non-state shareholders, distribution will be based on the firm's dividend policy, where

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## Speaker says MoU on Dar port is yet to be endorsed

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or expediting the implementation of government plans.

Legislative debate and endorsement will set the stage for the commencement of a new era at the Dar es Salaam Port in directly operating under DP World, a Dubai port management group fully owned by United Arab Emirates (UAE) authorities.

The resolution, whose draft contents has been the subject of pervasive speculation and discussion in political circles and media outlets, is being eagle eyed as the public wishes to be satisfied that Tanzania fittingly benefits through DP World port services supervision.

The MoU was reached eight months ago, during President Suluhu Samia Hassan's visit to Gulf Zone countries, where a major business exhibition was held at the turn of the year.

On October 25, 2022 Tanzanian and UAE authorities signed an agreement providing for institutions of cooperation, with the provision of managing, developing and supervising ports services.

The proposed resolution looks at aspects like government prerogatives, role of indigenous firms, employment, taxes and levies in how they are figured in the memorandum, parliamentary sources noted.

The MoU incorporates conflict resolution, laws applicable in governing the agreement, duration of the contract and condition of suspension, including specification of its implementation on the basis of the country's laws. An exchange of MoU endorsement documents is envisaged, they said.

The UAE MoU is part of efforts by the sixth phase government to improve operations at the country's ports, as a vital area in national income potential.

Improvements to minor ports facilitate using Tanzania's geographical opportunities in being surrounded by lakes to get markets and serve landlocked countries.

Leading political actors chipped into the debate yesterday, with Zitto Kabwe, leader of opposition ACT-Wazalendo, urging Works and Transport minister Prof Makame Mbarawa to come out

with details about provisions of the memorandum.

Mvumi MP Livingstone Lusinde meanwhile praised the government's policies as relate to planning to make the landmark investment at the Dar es Salaam Port, saying it will help traders and remove complaints the government has been receiving for a long time.

He said that people should not criticize the government for entrusting a private company to run the port as it will engender productivity in port operations compared to the present situation.

"For a long time we've been receiving complaints from traders about ships being late to unload cargo, but this investment will help to increase the number of cargoes and lower the price of cargo containers," he asserted, referring to the worldwide track record of the Dubai firm in managing large ports, even in Europe.

Opposition Chadema national chairman Freeman Mbowe said his party wants the legislature to refuse to pass this resolution, demanding that the government go back to the people to get their consent.

He queried the confidentiality of the contract, asking that people be allowed to discuss it in depth, affirming that "we have had the opportunity to discuss it because it has been leaked online."



**For a long time we've been receiving complaints from traders about ships being late to unload cargo, but this investment will help to increase the number of cargoes and lower the price of cargo containers**



Prime Minister Kassim Majaliwa and Attorney General Dr Eliezer Feleshi (L) consult yesterday in the course of one of the National Assembly sessions in Dodoma city. Photo: Correspondent Ibrahim Joseph

## House endorses bill for establishment of planning commission

By Getrude Mbago, Dodoma

THE National Assembly yesterday endorsed the Planning Commission (Amendment) Bill, 2023 to make the commission a top body under the President's office with powers to manage issues on development plans and the economy.

The commission is currently under the Finance and Planning Ministry.

Tabling the bill's recommendations in the House, Minister of State in the President's Office for Public Service Management and Good Governance, George Simbachawene said the proposed amendments will enable the body to design, plan, coordinate and manage development plans in order to have an integrated monitoring and evaluation system for the implementation of national development priorities and have a procedure for planning together sectoral plans, in particular,

sectors with interdependent responsibilities.

It will also have a legal system and a specific instrument to manage the preparation, implementation of development plans, research and advice the government on national development priorities contrary to the current situation where the responsibilities are implemented by the Finance and Planning Ministry.

As per the amendment, the planning commission will be led by the President as Chairman and six other members to be appointed by the President, including the Minister responsible for development plans and the Minister responsible for financial affairs.

In addition, the Act has been amended for the commission to have the position of executive secretary and deputy executive secretaries who will be appointed by the President.

Section 4, has been amended

that the main sources of funds for the operation of the commission should come from the funds approved by the National Assembly through the annual budget and grant funds. Also, as in other public institutions that depend on the government's budget, the accounts of the commission will be audited by the Controller and Auditor General (CAG).

Meanwhile, the House also endorsed the Laws Revision (Miscellaneous Amendments) Bill, 2023 that proposes to amend eight laws namely the Corporations Sole (Establishment) Act, Cap. 119, the Excise (Management and Tariff) Act, Cap. 147, the Income Tax Act, Cap. 332, the Interpretation of Laws Act, Cap. 1, the Laws Revision Act, Chapter 4, the Social Security Act, Cap. 135, the Tanzania Revenue Authority Act, Cap. 399

The Excise (Management and Tariff) Act, Cap. 147 amended generally and in section 2 in

order to remove the use of the word "Excise" and instead use the word "Authority". The aim of this amendment is to update the Act by accommodate the applicable position where currently matters of excise duty are carried out and managed by the Tanzania Revenue Authority.

In addition, section 107 of the Act is repealed in order to remove the provisions relating to appointment of officers of the Tanzania Revenue Authority to conduct proceedings related to excise duty under this Act and instead those matters to be governed by the National Prosecutions Service Act, Chapter 430. The aim of this amendment is to harmonise the provisions of this Act with the provisions of the National Prosecutions Service Act, regarding the appointment of prosecutors as currently the officers of the Authority are appointed to conduct tax proceedings in accordance with the said Act.

## Registrar receives 6.1bn/- Puma Energy dividends

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7.3bn/- (30 percent of net profits) will be allocated for investments and 4.88bn/- or 20 percent of the net profit retained as company earnings.

Fadi Mitri, head of Africa at Puma Energy Plc, said the substantial dividend demonstrates the positive contribution of the partnership in supporting economic growth.

The company has maintained a secure and reliable supply of fuels during challenging global market conditions, she said, explaining that improved performance allows the firm to expand its local investments and venture in supporting the community.

The firm is actively collaborating with the government to tackle various business challenges, she said, citing the US dollar deficit as a case in point.

The deficit has resulted in increased financing costs that are yet to be reflected in the fuel price structure set out by the Energy and Water Utilities Regulatory Authority (EWURA), with this exposure eroding the company's margins similarly set by the regulator.

Puma's performance will further improve once the challenges are effectively addressed, she said, noting that the company's performance in the past year underpinned its investment in petroleum retail, aviation fuel and lubricants business.

Puma Energy, earlier BP (T) until 2011, is a market leader with 15.2 percent of total sales by volume, operating 73 retail service stations countrywide. Over 90 percent of Puma Energy employees in Tanzania are recruited locally, she added.



Water minister Jumaa Aweso (3rd-L) pictured at the National Muslims Council of Tanzania (Bakwata), headquarters in Dar es Salaam yesterday assisting Faizhwa Yunus in moving a bucket of water onto the head. It was shortly after launching a shallow well drilling project sponsored by the Mufti Development Fund. Looking on are Mufti Abubakar Zuberi bin Ally (L) and Dar es Salaam City mayor Omary Kumbilamoto (2nd-L). Photo: Correspondent Miraji Msala

## Women chamber lauds ATCL on arrival of new cargo plane

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harvest losses which some experts estimate at upwards of 40 percent in most regions and products, she said.

This will guarantee a reliable supply chain for delicate agro-sector products, where exportation and importation of delicate and security-intensive products will be better facilitated, she said.

The latter include minerals and pharmaceuticals, now assured of reliable and secure transportation that is essential for trade and

economic growth, she said.

Women engaged in trade and commerce will have access to timely importation of highly sought-after products like electronics and machinery, she said, underlining the vital need for freight accessibility, reliability and affordability.

The services are crucial factors in unlocking opportunities for women-owned enterprises and the youth, so the plane will truly empower women entrepreneurs and facilitate their active participation in international trade, she added.

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stated.

He similarly praised President Samia Suluhu Hassan for strengthening bilateral diplomacy, enveloping the sustainable management of resources including river basins, the seashore and lakes where Lake Tanganyika is a vital component.

The liaisons further strengthen

solidarity between Tanzania and Burundi, he said, while the visiting minister noted that productivity was being enhanced in managing the lake water resources.

The Sustainable Management Agreement for Lake Tanganyika was signed on December 16, 2021 in Kigoma, promoting sustainable development plans for resource use on the lake.

This includes the improvement

of basic infrastructure, financing of local development initiatives and collaborative management in different projects, he said.

The visiting minister, who chairs the bilateral committee supervising implementing provisions of the agreement, said that Burundi was working on the various aspects of the agreement.

The meeting was attended by the VPO permanent secretary Mary

Maganga, deputy PS for Union Affairs Abdallah Hassan Mitawi, Lake Tanganyika Basin executive director Tusanga Mukanga Sylvain and other senior officials.

Matters arising in the implementation of regional programmes aimed at protecting water resources in Lake Tanganyika were extensively discussed, officials noted.





George Simbachawene, Minister of State in the President's Office (Public Service Management and Good Governance), tables a bill on the Planning Commission in the National Assembly in Dodoma city yesterday. Photo: Correspondent Ibrahim Joseph

## Precision Air, Stanbic Bank Tz partner to reward customers

By Correspondent James Kandoya

PRECISION Air Services Plc has partnered with Stanbic bank to reward their customers through a special discount campaign that will run for one year.

Speaking at a press conference yesterday in Dar es Salaam, Precision Air's Group Managing Director and CEO Patrick Mwanri said through the partnership, the airline's customers who are Stanbic customers will receive a 5 percent discount when purchasing their tickets using the bank Visa Debit card.

He said the partnership is in line with the company's commitment to customer's centrality, and that Stanbic bank happens to be the most convenient and reliable partner to deliver that commitment.

"We are happy to announce this partnership with Stanbic Bank. For years, our customers have been conveniently paying for their tickets through various

payment channels, including debit cards," he said.

"Precision Air always strives to offer our customers convenience in accessing our services, and one crucial point on the customers' journey is ticket payment, and Stanbic bank has been a helpful and dependable partner in that area," he said.

He said the success achieved by the Precision Air has been contributed by the conducive environment made by the government.

"I would like to commend the government for ensuring the aviation sector operates in a conducive environment and therefore, contribute more to the Gross National Product (GDP).

Head of Personal and Private Banking at Stanbic Bank, Omari Mtiga said: "we are pleased to partner with one of the largest airlines in the region, in line with our brand promise."

"We are constantly trying to find new ways to serve our customers better. We

believe this partnership will not only create convenience for our customers but will also enable them save costs."

He said to access the discount, Stanbic Bank customers will be given a special promo code that will be issued to them by Precision Air to use at the booking stage.

He said under the partnership, the bank customers travelling with the airline will have access to the airport lounge and hotel discount amounting to 10 percent.

"We shall do business together with Precision Air Plc across the world to reward our customers," he said.

According to him, Precision Air was the right choice since has more than 700 agencies in 15 regions across the country adding that it will reduce.

Both Precision Air and Stanbic Bank have long accumulated experience in the industry serving Tanzanians in different sectors including aviation.

Currently, Precision Air operating scheduled flights from its main hub in Dar es salaam to Arusha, Bukoba, Dodoma, Kahama, Kilimanjaro, Mbeya, Mtwara, Tabora, Mwanza, Seronera (Serengeti), Zanzibar, Nairobi and Anjouan in Comoro.

# National Assembly approves TISS Bill

By Getrude Mbago, Dodoma

THE National Assembly yesterday endorsed the Tanzania Intelligence and Security Service (Amendment) Bill, 2023 to alter the provisions of the Act so as to among others, grant the department a defense and security status and placing it under the general superintendence of the President.

The Act has been amended generally by removing all the provisions concerning the administration of the Minister responsible for intelligence and security and instead, placing that mandate under the President.

Earlier when tabling the recommendations of the bill in the House, Minister of State in the President's Office for Public Service Management and Good Governance, George Simbachawene said the proposed amendments intend to keep the Act up-to-date and address various challenges so far observed in the implementation of the Act and thus align them with the current administrative and global security practices.

"The purpose of the amendment is to make the Act conform with the current structure of governance whereby the Security and Intelligence Service is under the direct superintendence of the President and not through the Minister responsible for intelligence and security. The proposed changes take into account the nature of operations of security services across the globe," he said.

Section 5 of the Act has been amended by adding vital security related functions which TISS currently implements. The functions include provision of personal protection of national leaders and foreign dignitaries, protection of vital installations, the carrying out of security vetting investigation or security clearance of leaders and control of security threats or potential security threats to the security of the United Republic.

Section 5A has been added in order to include the responsibility of the Minister in the Act. The aim of the amendment is to facilitate policy affairs of the Service undertaken through the Minister.

For effective administration to the Service, sections 6A and 6B have been added with a view to introduce the posts of Deputies Director General for Mainland Tanzania and

Zanzibar and Directors within the Service, all of whom are Presidential appointees.

Section 7 amended by introducing qualifications for employment of other staff to the Service. Furthermore, the section makes requirements for possession of firearms by officers in the service with the aim of recognising the use of firearms and controlling the discipline for possession and use of firearms by those officers.

Section 10 of the Act amended by designating the Director General as principal advisor to the President and the Government on national security on security intelligence and counterintelligence. The aim of the amendment is to complement the mandate of the Service as the resource center for control of security intelligence in Tanzania. Whereas the Director General is the Chief Executive Officer of the Service, the section is further proposed to be amended by designating the Director General as the disciplinary authority of officers under him.

Section 16 amended in order to restrict publication of the identity of persons serving as or under the Service and empower the Director General to control their publication. The objective of the amendment is to afford protection of identity of those persons due to the nature of engagement in security operations.

Section 19 amended by widening the scope of immunity to be afforded to officers in the Service beyond the immunity currently afforded under the Act which is only confined to immunity against civil action. The aim of amendment is to provide protection resulting from bona fide acts by those officers in the course of implementing functions under the Act.

New sections of 24, 25 and 26 have been added to provide for various security controls provisions including, non-disclosure of information by officers no longer in Service, restricted access and commission of offences outside the United Republic.

The Schedule to the Act is amended by adding oath of allegiance to the schedule as well as amendment to the existing oath of service and secrecy in order to strengthen protection of information and effective implementation of functions of the Service.



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### ADVERTISEMENT

#### BULYANHULU GOLD MINE LIMITED

Requests the submission of Expressions of Interest from qualifying parties wanting to participate in the below goods/service package at Bulyanhulu Gold Mine

Bulyanhulu Gold Mine Limited (BGML) is a fully owned subsidiary of Twiga Minerals Corporation. Bulyanhulu Gold Mine Site is located 45km south of Lake Victoria, in the Kahama District of Shinyanga Region, northern Tanzania. There are road accesses to the mine from Mwanza, 127km to the northeast, and from the town of Kahama, 84km to the south.

BGML, therefore, invites "Expressions of Interest" from reputable, experienced, and certified companies interested in pre-qualifying for inclusion in a tender process for the provision of the below goods/service packages.

No.	Reference no.	Description of services to be procured	Pre-Qualification Criteria
1	BUL-23-05-03	ANNUAL FALCON EQUIPMENT CONDITION INSPECTION	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Detailed proven experience on gravity concentrators (Falcon) inspection, sales and services not less than 10 years.</li> <li>Submit high level schedule.</li> <li>Competence in Metallurgical processes and fully conversant with the risks and control measures of working in Mining Industry.</li> <li>Team with multi-discipline trained specialists with expertise in conducting annual Falcon equipment and circuit inspection.</li> <li>Submit resume of qualified metallurgist specialized in Falcon concentrator and intensive leach reactors.</li> <li>Company health, Safety and Environmental Policy.</li> </ul>

The above Services/goods are intended to be awarded through a competitive tendering process in which a restricted number of suitable pre-qualified and experienced contractors shall be invited to receive the tender documents. Please submit an "Expression of Interest" on your company's letterhead if your company qualifies as per the pre-qualification criteria together with the following additional information and/or documentation:

- Full company profile;
- Company registration documents i.e., Certificate of incorporation, Tax Clearance Certificate, etc.
- Applicable certification, accreditation, and affiliated registration
- Time frame to complete the project. (including site mobilization stage)
- Approved Local Content Plan or acknowledgment of submission from the Mining Commissioner
- BRELA detailed search certificate i.e statement indicating Tanzanian ownership percentage, Tanzanian management and below management employment percentage to determine classification as an Indigenous Tanzanian Company as per the Local Content Regulation, 2018.

Kindly send your response by email to [bulytender@barrick.com](mailto:bulytender@barrick.com) by latest 1800hrs on the 16<sup>th</sup> June 2023. Any responses received after this date shall not be considered.

Please quote the above Reference number and description on your Expression of interest submission.

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

Pre-qualification of any company submitting an "Expression of Interest" shall be at the sole discretion of BGML.

For and on behalf of BULYANHULU GOLD MINE LIMITED



### RE-ADVERTISEMENT

#### INVITATION TO TENDER (ITT)

TENDER TITLE: CONSTRUCTION OF THE BAMBURI OUTFALL FACILITY TO CONNECT TO THE INDIAN OCEAN AT MOMBASA COUNTY, IN KENYA

TENDER NUMBER: PRQ20220611

TradeMark Africa (TMA), formerly TradeMark East Africa), is an Aid-for-Trade organisation established in 2010, with the aim of growing prosperity through increased trade. TMA operates on a not-for-profit basis and is funded by: Belgium, the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation, Canada, Denmark, the European Union, Finland, France, Ireland, the Netherlands, Norway, the United Kingdom, and the United States of America. TMA works closely with regional intergovernmental organisations, including the African Union (AU), the African Continental Free Trade Area (AfCFTA) Secretariat, the East Africa Community (EAC), the Intergovernmental Authority on Development (IGAD), the Common Market for East and Southern Africa (COMESA), the Southern Africa Customs Union (SACU), national Governments, the private sector and civil society organisations. The County Government of Mombasa (CGM) with support from TradeMark Africa (TMA) wishes to invite interested qualified and reputable contractors/bidders to participate in the tender process for the Construction of the Bamburi Outfall Facility to Connect to the Indian Ocean at Mombasa County, In Kenya.

Tender document can be obtained at <http://www.trademarkafrica.com/get-involved/procurement/>.

All queries quoting the above Tender Title and Number should be emailed to [procurement@trademarkafrica.com](mailto:procurement@trademarkafrica.com). The closing date for submission of this tender is 30 June 2023 at 11.00 a.m. (Kenya time)

Interested, qualified, and eligible contractors/ bidders should submit bids per the tender document's bidding instructions.

TMEA cannot answer any query relating to this tender 7 days or less prior to the submission deadline.





## Dr Mpango calls for joint efforts to protect oceans

By Guardian Reporter

THE Vice President, Dr Philip Mpango has said joint efforts from within the country, region and internationally in laying strategies for ways to protect the oceans and its resources through sustainable utilisation of the oceans.

Dr Mpango made the remarks at the event to mark World Oceans Day held in Dar es Salaam yesterday.

He said there ought to be the right ratio between the oceans and economic growth because the oceans' health and robust ocean ecosystems are essential for the blue economy which is part of the agenda to attain sustainable development.

Dr Mpango added that the importance in protecting the ocean and its resources stems from many benefits attained, including the oceans taking up over 70 per cent earth surface area, 50 per cent of clean air and more than 90 per cent of extra heat caused by the effects of climate change as well as taking up more than 30 per cent of carbon dioxide produced through human activities.

He said researches show that by 2030 the oceans will be the main economic pillar in the world whereby nearly 40 million people will be employed directly in industries using ocean resources.

In addition, he said more than 90 per cent of world cargo transport depends on the oceans as well as the oceans being home to various marine life which are the main source of protein for more than 3 billion people worldwide.

The Vice President added that Tanzania is among few countries in the world blessed with the sea with more than 1,424 km of coastline and 64,000 sq kms coastal area.

He said the geographical benefit is rare as it gives Tanzania a pig opportunity to benefit from ocean

resources.

He instructed the Ministry of Natural Resources and that of Livestock and Fisheries and research institutions including TAFIRI and the Institute of Marine sciences (IMS) to make sure in-depth research is done in order to increase ocean science knowledge and challenges that emerged to the community and the ecosystem.

Dr Mpango further said there is a great need to involve and incorporate all of the community in coastal areas in the protection of ocean resources as they are the first beneficiaries and victims of ocean environment.

He called on the country's media and artists to recognise their responsibilities in assisting the community to have some understanding of the oceans and its resources via various means including special radio, TV programmes, newspaper articles and face to face interviews.

For his part the Minister for Livestock and Fisheries, Abdallah Ulega said his ministry gives great importance to the protection of ocean resources. He added that in order to have sustainable fishing, it is necessary to have the ocean for the protection that aim, among other issues, to attain sustainable fishing and increase the fishing sector contribution to the national income.

Earlier, explaining about World Oceans Day, the Chairman of the Oceans Resources and Reserve Areas Protection Board Dr Bonaventure Baya said the international day supports the issue in regard to sustainable development and enhances the rights of the masses in the protection of the oceans and the sustainable protection of their resources.

He said the war against ocean destruction continues worldwide including Tanzania in recognition of the great importance of the sea in the lives of human beings.

## FAO, Z'bar mark World Food Safety Day in style

By Guardian Reporter

THE Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO) and the Zanzibar government joined hands to commemorate World Food Safety Day with the aim to promote hygiene awareness and best practices in food safety and healthy lifestyles.

The event featured an engaging walk route through the heart of the community while fostering multi-stakeholder partnerships and collaboration to enhance coordination and cooperation in addressing food safety challenges.

This follows successful launch of the national nutrition campaign in the United Republic of Tanzania, through the European Union (EU) funded AGRI-CONNECT flagship programme.

Speaking during the event, Mariam Mwinyi, Zanzibar First Lady and Founder and chair of Maisha Bora Foundation, Mariam Mwinyi has First Lady of Zanzibar said: "Malnutrition, coupled with physical inactivity and sedentary behavior, are among the leading risk factors for dietary-related Non-Communicable Diseases (DRNCs), principally cardiovascular diseases, diabetes, cancers, and chronic respiratory diseases. Unhealthy diets and physical inactivity are prevalent in Zanzibar. Food safety is a critical aspect of public health, ensuring that the food we consume is safe, nutritious, and free from contaminants."

She noted: "With the increasing importance of safe food practices, we hope that bringing together community members, local businesses, and stakeholders in this public walk for food safety will raise awareness and promote best practices in food safety and healthy lifestyles. Food safety is everyone's business."

The World Food Day is a global event that serves as a crucial opportunity to raise awareness about the importance of safe and sustainable food systems, ensuring the well-being of people and the planet.

Under the theme "Food Standards Save Lives" and the slogan "Food

Safety, Everyone's Business," the Ministry of Health, through the Zanzibar Food and Drug Agency (ZFDA), organized a 5km public health walk for food safety.

Zanzibar Health Minister, Nassor Mazrui said: "We recognize that chemical agents such as mycotoxins and pesticide residues, biological agents such as vibrio cholera bacteria and entamoeba parasites, and physical agents such as broken glass and stones can all make food unsafe. Food safety is a major determinant of human health. Access to safe food is a basic human right."

He said In Zanzibar, the Ministry for Health, through ZFDA, has the Standards Act mandated to control food safety issues but the the Standards Act does not include the infrastructure (particularly a multisectoral committee) needed for effective coordination of food safety and quality services (other than food standards setting).

To commemorate the day, Tanzania is urged to adopt the FAO and WHO recommendations to improve the coordination of food safety control services in the country.

Manfredo Fanti, Ambassador of the European Union to Tanzania hinted on the note that ensuring safe food from farm to fork is central to the EU's food safety policies and a precondition for food trade, at home and abroad.

"This project responds to a well-rounded approach where citizens are involved in adopting nutritious diets and healthy lifestyles, irrespective of their incomes, as well as broadens national distribution and market systems of safe food. At a time of increasing global food insecurities, every effort to ensure the availability of safe and healthy food is vital," he said.

He added that the partnership recognizes that safe and sustainable food systems are fundamental to achieving food security, eliminating hunger, and promoting public health. The EU 'Farm to Fork' strategy seeks to ensure a high level of safety at all stages of the production and distribution process for all food products marketed, which is in line with the country's objectives.



Geita district commissioner Col Boniphace Maghembe (C) cuts the ribbon earlier this week when presenting delivery beds donated by Geita Gold Mining Limited to Nyankumbu and Kasamwa health centres. Looking on are some executives of the health centres and GGML's senior manager for sustainability, Gilbert Mworria (2nd-L). Photo: Guardian Correspondent

## Varsities trained on ways to produce skilled scholars to meet job demands

By Polycarp Machira, Dodoma

PUBLIC and private universities have undergone several trainings through Higher Education for Economic Transformation (HEET) with focus on job demands, it has been revealed.

The higher learning institutions have also constituted Industrial Advisory Committees (IACs) with members drawn from different employment sectors, aim is to provide advice to learning institutions on having programmes relevant for job market

Through the HEET project, the government also plans to train more than 1,000 lecturers in efforts to curb shortage of the academic staff in the country.

The five-year project through

the World Bank support aimed at promoting higher education as a catalytic force in the new Tanzanian economy.

Responding to a question by Special Seats MP, Nusrati Hanje (CCM), Deputy Minister for Education, Science and Technology, Omary Kipanga informed the National Assembly that through the project, the government will also improve infrastructure in higher learning institutions by building new campuses and universities in the country. He said the project will finance training of more than 1,000 lecturers of whom 625 will undergo further studies while about 400 will undergo short course training.

"We believe that through the program we can reduce the shortage of lecturers in the country," he said.

He explained that the government also has been issuing permits for recruiting new lecturers adding that the higher education institutions also have programs of financing studies of some lecturers and employ some academic staff on contractual basis.

Kipanga said that through the project the government will construct a new public university in Butiama - Mwalimu Nyerere University of Agriculture and Technology with capacity to enrol 5,620 students.

He also said that new campuses will be built through the project such as University of Dar es Salaam campus in Lindi region to accommodate 360 students, Muhimbili University of Health and Allied Sciences-Mloganzaila

campus with capacity of 11,000 students and Sokoine University of Agriculture Mizengo Pinda campus in Katavi with capacity of 2,500 students.

Others are Mbeya University of Science and Technology campus in Rukwa with 3,000 students' capacity.

"The project will also facilitate construction of new campuses in marginal satellite cities including Kagera, Tanga, Kigoma, Shinyanga, Mwanza, Simiyu, Ruvuma, Manyara and Singida," he said.

The deputy minister further

detailed that the project is also expected to improve a total of 19 higher education institutions by constructing 34 hostels which will have capacity of accommodating 9,042 students.

A total of 130 lecture rooms will be built under the project which will accommodate (27,254), laboratories (7,850), 23 conference halls, agriculture infrastructure and 10 incubation centres.



Aaron Ntangolo (R), Airtel's Kagera regional sales manager, pictured in Bukoba municipality yesterday presenting a prize refrigerator to Jasson Katabaro (in red T-shirt) of Bwanjai ward in Missenyi District for emerging one of the winners of the firm's weekly 'Upige Mwingi' promotion. Photo: Guardian Correspondent

## Nyankumbu and Kasamwa health centres in Geita get delivery beds

By Guardian Correspondent, Geita

EXPECTANT mothers admitted to the labour ward of Nyankumbu and Kasamwa health centres in Geita town council will now be using more comfortable beds to deliver, thanks to the support by Geita Gold Mining Limited (GGML).

The mining firm donated four delivery beds to serve the two health centres in Geita town council.

Handing over the beds, Gilbert Mworria, mining firm's senior manager (Sustainability) said the decision to donate delivery beds stemmed from the Geita ladies (female employees at GGML) whom during the Women's Day commemorations in March 2023

communicated the shortage of delivery beds to the management of the company.

He added that health and well-being are important at every stage of one's life, starting from the beginning.

"Today we officially handover these beds whose idea stemmed from the hardships experienced by mothers during delivery, hardships which were noted by the Geita ladies. They communicated this to the management, and we have taken action accordingly," he said.

Geita District Commissioner, Col Boniface Maghembe directed the medical team both at Kasamwa and Nyankumbu health centres to take care of the donated delivery beds.

"We don't get this kind of support often therefore I urge every one of you here to ensure sound maintenance of the donated delivery beds," he cautioned.

Medical Officer in charge at Nyankumbu health centre, Irene Temba commended GGML's support saying the centre has been facing a shortage of delivery beds.

"We record at least 300 births every month, something which compels some of our mothers to use normal beds during delivery. We would like in the near future, GGML to also consider supporting us with examination beds, furniture and other equipment because every month here we attend over 1,000 Reproductive and Antenatal Health

Care cases. We also have 1,000 clients at the Care and Treatment Centre every month," she said.

The beneficiary of the second batch of the delivery beds at Kasamwa health centre, Medical Officer in charge Thomas Mafuru also commended GGML for the support.

"GGML is a good friend of Kasamwa Health Centre. Since we established this centre in 2007, GGML has provided priceless support including the supply of health equipment and the recent construction of a fence around our facility," he said.

GGML has been a beacon of investment in the community since its inception in 2000, with the main priorities being health, education, water, roads, income development projects and many other social projects aimed at improving the social welfare of the host community.





Tembo Nickel chief operating officer Manny Ramos (2nd-L), Ngara district executive director Solomon Kimilike (2nd-R) and Ngara District Council chairman Wilbard Bambara (R) pictured yesterday signing an MOU on the implementation of corporate social responsibility projects in 2023. Looking on is Tembo Nickel community development lead Gervas Patrick. Photo: Guardian Correspondent

## Tembo Nickel to support health and education projects in Ngara

By Guardian Correspondent, Ngara

TEMBO Nickel has signed a 257.69m/- Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with Ngara District Council for Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) projects to be implemented in 2023.

Speaking at the signing event recently, Tembo Nickel's Chief Operating Officer, Manny Ramos said the areas of focus will be health and education.

"This significant commitment comes in less than a month since Tembo Nickel handed over last year's projects worth 208m/- to Ngara district council. We have not begun production yet, nor are we making any profit, but our aim is to continue to support areas of priority to the best of our ability that have been identified by our communities and stakeholders," said Ramos.

He added: "We stand here today in trust and mutual benefit to support our community through impactful social economic investments in the form of CSR. Tembo Nickel will support 10 projects, of which 9 will be in the education sector and one in health."

He elaborated that there will be support for construction, completion and renovation of 8 primary schools, the purchase of 225 desks for primary schools and the purchase of 80 chairs and desks for Rulenge secondary school.

In addition 2 modern toilets will be constructed for primary schools, each with 8 latrines. Rain water harvesting at Chief Nsoro secondary school will also be supported. On

the side of support for the health sector, a maternity ward will be constructed.

"Tembo Nickel's support and commitment to community development is beyond CSR. We will continue to cooperate and identify areas which need close involvement with the government, so we can ensure sustainable development for communities and the country in general. Tembo Nickel is delighted to join forces with Ngara District Council and all its stakeholders so that shared value and benefits are realised over time," said Ramos," he said.

Ngara District Executive Director, Solomoni Kimilike said the whole process of identifying the projects was very participatory from the community level where the priorities were highlighted.

"We began to look at projects starting from community, village and ward levels. We involved district experts and counsellors. The priorities were health and education, so all these projects were chosen in a very transparent and participatory manner," said Kimilike

He stressed that these projects will go a long way to reducing the current challenges faced because they have touched on areas of enormous need and he is expecting that they will be completed in a timely manner.

He added: We are planning to ensure that by December these projects will be completed as planned, we are happy because, community is being represented by their village leaders and

chairpersons; They too have made a public commitment and signed this MOU. This means they have to be committed and educated in ensuring that the projects are completed on time and are of a high standard."

Ngara District Administrative Secretary, Veduastus Tibajjuka, who represented Ngara District Commissioner, Col Mathias Kahabi said he expects the projects to be carried out with honesty and integrity.

"Those in the community have been clearly told what your contribution should be, please be serious about delivering on your promise. We believe Tembo Nickel will ensure the best standards and that these projects will be completed by December" he said.

Mumiramira dispensary doctor in charge, Halima Iddi, said the construction of a maternity ward in Mumiramira village, Bugarama ward will save a lot of women's lives.

"We are very grateful to Tembo Nickel for committing to construct a maternity ward, this is great news. We are happy to have been seen. We have received the lion's share of the budget. This project is a life saver for women in this village and ward in general," she reiterated.

Head Master, Chifu Nsoro secondary school in Bugarama ward, God Salvatory said he believes the water shortage problem at the school will soon be solved after being supported with the construction of a rain water harvest system.

"Currently we have an acute water shortage problem, students have to come with water cans from home, this project will end all that, we finally have a solution," said Salvatory.

By Correspondent Paul Mallimbo

THE East Africa Community (EAC) Secretary General Dr Peter Mathuki has lauded East African media councils over decisions to form the East Africa Press Councils Association (EAPC).

Dr Mathuki has also accepted to be the guest of honour at the launch of EAPC scheduled for October this year.

The SG applauded the establishment of EAPC saying media are a critical partner in the region's integration process and that the association will help in coordinating their efforts. He was speaking mid this week at the EAC headquarters in Arusha during a meeting with a delegation of the EAPC led by its Chairperson, Kajubi Mukajanga who is also the Executive Secretary of the Media Council of Tanzania (MCT). The meeting took place at the

"The future of East Africa lies in the strength of member countries. If we move as a bloc we will be strong, and the media has a critical part to play in our integration," he said.

EAPC has four members which are the media councils of Tanzania, Kenya, Uganda and Rwanda.

The delegation had paid a courtesy call on the SG to brief him on the

## EA media councils win praise for forming new regional association

establishment of the association, its objectives, and its launch that was initially planned for August this year.

On learning that so far the association brought together four countries, Dr Mathuki appealed to the EAPC leadership to bring on board other EAC countries so that every country in the bloc is represented.

Mathuki said his office would work with the association in the consolidation efforts to bring on board the other East Africa countries, and said that it would be possible to grant the association the Observer Status to the Summit and Council meetings.

He tasked the delegation to work to bring on board Somalia, Burundi, DR Congo and South Sudan.

Following the discussions, it was eventually agreed that the launch be made in October in Arusha to coincide with the EAC Summit to give the EAPC leadership time to recruit other EAC councils.

The SG shared various plans to be executed during his tenure, saying he wants to ensure more countries join the EAC and that the next

country that is targeted and talks have started is Somalia.

EAPC Chairperson, Kajubi Mukajanga said although there are presently four member countries, the association understood the importance of having all on board, welcoming the challenge posed by the SG. "We will invite other East Africa member countries to join the association," said Mukajanga.

David Omwoyo, Media Council of Kenya (MCK) Executive Director said the association will advance freedom of expression issues, monetization of the digital market and media sustainability in the region. Omwoyo is EAPC's Secretary.

The meeting was also attended by the Chef de Cabinet, Davids Etyang and Senior Public Relations Officer, Simon Peter Owaka from the EAC secretariat.

Besides Mukajanga and Omwoyo, other members of the EAPC delegation were MCT Human Resources and Administrative manager Ziada Kilobo, and MCK senior officers, Karanja Jackson, Lorine Achieng and Lilian Akinyi Ochieng.



**MOTOR VEHICLE AND MOTOR BIKE (s)**  
**AID012590/08/9/2022/TZ/06**

LVIA Tanzania intends to award a supply contract for Purchase of Motor Vehicle and Motor Bikes in Dodoma with financial assistance from the project name DIVERSE FOOD SYSTEM, improving nutrition by supporting a diversified and sustainable food system. AID 012590/08/9

The tender dossier is available from LVIA head office located in Dodoma Area D Sengia street or via the following link  
<https://drive.google.com/file/d/1k0aET280-Nig95dcz08VVvz1nTGObsyJ/view> or using Website [www.zabuni.co.tz](http://www.zabuni.co.tz)

The deadline for submission of tenders is **30/06/2023**

Possible additional information or clarifications/questions shall be requested via email address [cr.tanzania@lvia.it](mailto:cr.tanzania@lvia.it) or at the office with the Address above.



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**PUBLIC AUCTION ANNOUNCEMENT**

VICTORIA FINANCE PLC WISHES TO ANNOUNCE TO THE PUBLIC THAT WITH THE AUTHORIZATION IT GIVES TO DIFFERENT BROKERAGE FIRMS INTENDS TO SELL AT PUBLIC AUCTION THE SECURITIES OF CHRONIC DEFAULTERS AS FOLLOWS:

S/N	CREDITORS NAME	REAL	TYPE AND PART OF THE GUARANTEE	AUCTIONEER	DATE
1	PATRICIA ISAACK MNYANGA	HOUSE	RESIDENTIAL LICENSE - MBAGALA	J&J RECOVERIES	24-08-2023
2	ADINI HUSAINI MSHAWA	HOUSE	SALES AGREEMENT - KILISA MROGORO	J&J RECOVERIES	24-08-2023
3	PHILIP RAPHAEEL KOPRA	HOUSE	TITLE DEED - KILISA MROGORO	J&J RECOVERIES	14-08-2023
4	MICHAEL EDWARD MCHALE	HOUSE	SALES AGREEMENT - DAKAWA MROGORO	J&J RECOVERIES	07-07-2023
5	FELIX KIPKADU DAIKI	HOUSE	SALES AGREEMENT - UJUNGO HAZINA	JOFORTE AUCTION MART	14-08-2023
6	SAMWELI KAPULWA KOTPE	HOUSE	SALES AGREEMENT - DAKAWA MROGORO	J&J RECOVERIES	24-08-2023
7	RESPIDUS MUTTA	HOUSE	RESIDENTIAL LICENSE - KITUNDA	THAZEL GROUP OF COMPANIES LIMITED	24-08-2023
8	PAULINA A. MWANGA	HOUSE	SALES AGREEMENT - MALAMBA MAWLI	JOFORTE AUCTION MART	24-08-2023

All auctions shall be held at the appropriate location on the time and day on which they shall be broadcast through brochures and advertising vehicles subject to permission from the relevant agencies of the Government.

**AUCTION TERMS:**

- 25% of the price reached will be paid instantly and the remaining 75% will be paid within fourteen days (14).
- By failing to do so it will result in the auction being repeated and the money paid not being returned.
- The costs of transferring the owner and changing ownership are up to the buyer.
- The guarantee will be sold as is.



Dar es Salaam regional commissioner Albert Chalamila addresses religious leaders at a meeting held in the city on Wednesday. Photo: Correspondent Jumanne Juma

By Guardian Correspondent, Kahama

## Farmers in four regions equipped with modern agronomic practices

A TOTAL of 2034 farmers in Manyara, Dodoma, Morogoro and Shinyanga regions have been empowered to practice modern agriculture using better tools.

The training that was offered by EFTA—a company serving small and medium enterprises and farmers also saw farmers equipped with knowledge on financial literacy and climate change. It was conducted in Kahama District, Shinyanga Region.

EFTA Executive Director, Nicomed Bohay said since agriculture is the backbone of the country's economy and yet many farmers engage in subsistence farming, there is a need to train them so that they engage in commercial agriculture."

He said EFTA conducted research that showed that in order to

liberate farmers, stakeholders in the agricultural sector must work together.

Bohay said that EFTA and Hughes Agricultural Limited, who are the organizers of the training, have been working with the Ministry of Agriculture whereas they have been able to reach 2,034 farmers.

Kahama District Administrative Secretary, Timothy Ndanya asked farmers to ensure they use the acquired knowledge to enhance productivity.


Ndanya said the district has set aside 2600 hectares to be used for irrigation farming for purposes of ensuring that farmers cultivate throughout the year.

"To succeed, we must have the necessary tools; our partners will enable us to get the needed tools. Farmers will decide whether to take them on loan or pay cash," he said.

An expert of agricultural tools from the Ministry of Agriculture, Godwin Mubi emphasized the need for farmers to use modern equipment to enhance productivity.

"Application of modern technology would boost our agriculture sector as farmers will cultivate for food and business. We are thankful to stakeholders for providing farmers with the training which will see them applying the knowledge accordingly," he said.

**TREES FOR THE FUTURE INC**

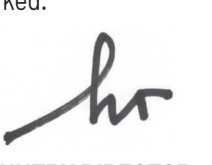


**INVITATION FOR TENDER BIDS**  
**TENDER No.1 OF 2023**  
**FOR**

**PROCUREMENT OF POLYTHENE TUBES**

1. Trees for the future Inc Tanzania has set aside the funds for the operations during the financial year 2023. It is intended that part of the proceeds of the funds will be applied to cover eligible payments under the contract for the procurement of Polythene tubes.
2. TREES FOR THE FUTURE INC now invites sealed bids from reputable suppliers/Manufacturers to supply goods of the following item:
 

POLYTHENE TUBES	16,625 Kgs
Specifications	
- Black in colour	
- 250 Gauge	
- 4 Inches(4")	
3. Interested eligible Bidders may obtain further information and the Bidding Documents from the Trees Office located at the N.H.C Singidani Complex Building, Second Floor, Mondays to Fridays (From 10.00AM to 4.00PM) except public holidays.
4. A complete set of the bidding Documents will be offered free to interested Bidders on the submission of a written application to the address given under paragraph 3, P.O BOX 1624 SINGIDA.
5. All bids submitted in one original plus two copies, properly filled in enclosed in plain envelopes must be properly addressed to the Trees for the future Inc, N.H.C Complex Building, Second Floor, P.O BOX 1624 SINGIDA. All bids must be delivered to the Trees for the future Inc, before the deadline for submission of bids.
6. The deadline for the submission of bids is on Tuesday 20th June 2023 at 10.00AM. Bids will be opened in public and in the presence of Bidders representatives who choose to attend at Trees for the future Inc Office, N.H.C Singidani Complex Building, second floor at 10.00AM local time on Tuesday 20th June 2023. The outer cover must be clearly marked.



**COUNTRY DIRECTOR,**  
**TREES FOR THE FUTURE,**  
**P.O BOX 1624,**  
**SINGIDA.**



## Minerals ministry out to enhance production in the mineral sector

By Guardian Reporter, Dodoma

THE Permanent Secretary in the Ministry of Minerals, Kheri Mahimbali has laid out major strategies that aim to enhance production in the minerals sector.

He said the strategies aim to tie the minerals sector with other main economic sectors to spur the economy, contribute foreign currency and increase its contribution to the national income.

He mentioned areas which already the ministry has started to put stress on as including Agriculture, energy, Communications and explained that if the nation has minerals that can produce fertiliser it can reduce the dependence of costly fertiliser imports as at the moment, he added, more than 700bn/- is spent annually to import fertiliser.

He mentioned another area as making sure energy services reach mining areas to increase minerals production.

In regard to his ministry's relations with other sectors in improving the environment for mining activities, he said the ministry's relationship with the Ministry of Energy has enabled STAMIGOLD Mine in Biharamulo under STAMICO to receive energy hence it was able to reduce production costs.

He also said after STAMIGOLD started producing gold, Geita Gold Mine was geared up for connection with electricity from the national grid.

In regard to strategies to develop rare and minerals that are in high demand in the world, Mahimbali said already the Ministry has started to make sure it concentrates in the

development of these minerals including human resources thereof.

He said the Ministry will work together with various stakeholders in the research activities of these rare strategic minerals.

He also assured ministry workers that their interests will be enhanced and create a better working environment.

Opening the meeting, the Minister for Minerals, Doto Biteko commended his Permanent Secretary for organising the meeting that also aims to gauge the ministry's performance.

He called on the Ministry's workers at this time moving to FY 2023/24 to make sure they are well mobilised to implement budget aims.

He said president Samia Suluhu Hassan has great expectations to see the minerals sector become a moving force for the country's economic growth.



**...the strategies aim to tie the minerals sector with other main economic sectors to spur the economy, contribute foreign currency and increase its contribution to the national income**

## Tanzania and Germany endorse technical agreement for projects on access to justice for women

By Correspondent James Kandoya

TANZANIA and the Federal Republic of Germany have signed a technical agreement worth euros 3 million equivalent to 7.58bn/- for new projects on access to justice for women and children in the country.

The signing agreement was reached yesterday in Dar es Salaam between the Permanent Secretary, Ministry of Constitution and Legal Affairs Mary Makondo and the Germany Development Cooperation Agency (GIZ) country director Dr Mike Falke.

Speaking at the signing ceremony, Makondo said that the signing of the agreement was the continuation of the cooperation focused on the access to justice for women and children.

She said that the assistance was part of the total commitments of euros 71 million equivalent to 188.65bn/- for various sectors which was committed by the Federal Republic of Germany to Tanzania during bilateral negotiations that was held in Dar es Salaam November 25th 2021.

Makondo said the government has taken various initiatives to end gender violence through policies, directives and strategy such as the National Plan of Action to end Violence against women and children.

PS said the project intends to improve access to justice for women and children in Tanzania, achieving legal empowerment and to protect them from gender-specific discrimination and violence thereby promoting gender equalities in the country.

"We are all concerned! We should change our attitude and create a security in which women and children enjoy safety, dignity and respect," she said.

"Concerted efforts to end this problem should be made and take responsibilities at individual level, families communities, religious or traditional leaders and stakeholders," he added.

She said the project will enable vulnerable groups in particular women and girls to have improvement in access to responsive and accountable justice and human rights protection, able to

demand their rights and ultimately reduce gender based violence.

Dr Mike Falke, the GIZ country director said sexual and gender based violence remains a big challenge worldwide and in Tanzania.

He said that despite efforts made by the Tanzania government to combat SGBV, the problem still persists in the community hence calling for different approaches, strategies and actors to address the challenge.

He said the bilateral project "Access to Justice for Women and Children Society in action for equality" (SAFE) shall contribute to the Tanzanian government's efforts in preventing and responding to SGBV efforts.

"To end this, the partners will work on identifying legal, institutions and social factors that make it difficult for women and children affected by violence to access justice, improving services offered by government entities," he said.

Regine Hess, the ambassador of Federal republic of Germany in Tanzania said the project supports legal reforms relevant to increasing access to justice for women and children, strengthening of state support services for survivors, especially police and gender and children help desk.

Others are strengthening non-state support services, especially legal aid, and outreach and awareness raising and campaigning to contribute to preventing GBV.



**Concerted efforts to end this problem should be made and take responsibilities at individual level, families communities, religious or traditional leaders and stakeholders**



Filipo Mwampamba, a beekeeping policy and legislation officer with the Natural Resources and Tourism ministry, addresses beekeeping value chain stakeholders at a two-day public-private dialogue held in Dodoma city earlier this week. Photo: Guardian Correspondent

## Government to assess trade impediments to bee products

By Guardian Correspondent,

Dodoma

THE Beekeeping Value Chain Support (BEVAC) project hosted a Public-Private Dialogue (PPD) with stakeholders from the beekeeping value chain such as Business Support Organisations (BSOs) and various government agencies to deliberate on simplification of reforms in the value chain and improvement of the export process of bee products.

The two-day event aimed

at presenting the issues and policy recommendations from two published position papers on the identification of selected priority issues and developing policy recommendations.

The dialogue allowed both private sector and government agencies to discuss the possible implementation of policy solutions to address trade obstacles in the sector and agree on the action plan.

Filipo Mwampamba, Officer of Beekeeping Policy and Legislation at the Ministry of Natural

Resources and Tourism, said: "The government has acknowledged these challenges and has begun addressing them in collaboration with stakeholders, including ongoing improvements to bee product fee regulations to address the identified challenges."

"Some of these challenges are within our capacity, so we should not rely solely on donors but rather build our confidence and self-reliance. I commend the various efforts undertaken by stakeholders in addressing these challenges, including preparing to participate

in international trade exhibitions such as SabaSaba through honey booths. This step is the beginning of achieving many things that can only be realized if we genuinely commit ourselves to making things happen," he added.

The beekeeping sector provides employment to 2 million people and contributes about USD 12.9 million in exports. The two-day event supports progress of the sector through the provided inputs to help beekeeping value chain actors move forward in addressing key barriers to trade.



National Vaccination Programme manager Dr Florian Tinuga (L) pictured in Arusha city on Wednesday making remarks at a national vaccination programme orientation seminar for journalists based in the northern zone. Photo: Correspondent Oscar Assenga

## Food production stakeholder told to abide by food quality standards

By Guardian Reporter

ALL stakeholders including ministries, institutions of control, producers, processors, consumers and consumers' societies have been required to abide by food standards in order to ensure the availability of food safety is attained in the country.

Dr Athumani Ngenya, director

general of Tanzania Bureau of Standards (TBS) made the advice yesterday in Dar es Salaam when opening a one-day workshop that involved various stakeholders in the food value chain that aimed to discuss on the contribution of international food standards to ensure food safety to consumers.

The workshop was part of the celebrations to mark World Food

Safety Day marked on June 7 every year.

Dr Ngenya said safe food in the basic need for every human being in order to be of better health.

He said the food that do not meet quality standards in regard to quality and safety can be harmful to consumers and cannot withstand competition in trade.

He said according to WHO

statistics, it is estimated that every year one person in every 10 get infected with conditions from unsafe food and that 420,000 of them die.

He stressed that this year's celebration carries the slogan "Food standards Save Lives" hence the is a great need to ensure consumers get safe food.

He said in order to make sure safe food is always available the preparation for food quality standards abide by Good Manufacturing Practice (GMP) and Good Hygienic Practice (GHP).



# Newly launched malt plant to benefit many local barley farmers

By Polycarp Machira, Dodoma

BARLEY farmers in Tanzania may soon have reason to smile following the launch of the first-ever malt plant in the country.

It is expected that the plant will boost the agricultural sector, improving the livelihoods of farmers by scaling up local purchases of barley from 5,000 tonnes to 12,000 tonnes and then 32,000 tonnes over five years once completed.

Speaking during the launch event here, Agriculture minister, Hussein Bashe said the Tanzania Breweries Limited (TBL)'s investment in the opening of the plant in March 2024 will benefit brewers and manufacturers, thus boosting Tanzania's economy.

Expressing the government's commitment in supporting investors, the minister said "The government will continue playing a big role in supporting TBL in several ways, including promoting value addition, which entails the processing of agricultural products in order to increase their market value and create new manufacturing opportunities."

He explained that the government through the ministry is working with farmers to improve their harvesting and storage techniques and promote the establishment of agro-processing industries.

The Minister said plans are ahead to ensure that in the coming three years, the country will not be importing any more malt, but instead will be exporting to other countries.

He added: "In the contract farming apart from the employment opportunities we will ensure there is transparency and pricing so that both parties enjoy the economic benefit from the agreement."

On his part, the Deputy Minister for Investment, Trade, and Industry, Exaud Kigahe, observed that measures taken by the government

to reduce the cost of doing business are making it more attractive for companies to set up manufacturing operations in the country.

He remained confident that such efforts can boost its economic growth, create jobs, and improve its trade balances.

The event was also attended by members of Parliament led by David Kihenzile, the Chairman of the Industries, Trade, Agriculture, and Livestock Parliament Committee and his Budget Committee counterpart, Daniel Sillo, both applauded the government's pro-business approach.

The Kilimanjaro Malting Plant is expected to inject an additional 226bn/- into the national revenue through an expanded value chain across agriculture, malting, brewing, packaging, distribution, logistics, and retail, in addition to the construction of the malting facility.

TBL's Country Director, Jose Moran, said the construction phase of the megaproject will provide direct employment to around 70 people, 80 percent of them Tanzanians.

He noted that the project is expected to be implemented in two phases with phase one between 2023 and 2024, and phase two between 2024 and 2025.

Phase one begins with an initial investment of \$10.5million for the production of 12000 metric tonnes and aims to boost local production capacity at the farmer level through capacity building, seed variety testing, and the initial construction and upgrading of the malting facility.

The second phase of the project will scale up the project's construction to 16000 metric tonnes of capacity with a total investment of \$6.3m/-, which will complete the project and get the plant ready for the utilization of the excise code on locally malted barley.



Muhumuliza Buberwa (C), a senior sales manager with CRDB Bank PIC, addresses journalists during yesterday's launch in Dar es Salaam of the bank's month-long campaign dubbed "Timiza Ndoto yake na Junior Jumbo". The drive is meant to provide financial education to children and to motivate parents and guardians on the importance of savings for their children. The bank has allocated 15.4m/- in prizes for winners. With him are CRDB sales manager Amina Mawona (L) and Buza Branch manager Mary Joshua. Photo: Correspondent

# Paralegals cautioned against becoming activists

By Guardian Correspondent, Shinyanga

PARALEGALS in Shinyanga Region have been cautioned against turning into activists and putting money foremost, instead they should perform their duties professionally to aid the weak get their rights lawfully.

John Shija, Chairman of Shinyanga Region Legal Aid Services Committee made the remarks here on Wednesday

at a seminar for empowering paralegals, lawyers, advocates, Ward executives, community development officers and heads of departments as part in the implementation of President Samia Suluhu Hassan's legal aid services provision campaign.

Shija said the good job done by paralegals is to provide legal aid for free to the weak who cannot hire lawyers to get their rights, and not to become activists and placing money in front, as this, he said is against regulations governing legal

aid services provision. Assistant Paralegals Registrar for Shinyanga Region, Tedson Ngwale said President Samia's campaign will help the people to get legal services for free as they cannot meet the cost for hiring lawyers.

He said the establishment of the campaign will also strengthen the system to solve complaints facing the people getting their rights, in time without waiting for such complaints to be submitted during visits by national leaders to their areas as they would have been

solved already. He added that the legal aid services campaign will eradicate challenges facing women and children in regard to acts of gender-based violence (GBV) and child abuse as legal steps will be taken against the suspects.

Some of the stakeholders who attended the seminar said the legal aid services campaign will be a savior to the weak as some of them fail to get their rights for lack of resources to hire lawyers in their cases.

# Plan International rescues over 2000 children from child labour

By Correspondent Anaeli Mbise

A TOTAL of 2,687 children in Geita have been rescued from worst forms of child labour, thanks to efforts by a Non-Governmental Organisation-Plan International Tanzania and its partners.

Plan International Country Director, Paul Lusato said they have been implementing such projects in three districts namely, Geita, Chato and Nyanghwale for purposes of protecting children from child labour.

Speaking yesterday in Dar es Salaam at a ceremony to mark the end of phase three of the project, Lusato said that children in mentioned districts have been involved in small-scale mining and fishing activities.

He said that Plan International Tanzania and it is stakeholders adopted a unique approach that capitalized on collaboration with the government and local authorities to effectively address the root causes and consequences of child labour.

"We firmly believe that positive change and partnership can result into remarkable success, we have elevated children out of worst form of child labour. We also embrace their right to education by ensuring that they stay in school to create a brighter future," said Lusato.

He said that in partnership with 'Kivulini' and Social, Economic Development Initiatives of Tanzania (SEDI) with financial support from French Development Agency (AFD) they have completed implementation of the third phase in Geita Region.

He said: "The project has had a significant positive impact on the individual economic situation in the region and a total of 207 savings groups, totalling a loan amount of 1,085,010,500 (euro 428,213) were formed and the groups improved the economic well-being of villagers

and provided families with an alternative means to cater for their basic needs without resorting to child labour."

Representative from AFD, Naima Krug said that they have been working with Plan International Tanzania to eradicate worst form of child labour in the mining and fisheries sectors for 10 years.

She said the agency has so far provided Euros1.6 million to support the program.

"We are convinced that, to fight child labour reduces poverty, addresses gender based violence and increases access to basic services such as education and health," she said.

Martha Masunga, from Chato Girls Group and one of the victims of child labour said the project enabled them to learn on parenting education, entrepreneurship and early marriage.

Plan International is an independent development and humanitarian that advances children's rights and equality for girls since 1991 in improving the lives of children and communities, focusing on education, child protection, health and youth empowerment.



**We are convinced that, to fight child labour reduces poverty, addresses gender based violence and increases access to basic services such as education and health**



Subira Kibiga pictured in Dar es Salaam on Wednesday contributing to debate on gender education budgeting at one of the gender development series of seminars run by the Tanzania Gender Networking Programme (TGNP). Photo: Correspondent Sabato Kasika

# Education stakeholders fault Education ministry Budget

By Guardian Sabato Kasika

SOME education stakeholders have cast doubt in regard to the priorities in the FY 2023/24 Budget for the Ministry of Education, Science and Technology, claiming that various expenditures listed therein are unclear, the situation that can create difficulties for them to monitor implementation.

In the 1.67trn/- budget proposals the expenditures thereof have been cited in general terms and it is hard to understand the ministry's priorities.

The stakeholders from within and outside Dar es Salaam made the remarks on Wednesday at the Gender and development seminar Series (GDSS) seminar organised by Tanzania Gender Networking Programme (TGNP) in Dar es

Salaam. Contributing to the debate, Theresia Berege from Mkamabarani Information and Knowledge Centre, in Morogoro said nearly all expenditures of the funds sought had not been elaborated.

"For example, in his speech, the Minister for Education said 537.88bn/- is for the ministry's recurrent expenditure and 500.97bn/- for development expenditure.

She added that "there is no elaboration at all, as the development projects were not named, the situation that makes them, as stakeholders, fail to know where they will follow up the said expenditure of the money."

For his part, the Director of Dar es Salaam based "Sauti ya Jamii Kipunguni" Centre, Seleman

Bishagazi said among obstacles in the education sector is the scarcity of classrooms in primary and secondary schools.

"But in this Budget, the Minister says they will build 90 classrooms for primary schools and 20 in secondary schools.

"Is it really true that these are the actual needs? Personally I see this to be not right," he added.

He said in the same budget there will be the construction of 369 pit latrines in 15 secondary schools, 10 dormitories for girls capable of taking 120 students each in 10 secondary schools.

"Basically, more elaboration is required in regard to the Budget in order to provide the opportunity for stakeholders to make follow ups in regard to the expenditure of public funds, especially on gender

considerations," he added. Subira Kibiga, another seminar participant said there are still many challenges in education which would be better to provide solutions thereof, to help girls pursue their education without hindrances.

"If you read various reports, you will find that in 2021 there were challenges in regard to the pit latrine ratio in both primary and secondary schools," Subira said.

She said in that year pit latrines for primary schools had one hole for 48 pupils, while the ratio needed is one hole for 20 pupils.

"For secondary schools, one hole was being used by 27 students but the needed ratio is one hole for 20 students, hence we need a budget that will address gender issues," she said.



## Fighting corruption indeed one of Africa's most pressing needs

IN remarks made in an exclusive interview with The Guardian in Dar es Salaam a little over 14 years ago, prominent mobile communications "entrepreneur" Dr Mohamed Ibrahim cited corruption and poor infrastructure as the major impediments to alleviation efforts in African economies.

The Sudanese-born Briton made the remarks on the sidelines of a two-day International Monetary Fund-Africa meeting, which he had come over to attend.

Mo, widely regarded as one of the most successful business leaders in Africa, discussed the challenges of development facing the continent.

He said it was important for African governments and nations to seek to make the myriad dreams of improving the people's lives come true.

"Corruption and inferior infrastructure backbones are the real enemies of the people of this part of the world," explained Mo, who has set up a foundation that offers the largest annually awarded prize in the world to recognise and celebrate excellence in African leadership.

Mo challenged African governments to engage a higher gear in the war on corruption "because this vice makes it very hard for small economies to take off".

"The money will go into stimulating debate on good governance, helping the taxpayers in the respective countries hold their governments accountable and facilitating development of sustainable infrastructure backbones," he said, urging the continent to wage "a decisive all-out war on corruption" and pump more money into the development of infrastructure.

Mo explained that poor infrastructure ruined African economies by making the cost of doing business there unrealistically high.

He specifically cited roads, water, ports, railways and airports while also mentioning electricity generation and supply, health and education.

"African countries should re-examine the financing of their communication and other infrastructure and ensure that physical infrastructure are upgraded as appropriate to attract local and international investments," he said.

He added that the African continent enjoyed high returns on investments "and what it now needs is to put to better use the financial resources and investments at its disposal to improve infrastructure".

Mo observed that Africa's problems were compounded by some

governments' reluctance, inability or refusal to fully enable the private sector to tick "which would be one way of reinforcing public private partnership".

With improved infrastructure, he said, African entrepreneurs could invest more in their own countries and minimise dependence on foreign direct investment.

He also underlined the need to invest more in education and human resource development "so as to cope with rapid technological changes in the world".

Commenting on the then prevailing global economic downturn, the entrepreneur said: "It has now become all the more evident that the capitalist system has failed. This is because efforts to bail out bankrupt financial institutions and companies in Europe and America are inherently contrary to the very nature of that system".

"The institutions should be left to go under or to be acquired by those still financially strong enough instead of spending billions in taxpayers' money making frantic attempts to rescue poorly managed institutions," he added.

The high-profile IMF-Africa meeting ended with joint impassioned appeal for concerted and urgent global action to mitigate the impact of the global economic meltdown on African economies.

In a rejoinder to Mo's remarks, a then long-serving Tanzanian legislator expressed the view that corruption had disastrous consequences in most of Africa primarily because it destabilised national economies, thus stunting national development.

In a way telling a stale tale, the fiery politician submitted that many corrupt African leaders had deposited in foreign countries hefty amounts of money which, if invested back home, would have significantly helped in improving the infrastructure and invigorating economic development.

It would clearly have been foolhardy not to concur with the politician that corruption and poor infrastructure adversely affected the development of most African countries.

Indeed, there are scenarios where immense financing goes into the implementation of massive and expensive infrastructure projects in which grand corruption is a common feature.

Mo and numerous other people with Africa's interests genuinely at heart have numerous times made much similar remarks but to little avail. It hurts - and things ought to change for the better. FAST.

## Samia's phoning at Njombe rally points to praiseworthy leadership

MEDIA outlets were yesterday awash with reports on an incident in which President Samia Suluhu Hassan had taken the rare initiative of making a phone call to Njombe Region, where a rally was in progress.

The respective regional commissioner was making an effort to reassure residents of areas affected by the planned execution of the Liganga and Mchuchuma coal and iron ore projects that they would be adequately compensated for their land.

With the call, the president's instructions and assurances were aired live - which was no small matter.

The point was that the government was finalising payment of 15.4bn/- in compensation to 1,142 people in Ludewa District, where a top official of the National Development Corporation (NDC) said that until June 6 just 39 people had been compensated.

The president didn't just phone to lend support to the RC's efforts but really to own up to the government's promises and the schedules, as she noted that she made the compensation promise during General Election campaign rallies in 2020 when she was vice president.

It is hence without doubt that NDC and maybe STAMICO, apparently the agencies most responsible with respect to the matter, will now keenly oversee the compensation payment.

This particular incident is in a way an illustration of how slowly the wheels of bureaucracy roll in various areas.

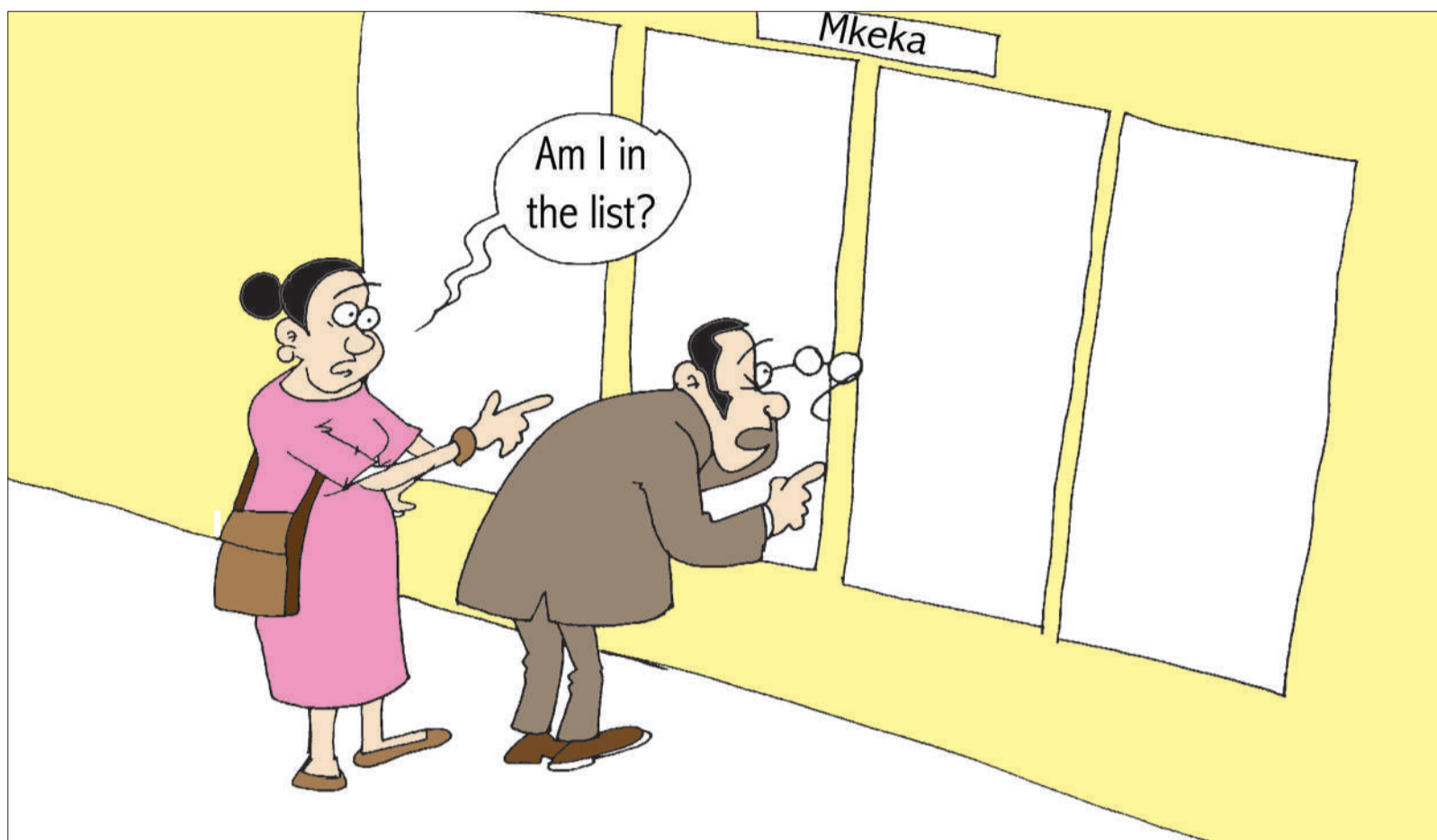
It is that during the campaign rallies it all looked a simple matter of paying compensation for people to leave, but three years later just three dozen people had been paid out of more than a thousand.

Had it not been for the president's intervention, complete with the issuance of fresh directives where the need arose, bureaucracy wheels would likely have continued to roll the same way.

So there is no doubt that all the scheduled compensation will now be paid, with officials instructed to properly check the list to ensure that all those entitled are paid accordingly.

The minister overseeing the investments, industries and trade portfolio emphasized that project implementation would be speedy, as it was clear that the Liganga and Mchuchuma projects illustrate problems with investment policy and use of natural resources.

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## Your debt isn't meant to be repaid - Here's why...

By Amanda Claypool

WHEN you think about debt, what is the first thing that comes to mind? Your ballooning credit card payment? All the bills stacking up on your dining room table? Crunching the numbers and realising that you're never going to be able to catch up?

According to the (US) Federal Reserve Bank of New York, Americans now collectively hold more than US\$17 trillion in debt.

T-R-I-L-L-I-O-N. That number is so large that it's hard to grasp. For perspective, if all 213.6 million working-age adults worked for US\$30 per hour to pay off the debt, each person would have to work for 2,662 hours.

That's basically sacrificing more than a year of your life just to pay down the debt. Not to cover your living expenses or pay the government its fair share in income taxes. Just debt.

And that also assumes a wage that is far above the current minimum standard. In reality, it would take several years to pay it off given the current level of wages.

What this tells us is that debt isn't intended to be repaid. It's like a Gordian Knot of finance that's designed to be impossible to overcome.

The idea of repaying debt is a myth. It would assume the existence of a power structure that simply does not exist. To be able to get out of debt is to be an equal - or rather a peer - with your lender.

You are not. You are their asset. And they rely on you to continue generating a profit.

We will dive into how debt is an instrument of power that fosters inequality. Specifically, we will identify how debt has historically been used to deprive debtors of honour and justice.

By accepting debt as a matter of personal responsibility, we've become prisoners of a power dynamic that is difficult to escape.

The history of America is one of debt - not freedom. Something that is lost in the study of American history is that America was not founded on democratic principles.

On paper, our founding documents espouse the ideals of freedom and equality. But in practice, early Americans came as debtors - which meant that they lived in a society that treated them as such.

The Atlantic Slave Trade, of course, is the most obvious example of the injustices America was founded upon. In order to be reduced to a state of slavery, people had to be stripped from their communities and deprived of their



dignity.

What you might not know is that the origin of this process - of dehumanising one person in order to sell him or her to another - is based on the need to repay a debt.

The origin of slavery is rooted not in malice but in debt. People enslave other people in an attempt to repay debt. If that debt didn't exist, there wouldn't be a purpose for enslaving them in the first place.

Slaves weren't the only ones to come to America in bondage. In exchange for passage to the New World, indentured servants contracted out their labour. Some chose to sell themselves into bondage to escape poverty. Others to escape debt.

Unless you can trace your lineage to the handful of entrepreneurial landholders and merchants that colonised the New World, your origin story is likely one of debt, slavery or a combination of the two.

The structural injustices that are manifest in our society today exist as a result of debt. Economic inequality and class divisions are built off of a historical narrative where debt has become an instrument of power. A ruling class exists at the expense of the indebted class beneath them.

Your indebtedness is not a sign of personal failings. It's merely a legacy you've inherited from your ancestors.

The perpetuation of debt eliminates individual honour, widening the chasm of inequality.

Debt isn't just a number on your credit statement. It actually symbolises an obligation. It represents someone lending money to you and that person who is lending you money trusts that you will eventually repay him or her.

This idea of honour has largely been stripped away by the financial aspect of debt. After all, we don't live in tight-knit communities anymore. Few of us know the names of our neighbours, let alone how honourable they are.

For debt to exist today it has to be represented by something more than honour. Trust is measured in the form of money.

The power structure has since changed. Debt has become a tool to subordinate. Trust is pushed to the limits.

It doesn't matter so much that you can repay a debt. What matters is that you can continue to make monthly payments towards repaying that debt. It's about consistent cash flow.

When you look at debt as a function of trust and how it has changed to become something to take advantage of it begs an important question: is debt moral?

Is it moral to lend money to someone, knowing that they don't have the ability to repay it, for the sake of generating a profit?

When you look at our collective debt burden, this is where we're at now. But this isn't where we've always been.

Historically, usury - or charging exorbitantly high interest on debt - was prohibited. The Bible is explicitly clear on this. And in Islam, paying interest is considered a sin.

It wasn't until the advent of capitalism that debt was turned into an asset that capitalists could leverage to generate a profit. If you're a banker you're in the game of making money rather than evaluating trust. It's not your responsibility if someone can't repay their debt - it's his or hers.

This is where the power balance has shifted. Debt was originally intended to be repayable because it was a symbol of honour and trust within your community. That is no longer the case.

Now debt has become a tool that reshapes the power balance. It turns debtors into criminals and de facto wage slaves. To be in debt in today's society isn't just to be dishonourable, it's to be inferior too. Debt that's created for the purpose of generating profit isn't

something that's intended to be repaid. When you repay a debt that means you're no longer an asset to the lenders keeping your debt on their books. Why on earth would they make it easy to repay?

When you look at debt through the lens of power and control, it raises important questions about the morality of debt itself. Specifically, of one's personal responsibility to repay an unrepayable debt.

We no longer live in a society built on communal trust. Instead, trust has been turned into financial instruments that predetermine our success or failure in life.

Your value in society is, in turn, translated into your ability to manage debt. This is what honour and dignity have been reduced to. In doing so, it has created a power structure that inherently subordinates one group of people to another.

So long as debt exists, inequality will also exist - because that is the foundation modern debt has been built upon.

Of course, just because this is how it has always been doesn't mean that this is how it has to continue to be.

Islamic banks have figured out a novel way to generate profit through equity sharing rather than interest. An Islamic bank's profits, in a sense, are tied to the success of its borrowers.

There is precedent for restoring honour and dignity in society by eliminating debt.

The question then is: do we have the courage to change course, not simply for ourselves, but for our progeny? And if not, for how much longer will we be able to tolerate debt while knowing that it will never be repaid?

\* A medium.com dispatch. This essay was inspired by the work of David Graeber from Debt: The First 5000 Years. Amanda Claypool is a writer and strategy consultant.



# Role of Ombudsman's Office in insurance disputes resolution

**U**PTAKE of insurance in our country has seen significant growth in recent years especially among people living in urban area, thanks to awareness campaigns on the importance of being covered.

There are different kinds of insurance products in the market that have registered upward uptake including vehicle insurance, health insurance, marine insurance, life insurance, house insurance, projects insurance and loan insurance.

Due to this growth, insurance claims touching on reimbursement have also increased, meaning that disputes have also increased significantly as well.

To mitigate this, the Insurance Act of 2009 acknowledges different dispute resolution mechanisms which namely courts of law, Commissioner for Insurance, Insurance Appeals Board and the Tanzania Insurance Ombudsman (herein after referred to as TIO).

Of all the dispute resolving avenues, the role of TIO is the least recognized as most people run to the court of law, leaving a user-friendly dispute resolution forum. This article intends to shed light on the said forum for people to understand its powers, procedures and also dispute resolution mechanisms available.

The TIO was established under section 122 of the Insurance Act, 2009 with the main purpose of resolving disputes arising between insurance consumers and insurers namely insurance companies in Tanzania.

Although it's a recognized body to resolve insurance disputes, this office has some limitations on what it can entertain. Section 123 of the Insurance Act 2009 provides exception of claims not to be entertained by the TIO. These are railway rolling stock, aircraft, ships, aircraft liability, liability for ships, surety ship as well as miscellaneous and legal expenses.

Further, an award shall not exceed 15mn/- but the office has jurisdiction to entertain claims not exceeding 40mn/- as per regulation 6 of the Insurance Ombudsman Regulation, 2013.

One can see that this is an alternative mode of dispute resolution but it is trite law that once there are respective forums with powers to entertain a certain dispute, then one has to resort to the said forum first before lodging claims in the court of law.

The court in the case of Farida Saggin Lukoma vs Zuberi Bus Service Ltd, Civil Appeal No. 146 of 2017 stated inter alia that:

"It is my firm view that, Ombudsman was not es-



established for decoration purposes but rather it was established for the purposes of resolving insurance disputes among them being the appellant's complaint. Therefore, it was not proper for the appellant to file a normal suit at the Resident Magistrate's Court after being dissatisfied with the payment given by insur-

ance company. In my view, she was supposed to submit her complaint to the requisite body established by law to deal with such complaints."

The same was also stressed in the case of Heritage Insurance Co. Ltd vs Abihood Michael Mnjokava, Civil Appeal No. 1 of 2020.

We shall now look at advantages of lodging a complaint with TIO on which we shall pass through the filing procedures, complaint hearing, enforcement and its short comings.

On the advantage, its filing procedures are very user-friendly for anyone to be able to access the office. While in courts of law there are complex procedures of lodging claims like filling of plaint, defence and other pleadings, regulation 13(1) of the Insurance Ombudsman Regulation 2013 provides that complaints can be lodged to the TIO in written form, electronically and even orally.

The mode to adjudicate complaint shall be through mediation,

reconciliation and lastly arbitration. Secondly, the law provides for time to finalize a lodged complaint under regulation 15(4) of the Insurance Ombudsman Regulation, 2013 which is opposite to the normal courts of law in which time to finalize a dispute is mostly not adhered to hence time consuming.

Thirdly, unlike courts of law which mostly stand as a referee, the law allows TIO to engage in investigation of the complaint, something which makes an adjudication board to be active in not only the evidence brought to it but also to see the market or the actual hemisphere out of the paper brought before it.

Fourthly, if one is aggrieved with the TIO orders, then regulation 20 of the Insurance Ombudsman Regulations, 2013, provides a remedy to lodge reference to the High Court.

Lastly and more importantly is the execution of its orders. While in normal courts one has to find different properties of the judgment

so that the same can be attached, restrained, be sold or in whatever way to realize the decretal sum, the TIO has an easier way to enforce its decisions under regulation 22 of the Insurance Ombudsman Regulations, 2013.

The aforementioned provides that TIO shall give notice to the insurer to pay as ordered, failure to it the said information shall be transferred to the Commissioner for Insurance whom is entitled to add additional fine or cancel license of the insurer to engage in insurance business something which no any insurance company would wish for.

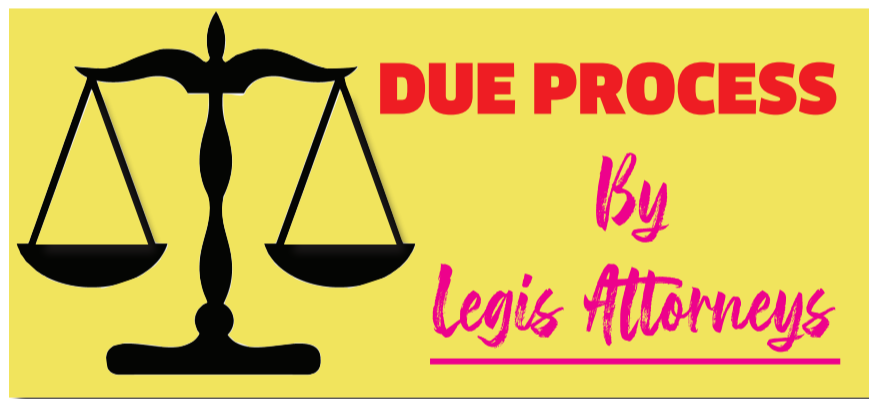
A quick shortcoming of the TIO is the pecuniary jurisdiction. The amount of 15mn/- and 40mn/- are very minimal which even primary courts these days are entitled to entertain.

Research shows that most of officials in TIO are retired judges and experts of law hence the amount ought to be increased to match the

district or residence magistrate's courts.

Note: the material and information contained in this article are for general information purposes only. They only provide either elementary or basic legal knowledge on the above subject. Anyone considering legal action should consult an experienced lawyer to understand current laws and how they may affect a case in question.

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# Political will is crucial for development of sports

By Mark Mapambano

**L**ET me begin by stating that I am not a die-hard fan of any of our football teams. I look odd to my friends but I normally tell them that I will join the club of fans the day one shows me even a single well equipped football academy where giant clubs boasting legions of fans such as Yanga and Simba get their new talents.

I argue so because like other sports, football is science and no scientific knowhow or excellence comes cheap or free. Have you ever asked yourself why players from West Africa and the Maghreb are commonplace in major European football teams and leagues?

Your guess is as good as mine: those countries have invested heavily in football academies that attract talent scouts from all over the world. When one looks at the highest ranked football team in Africa, names like Morocco and Senegal pop up and one of the reasons is the role played by local academies which develop players who qualify for international football.

Without such facilities and qualified experts, we as a country will continue playing local leagues with technical benches manned by folks who know nearly nothing about the science of football.

So, until and unless I see an academy worth the salt, I'll not risk suffering the pain of supporting a team that is being beaten left right and centre. It really stings the heart to support a perennial loser.

However, this does not mean that nothing is being done. Sports development is a gradual and expensive process. Former President, the late Benjamin Mkapa laid a good foundation with a modern multi-purpose stadium in Dar es Saaam now named after him. Football fans have gone far by nicknaming it Lupaso, Mkapas home village.

The point I am trying to drive home is the importance of government support and political will in development of sports in a country. That is why I was encouraged recently when President Samia Suluhu Hassan threw her executive weight behind football with a kept promise of 10mn/- in motivation for each goal scored by a Tanzanian team in an international tournament. She doubled it to 20mn/- prior to Yanga's CAF Confederation Cup finals.

Although the Jangwani side missed the coveted gong on the away goals rule despite securing a 1-0 victory against USM Alger of Algeria, the President



President Samia Suluhu Hassan in a group photo with players and top officials of Yanga at State House Dar es Salaam where she hosted the Jangwani side for dinner last Monday after they reached CAF Confederation Cup finals. File photo

congratulated the team and invited Wananchi for a dinner at State House Dar es Salaam last weekend.

"Yanga have written a new history and boosted the country's reputation in the competition. I wish you all the best in your future endeavours," she posted on twitter.

After the reportedly sumptuous dinner at State House, the President provided a special flight to transport the team to Mbeya for their league match versus Mbeya City. The club's President Hersi Said spoke of the significance of this gesture.

"We are thankful to President Samia for all the support she is rendering to us," he said. I know one may argue that these gestures are not long term investment for football development in our country. Granted, but nothing encourages and motivates like recognition of an effort. It is so much so when the same comes from a Head of State.

President Samia's gesture is a good starting point given the work ahead of us. Thriving sports industry requires heavy investment in terms of modern facilities and qualified training experts and the

same cost big money.

As a country, we should not hesitate to invest in sports because in the long run it pays big time. For instance, by finishing second, Yanga will pocket a cool USD1 million (2.4bn) from the African football governing body, CAF.

But this feat did not come by luck. A lot of work has been done and tidy amount of money spent by the team in recent years. It should be remembered that under new management led by its president Said, Yanga have won back-to-back the NBC Premier League titles and

one Azam Sports Federation Cup top honour. "It is not something that came from nowhere; in my first season we became number two in the league. We signed seven players and we became number two," Said is on record saying.

"In my second season we added 10 more players and then we became champions last season. This season again, we have signed five foreign players and two locals, so a total of seven to come up with a total of 28 players."

In April 2021, Yanga named

a seasoned Tunisian football manager Nasreddine Nabi as the club's new head coach. He immediately hit the ground running in training and transforming the squad.

Wananchi have strongly indicated that it can be done. President Samia has given moral and material support. However, folks in the Ministry of Arts, Culture and Sports should help the President by drafting a comprehensive plan that can put Tanzania on the international sports calendar.

The author is a commentator on current affairs based in Dar es Salaam. He can be reached on 0655 522 922.



# Climate disasters have major consequences to informal economies

By Catherine Wilson

**I**N the Pacific Islands and many developing and emerging countries worldwide, the informal economy far outsizes the formal one, playing a vital role in the survival of urban and rural households and absorbing expanding working-age populations.

Informal business entrepreneurs and workers make up more than 60 percent of the labour force worldwide. But they are also the most exposed, with precarious assets and working conditions, to the economic shocks of extreme weather and climate disasters.

In 2016, Category 5 Cyclone Winston, the most ferocious cyclone recorded in the southern hemisphere, unleashed widespread destruction of Fiji's infrastructure, services and economic sectors, such as agriculture and tourism. And in March this year, Cyclones Judy and Kevin barreled through Vanuatu, an archipelago nation of more than 300,000 people, and its capital, Port Vila, leaving local tourism businesses with severe losses.

It is now three months since the disasters. But Dalida Borlasa, business owner of Yumi Up Upcycling Solutions, an enterprise at Port Vila's handicraft market, which depends on tourists, told IPS there had been some recovery, but not enough. "We have had two cruise ships visit in recent weeks, but there have only been a few tourists visiting the market. We are not earning enough money for daily food. And other vendors at the market don't have enough money to replace their products that were damaged by the cyclones," she said.

Up to 80 percent of working-age people in some Pacific Island countries are engaged in informal income-generating activities, such as smallholder agriculture and tourism-dependent livelihoods. But in a matter of hours, cyclones can destroy huge swathes of crops and bring the tourism industry to a halt when international visitors cancel their holidays.

Climate change and disasters are central concerns to the Commonwealth, an inter-governmental organization representing 78 percent of all small nations, 11 Pacific Island states and 2.5 billion people worldwide. "The consequences of global failure on climate action are catastrophic, particularly for informal businesses and workers in small and developing countries. Just imagine the struggles of an individual who relies on subsistence and commercial agriculture for their livelihood. Their entire existence is hanging in the balance as they grapple with unpredictable weather patterns and unfavourable conditions that can wipe out their crops in a matter of seconds," Rt. Hon Patricia Scotland KC, Secretary-General of the Commonwealth, told IPS. "It's not simply a matter of economic well-being; their entire way of life is at stake. The fear and uncertainty they experience are truly daunting. But they are fighting. We must too."

The formal economy in many Pacific Island countries is too small and offers few employment opportunities. In Papua New Guinea, an estimated four million people are not in work, while the formal sector has only 400,000-500,000 job openings, according to PNG's Institute of National Affairs. And with more than 50 percent of the population of about 8.9 million aged below 25 years, the number of job seekers will only rise in the coming years. And so, more than 80 percent of the country's workforce is occupied in self-generated small-scale enterprises, such as cultivating and selling fruit and vegetables.

But eight years ago, the agricultural livelihoods of millions were decimated when a record drought associated with the El Nino climate phenomenon ravaged the Melanesian country.

"Eighty-five percent of PNG's population are rural inhabitants who are dependent on the land for production of food and the sale of surplus for income through informal fresh produce markets. In areas affected by the 2015 drought, especially in the highlands, the drought killed food crops, affecting food security," Dr Elizabeth Kopel of the Informal Economy Research Program at PNG's National Research Institute told IPS. "Rural producers also supply urban food markets, so when supply dwindled, food prices increased for urban dwellers," she added.

In Vanuatu, an estimated 67 percent of the workforce earn informal incomes, primarily in agriculture and tourism. On the waterfront of Port Vila is a large, covered handicraft market, a commercial hub for more than 100 small business owners who make and



Patricia Scotland, Secretary-General of the Commonwealth, visited the Pacific Island nation of Vanuatu in April to discuss climate justice and witnessed the impacts of Cyclones Judy and Kevin in the country. Photo Credit: Commonwealth Secretariat

sell baskets, jewellery, paintings, woodcarvings and artworks to tourists. The island country is a major destination for cruise ships in the South Pacific. In 2019, it received more than 250,000 international visitors.

Highly exposed to the sea and storms, the market building, with the fa-

cilities and business assets it houses, bore the brunt of gale winds from Cyclones Judy and Kevin on 1-3 March. Tables were broken, and many of the products stored there were destroyed. Thirty-six-year-old Myshlyn Narua lost most of the handmade pandanus bags she was planning to sell. The money she had saved helped to sustain her family in the immediate aftermath of the disaster, but it would not be enough to survive

six months, she stated in a report on the disaster's impacts on market vendors compiled by Dalida Borlasa.

The country's tourism sector has suffered numerous climate-induced economic shocks in recent years. In 2015, Cyclone Pam left losses amounting to 64 percent of GDP. Another Cyclone, Harold, in 2020 added further economic losses to the recession across the region triggered by the COVID-19

pandemic. "To address the climate emergency and protect the lives and livelihoods of people, particularly those in the informal sector, countries must fulfil their commitments under the Paris Climate Agreement. They must work to limit global temperature rise to 1.5 degrees Celsius and provide the promised US\$100 billion per year in climate finance," said the Commonwealth Secretary-General. She added that climate-vulnerable

nations should also be eligible for debt relief. Meanwhile, the Commonwealth Secretariat is working with member countries to improve their access to global funding for climate projects. And it is calling for reform of the global financial architecture to improve access to finance for lower-income countries that need it the most.

At the same time, the International Labour Organization predicts that the informal economy will continue to employ most Pacific Islanders, and the imperative now is to develop the sector and improve its resilience.

In PNG, the government has acknowledged the significance of the informal sector and developed national policy and legislation to grow its size and potential. Its long-term strategy is to improve the access of entrepreneurs to skills training, communications, technology and finance and encourage diversity and innovation within the sector. Currently, 98 percent of informal enterprises in the country are self-funded, with people often seeking loans from informal sources. The government's goal is to see informal enterprises transition into higher value-added small and medium-sized businesses and to see the number of these businesses grow from about 50,000 now to 500,000 by 2030.

In Port Vila, Borlasa and her fellow entrepreneurs would like to see their existing facilities made more climate resilient before they face the next cyclone. She suggested that stronger window and door shutters be fitted to the market building and the floor raised and strengthened to stop waves and storm surges penetrating.

Looking ahead, the economic forecast is for GDP growth in all Pacific Island countries this year and into 2024 after three difficult years of the pandemic, reports the World Bank. Although, the economic hit of the cyclones is likely to result in a decline in growth to 1 percent in Vanuatu this year. But the real indicator of economic well-being for many Pacific islanders will be resilience and prosperity in the informal economy.



More than 80 percent of people in Papua New Guinea live in rural areas and are sustained by informal business activities, especially the smallholder growing and selling of fresh produce. Credit: Catherine Wilson/IPS

IPS UN Bureau Report

## CAPITAL RADIO

# RATIBA YA VIPINDI JUMATATU - JUMAPILI

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

Tembelea mitandao ya kijamii ya CAPITAL RADIO



CAPITAL RADIO



## Eastern Africa Waste is Wealth Conference kicks off with immense vigour

By Special Correspondent, Nairobi

AFRICA generates about 80 percent of solid waste, which is worth an estimated eight billion dollars annually if recycled, but only around 11 percent is recycled, mainly by the informal sector.

Eng. Festus Ng'eno, Permanent Secretary, Kenya's Ministry of Environment, Climate Change and Forestry made the remarks on Tuesday when opening the 'Eastern Africa Waste is Wealth Conference, organised by Taka Ni Mali, the East African Business Council, and the Alliance for Science.

This three-day conference is themed "Promoting Effective Waste Management Practices for Environmental Conservation and Climate Change Mitigation" and is being held on the margins of the UN-Habitat General Assembly meeting in Nairobi.

He said Africa's population is projected to increase to 2.4 billion by 2050 and eventually reach 4.2 billion by 2100, there is a pressing need to address waste management challenges.

Eng. Ng'eno said: "Kenya is a leader in promoting waste recycling in the region, though waste recycling industries are faced with the challenge of operating in formalized, sustainable waste management systems. As such, the volume of waste collected has not been optimized based on market requirements."

He said the Kenyan government is committed to creating green jobs, entrepreneurship, environmental protection, and a circular economy. He revealed that the Extended Producer Responsibility Regulations are in the final stages.

Dr. Sheila Ochugboju, Executive Director of Alliance for Science said: "East Africa is taking the lead in waste



Mary Ngechu, the patron of Taka Taka ni Mali

management and sustainability issues."

She further expounded that countries like Rwanda and Kenya were the first to institute a plastic ban, and many countries in the Global North are struggling to catch up. Due to population growth, rapid urbaniza-

tion, and an emerging middle class, there is an urgent need for African countries to accelerate action on waste management as an integral part of their response to climate change and to address current waste management challenges and prepare for

the expected growth in waste generation in the coming century.

Mary Ngechu, the patron of Taka Taka ni Mali, said: "This conference aims to identify policy and regulatory priorities for sustainable waste man-

agement, showcase innovative approaches in commercializing sustainable waste management, demonstrate the use of technology in sustainable waste management, and adopt a plan of action for green financing investments in sustainable waste management."

East Africa Business Council (EABC) CEO John Bosco Kalisa said, "Climate change and the circular economy are top priorities for the Council."

The EABC has established a board subcommittee on climate change in partnership with GIZ-GFA and organized a community engagement and dialogue on zero waste in East Africa.

"East Africans should embrace the concept of zero waste and transition our business models from linear to a circular economy," said Kalisa.

The Eastern Africa Conference taking place from 6th -8th June 2023 will provide stakeholders with a platform to evaluate waste management policies across different sectors of the economy and help them recognize that urbanization is a key driver of waste management challenges in Africa.

The conference aims at uniting government institutions, private sector actors, development partners, and finance organizations to develop the necessary regional commitments to scale best-practice sustainable waste management models.

## Africa Prize announces finalists for continent's largest engineering innovation award

By Guardian Correspondent, London

SCALABLE engineering innovations created to address high gas prices by retrofitting motorbikes to run on batteries; easily diagnose and treat uterine health issues without anaesthetic; recycle lithium-ion laptop batteries into power packs for affordable electricity; and connect local communities through a digital rescue network to form community policing groups; have been selected as finalists for the prestigious Africa Prize for Engineering Innovation 2023.

The Africa Prize, founded by UK's Royal Academy of Engineering in 2014, is Africa's biggest prize dedicated to engineering innovation. The ninth winner will be announced in Accra, Ghana, on 6 July 2023, and will be awarded £25,000, with the other three finalists receiving £10,000 each. This year's finalists are from Nigeria, South Africa, Tanzania and Uganda, each of which are home to a previous Africa Prize winner. One of these nations will therefore see the selection of its second Africa Prize recipient in 2023.

The four finalists were selected from a shortlist of 15 African innovators for their proven ability to harness engineering to address common problems faced by Africans across the continent. The innovations tackle challenges central to the UN's Sustainable Development Goals, including good health and wellbeing, affordable and clean energy, peaceful and inclusive societies, and reduced inequalities.

This year's finalists include Chukwuemeka Eze, a Nigerian electrical engineer, developed the Revive Kit, a modular e-mobility service used to convert gas-powered three-wheeled motorbikes to run on rechargeable lithium-ion batteries.

Drivers can save up to 60% in operational costs, including gas or petrol, and 90% in maintenance costs. Eze's company also trains technicians in the use of the kit. The Revive Kit includes lithium-ion batteries, an AC induction motor, a retrofit shaft



**Royal Academy of Engineering** | Africa Prize for Engineering Innovation

**2023 FINALIST**

[raeng.org.uk/africaprize](https://raeng.org.uk/africaprize)

**One innovator can change a community. A network can transform a continent.**

**Gibson Kawago, a Tanzanian electrical engineer, developed the WAGA PAWA Pack. The power source created from recycled laptop lithium-ion batteries provides a reliable and affordable electricity source for electric bikes, businesses and homes.**



and an electronic controller, which acts as the inverter. It also includes a vehicle-to-home power adapter. Hall-effect sensors interface the throttle and the motor to the controller to determine and regulate motor speed. Other sensors monitor the vehicle's battery and location, engine performance, motor temperature and maintenance requirements.

On a single charge, the smart battery rack accepts modular batteries, and can accommodate batteries for a range of up to 120 kilometres on an average load of 320 kilograms. The vehicle-to-home integration can provide power to charge devices in off-grid homes or during power failures.

The modular battery and the smart battery racks can also be used by third party agents in building battery booths for a battery swapping network that uses mobile technology to keep drivers informed on the availability of charged batteries. This eliminates charge downtime and reduces pressure on the grid/supply.

"With surging fuel prices in Africa, the Revive Kit aims to be part of the solution. Too many drivers are spending over 60% of their revenue on petrol and maintenance; we aim to deliver an affordable and sustainable transport system which is environmentally friendly."

Edmund Wessels, a South African biomedical engineer, developed FlexiGyn, a battery-powered portable handheld device enabling gynaecologists to diagnose and treat a woman's uterus without anaesthetic or expensive equipment, increasing women's access to reproductive healthcare, particularly in remote areas. Typical hysteroscopy systems are rigid, leading to high levels of patient discomfort, requiring bulky additional equipment for visualisation. This innovative device offers a more comfortable and efficient experience for both patients and healthcare providers.

In addition to the hardware, Wessels and his team are developing integrated software solutions that seamlessly connect the Flex-

iGyn device with existing medical practice systems. This integration connects OB/GYN specialists with GPs, radically increasing the frequency of diagnoses. Streamlining patient scheduling, electronic health record synchronisation and AI-assisted diagnosis, it optimizes women's healthcare delivery. Improved efficiency and collaboration enable healthcare professionals to diagnose and treat patients more frequently, enhancing the overall quality of care.

"We've developed a system that aims to improve women's health through better point-of-care diagnostics. Designed for both the physician and patient, our solution is an intuitive, user-friendly device that is more comfortable for the patient thanks to its flexible design."

Gibson Kawago, a Tanzanian electrical engineer, developed the WAGA PAWA Pack, a rechargeable power source created from recycled laptop lithium-ion batteries, providing a reliable and affordable electricity source. Batteries are tested over two to four

weeks to ensure conformity to the manufacturer's standard. Once assembled, the pack has an output of either 12, 24, 36 or 48 DC volts, or inverted to 203 or 110 AV volts, suitable for different applications, including powering lights, appliances and heaters. Battery cells are fused together with nickel strips and enclosed in an aluminum case before being connected to a battery monitoring and protection system with sensors to monitor performance and detect changes in temperature, current and voltage, which are communicated via a display screen. The system is connected to a mobile app to enable users to monitor performance. The pack comes with ports that can be connected to inverters, solar lamps and other chargers, and can be fully recharged in up to three hours. The packs are recharged by solar panels.

"WAGA Power Packs provide low-carbon power to homes and allow businesses to keep operating after sun-down. Depending on the size of the battery and its purpose, it can provide elec-

tricity for anywhere from thirteen hours to one month. We are striving to change the lives of Tanzanians, particularly those in resource-scarce rural areas."

Anatoli Kirigwajjo, a Ugandan software engineer, developed YUNGA, a local digital security network that connects neighbours to each other and police within a 20km radius via a physical device, smartphone app or SMS service, providing security at a low cost.

Communities are divided into networks of 10 to 30 households, each receiving a device connected to a local area network. In cases of emergency, pressing a button sets off a load alarm on all devices connected to the network, and sends a message with the victim's details to other devices, prompting a community response. The system includes motion sensors for when users leave their homes or businesses. YUNGA also operates in areas with no internet through a long range wide area network. YUNGA

reduces response times from hours to the shortest time possible for members of the network to reach someone in danger.

"I developed YUNGA after losing USD 1,300 worth of assets in a break-in, with little chance of the thieves being caught. We hope that with our household networks, communities will become harder targets for criminals. This will ensure safety, which in turn will create the space for economic activities to thrive."

The finalists were chosen by the Royal Academy of Engineering after receiving support over eight months to help them accelerate their businesses. This included comprehensive and tailored entrepreneurship training, sector specific engineering mentoring, communications support, pitching opportunities and access to the Academy's network of high profile, experienced engineers and business experts in the UK and across Africa. The 2023 finalists will pitch their innovations to a panel of five judges and a live and online audience in Accra on 6 July.



# Shackled by debt and geopolitics, Africa struggles to join the global recovery

By Phillip van Niekerk

**K**ENYA'S Standard Gauge Railway from Mombasa to Naivasha, built by the China Road and Bridge Corporation, was supposed to be a showpiece of China's grand global infrastructure project, the Belt and Road Initiative launched by Xi Jinping in 2013.

Built with a loan of \$3.6-billion from the Exim Bank of China, the railway was meant to stimulate trade and investment and ultimately link up with the countries of the interior - Uganda, Rwanda, South Sudan and the Democratic Republic of Congo.

But it never generated the promised returns and now Kenya lacks the financing to take the rail up to the Ugandan border. Instead, it has become a symbol of the frustrations of indebtedness inherited by William Ruto's government from his predecessor Uhuru Kenyatta.

Kenya, one of the most dynamic economies in the region which has racked up a healthy trade surplus with its neighbours, has had to delay salary payments to civil servants as it juggles the needs of its people against repayments of the Chinese debt that now consumes a hefty portion of the country's budget.

Kenya is not alone. The spectre of chronic indebtedness is haunting Africa, immobilising economies and limiting access to the new capital and investment desperately needed to fund the continent's development and growth.

The economic pain is affecting politically fragile countries. While it was not the direct cause, Sudan, which is indebted to China to the tune of at least \$5-billion, experienced inflation in the region of 650% during 2022 before collapsing into civil war in April this year.

The IMF considers almost half of African countries to be in debt distress or at high risk of distress. What is especially concerning is that the largest economies, those most critical to driving regional growth, are in trouble.

Nigeria is paying about 97% of its revenue each month just to service its debt, while Egypt has quadrupled its external debt during the past decade with little return from its infrastructure investments.

Harvard economist Ken Rogoff told the Associated Press: "In a lot of the world, the clock has hit midnight."

Abebe Selassie, the head of the IMF's Africa department, has called for a new deal for restructuring sovereign debt. "We need to be sure that resources are going to support countries rather than being used to service unsustainable debts," he said.

But despite some critical IMF bailouts - Ghana just received a \$3-billion extended credit facility with an immediate disbursement of about \$600-million - there is little sign of the international cavalry coming to the rescue.

During the last debt crisis, non-Chinese debtors cancelled \$130-billion of debt in 2005 for dozens of low-income countries in the so-called Gleneagles Agreement.

Selassie, among others, has called for a new Gleneagles moment given the damage that has been wrought on Africa's vulnerable economies by Covid-19, Russia's invasion of Ukraine, inflation and sky-high interest rates set by the central bankers in the developed world.

But the prospects for an all-encompassing deal are complicated by China's emergence as a major creditor and the deepening geopolitical divide between the West and China.

China at first participated, for the first time, in the G20 debt service suspension initiative in 2020, but further cooperation on restructuring was stalled by mutual suspicion.

This is reflected in the ongoing impasse in Zambia,



A Kenya Railways Corporation freight train pulling shipping containers leaves the port station on the Nairobi Standard Gauge Railway line in Mombasa on 1 September 2018. (Photo: Luis Tato / Bloomberg via Getty Images)

which defaulted in 2020 and owes Chinese entities more than \$6.6-billion.

China is unwilling to take the hit unless all creditors agree to take the same haircut, but bond holders and Western creditors are concerned about the lack of transparency in the Chinese loans and the evidence suggests that the loans were inflated to accommodate kickbacks for government officials and intermediaries.

In Kenya the government has toyed with the idea of declaring the debt odious, believing that one-quarter of the loans funded corruption.

But the notion espoused by some in Washington, such as former national security adviser John Bolton, that this was all

part of a nefarious plot by China to trap developing countries into surrendering their natural resources, does not hold water.

Michael Pettis, professor of finance at Peking University's Guanghua School of Management, believes it is largely incorrect, and unfair, to identify China's lending and its role in the restructuring process as "predatory".

"While Chinese development lending expanded very quickly, the country's lenders were inexperienced, ignorant of the risks, and overconfident in their analytical capacities during a time in which soaring commodity prices made developing borrowers seem better credit risks. China simply made all the mistakes that every

country has made when it first 'goes out'."

What that means is that China, having learnt its lesson, is much more circumspect about its lending. Brad Setser of the Council on Foreign Relations believes that China's net flows to Africa have turned negative - there is more money going on repayments than coming in as new loans.

### Darker narrative

One thing is clear: the African rising narrative has been replaced by a much darker one in which, unless there is relief soon, the continent could get left further behind, reduced to the permanent status of, at best, an exporter of raw materials.

There are some early signs that the geopolitical stalemate could be broken. US Secretary of State Antony Blinken's visit to China later this month could be an opportunity to search for common ground on the debt issue, which involves Asian and Latin American countries as well. It is one item where cooperation is necessary but need not be the source of superpower contestation.

Going forward, this whole crisis is about more than debt relief. African voices need to be about how to improve governance, how to shield the most vulnerable from the shocks of the global economy, how to unlock capital for growth and how to build manufacturing by connecting African economies to

the global value chains.

Perhaps there are even ways in which African countries can benefit from the rapidly shifting geopolitics.

Olaf Scholz, the German chancellor, believes that if the West de-risks its value chains from China this could be "a path to generate economic development for the Global South".

Moving even a small slice of manufacturing to Africa could be a game changer. DM

*Phillip Van Niekerk is the editor of Africa Unscrambled, a newsletter covering the continent in a way you won't read anywhere else. Get unscrambled by signing up right here.*



# RATIBA YA VIPINDI JUMATATU - JUMAPILI

MONDAY TIME PROGRAMME	TUESDAY TIME PROGRAMME	WEDNESDAY TIME PROGRAMME	THURSDAY TIME PROGRAMME	FRIDAY TIME PROGRAMME	SATURDAY TIME PROGRAMME	SUNDAY TIME PROGRAMME
05.00 AM HALI YA HEWA / KUMEPAMBAZUKA I 06.00 AM AMKA NA BBC 06.30 AM NIPASHE 06.50 AM MATANGAZO 07.00 AM NEWS BULLETIN 07.10 AM MATANGAZO 07.15 AM TAARIFA ZA BARABARANI 07.25 AM UDONDOZI WA MAGAZETI 07.40 AM KUMEPAMBAZUKA II 08.00 AM HABARI NYEPESI 09.00 AM HABARI ZA BIASHARA 09.10 AM MATANGAZO 09.20 AM BRAND TALK 10.00 AM NEWS BRIEF 10.03 AM DEATH ANNOUNCEMENTS 10.10 AM YALIVOMO YAMO 13.00 HRS NEWS BULLETIN 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 22.00 HRS NEWS BULLETIN (24 HRS) 22.15 HRS AFRO TIZI 23.00 HRS NEWS BRIEF 23.03 HRS AFRO TIZI 01:00-05:00HRS MUZIKI MCHANGANYIKO)	05.00 AM HALI YA HEWA / KUMEPAMBAZUKA I 06.00 AM AMKA NA BBC 06.30 AM NIPASHE 06.50 AM MATANGAZO 07.00 AM NEWS BULLETIN 07.10 AM MATANGAZO 07.15 AM TAARIFA ZA BARABARANI 07.25 AM UDONDOZI WA MAGAZETI 07.40 AM KUMEPAMBAZUKA II 08.00 AM HABARI NYEPESI 08.10 AM KUMEPAMBAZUKA III 09.00 AM HABARI ZA BIASHARA 09.10 AM MATANGAZO 09.20 AM BRAND TALK 09.30 AM KUMEPAMBAZUKA SHERIA 10.00 AM NEWS BRIEF 10.03 AM DEATH ANNOUNCEMENTS 10.10 AM YALIVOMO YAMO 13.00 HRS NEWS BULLETIN 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 MATANGAZO / MUZIKI 21.00 HRS NEWS BRIEF 21.05 HRS CHAGUO LA DJ 21.00 HRS NEWS BRIEF 21.05 HRS CHAGUO LA DJ 22.00 HRS NEWS BULLETIN (24 HRS) 22.15 HRS AFRO TIZI 23.00 HRS NEWS BRIEF 23.03 HRS AFRO TIZI 01:00-05:00HRS MUZIKI MCHANGANYIKO)	05.00 AM HALI YA HEWA / KUMEPAMBAZUKA I 06.00 AM AMKA NA BBC 06.30 AM NIPASHE 06.50 AM MATANGAZO 07.00 AM NEWS BULLETIN 07.10 AM MATANGAZO 07.15 AM TAARIFA ZA BARABARANI 07.25 AM UDONDOZI WA MAGAZETI 07.40 AM KUMEPAMBAZUKA II 08.00 AM HABARI NYEPESI 08.10 AM KUMEPAMBAZUKA III 09.00 AM HABARI ZA BIASHARA 09.10 AM MATANGAZO 09.20 AM BRAND TALK 09.30 AM KUMEPAMBAZUKA MICHEZO 10.00 AM NEWS BRIEF 10.03 AM DEATH ANNOUNCEMENTS 10.10 AM YALIVOMO YAMO 13.00 HRS NEWS BULLETIN 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 MATANGAZO / MUZIKI 21.00 HRS NEWS BRIEF 21.05 HRS CHAGUO LA DJ 22.00 HRS NEWS BULLETIN (24 HRS) 22.15 HRS AFRO TIZI 23.00 HRS NEWS BRIEF 23.03 HRS AFRO TIZI 01:00-05:00HRS MUZIKI MCHANGANYIKO)	05.00 AM HALI YA HEWA / KUMEPAMBAZUKA I 06.00 AM AMKA NA BBC 06.30 AM NIPASHE 06.50 AM MATANGAZO 07.00 AM NEWS BULLETIN 07.10 AM MATANGAZO 07.15 AM TAARIFA ZA BARABARANI 07.25 AM UDONDOZI WA MAGAZETI 07.40 AM KUMEPAMBAZUKA II 08.00 AM HABARI NYEPESI 08.10 AM KUMEPAMBAZUKA III 09.00 AM HABARI ZA BIASHARA 09.10 AM MATANGAZO 09.20 AM BRAND TALK 09.30 AM KUMEPAMBAZUKA UKIMWI 10.00 AM NEWS BRIEF 10.03 AM DEATH ANNOUNCEMENTS 10.10 AM YALIVOMO YAMO 13.00 HRS NEWS BULLETIN 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 MATANGAZO / MUZIKI 21.00 HRS NEWS BRIEF 21.05 HRS MALUMBANO YA HOJA 22.00 HRS NEWS BULLETIN 22.15 HRS AFRO TIZI 23.00 HRS NEWS BRIEF 23.03 HRS AFRO TIZI 01:00-05:00HRS MUZIKI MCHANGANYIKO)	05.00 AM HALI YA HEWA / KUMEPAMBAZUKA I 06.00 AM AMKA NA BBC 06.30 AM NIPASHE 06.50 AM MATANGAZO 07.00 AM NEWS BULLETIN 07.10 AM MATANGAZO 07.15 AM TAARIFA ZA BARABARANI 07.25 AM UDONDOZI WA MAGAZETI 07.40 AM KUMEPAMBAZUKA II 08.00 AM HABARI NYEPESI 08.10 AM KUMEPAMBAZUKA III 09.00 AM HABARI ZA BIASHARA 09.10 AM MATANGAZO 09.20 AM BRAND TALK 10.00 AM NEWS BRIEF 10.03 AM DEATH ANNOUNCEMENTS 10.10 AM HIZI NAZO 13.00 HRS NEWS BULLETIN 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 MATANGAZO / MUZIKI 21.00 HRS NEWS BRIEF 21.05HRS KIPIMA JOTO 23.00 HRS WEEKEND SHOW 01:00 - 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Tembelea mitandao ya kijamii ya Radio One



Radio One



# CREDITS GROWTH TO BUILDINGS, CONSTRUCTIONS REMAINS HIGH FOR SEVEN CONSECUTIVE MONTHS

By Guardian Reporter

**T**HE growth of banks' lending to builders and property developers has remained strong on double digits over the last seven months, which indicates increased banks' confidences on the activity as the economy is passing through post pandemic recovery.

The Bank of Tanzania (BoT) monthly economic review for May shows annual growth of credit to building and construction has remained strong at between 15 percent and 20 percent annually during the last seven months from single digit recorded in August last year.

The review shows the credit growth to the economic activity was 1.7 percent in April last year, and contraction trends throughout 2021, with its share remaining at an average rate of 4.5 percent of total credits.

Elvis Ndunguru, the director of business banking, NBC Bank said strong growth was driven by various factors, include increased government's spending on construction social services infrastructure by the Covid-19 fund.

Speaking with The Guardian recently Ndunguru mentioned other factors spurring the growth of credits to building and construction as better business environment as investors in the activity have increased appetite to invest.

"There has also been an increased investment in warehousing due to backlog of various imports during covid-19 period, so now the flow has improved to catch up," he said.



Contribution of construction to total GDP reached 15 percent during the third quarter of last year

However, Ndunguru said during the last there has been a slowdown of imports business due to dollar illiquidity.

The demand on residential properties has also gone up due to increased flows of expatriate community, especially on high end areas, which has driven the increased development of residential properties, he said.

According to Ndunguru, this trend translates into a great opportunity to banks to build more stable balance sheets and support key sectors of the economy.

"This trend indicates the confidence in our economy and banks should be ready to review their credit appetite to this sector and fully support the country," he added.

Generally, Credit extended to the private sector grew by 22.5 percent in the year ending April 2023, compared with 13.4 percent in the corresponding period in 2022.

"The increase reflects the recovery of demand for new loans by the private sector, attributable to an improved busi-

ness environment, recovery of global supply chains, supportive monetary and fiscal policies, coupled with the lagged impact of policy reforms," BoT says.

Provisional data by the National Bureau of Statistics (NBS) show real estate sector value reached 4.5trn/- in 2021, at current market prices, with the share of 2.8 percent to the GDP.

On the other hand, construction sector was valued 22.3trn/- at current market price in 2021, second to crops which contribute 23trn/- and its contribution to the GDP was estimated at nearly 14 percent.

However, the quarterly report shows the contribution of construction to total GDP reached 15 percent during the third quarter of last year.

The ministry of finance and planning also reported an increased external borrowing by real estate and construction to US\$1.8bn/- during the year ending April this year, nearly seven percent of total external borrowing from US\$1.7bn/- recorded in April last year.



CRDB Bank headquarters in Dar es Salaam

## CRDB to mark child day with 15.4mn/- school fees awards

BY GUARDIAN CORRESPONDENT

AS part of commemorating the African Child day this year, CRDB Bank has launched a new promotion "fulfill his/her dream with Junior Jumbo" as part of raising awareness to parents on the important of savings for children.

Speaking in Dar es Salaam, yesterday, the bank's sales senior manager, Muhumuliza Buberwa said through the campaign, the bank will also provide financial literacy programme to children in order to prepare them from facing financial challenges.

"We have been teaching children on different issues in life, but many of them fail to access financial education and savings, which is important to prepare our children and youths. This campaign

is going to sensitize on the importance of education and building saving culture among children," he said.

Elaborating on the campaign, the bank's sales manager Amina Mawona said through the promotion which will reach its climax on July 5 this year, a total of 15.4mn/- has been allocated as prizes for 21 children, of which are coming from three zones where the bank operates.

"The first winner for each zone will win 1mn/-, the second winner will be awarded 700,000 and the second runner up will win half a million, which will make total prizes to be 15.4mn/-." The objective of this campaign is to sensitize parents to build savings culture for their children," she said.

In order to participate the campaign, parents and guardians should open Junior Jumbo account for their children and

regularly deposit or teaching them on how to save themselves. Parents may deposit cash into the account through CRDB bank branches, mobile phones, agents (wakala) or internet banking channels.

The CRDB's Buza branch manager Mary Joshua said many parents have been facing the challenge of paying school fees due to lack of saving culture for their children and this has caused most of the children to fail report to schools on time or report late because of lack of school equipment and fees.

"We sensitize parents or guardians to open accounts for their children and start depositing regularly for their future. This account is opened with ease requirements, with no fees but subjected to interest income," she said.

## Las Vegas' landlord looks at spas, parks for future growth

LAS VEGAS

BORN out of the casino industry's biggest bankruptcy, Vici Properties Inc. has become one of the more surprising success stories in the gambling business.

The New York-based real estate investment trust owns 54 properties across the US and Canada, including such iconic resorts as Caesars Palace in Las Vegas and the Borgata in Atlantic City, New Jersey. It's the largest owner of casinos on the Las Vegas Strip, with more than a quarter of the city's hotel rooms.

While the company owns the real estate, industry giants including Caesars Entertainment Inc., MGM Resorts International and Hard Rock International operate the properties and pay rent under long-term leases. Vici, which has just 26 employees, generated \$2.2 billion in earnings before interest, taxes and depreciation on revenue of \$2.6 billion last year. Its market value exceeds \$32 billion.

The company has doubled in size over the past couple of years by gobbling up other properties, paying \$4 billion for the Venetian in Las Vegas, for example, and adding others through the acquisition of rival MGM Growth Properties. Vici shares returned 130% since they began trading in October 2017, delivering almost five times the return of the Bloomberg US 3000 Real Estate Index.

"They've gotten so big now it's going to be harder to move the needle," said Chad Beynon, an analyst with Macquarie Capital who has an outperform rating on the stock.

Partly for that reason, Chief Executive Officer Ed Pitoniak is looking beyond casinos. Vici has bought golf courses and lent \$80 million to Chelsea Piers, a sports complex in Manhattan. It's helping to finance construction of Great Wolf Resorts Inc. water parks and a Canyon Ranch spa in Texas. It has an option to buy the high-end spa's other properties in Arizona and Massachusetts.

Pitoniak, 67, is actively looking at other businesses, such as sports arenas and amusement parks, but hasn't found a deal yet. His targets are unique destinations that don't compete with the growing number of home entertainment options.

"Nobody's building roller coasters and Harry Potter rides in their backyards," he said in an interview.

Pitoniak, an Amherst College English major, has had a thrill-ride of a career. He started off in publishing,

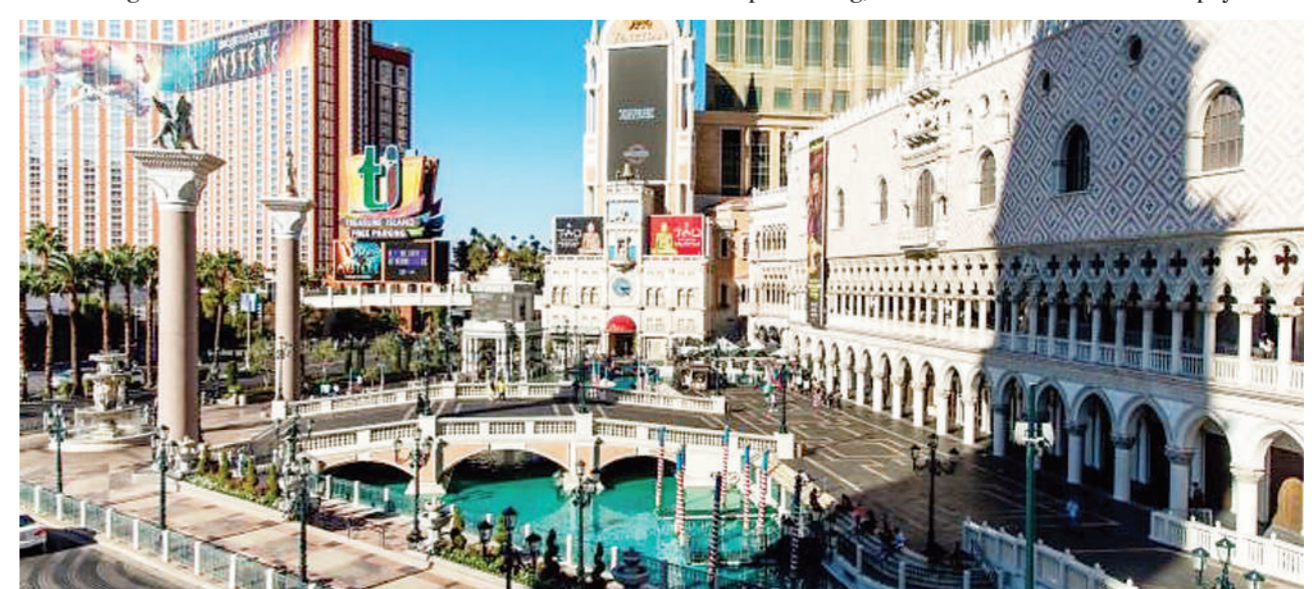
rising to editor-in-chief of Ski Magazine. After giving a particularly impressive presentation on the demographics of the industry, Pitoniak got hired to work for Intrawest Resorts Holdings, then the owner of Blackcomb, Stratton and other ski resorts. That ultimately led to his becoming CEO of two Canadian hotel REITs.

Pitoniak credits his days as an editor for his success in business. "I came to enjoy telling stories with numbers," he said. After being contacted by an executive recruiter to help run Vici, Pitoniak worked on getting the company's story straight.

Vici emerged from the troubled leveraged buyout of Caesars, a \$30 billion deal completed just before the 2008 financial crisis. Unable to handle the debt, Caesars put its largest subsidiary in bankruptcy. Hedge funds and other creditors created Vici as a way to enhance their recovery.

REITs, which pay out 90% of their profit to shareholders and are exempt from corporate taxes, are a longtime fixture of real estate investing. But they're relatively new to the casino business. Penn Entertainment Inc. launched the first when it spun off Gaming & Leisure Properties Inc. in 2013.

The Covid-19 pandemic, which led casinos across the country to close for a few months, proved that the business could endure. Gamblers came roaring back when the resorts reopened. Vici's tenants never missed a rent payment.





# CURRENT THEMES IN THE AFRICAN REAL ESTATE MARKET

BY BONIFACE ABUDHO

**T**HE just concluded East African Property Investment (EAPI) summit revolved around a prominent and recurring theme that dominated the sessions: the emergence of new asset classes within the African real estate industry. It is evident that investment preferences have undergone a remarkable transformation over the past five years. Historically, the focus has been on traditional offices, retail establishments, and industrial properties.

Currently, a notable surge of capital is being directed towards diverse alternative asset classes in Africa, including student accommodation, logistics and warehousing, data centres, and education and healthcare facilities. Indeed, according to a report by the African Development Bank, the value of capital invested in alternative asset classes in Africa reached US\$100 billion in 2022. This represents a significant increase from the US\$50 billion invested in 2021.

At the same time, the summit provided a comprehensive overview of the post-COVID business landscape, focusing on how businesses have adjusted working practices and their occupational strategies in the aftermath of the pandemic. Below, we highlight some prominent trends that have come to define the present state of the African real estate market in the post-COVID-19 era.

## Flight to Quality

In the present market landscape, cost alone no longer holds sole significance for occupiers. The emphasis has now turned towards quality. Stakeholders are increasingly prioritising high-quality offices that also deliver on ESG considerations.

This flight to quality is resulting in the emergence of a distinctive two-tiered market. Indeed, across the

East African market, the average rental rate for prime offices exceeds that of traditional offices by as much as 20 percent. Additionally, the vacancy rate for prime offices stands at approximately 5 percent, compared to 15 percent for the rest of the market.

The need to attract and retain top talent, the necessity for a productive and collaborative work environment, and presenting a positive image to clients and partners are other reasons behind the laser-like focus on best-in-class offices

## Flexibility

Long-term leases, previously common in Kenya, for instance, are being avoided by occupiers. As a result, landlords are adopting a different approach, supplementing their offerings with additional amenities such as bicycle racks, shower rooms, gyms, cafeterias, and communal reception areas as part of the foundational infrastructure.

In Kenya, the dynamic technology and SME sectors have driven this shift, as co-working space remains a more cost-effective and flexible alternative to traditional offices. For instance, the average duration of leases has decreased from five to three years, while the demand for flexible office space in Kenya has surged by 20 percent in the past 12 months alone. Overall, there is an escalating need for flexible offices throughout Africa, influenced by various factors such as the rise of remote working.

Another good example is Egypt, where the average cost of flexible office space is approximately 15 percent lower than that of conventional offices. Landlords who can provide flexible lease agreements and desirable amenities stand to benefit the most from the shift in occupier preferences.

Other benefits of flexible office spaces include: Cost-effectiveness: Flexible office space enables tenants to



save expenses on rent, utilities, and other miscellaneous overhead costs. Adaptability: Tenants can easily adjust their space requirements in flexible office setups. Amenities: Unlike traditional offices, flexible space offers often offer additional amenities like gyms, cafes, and shared meeting rooms. Community: Flexible office space fosters a sense of community and encourages collaboration among tenants.

## Net Zero Commitments

Environmental, Social, and Governance (ESG) considerations have

gained significant prominence within the African real estate industry. A rising number of stakeholders are committing to achieving net-zero targets, emphasising sustainable practices, and actively seeking environmentally friendly properties.

In 2021, the African Development Bank initiated the Africa Green Building Finance Initiative (AGBFI), which involves a substantial US\$ 500 million fund to finance green buildings across Africa.

During 2022, Cape Town committed to achieving net-zero emissions status by 2040, setting an interim target of reducing emissions by 40 percent by 2030. This increasing emphasis on ESG aligns with the global movement towards a more sustainable future and has serious implications for real estate that do not have any ESG credentials attached to it.

According to UN Estimates, the real estate industry currently contributes approximately 40 percent of global greenhouse gas emissions, which could rise to 70 percent by 2050. Consequently, there is a growing recognition of the need for ESG integration within the African real estate industry.

**Boniface Abudho (pictured) is the research analyst, Knight Frank**

## Viva Towers commemorates 10th anniversary with strength

VIVA Towers is commemorating one decade of its establishment in Tanzania's highly competitive real estate market, specifically the metropolitan city of Dar es Salaam. The Guardian Reporter spoke to the company's market manager Athiya Karume who explained on the strengths and challenges the company has experienced over the last ten years and the future plans.

**What are the major products and services VIVA Towers is currently offering to the market?**

We provide modern and luxurious apartments for long-term rentals and potential buyers, along with rentals for prime commercial properties for businesses of all sizes in our building. In tandem we offer exceptional 24 hour customer and maintenance services to our tenants.

**Property market in Tanzania is highly competitive, what drive VIVA Towers to remain the best choice for tenants?**

VIVA Towers remains the best choice for tenants in the highly competitive property market in Dar es Salaam due to our unwavering commitment to providing a high level of service. We prioritize the quality of our properties, offer exceptional customer service, and continually strive to exceed tenant expectations. Our dedication to delivering an outstanding living and working experience sets us apart from the competition.

**What achievements VIVA Towers is proud of during the last one decade?**

Over the last decade, we have achieved numerous significant milestones that we are incredibly proud of. One of the notable achievements that we hold dear is being recognized as a Superbrand.

This prestigious verification by Superbrands is a testament to our commitment to excellence and the trust we have earned from our customers and stakeholders.

**How property market in Tanzania is currently performing during post-pandemic recovery?**

The real estate sector, like many other industries, experienced a slowdown during

the pandemic due to various factors such as restrictions on movement, economic uncertainties, and changes in consumer behavior. However, as the country gradually returns to normalcy, we are witnessing signs of improvement in the real estate market.

**Dar es Salaam city is currently growing in terms of business activities and population. What are the opportunities VIVA Towers is seeing currently and in the future?**

We see significant opportunities in the growing business activities and investor population of Dar es Salaam. We anticipate increased demand for residential and commercial spaces, and by capitalizing on these opportunities, we aim to meet the evolving needs of the market and contribute to the city's growth and success.

**Reports by Knight Frank show the rate of property rent in Dar es Salaam has fallen due to the government decision to shift to Dodoma. How has this affected the performance of VIVA Towers?**

The impact on VIVA Towers has been relatively minimal. Our business primarily caters to a specific clientele sectors, and the government's decision to shift to Dodoma has

affected us on a small scale. Due to our focus on providing high-quality residential & commercial spaces and exceptional service, we have maintained a steady occupancy rate and tenant satisfaction.

What are the major challenges currently facing property managers in Tanzania, specifically VIVA Towers?

In our opinion as property managers, there are two major challenges: One is foreign property ownership restrictions. The inability of foreigners to buy property in Tanzania limits our customer base and hinders attracting foreign investors.

The second challenge is economic growth instability because fluctuations in the country's economy require us to closely monitor market conditions and adjust strategies accordingly.

## Villagers seek land for small-scale mining

By Correspondent James Kandoya, recently in Ikungi

**VILLAGERS** living around the Shanta Gold mine in Mang'onyi ward, Ikungi district, Singida region have called on the government to allocate land for artisanal and small-scale mining just as it did in other areas.

The villagers from Mang'onyi, Sambaru and Mwau villages in Ikungi District aired their views recently separately by saying the decision will help to reduce antagonistic movements between mining firms and the villagers.

They said that if a villager wants to operate mining activities has to work in the mining sites and not otherwise, adding that the decision will help artisanal and small-scale mining to generate funds for their home domestic fund. Sabi Augustine, a resident of Mwau village, in Mang'onyi ward, said that since the nearby gold mine occupied the land for mining operation artisanal have no place for the mining activities.

They decried little contribution made by the mining site in development activities and there are plenty of hectares owned by the mining companies undeveloped and not evaluated that could be given to the villagers for small mining operations.

"We call on the head of state to think of empowering us by giving the land where we can make small mining operations like in other gold mines," he said.

Augustine said if the land could be given to the villagers living around the gold company, it could contribute to their family income and nation revenue.

"We have not given plots for small-scale mining operations. We therefore, call President Samia Suluhu Hassan to help us by offering land for artisanal to start mining activities," he said.

Joshua Saidi, a resident of Mang'onyi village, said even the social supports made by nearby gold mines residing in the three villages namely; Mwau, Sambaru and Mang'onyi is not satisfactory since its inception. "We hoped the mining company could contribute more to the village's development apart from toilets, water borehole drilled and dispensary," he said.

According to him, the mining companies started operations and exported bars of gold and therefore obliged to contribute

more to the people's development.

Mang'onyi Village Chairman, Elineema Chinangi, said that investment made by Shanta Gold mine has contributed a lot to the village development and mentioned some as employment, good relations with neighboring villages within Mang'onyi ward.

"Our villagers have benefitted from employment that is not skilled labour such as security," he said. Chinangi said that the investors has supported the construction of mother and child building, toilets, construction of new and renovated classrooms

Ikungi District Council Executive Director (DED) Justice Kijazi said that the Shanta Gold mine fully owned by the investors and government has no shares, instead district council receives services levy 0.3 percent of the gross value.

He said the mining operation started designing in 2005 and 2017 identified the site followed later by compensation to the villagers ought to pave a chance worth 2 bn/- including construction of houses to 16 villagers and one mosque.

Kijazi said that even before starting production, the Shanta Gold mine has paid corporate social responsibility (CSR) amounting to 1bn/- to support developmental projects in the three villages.

Some of the developmental projects implemented so far are construction of dispensaries, renovation and construction of new classrooms, drilling of water boreholes to mention a few.

Kijazi said the first gold pour was in March this year, and up to date it has produced 140 kilograms of gold so far and according to the agreement, the mine pays every three months and the council is expected to receive its first royalty in July this year. In this year's budget, Shanta Gold mine has set aside \$116,000 to implement development projects in all villages surrounding the Mang'onyi ward.

The district is also expected to receive \$ 20,000 from the mining for its development. So far Ikungi district council has received services levies worth 15m/- from the companies working with Shanta Gold mine.

Acting Mineral Officer in Singida region Chome Malembo said the government receives a royalty payment of 7 percent (non-tax revenues) from the mining operations.



Viva Towers team





## TECHNOLOGY

# IT'S CHEAPER TO BUY THAN RENT IN 4 MAJOR US CITIES

WASHINGTON

IT'S cheaper to rent than buy in most of the US, a new housing analysis found, unless you're lucky enough to live in four select cities.

The typical home's monthly mortgage cost is lower than its monthly rent in Detroit, Philadelphia, Cleveland, and Houston, according to the analysis of the 50 most popular metros by real estate brokerage Redfin. These were also the only places where more than 50 percent of homes in each respective market were more affordable to purchase than rent.

In all other major cities – from San Jose, California to Pittsburgh – renting was more affordable than buying, the report found, a blow to potential homebuyers.

Skyrocketing home prices, elevated rates, and still hot inflation have crushed buyer affordability across the US. Still, somehow those few markets have weathered the storm.

"It's easier to build there," Daryl Fairweather, chief economist at Redfin, told Yahoo Finance about the four cities. "[And] home prices never really accelerated during the pandemic in those areas, at least not as much as they did in the rest of the country."

"They didn't have big swings in prices when mortgage rates ticked up," she added. "It hasn't really exacerbated housing affordability the way it has in other parts of the country."

Redfin's calculations considered a 6.5 percent mortgage rate and a 5 percent down payment, a homeowners insurance rate equal to 0.5 percent of



the purchase price, and 1.25 percent annual property tax rate if no tax records were available.

Where it's cheaper to buy

The median monthly mortgage payment in Detroit was \$1,296 in March, Redfin estimated, compared with a monthly rent of \$1,697, making it 24 percent less expensive to buy a typical home there. That was the largest discount percentage-wise among the 50 most populous metros.

Philadelphia followed next with a

7 percent ownership discount, then Cleveland with a 4 percent discount, and Houston with 1 percent discount.

Nationwide, though, the typical home costs 25 percent more to buy than rent, the company's analysis found.

According to Redfin Deputy Chief Economist Taylor Marr, these areas didn't experience a run-up in prices as newcomers flooded the market during the pandemic as was the case with boomtowns that saw home prices

soar. "Home values in Cleveland and Detroit are stagnant compared to pandemic boomtowns like Phoenix and Miami, so they don't experience huge booms," Marr wrote in the report. "But that also means they don't experience the huge busts that are currently underway in much of the US."

As a result, 80 percent of properties in Detroit are cheaper to buy than rent. That share was 59 percent in Philadelphia, 57 percent in Cleveland, and 52 percent in Houston. Nationwide, only 19 percent of the housing stock is more affordable to purchase than rent.

"It's a double-edged sword, though," Marr added. "When house hunters can't build a lot of equity, they have less of an incentive to pay a premium to own."

Where it's more expensive

By contrast, home prices have surged in the majority of large cities across the country, making properties unaffordable.

In San Jose, the typical home is 165 percent more expensive to buy than rent, Redfin found, representing the largest premium percentage-wise out of the 50 metros. Residents there faced a median monthly mortgage payment of \$11,049, compared with a median monthly rent of \$4,176.

San Francisco had the second-highest ownership premium at 139 percent, followed by Oakland, Calif. (99 percent premium); Anaheim, Calif. (91 percent premium); and Seattle (88 percent premium).

That meant virtually no homes in those cities were cheaper to buy than rent, Redfin noted.

Although home prices have softened in some of those markets recently, the declines haven't been enough to improve affordability very much.

"California has recently seen a decline in home values because of how high rates are, but homes in California are still really unaffordable," Fairweather said.

"We need more supply"

Although higher mortgage rates have aggravated homebuyer affordability, the lack of inventory is the real, underlying problem across much of the country, Fairweather said.

Available inventory of unsold single-family homes rose by 0.7 percent this week to 436,284 homes, according to a separate survey from real estate analytics firm Altos Research. There are now 16 percent more homes on the market compared with last year at this time.

At the beginning of the year, there were 70 percent more homes versus the previous year.

## Embattled Swedish landlord plunges into junk territory

STOCKHOLM

THE company at the center of Sweden's property crisis was sent even further into junk territory by S&P Global Ratings, a move that will worsen the already severe funding crunch for the troubled landlord.

Samhallsbyggnadsbolaget i Norden AB – or SBB, as it's more commonly known – was cut in a double downgrade to BB- and placed on negative watch. A lower credit rating translates into higher borrowing costs and moves the company even further from the high-grade investors that helped finance an \$8 billion debt pile.

"We see an elevated refinancing and liquidity risk, with investor confidence declining further in the past couple of weeks," S&P said in a statement, adding that the rating could be lowered again if the firm fails to sell assets and is unable to restore market confidence.

SBB's shares are down more than 90 percent from its peak in late 2021 as a result of higher funding costs, which have put pressure on its business model. While many companies took on a lot of debt during the years of ultra-low interest rates, SBB has become a closely watched bellwether for property firms in Sweden and beyond.

Sweden's central bank has called on the country's property firms to strengthen their balance sheets as they have some \$6.9 billion of bond debt maturing this year. It also warned that financial stability could be threatened if property values were pushed lower by vulnerable landlords selling large volumes of stock quickly.



The downgrade comes just days after SBB replaced Chief Executive Officer Ilija Batljan with Leiv Synnes, previously the chief financial officer of rival property firm Akelius Residential Property AB. While Synnes has pledged to not sell off SBB's assets at a discount and

ruled out another rights issue, his hand may be forced if he is to avert a further ratings slide. On Friday, Bloomberg News reported that Brookfield Asset Management was in early talks with the landlord.

As interest rates have soared, sales volumes in Swe-

den's commercial property market have hit the lowest point in a decade, with transactions down 65% this year. "Despite the downgrade not coming as a surprise in our view, we regard it credit negative," Danske Bank A/S's credit analyst Marcus Gustavsson said in a note. He added that further negative rating actions from both S&P and Fitch Ratings can't be ruled out.

SBB valuations may not have reflected its ratings for some time but recent price action shows downgrades matter. S&P's double downgrade shows the CEO change and statements about the broader strategic review haven't been enough to avert cuts.

SBB, which must roll over \$1.6 billion of maturing bonds within the next three years, was first cut to junk by S&P a month ago – a move followed by Fitch. Shares dropped as much as 9.8% in Stockholm.

The company's senior unsecured bonds due in 2029 fell 0.9 cents on the euro to a bid price of 60.5, according to data compiled by Bloomberg. With a corresponding yield of 9.6%, the notes were trading at distressed levels even before this latest downgrade.

# AIRTEL PRESENTS AWARD TO PROMO WINNER IN KAGERA

BY GUARDIAN CORRESPONDENT, BUKOBA

AIRTEL Tanzania has handed over winners of the ongoing customer drive promotion in the Kagera region.

The lucky winner was Jasson Kataboro from Bwanjai Ward, Missenyi District who won a brand-new Fridge during the weekly draw of UPIGE MWINGI promotion.

The UPIGE MWINGI promotion which was launched late last month is a three months promotion that gives Airtel Money customers a chance of winning instant rewards of airtime bonuses, Motorcycles, flat TV, a Fridge, and cash money prizes ranging from 1 million per day to a Mega prize of 50 million whenever a customer buys Airtime bundle or does an Airtel Money transactions (sending money, cash out, bill pay or Lipa).

Speaking in Bukoba Town after receiving his new Fridge, Jasson Kataboro commented on Airtel for

their services that are in line with customers' daily lives.

"I'm happy for winning this new fridge which I will use in my shop as the one which I'm currently using does not meet my demands. I won the fridge after buying airtime and later a call from the Airtel call center that I had won a weekly prize fridge from the ongoing promotion. I'm very happy and thankful to Airtel and I want to say that this promotion is real and will continue Airtel as my number one network," said Kataboro.

Airtel sales Manager for Kagera Region Aaron Ntangalo who handed over the prize to the winner, said the promotion is aimed at sensitizing customers to continue using Airtel services as a way of paying back to royal Airtel Money customers.

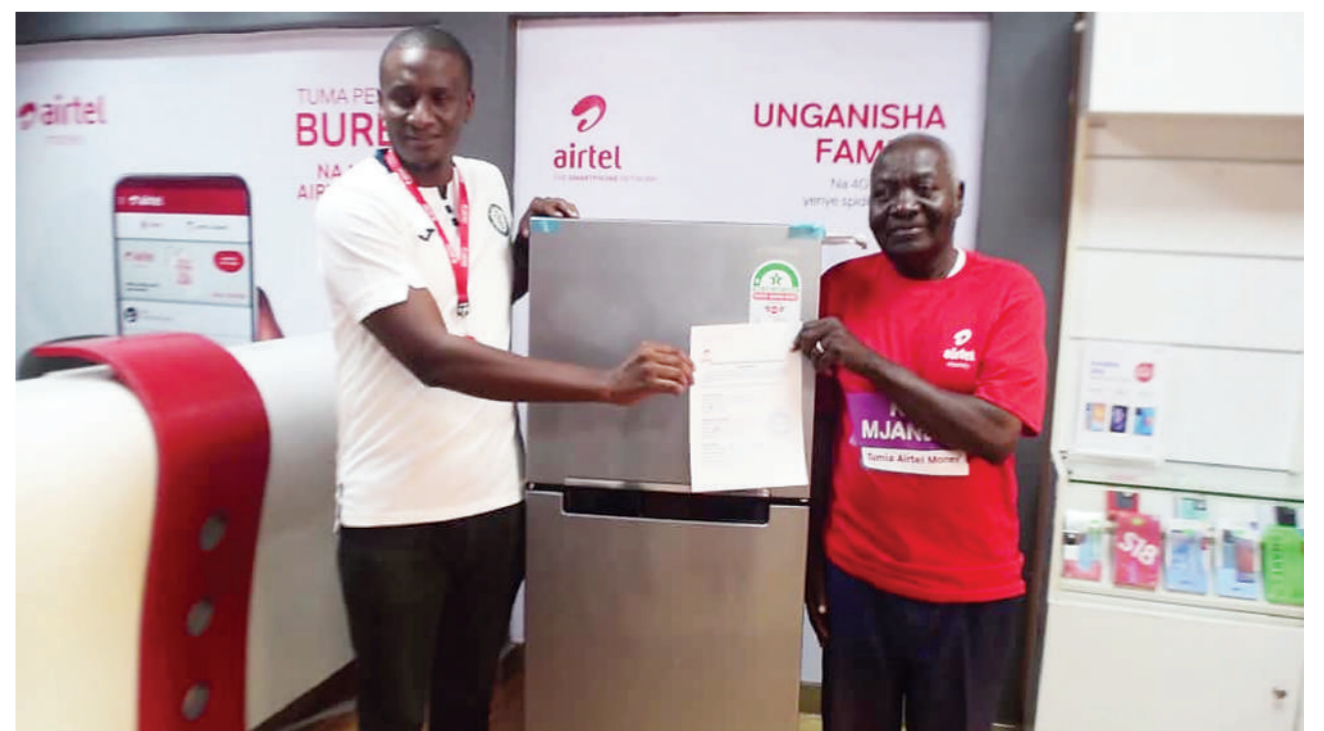
"With the promotion, every Airtel customer is a winner. Airtel Money customers do not have to register or pay anything to win. All you need to do is to carry out any transaction using Airtel Money and you automati-

cally enter a daily, weekly, or monthly draw," he said

Ntangalo added that customers will be contacted through the Airtel call center number 100 and not otherwise.



**I'm happy for winning this new fridge which I will use in my shop as the one which I'm currently using does not meet my demands. I won the fridge after buying airtime and later a call from the Airtel**



Airtel sales Manager for Kagera Region Aaron Ntangalo (left) hands over a new Fridge to Jasson Kataboro, weekly winner of a promotion campaign (Photo by Guardian Correspondent)



## WORLD

## Report finds world off track on meeting UN energy goals

LONDON

THE world is not on track to meet the United Nations' sustainable development goals for energy by the target year of 2030, new research from the International Energy Agency, International Renewable Energy Agency, United Nations Statistics Division, World Bank, and World Health Organization has concluded.

Their joint report, titled Tracking Sustainable Development Goal 7: The Energy Progress Report, looked at the UN's aspiration for everyone to have access to affordable, reliable, sustainable, and modern sources of energy by the year 2030.

The report, released on Tuesday, is the latest in a series of studies pub-

lished annually by the organizations since 2018.

It found the required doubling of historic rates of efficiency improvements and the massive increase in the use of renewable energy that is needed to meet the goals have not happened to the necessary extent.

While achieving the goal would have a major impact on people's health and help reduce air pollution and minimize global warming, the world has not managed to invest enough time and effort into making it happen, according to the report.

The research found, for example, that 567 million people in Sub-Saharan Africa were still without access to electricity in 2021 – the most recent year for which data was available. This ac-



A herd of sheep take a rest under solar panels of the Francisco Pizarro photovoltaic power plant in Caceres, Spain, on March 24, 2023. XINHUA

counted for 80 percent of the global total of people who do not have electricity.

The situation in Sub-Saharan Africa in 2021 was virtually the same as it had been in 2010, the report added.

The document concluded that around 2.3 billion people globally are still using polluting fuels to cook their food. The World Health Organization, or WHO, said 3.2 million people die every year from illnesses attributed to the use of such fuels.

Tedros Adhanom Ghebreyesus, the WHO's director-general, said: "We must protect the next generation by acting now. Investing in clean and renewable solutions to support universal energy access is how we can make real change."

He said clean cooking technologies in homes "and reliable electricity in healthcare facilities" would "play a crucial role in protecting the health of our most vulnerable populations".

Fatih Birol, executive director of the International Energy Agency, or IEA, said a global energy crisis largely attributed to the Russia-Ukraine conflict had led to high energy prices in recent months that had exacerbated the problem.

## Sustainable access

"While the clean energy transition is moving faster than many think, there is still a great deal of work needed to deliver sustainable, secure and affordable access to modern energy services for the billions of people, who live with-

out it," Birol said.

The report writers said some progress had been made since last year's document but that "the current pace is not adequate to achieve any of the 2030 targets".

They noted that progress had been slowed recently by a range of factors, including "an uncertain macroeconomic outlook, high levels of inflation, currency fluctuations, debt distress in a growing number of countries, lack of financing, supply chain bottlenecks, tighter fiscal circumstances, and soaring prices for materials". They also said the novel coronavirus pandemic had also been a factor.

Agencies

## Modi's state visit to US reflects broadening of strategic partnership - report

NEW DELHI

PRIME Minister Narendra Modi, is the first Indian PM who will address the Joint Meeting of the US Congress for the second time during his upcoming official state visit to the United States from June 21 to 24. The invitation extended to PM Modi reflects the bipartisan respect and support he enjoys in the United States.

Prime Minister Narendra Modi is second only to Benjamin Netanyahu, the PM of Israel, in terms of addressing the Joint Meeting of the US Congress. Netanyahu has achieved this honour thrice. It is noteworthy that a Democratic President Joe Biden is inviting the Indian Prime Minister for a White House state dinner, while a Republican Speaker has asked him to address the joint session of Congress, indicating bipartisan support for augmenting Indo-US ties, Modern Diplomacy.eu reported.

This honour to PM Modi shows that this type of opportunity is granted only to the closest allies of the United States.

Upon his arrival, Modi will receive an official welcome and hold



bilateral meetings and delegation level talks. President Joe and First Lady Jill Biden will be hosting a state dinner in his honour. In a singular opportunity granted only to the closest allies of the United States, Modi will be addressing a joint session of the American Congress during his visit to the States, Modern Diplomacy.eu reported.

The US-India relations have grown exponentially since Narendra Modi came to power almost a decade ago, security and economic links with the US have enhanced conspicuously, alongside deepening security cooperation like counterterrorism around shared

interests limiting China's influence in the broader Indo-Pacific.

Meanwhile, The Biden administration has sought to further broaden the scope of the strategic partnership between the two countries and deepen Indian integration into a shared security architecture after having two decades of deepening strategic linkages.

White House press secretary announced that "the President and the First Lady are looking forward to welcoming PM Modi for the official state visit on 22nd June. This will be an opportunity to reaffirm the deep and close partnership be-

tween US-India."

State visits at the highest level of protocol are rare in the American system, and PM Modi is just the third state visitor during the Biden Presidency.

Historically, Modi will be the third Indian leader ever invited for a state visit to the US, since those of President Sarvepalli Radhakrishnan in 1963 and Prime Minister Manmohan Singh in 2009. During the state dinner hosted by President Obama for PM Singh, the two leaders spoke augustly about a "future that beckons all of us."

Modi's state visit will also be one of the longest of any leader to the US. So, in many ways, this visit is a significant signalling of the prominence that the US accords to its relations with India, Modern Diplomacy.eu reported.

On the agenda are agreements on trade, defence and critical minerals and significant progression of the Indo-US defence partnership, with the signing of a joint production agreement.

Ahead of Modi's state visit, US Defence Secretary Lloyd Austin was in India on a two-day visit to explore ways to lay the ground-

work for highly anticipated agreements on bilateral defence co-operation, especially in areas of transfer of critical technologies for co-development of military hardware, Modern Diplomacy.eu reported.

With bilateral trade reaching a record-breaking USD 191 billion last year, US-India Business Council (USIBC) will also be hosting the INDUS-X conference, scheduled over two days in Washington coinciding with Modi's visit.

After decades of intermittently frigid relations, Washington's ties with New Delhi have grown significantly closer over the past twenty years. Trade and investment flows have grown alongside shared geostrategic interests and China's growing presence and assertiveness in South Asia and the Indian Ocean region is a concern for both.

President Barack Obama declared India a "major defence partner" and the Trump administration's growing concerns about China's regional assertiveness including along the Sino-Indian border cemented the US-India security partnership. ANI

## India's focus right now in Afghanistan is more on helping Afghan people, less political

NEW DELHI

EXTERNAL Affairs Minister S Jaishankar said yesterday that India has sent back a technical team to its Embassy in Afghanistan and their job is essentially to monitor the situation and to see how New Delhi can support the Afghan people.

Addressing a press conference here on nine years of the Modi government, Jaishankar said the focus right now in Afghanistan is less political and it is more on helping the Afghan people and noted that there has been a "historical connect" with them.

"We pulled back the India-based diplomats and staff after the Taliban took control of Kabul because we had legitimate security con-

cerns, lot of other countries also did it. With the passage of time, we have sent back a technical team to the embassy.

They have been there for some time and their job is essentially in a sense to monitor the situation and to see how we can support the Afghan people in their hour of need in a manner," Jaishankar said in response to ANI's question.

He was asked about the status of India-Afghanistan relations and if there will be any kind of beginning of minimal engagement with the present dispensation in Afghanistan.

"I mean this is a country which had vaccine shortage, it had wheat shortage, it had medicine shortage. You know, there are projects that will get into difficulty with the passage

of time. The focus right now in Afghanistan is less, I would say, political. It is more like helping the Afghan people because Afghan people are people with whom we have a historical connect. So, that is really the current state of the situation," Jaishankar added.

Taliban took control of Afghanistan in August 2021 from the then Afghan government.

Ministry of External Affairs spokesperson Arindam Bagchi had said in March that there has been no change in India's position on not recognising the Taliban set up in Afghanistan.

"Our position on how we see developments in Afghanistan has not changed. I do not think anything should be read into ITEC (Indian Technical and Economic Cooperation) courses vis-a-vis that. We certainly

would not be issuing note verbales, which are inter-governmental notes, to entities that are not recognised," he had said in response to queries.

Union Minister of State for External Affairs V Muraleedharan had told Parliament in December last year that India has been engaged with Afghanistan in a development partnership that includes more than 500 projects.

"India has been engaged in a development partnership with Afghanistan which includes more than five hundred projects spread across each of the 34 provinces of the country in critical areas of power, water supply, road connectivity, healthcare, education, agriculture, and capacity building.

ANI

## Ukraine was ready to sign peace deal with Russia but gave up under US pressure - Patrushev

MINSK

THE Ukrainian leadership was ready to settle the conflict with Russia but gave up under the US pressure, Russia's Security Council Secretary Nikolay Patrushev said yesterday.

"Had it not been for the US pressure on those whom they installed at the head of Ukraine, this situation would have not happened. Even the Ukrainian leaders themselves were ready for signing a peace treaty and gave Russia written proposals that we, in principle, approved," Patrushev said, obviously referring to the negotiations between the Russian and Ukrainian delegations in Turkey in March last year. However, as Patrushev (pictured) went on to say, "in the morning, they [members of the Ukrainian delegation] gave [the proposals] to us during the negotiations and in the evening they said: 'No, we give them up.'"

"This happened only because the United States had put pressure on them and said that no negotiations must be held," the secretary of Russia's Security Council stressed.

As Patrushev pointed out, "there are interested parties in this conflict," first and foremost, the United States and Great Britain.

## Istanbul document

The first Russian-Ukrainian negotiations after Russia launched its special military operation in Ukraine took place in Belarus in early March 2022 but the talks yielded no tangible results.

A new round of negotiations took place in Istanbul on March 29, 2022, following which Russian Delegation Head, Presidential Aide Vladimir Medinsky announced that Moscow had for the first time received Kiev's principles of a possible future agreement in writing, stipulating, in particular, Ukraine's neutral, non-aligned status commitments and its refusal to deploy foreign troops and armaments, including nuclear weapons, on its soil.

Russia pulled out its forces from the Kiev and Chernigov areas. However, the negotiations on the peaceful settlement were totally frozen after that and, as Russian President Vladimir Putin said, Kiev gave up the accords reached in Istanbul.

In October last year, Ukrainian President Vladimir Zelenskyy enacted a decision by the country's National Security and Defense Council on banning any talks with Putin.

Agencies

## Nursery children injured in knife attack in southeast France

PARIS

A man yesterday morning stabbed people with a knife in a park in the city of Annecy, southeast France, injuring several people, including nursery children, French Interior Minister Gerald Darmanin confirmed.

"The man suspected of carrying out the attack was arrested by the police," he added.

The attacker was a Syrian national with legal refugee status in France, a police official told Reuters. He was not known to security agencies and his motives were unclear, an investigative source said.

The Prefecture of Haute-Savoie said in a press release that the attack injured a total of six people, including two adults and four nursery children.

A police source told French news channel BFMTV that the victims were all severely injured, while two children and one adult are in life-threatening condition.

Witnesses said at least one of the children wounded in the attack was in a stroller. The incident took place at around 0745 GMT in the playground of a lakeside park in Annecy, a town in the French Alps.

"He jumped (in the playground), started shouting and then went towards the strollers, repeatedly hitting the little ones with a knife," a witness who gave his name as Ferdinand told BFM TV.

"Mothers were crying, everybody was running," said George, another witness and owner of a nearby restaurant.

The TV channel showed footage of several policemen overpowering an individual in a park.

French President Emmanuel Macron called the act an "attack of absolute cowardice."

"Children and one adult are between life and death. The nation is in shock," he added on his social media.

**He jumped (in the playground), started shouting and then went towards the strollers, repeatedly hitting the little ones with a knife**

HONG KONG

THE Hong Kong Special Administrative Region -- a pivotal gateway for the Belt and Road initiative -- will make the most of its compelling advantages to promote cooperation and drive the world's high-quality development, a forum marking the 10th anniversary of the BRI's launch heard on Wednesday.

At the forum on the BRI's achievements and prospects, organized by Bauhinia Culture, Chief Executive John Lee Ka-chiu (pictured) said since the nation charted the initiative's vision a decade ago, more than 150 countries and over 30 global organizations have signed agreements with China under the drive.

The accords account for about 40

## BRI's future is 'all the more promising'

percent of the world's gross domestic product, and 45 percent of merchandise trade, facilitating cooperation with numerous regional and country-based development strategies, including Indonesia's Global Maritime Fulcrum, Saudi Vision 2030 and the African Union Agenda 2063. Trade has since expanded tremendously under the BRI.

Lee believes that, with the central government's unwavering support, Hong Kong can leverage its many advantages and continue to do what it does best --connecting the world and promoting high-quality development for the country and the



globe.

With the pandemic easing and the world gradually returning to normal, the BRI's future development holds brighter hope, which is also good news for the SAR. Lee said

his administration will continue to uphold the promise of adopting a results-oriented approach.

He invited those who aim to capitalize on the BRI's opportunities, to attend the eighth Belt and Road Summit to be held in Hong Kong on Sept 13 and 14 this year.

Liu Guangyuan, commissioner of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the People's Republic of China in the HKSAR, said Hong Kong is in a crucial phase of new development. By taking part in the BRI, the city can contribute to the nation's establishment of a new development paradigm and propel high-standard

opening-up.

He said the SAR can deepen its integration into national development to achieve greater progress for itself.

Liu hopes that various industries can take advantage of Hong Kong's development trend, and strengthen its professional strengths in the legal, shipping, accounting, finance and consultancy fields. This would solidify the foundation for Hong Kong to promote BRI cooperation.

He also emphasized the importance of making the most of the city's unique position as an East-meets-West hub to promote cultural

exchanges and mutual learning. By so doing, the SAR can be a successful example of BRI cooperation.

Wen Hongwu, general manager of Bauhinia Culture Holdings, said the SAR government is fully utilizing the city's platform role in BRI cooperation. Many Hong Kong entrepreneurs and specialized service providers are proactively expanding their businesses and exploring opportunities in countries involved in the initiative, he said.

Wen said Hong Kong, with the nation's support, has achieved remarkable success in international project investment and financing, offshore RMB business and specialized services, as well as economic and trade exchanges and cooperation.

Xinhua



## Mike Pence tears into Donald Trump at 2024 campaign launch

FORMER US vice-president Mike Pence has offered his most forceful repudiation of Donald Trump to date during a speech launching his 2024 campaign.

The Republican accused Trump of being unfaithful to the US constitution and of abandoning conservative values.

The former Indiana governor and congressman formally commenced his White House campaign on Wednesday.

The move pits him against his two-time running mate, who he served under in the White House from 2017-21.

At a speech in Ankeny, Iowa, Pence argued that Mr Trump had encouraged the mob that attacked the US Capitol on 6 January 2021, and had incorrectly asserted that Pence had the power to overturn the election result.

"But the American people deserve to know that on that day, President Trump also demanded that I choose between him and the constitution," he said.

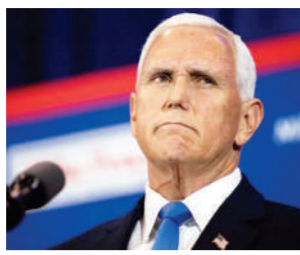
"Now, voters will be faced with the same choice: I chose the constitution and I always will."

He added that Trump's actions on 6 January should disqualify him from returning to power.

"I believe that anyone who puts themselves over the constitution should never be president of the United States," he said. "And anyone who asked someone else to put them over the constitution should never be president of the United States again."

Pence, 64, also took shots at Democratic President Joe Biden as well, arguing that neither he nor Trump are similar to average Americans who know how to "treat each other with kindness and respect even when we disagree".

Agencies



# Ukraine dam: What we know about Nova Kakhovka incident

A huge dam in the Russian-controlled area of southern Ukraine has been destroyed, unleashing a flood.

Ukraine's military and Nato have accused Russia of blowing up the dam, while Russia has blamed Ukraine.

Thousands of people have been evacuated from low-lying areas either side of the river Dnipro.

UN humanitarian aid chief Martin Griffiths has warned of grave and far-reaching consequences. Here's what we know so far.

### Where is the dam?

The Kakhovka Hydroelectric Power Plant is in the city of Nova Kakhovka in the Kherson region. The city is currently under Russian occupation.

The dam was built in the Soviet era and is one of six that sit along the Dnipro river, which stretches from the very north of the country into the Black Sea. In Kherson region, Russia occupies the left, or southern, bank while Ukraine controls the right, or northern, bank.

The dam holds back a huge reservoir, which locals call the Kakhovka Sea as you cannot see the other bank in certain places.

### What happened?

Video footage showed a massive breach in the dam, with water surging through it and flooding downstream in the direction of Kherson.

Ukrainian dam operator UkrHydroEnerho said the Nova Kakhovka station was "fully destroyed" and could not be restored.

It's unclear when exactly the dam was first damaged, but satellite images suggest its condition deteriorated over a number of days.

As water from the vast Kakhovka reservoir poured through the damaged dam, agricultural land and dozens of villages and towns were quickly flooded.

Thousands of people from both sides of the river have been evacuated from their homes, but the full scale of the disaster is not yet clear.

There are also major environmental concerns. The river has been contaminated with 150 tonnes of industrial lubricant, said President Volodymyr Zelensky, and another 300 tonnes was at risk of leaking.

Agricultural land has been washed away and the consequences of the flooding on local farmland is likely to be felt for years.

Landmines are also being dislodged by the floodwaters, prompting concerns not just for residents in Kherson, but also those coming to provide assistance.

Erik Tollefsen, head of the Red Cross's weapon contamination unit said they had lost track of where the landmines were: "All we know is that they are somewhere downstream."

### Has the dam been attacked?

It's not yet clear what caused the breach in the dam, but Ukraine's military has accused Russia of deliberately blowing it up.

Moscow may have feared that Ukrainian forces would use the road over the dam to get troops across the river into Russian-held territory, as part of a counter-offensive.



Mykola Kalinin, chief engineer at a hydropower and water management engineering company in Ukraine, Ukrhydroproject, claimed that an explosion was the cause.

The dam, he told Ukrainian data journalism site Texty, was "built to withstand a super-powerful impact from the outside". Mr Kalinin concludes that it was mined from the inside.

But Kremlin spokesperson Dmitry Peskov blamed Ukraine, calling it an act of "sabotage" that would deprive the Crimean peninsula - an area annexed by Russia in 2014 - of water.

Neither Ukraine nor Russia's claims have been verified by the BBC.

Alternative theories of what could have caused, or at least contributed, to the breaching of the dam have been put forward.

Fighting in the area could have affected the structure, Mark Mulligan, professor of Physical Geography at University College London, told the BBC.

"Structural failure resulting from the impact of earlier damage associated with the war remains a possibility," Prof Mulligan said.

A second theory he put forward was that Russia, which controls the dam, deliberately allowed water levels to rise in the reservoir behind it - making a collapse more likely and more impactful.

According to analysis of satellite imagery carried out by the US Foreign Agricultural

Service, water levels rose sharply over the last few months.

"The very high level of water in the reservoir coupled with previous damage, leading to uncontrolled flows of water through the dam could lead to catastrophic structural failure," Prof Mulligan said.

However, the dam's destruction is hard to assess on satellite imagery alone, as much of the damage is underwater.

"At this stage nobody knows except those on the ground, all else is speculation," Prof Mulligan added.

Mr Zelensky has accused the international community of not reacting fast enough to the flooding, and said without drinking water, food or medicine it was impossible to know how many people would die.

He has accused international organisations, like the Red Cross, of losing the ability to save lives. The World Bank has offered to conduct a rapid assessment of the damage and Ukraine's most urgent needs.

### What was the purpose of the dam?

It held back a vast reservoir that supplied water to communities upstream, and provided cooling water to the nuclear power station at Zaporizhzhia, around 160km (100 miles) away, which is under Russian control.

The International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) said there was no immediate nuclear safety risk but it was monitoring

the situation.

It later said that if the dam did fall below 12.7m, the lowest level at which water can still be pumped upstream to Zaporizhzhia, there were alternative water sources to keep the nuclear plant cool.

The dam was also a vital channel carrying water from the river to Russian-occupied Crimea, meaning water supplies there are likely to be affected.

After Russia annexed Crimea in 2014, Ukraine blocked a channel carrying water from Nova Kakhovka, triggering a water crisis on the peninsula.

Russian forces reopened the channel after last year's invasion. But without the dam, dropping water levels could once again jeopardise the flow of water along the channel.

Russia has previously carried out several attacks on dams throughout Ukraine since the invasion, causing widespread flooding and disrupting power supplies.

BBC

## 'G20 participation is for members, nations invited for G20'

NEW DELHI

MINISTER of External Affairs S Jaishankar yesterday said that G20 Summit to be held in September is only for members and India has not reviewed the list or talked to anyone regarding the same.

When asked if India has extended an invitation to Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelenskyy or is planning to invite him to the G20 summit, "In our view, G20 participation is for members of G20 and for the countries and organisations who we have invited to the G20 and that list we had declared as soon as we assumed the Presidency of the G20.

So, it is not something, you know, that we have not reviewed and it is not something very honestly which we have discussed with anybody." India assumed the G20 Presidency on December 1. While responding to a question regarding upcoming G20 summit, Jaishankar recalled that there were a lot of challenges in getting the final G20 declaration during Indonesia's G20 Presidency. He said that they are endeavouring to find common ground in the upcoming G20 summit.

When asked if he believes that having a consensus on the leaders' declaration will be a herculean task or a near impossible task, Jaishankar responded, "I remember last year there were a lot of challenges in getting the final G20 declaration did, and I in fact commended even then the Indonesian presidency for making that big effort and getting the Bali declaration.

"I would also share with you that even at that time, a lot of us worked alongside with Indonesia, that obviously Indonesia was the chair, but we were part of a Troika. And there were some countries who were not even members of Troika, but who had an interest in the manner and all of us put our collective energies together in that regard."

He further said, "If my memory serves me right, last year, in fact, in September, I went to Moscow and one of the main reasons I went to Moscow at that time was really to discuss this with my Russian counterpart. So, this year we are endeavouring to find a common landing point. There are differences of opinion even about what was agreed to in Bali last year.

So, how do we handle it, it's very hard for me. Diplomats are still working at it. So I don't want to predict, I don't want to sort of, in a way, give too much details. I accept your point that it's a challenge, but diplomacy is a business for optimistic people. So, I think it's something that we would look at."

ANI

## China's financial risks remain 'controllable'

SHANGHAI

WHILE the recent international banking crisis has exerted little direct impact on China's banking system, the warning signals have pointed to the importance of detecting and dealing with various risks at an earlier stage, Li Yunze, director of the National Administration of Financial Regulation said at the 14th Lujiazui Forum, which started in Shanghai yesterday.

Efforts will be made to prudentially address the existing risks and firmly prevent any additional risks, said Li. By improving the digital and intelligent supervision capability, the country's financial regulators will implement solid and detailed emergency plans and optimize the normalized risk disposal mechanism.

China's financial industry is under stable operation at present, with risks being generally controllable. The country is well grounded to firmly guard the bottom line of preventing systemic financial risks, said Li.

Financial supervision should be more forward-looking, precise, effective and better coordinated to eliminate any gaps or blind spots. Chaos in the financial market should be rectified, while law violations should be severely punished to effectively protect the legitimate rights and interests of financial consumers, he said.

## Doubts surface over whether debt ceiling bill can mitigate US economic risks

BEIJING

DESPITE U.S. President Joe Biden touting the bipartisan agreement on the debt ceiling as "a big win" for the country, global concerns about the risks of America's economy have only intensified.

The risks of the U.S. economy have not only failed to dissipate but have even increased in some areas. Market analysts anticipate that the cash-strapped U.S. Treasury Department may start massive borrowing, unleashing a "tsunami" of new bonds, which could lead to a drain in market liquidity.

Data from the U.S. Treasury Department showed that as of June 1, the Treasury's cash balance has fallen below 23 billion U.S. dollars. After the debt-cap resolution, the Treasury Department is expected to replenish its cash balance to 550 billion dollars by the end of this month.

Market participants anticipate the Treasury's debt issuance in the coming months could exceed 1 trillion dollars. "This is a very big liquidity drain. We have rarely seen something like that. It's only in severe crashes like the Lehman crisis where you see something like that contraction," JPMorgan Chase & Co. strategist Nikolaos Panigirtzoglou was quoted by Bloomberg as

saying. Bank of America Corp. analysts have estimated that a quarter-point interest rate hike would have the same economic impact.

A deluge is likely to suck a significant amount of liquidity out of financial markets, Bloomberg reported, adding that it could add pressure to a financial system still showing signs of strain after several banks collapsed with the Federal Reserve raising interest rates and shrinking its balance sheet.

The good news of a tentative deal for the U.S. debt ceiling impasse may quickly turn out to be bad news for financial markets. Reuters has reported, explaining that once a deal is reached, the U.S. Treasury is expected to quickly refill its empty coffers with bond issuance, sucking hundreds of billions of dollars of cash from the market.

"Our concern is that if liquidity starts leaving the system, for whatever reason, this creates an environment where markets are crash prone," Alex Lennard, investment director at global asset manager Ruffer, was quoted as saying by Reuters. "That's where the debt ceiling matters."

The debt ceiling bill restricts federal spending for the fiscal years 2024 and 2025. Market participants believe that the U.S. economy has been weighed down by various unfavorable factors in recent quarters, with growth barely sustained by federal expenditures, so the bill's restrictions on spending may damp-

en this supportive factor.

"Fiscal multipliers tend to be higher in a recession, so if we were to enter a downturn, then the reduced fiscal spending could have a larger impact on GDP and employment," Michael Feroli, chief U.S. economist at JPMorgan Chase & Co., was quoted by Bloomberg as saying.

In addition to increasing financial risks and weakening growth momentum in the short term, the debt ceiling bill, in the long run, fails to substantively address the long-standing institutional flaws in the U.S. economy regarding debt issues.

The two parties agreed to restrict spending for the fiscal years 2024 and 2025 in exchange for suspending the debt ceiling until January 2025, which coincides with the assumption of office by the next president and the induction of some members of Congress, effectively passing the "old account" to "new officials."

Furthermore, two key fiscal issues related to the U.S. debt, welfare spending and tax revenue, were not significantly addressed in the bill. Xinhua

## BRICS: China supports S. Africa in hosting successful summit

BEIJING

CHINA supports South Africa in hosting a successful BRICS leaders summit this year, Wang Wenbin, a spokesperson for the Chinese Foreign Ministry, said here on Wednesday.

Wang made the remarks at a news briefing in response to a media inquiry that South Africa is allegedly considering switching the venue of the upcoming summit of BRICS leaders to China or Mozambique, in a move that would resolve its dilemma over whether to carry out an

international arrest warrant for Russian President Vladimir Putin.

"I am not aware of what you said. We have noted that South Africa already issued a notice to grant diplomatic immunities to attendees of the upcoming BRICS Summit," said Wang.

China attaches great importance to the progress of BRICS cooperation and supports this year's host country South Africa in hosting a successful summit and sending a positive message of solidarity and cooperation, Wang added.

Xinhua



An attendant stands next to South African, Indian, Russian, Brazilian and Chinese flags during a plenary session of BRICS Summit in Xiamen, China, Sept 4, 2017. AP

## Long Covid can impact quality of life more than some cancers - study

LONDON

FATIGUE is the symptom that most affects the daily lives of long Covid patients, and it can affect the quality of life more than some cancers, according to a new study.

The study was led by researchers at UCL and the University of Exeter. The research, published in BMJ Open and funded by the National Institute for Health and Care Research (NIHR), examines the impact of long Covid on the lives of over 3,750 patients who were referred to a long Covid clinic and used a digital app as part of their NHS treatment for the condition.

Patients were asked to complete questionnaires on the app about how long Covid was affecting them - considering the impact of long Covid on their day-to-day activities, levels of fatigue, depression, anxiety, breathlessness, brain fog, and their quality of life.

The researchers discovered that many long-term Covid patients were extremely unwell and had fatigue scores that were worse or comparable to persons with cancer-related anaemia or severe kidney impairment. They also had lower health-related quality of life scores than those with advanced metastatic malignancies, such as stage IV lung cancer.

Overall, the team found that the impact of

long Covid on the daily activities of patients was worse than that of stroke patients and was comparable to that of patients with Parkinson's disease.

Dr Henry Goodfellow, who co-led the study alongside the late Professor Elizabeth Murray (both UCL Institute of Epidemiology & Health), said: "Up to around 17% of people who get Covid go on to develop long Covid". However, the impact of the condition on patients' day-to-day lives isn't fully understood.

"Our results have found that long Covid can have a devastating effect on the lives of patients - with fatigue having the biggest impact on everything from social activities to work,

chores and maintaining close relationships."

Not only does long Covid negatively impact the lives of patients on an individual level, the researchers also believe that it could have a significant economic and social impact on the country.

In order to be referred to a long Covid clinic, a patient must have had symptoms in keeping with long Covid for at least 12 weeks after an acute infection.

Over 90% of long Covid patients using the app were of working age (18-65) and 51% said they had been unable to work for at least one day in the previous month, with 20% unable to work at all.

ANI



# SPORT



Trish Scanian, the Chief Executive Officer for Tumaini La Maisha (TLM)

## Kilimanjaro Marathon donates 11.3m/- for children with cancer

By Guardian Correspondent

THE 2023 Kilimanjaro Premium Lager Marathon edition has donated 11.3m/- (\$4,898) towards the Tumaini La Maisha (TLM), a charity organization that caters to the treatment of children with cancer at the KCMC Hospital in Moshi.

A statement issued by the Kilimanjaro Marathon organizers said this was the official charity event for the marathon this year and all the proceeds will go towards treatment for children with cancer.

"We thank every participant for contributing towards this noble cause as part of the fees paid went towards this charity initiative that will see more children treated through TLM," the statement read in part.

The organizers said this is the second year running that they have collaborated with TLM in this charity initiative.

The organizers also thanked Kibo Palace Hotel, Homes, and Apartments based in Arusha and Moshi and is one of the official suppliers of the Kilimanjaro Marathon, for agreeing to partner with TLM.

This was through an arrangement where guests who stayed at their hotels during the Kili Marathon 2023 contributed towards the charity through a fundraising event, dubbed 'First Dollar-a-Bed-Night campaign', to support the commendable job done by TLM in ensuring children suffering from cancer get reliable treatment.

The organizers said they would further like to make a special mention to an influencer Nick Renold, alias 'Bongo Zozo', who took a personal interest in the official charity that

the Kilimanjaro Marathon was supporting and decided to use the race for more than just himself!

Renold motivated the public at large to dig deep into their pockets and even challenged well-known professional boxer, Karim Said Mandonga, to a 'Loser pays 100k to the Charity' in the Tigo Kili International Half Marathon. Through Renold involvement - an additional 2.5m/- was raised.

The TLM Chief Executive Officer Trish Scanian said the institution was very much relieved to get support from the Kilimanjaro Marathon, adding the race is now rated among the top marathons in Africa as it brings together over 11,500 runners from more than 55 countries worldwide.

"It is indeed wonderful that an event like the Kili Marathon can help grow support for childhood cancer services across the nation by helping TLM provide assistance, treatment, and care for children with cancer in hospitals all over Tanzania," she said.

Trish said apart from supporting TLM through the special fundraising, the event's partnership with TLM will also help raise awareness to the public about the work done by TLM in saving children who are subject to cancer disease in the country.

"May I take this opportunity to ask other stakeholders and well-wishers, in general, to join us in supporting TLM's activities to strengthen and expand pediatric cancer services to all regions of Tanzania", she urged.

Kili Marathon is organized by the Kilimanjaro Marathon Company Limited and nationally coordinated by Executive Solutions, one of the leading events, public relations, and media management services agencies.

## Dar female tennis players shine in Billie Jean King Cup qualifiers

By Correspondent Joseph Mchekadona

TANZANIA's women's tennis team is holding sway in the ongoing Billie Jean King Cup Africa Group IV tournament in Kigali, Rwanda.

The squad comprising six players is in the showdown's Group A and, as of Wednesday, it was leading after two matches while Ethiopia which has played one more game was holding the second spot in the group.

Other teams in Group A and their standings in brackets are Rwanda (third), Angola (fourth), and Mozambique (fifth).

Teams in Group B are Madagascar, the Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC), Cameroon, Senegal, Lesotho, and the Republic of the Congo.

Tanzania is represented by Esther Nankulange, Shana Mao, Barbara Mollel, Naitoti Singo, Nasha Singo, and captain Edna John in the competition taking place at Kigali Ecology Tennis Club.

On Tuesday, the squad started its campaign on a good note, given in Singles ties, Esther and Shana defeated Rwanda's Gisele Umumararungu and Chantal Mutuyimana respectively, notching 2-1 victories over the latter.

However, in the Doubles category that took place on Wednesday, Tanzania's team made up of Shana and Barbara suffered a 2-1 loss to the host's side consisting of Gisele and Olive Tuyisenge.

In another game on Wednesday, Tanzania beat Ethiopia 2-1 in both Singles and Doubles.

Esther and Shana Mao beat Sara Kassim and Mekedes Shumeti in the Singles category while in Doubles, the former notched a win over Sara and Zewdie Eden. Tanzania's team yesterday came up against Mozambique and Angola.

Tanzania Tennis Association (TTA) president Francis Thomas, who also bankrolled the team's trip to Rwanda, said he was confident that the team will perform well in the showdown.

"I'm sure our team has all it takes to perform well in the tournament, we have players who are hungry for success, and morale among them is very high," he said.

Before battling it out in the Billie Jean King Cup Africa Group IV tournament, Shana was in Kampala to take part in this year's J30 International Tennis Federation (ITF) World Tour Junior.

She partnered with Ghanaian Sisu Makena Tomegah and the duo emerged as winners in Girls' Doubles category.

The pair garnered a 7-6, 6-2 victory over Indians Shanvitha Nukala and Pia Mistri in the tournament that was held last month.

Eleven African countries are battling it out in Billie Jean King Cup Africa Group IV tournament taking place for the first time on African soil.

## SPORTS

# Gymkhana Club set to host 2023 Corporate Masters Golf Series

By Guardian Correspondent

DAR ES SALAAM Gymkhana Club (DGC) will, on August 5, be a place to go for golf followers in the city given the club is set to host the 2023 Corporate Masters Golf Series.

The Corporate Masters' Chairman, Kelly Simon, disclosed in Dar es Salaam yesterday that preparation for the one-day tournament is in top gear, adding this year's tournament has been warmly received by golfers so far.

Corporate Masters Golf Series, according to the tournament's organizers, has been a staple in the annual event calendar for the past three years and this year marks the fourth edition of the annual showdown.

One of the premier corporate events of its kind in Tanzania, Corporate Masters, is, since its launch in 2020, for corporate companies to represent their brands.

"The series aims to create a platform for brands to get awareness, visibility, leads, and conversions. It is all about creating value for the brands who partner with us," Simon revealed.

The official revealed: "In this year's Corporate Masters, we intend to hold a golf series bringing together golfers from various corporate companies for the first-ever intercompany golf challenge."

"And for the Longest Drive with those tee shots, we are going to have a fantastic time with the long hitters showing their muscles. This year the ladies have not been left out for the longest drive," Simon stated.

"This year, we have also introduced junior golfers teams, where we would like to invite you as a partner in this specific category to support them."

This, according to the official, will go a long way as Corporate Masters Series has taken the initiative to support the junior golfers in Tanzania.

Simon said: "Through various social groups and club initiatives, we have seen the uptake of new adults taking up golf as a sport, these adult golfers are people in senior management and some being leaders in self-employment. The sport needs to be nurtured from a young age to new entry adult golfers."

Golfers from across East Africa wishing to participate in this year's Corporate Masters Golf Series have been reminded to register before July 31.

The day-long 18-hole tournament is organized by the Dar es Salaam-based TAMU Tanzania and has been slated for August 5 at the Dar es Salaam Gymkhana Club course.

The official said the time is running out,



Golfer Hussein Dewji tees off during last year's Corporate Masters Golf Series at Dar es Salaam Gymkhana Club (DGC) course. PHOTO: CORRESPONDENT

urging the ones wishing to participate to register before the deadline on July 31.

He stressed those lucrative prizes from the Corporate Masters Premium Golf series will be available.

Simon thanked the 2023 Corporate Masters Golf Series sponsors- CRDB Bank, Qatar Airways, Automark/Toyota, Minet Tanzania, Ashton, and Johari Rotana for once again putting their weight behind this year's event.

He said the door is still open for other companies, institutions, and individual sports well-wishers wishing to sponsor the event.

Simon said: "Golf is a game for diplomats and corporates, it brings them together for business, exchanging ideas, and also doing business together."

"We do hope through this game for us to have a platform like this to embrace and do business."

"This is a good platform for business owners and high net worth individuals, in a classy, elegant, or maybe the finest things in life."

"We are also going to have a Best Corporate Prize for various corporate companies which have shown interest to participate. We are grateful to have them on board in this year's tournament."

He added: "We have decided to introduce the event to bring the corporate together on a networking point of view as well as getting to learn, share and grow together both in businesses and individually as well in sports."

According to Simon, it is not just about golfing but also interacting and networking with brands that sponsor the tournament.

"Golf is a game for diplomats and corporates, it brings them together for business, exchange ideas, and also do business together. We do hope through this game for us to have a platform like this to embrace and do business."

He said on the same day they will have a golf clinic for those who would like to putt and hit golf balls.

The official disclosed: "This year, we have brought you a Corporate Village, where the non-golfers can attend a gallery and generate more value for our partners."

He pointed out that through the introduction of a hospitality area as part of the plans, the organizers intend to, on the one hand, target the middle and upper-class audience to attend events and familiarize themselves with golf.

On the other hand, there will be lots of activities happening from the golf pavilion, mini golf, VIP lounge, artisans, Family Fun Day, and a normal chilled-out sitting.

"We, for the first time, will introduce a Kids Festival Area where will have a lot of activities happening for them throughout the day including a mini golf," he noted.

The official added: "We aim to bring together corporates' top management to participate and also provide a branding opportunity for brands and activations for products targeting high-net-worth individuals, and the top leadership in organizations."

# Salum at last leaves Yanga to join Azam FC

By Correspondent Nassir Nchimbi

AFTER six months of prolonged tussles between Tanzanian midfielder, Feisal Salum, and his outfit Yanga, the team has finally sold him to Azam FC.

The move has brought one of the most protracted disputes in Tanzania football in recent years to an end. Salum, alias 'Fei Toto', announced that he was leaving Yanga in December 2022 after Azam FC tabled a lucrative offer for him.

Yanga however maintained that he was contracted to the club until 2024, adding that it would only listen to substantial offers for the player.

The midfielder maintained that he was done with the NBC Premier League champions and opted to stay out of active football.

He accused Yanga's president Hersi Said of contempt and vowed to continue fighting for his release despite two unsuccessful appeals lodged at the Tanzania Football Federation (TFF).

The two parties have finally cut ties after Yanga agreed to sell the player to the ice cream makers.

The club yesterday released a statement confirming his departure from the outfit.

The statement noted: "Young Africans SC (Yanga) management would like to inform the public that it has received an offer from Azam FC for the player Feisal Salum."

"After negotiations by both sides and considering the contractual requirements between the club and the player, the management has decided to sell the player to Azam FC," part of the statement from the club stated.

"Feisal Salum has been sold to Azam FC for a fee that will not be made public due to the agreement of both parties."

"He will join his new team after a personal agreement, and the registration window has officially opened. Yanga's leadership wishes Feisal Salum all the best in his new club."

The move comes a few days after President Samia Suluhu urged Yanga to put an end to the tussle



Feisal Salum

between the two parties.

President Samia said: "It does not make me happy to hear that a club conflicts with a player, this is not good at all."

"To the management, let me request that you (should) end your misunderstandings with Feisal. It does not make sense for a big club of your status to conflict with such a young player," she said when she hosted the CAF Confederation Cup finalists at the statehouse," President Samia added.

The midfielder, also a senior national team player, joined Yanga in 2018 from Zanzibar's JKU SC and went on to become instrumental in Yanga's midfield dominance.



## The 'Messi Effect' is already being felt across all MLS

By Henry Bushnell

EVEN before the announcement, before Lionel Messi said the words that will transform American soccer, before MLS could even clarify that no, hold on, no contract has yet been finalized, the bonanza began. It swept across the league, and picked up an unofficial name. "The Messi Effect," some team officials are calling it. On Day 1 of this wild new world, Inter Miami opponents sold tens of thousands of tickets, and prices soared, in Miami and beyond.

Messi is at least a month away from debuting in MLS. He is off to Asia soon for two mid-June friendlies with Argentina. Then he plans to rest. He'll reportedly vacation back home in Rosario, then in Europe. He'll officially sign with Miami on or after July 5. He'll need some time to acclimate, and something of a mini-preseason after a mini-offseason. And only then will he play for Inter Miami, perhaps on July 21 against Cruz Azul, or perhaps as late as August.

Nonetheless, the Messi Effect bubbled up at D.C. United, which hosts Miami on July 8 – and sold upward of 3,000 tickets on Wednesday alone, according to a club source, for a match in which Messi almost certainly won't play.

Even the Philadelphia Union, set to host Miami on June 24, saw a "spike" in standing-room-only ticket sales for that game, according to a club spokeswoman.

But for the games that Messi will actually grace, the spike was even more pronounced, according to club spokespeople and ticket brokers. By early evening, the Chicago Fire were on pace to sell some 10,000 tickets by end of day for their Oct. 3 game against Miami – more in one day than they'd previously sold since tickets first became available – despite raising the price of the cheapest ticket to \$250.

Charlotte FC also sold more than 10,000 tickets Wednesday for Oct. 21, and will open the upper bowl of Bank of America Stadium, which it shares with the NFL's Carolina Panthers. The cheapest were priced at \$125 apiece, and by 11 p.m. ET, the last pair had been snapped up; only resale tickets were still available, for anywhere between \$182 and \$10,000. (The get-in price for Charlotte's prior game, against Toronto, in the lower bowl: \$26.)

On the secondary market, mean-

while, prices rose to unprecedented heights. The New York Red Bulls, who typically command \$20 or \$30 for cheap resales, quickly sold out their Aug. 26 game against Miami – and saw the lowest StubHub prices climb to almost \$500, including fees.

For LAFC on Sept. 3, the get-in price is around \$700.

Even in St. Louis, which hosts Miami on July 15, before Messi's expected debut, it had risen above \$200, toward \$300. Some savvy ticket holders, who'd read about realistic debut dates, instantly considered cashing in on the likely misguided spike – and, in some cases, recouping the entire price they'd paid for season tickets.

Clubs themselves also saw an opportunity to capitalize on Messi's pull. Orlando City, for example, announced an updated ticketing scheme for its Sept. 24 rivalry match, including "priority access" for anybody who purchases new pro-rated season ticket packages or "four-match packs."

Atlanta United, meanwhile, chose to open the upper bowl of the 71,000-seat Mercedes-Benz Stadium, and priced those rafters tickets at \$125 a pop.

And as for Inter Miami?

July 1 tickets – before Messi's arrival – remain available for \$34.

Every game thereafter shows only a suspenseful message: "On sale date and time are in the works – please check back!"

Miami's stopgap home, DRV PNK Stadium in Fort Lauderdale, holds just 18,000 people. Any rational observer would assume that executives have at least explored the possibility of playing Messi's games at Hard Rock Stadium, the 65,000-capacity home of the Miami Dolphins. Inter Miami spokespeople did not respond to email inquiries, and a Dolphins spokeswoman said she had "nothing to share at this point," but some sort of unique ticketing plan will surely be unveiled over the coming days and weeks.

For now, a fan's best bet is a reseller, like StubHub, where the cheapest pair of tickets for July 21 versus Cruz Azul are \$541 apiece – more than a pair would be for Game 4 of the NBA Finals.

Messi's debut, whenever and wherever it may be, will likely end up being the most expensive ticket in MLS history.

(Agencies)

## Barcelona president bashes MLS after losing Messi

BARCELONA

BARCELONA is not happy that it lost Lionel Messi to Major League Soccer.

The soccer icon officially announced his decision to join Inter Miami on Wednesday afternoon. Barcelona president Joan Laporta couldn't help but throw shade on the ever-growing soccer league in the United States shortly after that announcement.

"President Laporta (pictured) understood and respected Messi's decision to want to compete in a league with fewer demands, further away from the spotlight and the pressure he has been subject to in recent years," Barcelona said in a statement wishing Messi "the best of luck."

After a long pursuit for the world's greatest player, Inter Miami beat out Barcelona and Saudi Arabia on Wednesday to sign Messi after his contract with Paris Saint-Germain officially expires at the end of the month.

Messi won four Champions League titles and 10 La Liga titles with Barcelona before leaving for PSG in 2021.

While Barcelona claimed it presented Messi with an option to return, his other two reported offers were much bigger. Saudi Arabia reportedly offered Messi more than \$1 billion to join their league, and Inter Miami had a rather creative offer that reportedly includes commercial deals with Apple and Adidas and the chance to purchase a minority stake in the team.

Barcelona, despite never reportedly giving Messi a formal offer, still opted to bash MLS in the process. Sure, La Liga is one of the top leagues in the world, and MLS sits well outside the hub that is European soccer. But MLS is rapidly growing – it announced plans to add a 30th club in San Diego earlier this year – and Messi's arrival will undoubtedly help on that front.

(Agencies)

# Haaland set to reign over Europe as Man City eye historic treble

LONDON

ERLING Haaland has been backed to dominate the Champions League for years to come as the record-breaking Manchester City striker aims to fire his side to treble glory in Saturday's final against Inter Milan.

Haaland has taken the Premier League by storm in his first season, scoring 52 goals in all competitions since signing from Borussia Dortmund.

The 22-year-old fuelled City's successful bid to overhaul Arsenal in the title race before Pep Guardiola's side completed the second leg of the treble with their FA Cup final victory against Manchester United last Saturday.

City are firm favourites to win the Champions League for the first time when they face Inter in Istanbul this weekend.

That would make City only the second English club after Manchester United in 1999 to lift the Premier League, Champions League and FA Cup in the same season.

Yet, ominously for defenders across Europe, Haaland believes he can only get better as he spends more time in Guardiola's unique system.

"I've been developing in a really positive way and that's important for me because I'm still really young," he said.

"I'm 22, I've got a long career ahead of me and I still have to develop. That's also something I was thinking of over one year ago when I was thinking about my next move."

It is a view shared by Inter striker Romelu Lukaku, who knows all about the ups and downs of life in the Premier League.

Former Manchester United and Everton striker Lukaku, currently on loan at Inter from Chelsea, is a huge fan of Haaland, whose physical approach mirrors the Belgian's own style of play.

He expects the Norwegian to establish himself as the world's most feared forward alongside Paris Saint Germain's Kylian Mbappe.

"I think he will dominate, with Mbappe, world football for the next



Manchester City striker Erling Haaland. Agencies

10 years," Lukaku told CNN.

"They will be fighting from the new generation. They will really take over from Messi and Ronaldo in the next two years."

### 'One more'

The awe-inspiring statistics of Haaland's first season with City are enough to give Inter boss Simone Inzaghi sleepless nights.

Haaland's 36 Premier League goals set a record for single season in the competition.

Haaland's 12 goals in 10 Champions League appearances so far this season played a huge role in City's progress to only their second final in Europe's elite club competition.

He is the first player to be voted Premier League Player and Young Player of the Year in the same season and was also named the Football

Writers' Association (FWA) men's footballer of the year.

It has been a life-changing year for Haaland, who said: "I'm 196cm tall and have got long blond hair so wherever I go people are going to see me. So that's how my life is."

"What can I do? There's nothing I can do, that's my life. I just have to try to enjoy it as much as I can. Try to relax when I'm home with good people around me, that's really important."

It is hard to imagine now, but there was a brief period earlier this year when some critics suggested City were worse off with Haaland.

After winning the title without a recognised striker in the previous two seasons, City had fallen behind Premier League pace-setters Arsenal as Haaland occasionally looked isolated up front.

He has silenced those doubters in emphatic fashion, but Inter will have noted he goes into the final with only one goal in his last seven games.

Haaland's current four-match goalless run is his longest in a City shirt, and he hasn't gone as many games without scoring since April 2021.

Yet Haaland had a warning for Inter just seconds after the final whistle blew following the FA Cup final.

While hugging Ilkay Gundogan and Bernardo Silva on the Wembley pitch, Haaland exhorted his City team-mates to make one last push in Istanbul.

"Come on, one more," he roared while pumping his fist.

Few would be surprised if the intensely driven Haaland ends his drought by scoring the goal that makes history for City.

AFP

## City old boy Dzeko caps career with unexpected Champions League final

LONDON

EDIN Dzeko has the chance to crown his career with the biggest prize in football, his former club Manchester City standing in the way of a Champions League triumph which no-one would have expected when he signed for Inter Milan two years ago.

Now 37 years old and coming to the end of his time as an elite striker, Dzeko has had an Indian summer at Inter since arriving from Roma two years ago.

He was brought in as a cheap replacement for Romelu Lukaku after he set off on a disastrous, big-money return to Chelsea, a symbol of how financial problems had forced a club which had just won the Serie A title to downgrade.

Seven league goals in his sixth and final season at Roma seemed to signal the end of an attacker who had risen from a traumatic childhood in war-torn Bosnia to become his country's all-time top scorer and a multiple league title winner.

Those seasons in the Italian capital failed to yield a single trophy despite playing in a gifted series of teams which featured the likes of Mohamed Salah, Alisson Becker, Daniele De Rossi and ageing icon Francesco Totti.

The high point was undoubtedly reaching the semi-finals of the Champions League in 2018 after coming back from three goals down to eliminate Barcelona, a season after ratting in a club-record 39 goals.

But although Dzeko has not broken the 20-goal barrier since reaching the last four he is considered key by Inter coach Simone Inzaghi, the glue which holds together their attack.

"Edin is a great player who helps the team in both attack and defence," said Inzaghi in November.

"He adds a lot and he will continue to do so. If it were up to me I would



Edin Dzeko has gone one better with Inter than he did with Roma. Agencies

renew his contract."

Dzeko has scored just five times in 2023 but could still start in Istanbul due to his ability to turn up when it matters.

It is why he is favourite for Simone Inzaghi's starting XI and also why he is set to extend his stay at Inter for another season despite his diminishing scoring ability and advancing years.

- Rise from the rubble -  
Dzeko missed out on the Serie A title by two points last season but un-

der Inzaghi added two Italian Cups and Super Cups to the three league titles he won at City and Wolfsburg, where he got his big break.

Now he faces the biggest match of his life against the team he helped come the powerhouse it is today.

His equaliser against Queens Park Rangers in May 2012 set the stage for Sergio Aguero's last-gasp winner which snatched City's first league title since 1968.

The on-field success is a far cry

from his childhood during the Bosnian War in Otoka, a area on the outskirts of Sarajevo filled with 30-storey tower blocks in view of the Serbian snipers lurking in the hills above.

Children in his neighbourhood would wait for gunfire in the bitter ethnic conflict to die down before they would head out to kick a ball around.

One day during the bloody siege of Sarajevo, Dzeko's life was saved by his mother who stopped him from going out to play with his friends – seven of them would soon after be killed by a bomb which exploded on the pitch.

When he was picked up as a boy to play in the youth ranks at Zeljeznicar, one of Bosnia's top clubs, he would have to train in a school gym as their stadium was on the frontline and ploughed with trenches.

That experience growing up left a big mark on Dzeko, who does humanitarian work for sick children in his home country with his wife Amra, with whom he has four children.

"Edin is solid, strong, stable. He's been through a lot in life and in football," his father Midhad said to AFP two years ago.

"He knew how to deal with pressure and how to cope."

AFP

## Gwiji by David Chikoko





# SPORT

**Haaland set to reign over Europe as Man City eye historic treble**

COMPREHENSIVE REPORT, PAGE 19



Yanga's forward, Fiston Mayele. PHOTO: CORRESPONDENT JUMANNE JUMA

## Mayele, Saïdo in two-way battle for 2022/23 PL golden boot award

By Correspondent Michael Mwebe

THE penultimate round of the season saw big moves for Simba SC attacking midfielder Saïdo Ntibazonkiza 'Saïdo' whilst Young African SC (Yanga) striker Fiston Mayele stayed in front, in the race for the top goal scorer prize.

Saïdo continued his stunning goal-scoring form as he broke new ground with five goals in Simba SC's 6-1 demolition of Polisi Tanzania at Azam Complex Stadium in Dar es Salaam on Tuesday evening.

He opened the scoring in the 16th minute with a quick reaction after Polisi Tanzania goalkeeper Christopher John spilled the ball from full-back Shomari Kapombe's shot.

Saïdo's second strike came from a well-taken free kick in the 21st minute. Six minutes later, the midfielder dinked the ball into an empty net after being released by winger Peter Banda to register his second hat-trick of the season.

The Burundi international added two more goals in the second half to cap an impressive outing.

He has now registered 15 goals for the season, closing the gap on leader Mayele to one goal following his exploits against Polisi Tanzania.

With one game left to play, it is looking as though it will be a straight shootout between Mayele and Saïdo for the title of NBC Premier League's top goal scorer. The two are also nominated for the Player of the Season award.

The two front-runners will be in action at the same time today with all eight games set to kick off at 3:30 pm.

Saïdo and Simba SC take on play-off-relegation-battlers Coastal Union at the Benjamin Mkapa Stadium in Dar es Salaam in the top flight's round 30.

The Msimbazi Street squad's midfielder will be aiming to find the goals to nudge ahead of Mayele.

Mayele and Yanga have traveled to Prisons on the final day, with the goal-getter hoping to stay ahead of Saïdo.

The Congolese goal-getter will be out to avoid last season's heartbreak when he was pipped by George Mpole, then a Geita Gold FC attacker, to the golden boot prize on the final game of the campaign despite leading the scoring charts for much of the season.

Both Mayele and Saïdo will also be looking to match the 17-goal mark set by Mpole last season.

Whoever tops the scoring charts will be head and shoulder above the other in the race to be crowned Player of the Season.

Saïdo who has played fewer games but with more minutes than Mayele has the advantage of leading the goal contributions table.

He has 12 assists on top of his 15 goals to take his goal contributions to 27 in 22 league appearances this season.

On the other side, Mayele has the advantage of having guided Yanga to the league title once again. Yanga defended their league crown with two games to spare.



Mayele and Yanga have traveled to Prisons on the final day, with the goal-getter hoping to stay ahead of Saïdo

## Azam FC set for final day of the season win over Polisi Tanzania

By Correspondent Michael Mwebe

IT is the final game week of the season in the 2022/23 NBC Premier League as Azam FC entertains Polisi Tanzania at the Azam Complex Stadium in Dar es Salaam with the home side having one eye on the Azam Sports Federation Cup (ASFC) final slated for Monday.

It has been a frustrating season for Azam FC which is now set to finish outside the top two for the third season in a row.

It would not be unfair to say that Azam FC has struggled to keep pace in the title race this season, losing seven of their 29 league matches.

Ahead of the final game of the season, the club is placed third and cannot move any higher with a gap of 14 points on second-placed Azam FC.

Worse yet, with Singida Big Stars right behind them in the table, Azam FC could end up finishing their season in fourth place.

At the same time, Azam FC caretaker coach, Kalimangonga Ongalla, will also no doubt have his mind on the ASFC final whilst honouring this Premier League clash, so there could be some changes to the side with the likes of Prince Dube, Abdulhamis Suleiman, and Sospeter Bajana potentially missing out.

The men from Chamazi Street, however, are on a healthy run of home form and have only lost to two games the whole season.

In their last five games, Azam FC suffered losses to Namungo FC and Ihefu SC but they have wins against Coastal Union, Ruvu Shooting, and Mtibwa Sugar in the league- as well as a 2-1 ASFC semi-final victory over Simba SC last month.

Visitors, Polisi Tanzania, go into the final match-day whilst occupying 15th place.

The law enforcers were relegated to Championship League with one match left to play when they lost 6-1 to Simba SC in Dar es Salaam on Tuesday. Just 25 points were taken from Polisi Tanzania's 29 matches.

In head-to-head stats, Azam FC and Polisi Tanzania have met in 11 league matches since 2018/19.

The ice cream boys have claimed seven wins compared to two for the law enforcers, while two games have been drawn.

Last season Polisi Tanzania recorded a league double by defeating Azam FC 2-1 at home in the first half of the campaign and 1-0 away in the return game before Azam FC exacted revenge with a 3-0 home victory in the ASFC quarterfinal match at Azam Complex Stadium.

These two last met at Ushirika Stadium in Moshi on December 5 in a game that saw Ayub Lyanga's first-half strike secure three points for Azam FC.

## Yanga out to cap off PL title-winning campaign, takes on Prisons FC



Yanga's midfielder, Faisal Salum (L), seeks to get the better of Prisons FC's center-back Vedasto Mwihambi (R), and midfielder Adili Buha in the past season's Premier League tie in Dar es Salaam.

By Correspondent Michael Mwebe

YOUNG Africans SC will be looking to finish the 2022/23 NBC Premier League season on a high when the side faces Tanzania Prisons in the final game at the Sokoine Stadium in Mbeya in the afternoon.

Sitting five points clear of second-placed Simba SC ahead of the final round of fixtures, Nasredine Nabi-coached Young Africans SC, alias Yanga, has already secured the NBC Premier League title.

The champion has lost just two of their 28 league outings this term, picking up 24 wins and three draws along the way.

They will come into the game on the back of a thrilling 3-3 comeback stalemate against Mbeya City FC in Mbeya on Tuesday afternoon.

It took just three minutes for Mbeya City FC to open the scoring and the hosts doubled their

advantage one minute before the half-time break.

Mbeya City FC appeared to have secured all three points when fullback Richardson Ng'ondya added a third to make it 3-0 eight minutes after the restart but Yanga pulled one back two minutes later via a spot kick netted by winger Bernard Morrison.

Yanga's midfielder Salum Abubakar cut the deficit to make it 3-2 in the 69th minute before Morrison completed the comeback with a goal in added-on time.

Not only are Nabi's men the second top goal scorers in the division (59 goals), but they also boast the second-best defensive record (18) and will back themselves to cap off their league campaign with a victory.

Nabi rotated his squad heavily in the previous game against Mbeya City FC due to fatigue.

in rhythm ahead of big matches.

This season's Azam Sports Federation Cup (ASFC) final pitting Yanga against Azam FC is scheduled for Monday afternoon, three days later.

As for Prisons, they find themselves sit-

ting seventh and can go as high as fifth with victory if other matches' results go their way.

Having won their last five games, they will fancy their chances of frustrating the champions.

Home form in the league also shows Prisons are undefeated in their last five games at Sokoine Stadium.

It is their best stint of form this season after flirting with relegation for much of the campaign.

In head-to-head stats, Yanga and Prisons have met in 21 league matches since 2009/10.

The Jangwani Street side has claimed 12 wins compared to one for Prisons, while eight matches have been drawn.

The Dar es Salaam side has claimed five wins from ten away matches in the rivalry, suffering one defeat in the process.

When the teams met earlier this season, at Benjamin Mkapa Stadium in Dar es Salaam on December 4, Yanga came out on top with a hard-fought 1-0 victory thanks to a late goal from midfielder Faisal Salum.

## Flexibles by David Chikoko



**EATV WEDNESDAY**

**TO NIGHT @ 9:00**

**UJENZI**

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 SELEKT  
17:55 Kurasa  
18:00 Kali Za Wana  
18:30 #HASHTAG  
19:00 EATV SAA 1  
20:00 DADAZ (r)  
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  
16:00 EA Drive  
20:00 Kipenga  
21:00 The Cruise

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