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Tourists from various countries come together in Moshi District at the weekend with Mount Kilimanjaro tour guides, porters, cooks and other supporting staff shortly before they set out for several days of a trying climb to the roof of the tallest mountain on the African continent and the highest free-standing mountain in the world. Photo: Correspondent James Lanka

By Correspondent Marc Nkwame, Arusha

LOCAL pastoralist communities in Arusha, Manyara and Singida regions are rapidly attaining the demarcated and secured certificates for customary rights of occupancy for grazing areas, a pastoralist sector activist has stated.

Fred Loure, Ujamaa Community Resource Team programmes manager, said that the non-governmental organization has assisted pastoralists to use demarcation certificates for accessing routes of passage for livestock, which he said are the same as wildlife migration corridors.

He said newly introduced livestock migratory routes can now double as wildlife corridors as domestic and wild animals can share the same migratory corridors.

Addressing members of the Journalists Environmental Association of Tanzania (JET) here at the weekend, he said that more than 1.5m hectares of community land in the northern zone have been

Women platform selects Samia as 'best worker'

By Correspondent James Kandoya

PRESIDENT Samia Suluhu Hassan has been selected as the best worker in Tanzania for 2023, an award handed by the Tanzania Women Cross Party Platform (TWCP), better known by its acronym, Ulingo.

Suzan Lyimo, the platform vice chairperson, said at a function to honor the president that the platform awarded the president for her outstanding performance since she came into office.

Jenista Mhagama, the Policy, Parliament and Coordination state minister at the Prime Minister's Office received the prize on behalf of the president, a nomination coming ahead of International Workers Day commemoration today.

RC: Investors unhappy with harvested sugarcane sucrose

By Guardian Correspondent, Morogoro

Our goal is to support the government's efforts in ensuring self-sufficiency in sugar through local factories. Apart from strategies for internal efficiency, we are working with various stakeholders to provide growers with education on best farming practices to improve their yields

SUGAR farming researchers and scientists need to educate farmers on how to grow sugarcane with high sucrose content as this gap is frustrating for investors.

Fatma Mwasa, the regional commissioner, threw the challenge in a meeting with experts from a number of sugar factories as well as the sugar college, TARI Kibaha sugarcane research station and other stakeholders at Mtibwa Sugar plant in Mvomero district.

Most farmers are ignorant of sucrose content and what elevates it, so experts have a big role in enabling farmers to understand the needed cultivation methods, to reduce discord with investors in using their sugarcane output, she said.

Different types of sugarcane can differ greatly in their sucrose levels; sucrose content can vary from 15 per cent brix to 23 per cent brix. Sugarcane with a brix percentage closer to 23 per cent

brix is considered to produce the highest quality of cane sugar, she stated.

The RC launched a manual to show farmers how to contain

diseases and pests impinging on the crop, wishing for another manual on measuring sucrose content and how to elevate such content in sugarcane they farm.

Despite increasing sugar production, reaching the 686,000 tonnes annual demand is still years away, while industrial sugar production stands at upwards of 400,000 tonnes per year.

A total of 481,000 tonnes is needed for domestic use and 205,000 tonnes in industrial use, she said, pointing out that the supply deficit can be reduced, but increasing production needs to go with enhancing the quality of the sugarcane.

Sugar factories at present are Kagera, Mtibwa, Kilombero, TPC, Manyara and Bagamoyo, she said, praising government efforts to address challenges facing the sugar industry.

These include ensuring a conducive environment for expansion of factories, fighting illegal import of sugar and attracting more investors in the sector, the RC affirmed.

Geryson Kakigwa, a coordinator

with the Tanzania Society of Sugar and Cane Technologists (TSSCT), said experts have been making efforts to increase sugar production.

During the 1970s production was higher in comparison with the population but by the 1990s production began to decline even in the wake of privatization of sugar firms.

"Our goal is to support the government's efforts in ensuring self-sufficiency in sugar through local factories. Apart from strategies for internal efficiency, we are working with various stakeholders to provide growers with education on best farming practices to improve their yields."

Deo Lyato, the Sugar Industry Development Trust Fund chairman, said the meeting was convened to exchange ideas and look at areas that should be professionally worked upon.

Fedrick Charles, the Tanzania Sugar Experts Association secretary, said the manual will help farmers to fight diseases and pests disturbing the crop for years.

The 1.5m hectares of village grazing areas is part of a wider 2.8m hectares of village land that the NGO helped with its surveying and demarcation in recent years

secured for grazing purposes.

This land is sub-divided into periodic grazing blocks and animal passage routes for other periods, in an effort at inter-connectivity, he stated, elaborating that the livestock passageways enable kept animals to move from one destination to another.

The passageways also enable wildlife to migrate between national parks or game reserves in seamless connectivity, he said, suggesting that this solves the problem of previously blocked corridors.

The 1.5m hectares of village grazing areas is part of a wider 2.8m hectares of village land that the NGO helped with its surveying and demarcation in recent years, he said.

Customary rights of occupancy have been issued for scores of villages in Monduli, Simanjiro and Mkalama districts of Arusha, Manyara and Singida regions, respectively.

A total of 17 villages in Monduli District have been presented with certificates of customary rights of occupancy for grazing areas, including Lepurko, Nalarami, Moita-Kiloriti, Lengoolwa, Oldonyo, Lemooti, Lesimingori, Lengoluwa, Nafco and Lolkisale, he said.

The villages occupy 101,080 hectares of land in total; with 28,317 hectares of demarcated grazing land shared between them, he affirmed, stating that the provision of customary land titles to protect village grazing areas was the key objective.

It was accomplished through UCRT in association with The Nature Conservancy (TNC), funded by the United States Agency for International Development (USAID), he said.

Baraka, Losirwa, Mbaashi, Irendeni, Upper Engaruka, Lower Engaruka and Oldonyo Lengai villages in Monduli District were mapped within 107,040 hectares of land and obtained customary

Swiss Embassy, UDSM in city Media Day event

By Correspondent Halfani Chusi

SWITZERLAND has pledged support to Tanzanian media outlets by facilitating educational programmes and investigative journalism.

Didier Chassot, the resident ambassador, made this pledge over the weekend at a discussion conducted by journalists and students

undertaking journalism courses at various colleges and universities, where Swiss embassy officials were present.

The discussion was organized ahead of the World Press Freedom Day on May 3, to analyse various challenges that journalists face when executing their duties.

They focused on 'Shaping a

future of rights: Freedom of expression as the driver for all other human rights."

The envoy said journalists face many challenges, thus the need for the provision of education and financial support in pursuing their duties, including investigative journalism.

Switzerland had engaged in cooperation with Tanzania for a long period, assisting

health, education, gender equality, along with economic empowerment under the motto of leaving no one behind, he stated.

The embassy has been working to protect Tanzanian journalists seen to be the voice of the people during the past

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Swiss Embassy, UDSM in city Media Day event

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decade in particular, he said, noting that the embassy has been working to build journalists' professional capacity and skills. It has also pursued the promotion of gender equality in the media, to reduce challenges like oppressive laws, equipping journalists with innovative skills to elevate their career, he said. Discussions like the weekend event are needed between the government and stakeholders to uplift media initiatives, coming up with activist strategies protecting the interests of journalists. Participants watched a film produced in Mexico with Swiss embassy support, the story of a journalist, Carmen Aristegui, who went through various challenges in reporting news that touched the highest authorities in the country.

The film portrayed dangers that journalists meet in their work, like harassment and threats damaging their dignity, and violating right to work, even to live. "It is my hope that Carmen Aristegui's courage will inspire you to become better journalists," the envoy intoned, underlining the need for journalists to always defend the interests of the community in their work. Juma Isaack, a University of Dar es Salaam journalism student, said the film has given him light on what is going on in the field of journalism. "The debate was good; it was organized and conducted efficiently. It portrayed the real lives of journalists and the many challenges they face." The debate was attended by various stakeholders including government officials, students, journalists and Swiss diplomats.



Prime Minister Kassim Majaliwa makes remarks in Morogoro municipality yesterday after assessing progress in preparations for May Day celebrations to be held at a national level in Morogoro Region today. With him include Prof Joyce Ndalichako (R), Minister of State in the Prime Minister's Office (Labour, Youth, Employment and Persons with Disabilities); Morogoro regional commissioner Fatuma Mwasa (L); and Trade Union Congress of Tanzania president Tumaini Nyamuhokya (2nd-L). Photo: PMO

Women platform picks Samia as 'best worker'

FROM PAGE 1

to be held at the national level in Morogoro. The platform especially saluted the president for the 4Rs philosophy, namely reconciliation, resilience, rebuilding and reforms, asserting that it holds the possibility of eroding or eliminating political

enmity. The chairperson urged political parties to ensure their constitutions are altered or improved to accommodate the 50-50 proportion commitment, similarly urging women across the country to vie for elected positions in the coming elections.

TCWP secretariat member Swaumu Rashid praised the president's work in health, education, youth empowerment and job opportunities, strategic projects and pushing water projects across the country. The president has initiated the installation

of new education infrastructure like classrooms and desks, reducing the distance pupils cover to reach school, accommodate more students and initiated improvement of curriculum, she stated. Building health facilities, procuring

equipment and medical supplies is an aspect of successes of the sixth phase presidency, she asserted. The minister urged TCWP to add ethics to their civic agenda in their various platforms, underlining the need to build a new generation as there is extensive

moral decay. Women still face a number of challenges including accessing land occupancy, she said, paying gratitude to TCWP for honoring the great contribution made by President Samia in economic diplomacy, education and health services.

Grazing land: NGO aids wildlife, cattle drift

FROM PAGE 1

land titles, he elaborated. Grazing areas covered under the customary rights of occupancy measure cover 53,404 hectares, while 111, 920 hectares of grazing land is shared between Sukuro, Terrat, Emboreet, Loborsoit A, Looiborsiret, Kitiangare and Nadonjukin in Simanjiro District, he stated.

Tanzania is one of African countries with the highest number of livestock, boasting 33m cattle, 18.9m goats, 6.4m sheep and 1.6m pigs by current ministerial data, with nearly all of the livestock being local breeds of nomadic pastoralists.

Operating from Arusha, UCRT works to improve the lives of pastoralist, agro-pastoralist and hunter-gatherer communities in the northern regions, working in 85 villages spread in the three regions.

The organization works to support communities, secure rights to land and natural resources, strengthening local natural resource governance institutions enabling collective decision-making and enforcement, empowering those communities to find ways to sustainably use land and other resources.

Officials said that the government plans to set aside over 6m hectares of land as grazing pastures in the next two years, to formalise the traditional livestock sector by extending land occupancy titles, the coordinator added.



Barrick Gold Tanzania workers celebrate in Morogoro municipality at the weekend shortly after they were presented with a trophy, the firm having emerged Overall Winner in this year's edition of Occupation Safety and Health Services Awards. Photo: Guardian Correspondent

Permission denied, police tell Azimio coalition on demos

NAIROBI

Opposition leader Raila Odinga's Azimio coalition has been denied permission to hold anti-government protests in Nairobi from May 2, with police boss Adamson Bungei saying the protests in March were "nothing but peaceful".

In declining to grant Azimio the permission, Bungei told a press briefing yesterday morning that, "Previous demonstrations were marred with violence as the demonstrators, who were armed with

machetes, attacked innocent members of the public who were going [about] their business..."

He noted that this resulted in "the destruction of property, attacks on members of the general public who were not demonstrating, stealing, looting and death of several Kenyans".

"The Azimio demonstrations were nothing but peaceful. As such, by this letter we are declining to allow the Azimio team the go-ahead to proceed with the demonstrations, and any such demonstration will be

dispersed by law enforcement officers," the Nairobi regional police commander said at his offices.

Bungei explained that even though the constitution grants every Kenyan citizen the right to demonstrate peacefully, and to present petitions to national authorities, it also "prohibits the possession of offensive weapons at public meetings and processions".

"Demonstrators, picketers and petition-presenters must do so peaceably and unarmed". Assemblies, picketing and demonstrations

which are not peaceful are excluded from the protection of the Article. If they consist of violence or intimidation of the public then the assembly or the demonstration ought to be stopped," he said.

As such, the police boss said, picketers and demonstrators must not be armed with defensive or protective devices "which breed or stimulate aggression".

About a week ago, Odinga's spokesperson, Dennis Onyango, announced that demonstrations would resume on May 2 and that

they would be confined to Nairobi.

Azimio National Executive Council chairman Wycliffe Oparanya also announced this, saying they chose May 2 to excuse workers who shall be celebrating Labour Day on May 1.

The announcement came as the bi-partisan talks to resolve the political crisis pitting the Azimio coalition against President William Ruto's Kenya Kwanza government entered a critical stage.

The team co-chaired by MPs Otiende Amollo (Rarieda) and George Murugara (Tharaka) held

its second meeting to deliberate on fundamental issues and strike a balance on the dimension the negotiations would take.

Odinga last week vowed to ensure the resumption of the street protests after Ramadan, which ended last Friday, in a bid to compel the government to address concerns by the Opposition.

By press time yesterday, the opposition had not yet responded to Bungei's announcement.

12.2bn/- disbursed by Tasaf to beneficiaries

By Guardian Reporter, Kibaha

A TOTAL of 12.2bn/- has been disbursed by the Tanzania Social Action Fund (TASAF) to beneficiaries in the Coast Region alone from the year 2021 to 2023, it has been revealed.

TASAF Coast Region Coordinator, Roseline Kimaro revealed this while giving information to the delegates from the government of Angola and the World Bank who visited the Region.

The nine delegates arrived in the Coast region in a visit aimed at learning and sharing experiences in Kibaha District Council where they visited projects and met with the beneficiaries of the projects implemented by the TASAF.

Kimaro said during that period 298 projects have been implemented in 340 villages while seven infrastructure projects costing 1.1bn/- was implemented.

He said 417 villages are implementing the projects of the fund while more than 3000 households are benefiting by getting money and going through various projects including infrastructure and making them grow economically and change their normal life.

Earlier, the Acting Administrative Secretary for the Coastal Region, Nsajigwa Mwamunyange, explained how pleased they were with the delegates to make their visit to the country and the region to be among those visited.

Nsajigwa explained that TASAF has supported the implementation of many developmental projects and changed the lives of beneficiaries from poor households because the Government alone would not be able to reach all areas.

Kibaha District Executive Director Butamo Ndalaha explained that from August 2020 to November 2022 1.4bn/- from TASAF have been received in the Council where the beneficiaries have been paid while the rest are used in projects and monitoring and management.

Ndalaha said that TASAF is benefiting the 45 villages of the Council and that due to the funds provided, poor families have been able to get rid of themselves economically by breeding and doing entrepreneurial activities.

Amina Ally Mgomba Selemani is among the beneficiaries from Vikuge Vil-

lage who thanked TASAF for the way it empowered them and changed their lives.

Ashura Said noted that through the TASAF Fund, he has made a change where he has used the opportunity he got to educate his children while his life is different from before he joined the group of beneficiaries.

Assistant Director Rosa Teixeira Decarvalho from the Social Development department of the Angolan government said she was pleased with the implementation of TASAF projects, as well as the testimony from the beneficiaries including the education area.

Rosa said the nine members from the Angolan Government are also pleased with the way the community participates in the activities of TASAF projects, but also the implementation of projects including roads that make travel easier for citizens.



Iringa regional commissioner Halima Dendego (2nd-R) looks on late last week as Mtwivila Secondary School students learn the basics of computer application using one of computers that was part of the consignment of ICT equipment worth over 89m/- recently donated by Vodacom Tanzania Foundation to 14 schools in the region. It was in implementation of a school connectivity project meant to reach 300 schools in the country under a partnership also involving African Child Projects and the Universal Communications Service Access Fund (UCSAF). Right is Vodacom Tanzania's northern highlands head, Happiness Suma. Photo: Guardian Correspondent

Govt appeals to private sector to align operations with SDGs

By Getrude Mbago

THE government has appealed to private companies to play active role in promoting smart development by integrating sustainable development goals (SDGs) into their strategies, operations, and decision-making processes.

Finance and Planning Minister Dr Mwigulu Nchemba made the call in Dar es Salaam at the weekend during the Business SDG Awards ceremony organised by the Global Compact Network Tanzania (GCNT).

In a speech read on his behalf by the ministry's Assistant Commissioner, National Planning Department- Social Economic Development Analysis, Dr Threza Mtenga, the minister said the private sector has the resources, expertise and innovation necessary to help solve

some of the world's most pressing challenges.

According to him, businesses can contribute to sustainable development by adopting sustainable business practices, creating decent jobs, investing in renewable energy and supporting local communities. By doing so, businesses can help create a more prosperous, equitable and sustainable future for all.

"By reducing their environmental impact, businesses can help to mitigate the effects of climate change and protect the planet's natural resources. But also creating social and economic value, businesses can help to promote inclusive growth and reduce poverty and by building partnerships with other organizations, they can help to achieve collective goals that benefit all of society," he said.

The minister added: "I want to

call on all of us to take responsibility for sustainable development. Each of us has a role to play, whether as consumers, employees, or citizens. We must all make conscious decisions to promote sustainability in our daily lives, such as reducing our carbon footprint, supporting sustainable businesses, and advocating for policies that support sustainable development."

The minister commended the UN Global Compact Network Tanzania for organizing the event for the first time in Tanzania, something which stimulates and promotes sustainable development in the country.

He also hailed the winners for their outstanding achievements.

"Sustainable businesses are often more efficient, innovative, and resilient than their peers. They are better able to anticipate and manage risks, adapt to changing market

conditions, and attract and retain talent. In short, sustainability is not just the right thing to do, it is also good for business," he said

He added that businesses that have been recognized have shown that sustainability is not a burden, but an opportunity because by embracing sustainability, these businesses have been able to create new markets, reduce costs, and attract new customers.

He said the government will continue to create an enabling environment for sustainable development which includes developing policies, regulations, and incentives that support sustainable business practices.

"We will also continue working closely with the private sector and civil society to ensure that sustainable development is integrated into national development plans," he said.

In the event a number of companies scooped awards after they were confirmed by judges that their operations promote SDGs.

The winners include Multichoice Tanzania who scooped various awards including the overall winner, Tanzania Breweries Limited (TBL) who won in the category of clean water and sanitation as well as Climate Action categories, Scania Tanzania took the prosperity award.

UN Global Compact Network Tanzania Board Chairman, Simon Shayo, said the awards aimed to evaluate the 17 goals of sustainable development that the nation evaluates each year.

Shayo, who is also vice president of Geita Gold Mining Limited (GGML), responsible for sustainable development on the part of Tanzania and Ghana,

said that despite the fact that the world will be tested by 2030 to see where the countries have achieved, the largest is being tested by a joint venture.

Marsha Macatta-Yambi, GCNT executive director said goal 17 calls on the government and the private sector and others to enter into a joint venture in ensuring that the current development is helping to ensure that no groups or countries remain behind.

Head of UN Resident Coordinator's Office, Shabnam Mallick, said the private sector is an important stakeholder in the cooperation framework consultation process and has the power of innovation and the ability to create many of the solutions needed to address the challenges the world is facing today.

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MAY
2023



Tigo Tanzania wishes you a **Happy** and **Productive Workers Day 2023.**





Joseph Mkonyi, a communications officer with the Dar es Salaam Water and Sanitation Authority (Dawasa), updates Community Development, Gender, Women and Special Groups minister Dr Dorothy Gwajima at an event held in Dar es Salaam at the weekend on the agency's operations. Photo Correspondent Joseph Mwendapole

MOI launches special treatment for chronic headache, back pain

By Correspondent Joseph Mwendapole

THE Muhimbili Orthopaedic Institute (MOI) has launched a new specialised service for treatment of chronic headache and back pain without surgery.

Since its launch, a total of 20 patients have been and they are all progressing well. The service, which is new in the country, has been jointly introduced by MOI and India's YASHODA hospital.

Speaking over the weekend during the launch of the service, MOI Executive Director, Dr Respicious Boniface said introduction of the service is part of the government's efforts towards making Tanzania a center for medical tourism.

"President Samia Suluhu Hassan is determined to make our country the center of medical tourism in the East, Central and South African region, the launched medical service is part of this strategy," said Dr Boniface.

A member of the National Medical Tourism Committee, Abdulmalik Mollel said it is high time for Tanzania to become a medical tourism center following the huge investment into the health sector by the sixth phase

government.

He said a number of specialized medical services are now offered locally.

"The government invested in the purchase of various modern medical technological equipment; experts from neighbouring countries are now coming to learn from Tanzania," he said, adding Tanzanian hospitals are now receiving patients from neighbouring countries.

Mollel noted that people are no longer travelling to countries like the United States, India and Europe for treatment.

The Brain, Spine and Neurosurgeon Specialist from YASHODA hospital in India, Dr Ravi Suman Reddy said the cooperation between MOI and YASHODA benefits Tanzanians and other people from countries in East and Central Africa.

MOI Spine and Brain Surgeon, Dr Nicephorus Rutabasibwa said the new services will bring positive impact on specialist services in the country.

He said MOI will continue to provide the service even after the departure of the Indian specialists.

DAWASA urged to speed up supply of water services

By Correspondent Joseph Mwendapole

THE Dar es Salaam Water and Sanitation Authority (DAWASA) has been urged to speed up distribution of water services to reduce gender violence and promote gender equality.

Minister for Community Development, Gender, Women and Special Groups, Dr Dorothy Gwajima made the remarks over the weekend when she visited DAWASA pa-

vilion at the climax of a festival to promote gender equality in Dar es Salaam. The event was organised by the ministry.

She commended DAWASA for participating at the gender festival, saying the fight against gender violence goes hand in hand with access to water services.

Dr Gwajima said water access will save women and children from walking long distances and being subjected to acts of violence, thus

improving the welfare of the society.

"Water is life; we must ensure that people access the precious liquid at their nearby vicinity. Sexual violence sometimes occur to women and children when in search of water; let us fast-track water distribution for improvement of people's lives and welfare," said the minister.

DAWASA communications officer, Joseph Mkonyi said the authority has succeeded in delivering

water services 95 per cent within its service areas in Dar es Salaam and coastal regions.

He said the water services in the specific areas has helped the government in bringing development and stimulate economic growth as people are no longer spending most of their time in search of water.

Areas that have been recently connected with water services include Mivumoni, Goba, Madale, Makongo, Mshikamano, Pugu, Ukonga,

Chalinze, Mkuranga and many others.

Recently, Vice President Dr. Philip Mpango asked water and sanitation authorities to speed up service delivery to meet the needs of customers. He said that despite the great efforts made by the government to provide quality sanitation services, there are still some authorities whose performance is not satisfactory.

Deputy Minister for Water,

Maryprisca Mahundi was recently quoted saying the ministry has been able to ensure water access to 87 percent of the population in urban areas, where a total of 996 water projects are being implemented.

The government through DAWASA expects to implement a large water project in Rufiji District, Coast Region that will produce 750 million liters of water per day. The project that will serve both Dar es Salaam and Coast regions

President Samia expected to grace the Workers' Day

By Guardian Correspondent, Morogoro

PRESIDENT Samia Suluhu Hassan is expected to grace the commemoration of Workers' Day which is set to be celebrated at national level in Morogoro Municipality.

Prof Joyce Ndalichako, Minister of State in the Prime Minister's Office (Labour, Youth, Employment and Persons with Disability), told journalists here yesterday that President Samia has been invited to be the official guest on the key day, which is themed: "Good Wages and Decent Jobs are Pillars for the Development of Workers Now."

The minister said: "I am asking all the workers, employers and the general public to join us at the stadium so that so that together we can celebrate the day," she said, stressing: "Our president is the number one worker in our country who really respects us with her work performance, so let's join her and all the workers in the country."

She asked the stakeholders to support the efforts of the President who has been continuing to generate jobs through the public sector and to strengthen the private sector which is generating jobs in abundance for Tanzanians.

Prof Ndalichako said, the celebrations are being coordinated by the Trade Union Congress of Tanzania (TUCTA) in collaboration with other stakeholders.

Morogoro Regional Commissioner, Fatma Mwasa said the region has been given the great honor of hosting the International Workers' Day celebrations, asking people to come out in large numbers at the stadium.

RC Mwasa asked the businessmen to continue providing good services to visitors and to take into account the issues of keeping the environment clean



Getrude Sima, from the International Labour Organisation office in Tanzania, holds a trophy awarded to the UN agency by the Occupational Safety and Health Authority (OSHA) during the commemoration of World Day for Safety and Health at Work. The event was held in Morogoro municipality at the weekend. ILO was honoured for standing as a lead institution in the exchange of information on workplace safety and health nationally, regionally and at the international level. Photo: Guardian Correspondent

Tanzania trains 1000 guides ready for new tourism season 2023

By Correspondent Marc Nkwame, Arusha

AS the new tourism season ushers in, more than 1,000 driver guides have just undergone auxiliary training on guest handling and proper provision of travel and hospitality services.

"The four-day supplementary tourism training for the local guides went beyond the usual basics, it also entailed

destination promotion of new destinations, proper sanitation and conservation," the Tanzania National Parks' Commissioner for Conservation, William Mwakilema revealed.

Issuing certificates to the driver guides that participated in the training, the Permanent Secretary in the Ministry of Natural Resources and Tourism, Dr Hassan Abbas pointed out that tour guides and drivers were essentially the direct

envoys of the Tanzanian tourism industry.

"These are the people who come into direct contact with foreign visitors and therefore must be in a proper position to make a positive and lasting impression," said Dr Abbas during the occasion to officially wind up the training session in Arusha.

Dr Abbas insisted on the country's projected strategy to attract at least 5 million foreign visitors by

the year 2025.

At the moment, Tanzania gets an average of 1.5 Million tourists per year; this is despite the country's potential to handle more than double the number.

Also, more than 80 percent of the inbound tourists seem to end up in the Northern Circuit, comprising of Mount Kilimanjaro, Serengeti National Park, Lake Manyara and Ngorongoro Crater, with the rest choosing to bask in

the sunlit beaches of Zanzibar Island.

But Tanzania's main tourism attractions are found in the rather less visited Southern Circuit, which comprises of East Africa's largest National Park, the Nyerere (Formerly Selous), the country's second largest National Park, the Ruaha, Udzungwa Mountains which has variety of endemic flora and fauna and the Mikumi National Park, among other virgin

destinations.

Presenting their joint statement, the Representative of Tour Guides who graduated from the training, Ridas Mollel, outcries the fact that many of the driver guides still operate as freelancers, without the official working contracts despite the sensitivity of their profession. "The law also demands that tour guides should each be paid at least USD 50 per day, but this is hardly being adhered to by

our employers and the tour operators, plus we are still charged fees upon entering National Parks and Game Reserves," maintained Mollel.

According to Mollel, the 1000 tour guides who got the opportunity to attend the training represented just a small fraction of the members of their profession, majority of whom also need such form of supplementary education.

'Battle against FGM needs strong laws and commitment by leaders'

By Correspondent Ambrose Wantaigwa, Tarime

LACK of strict laws against female genital mutilation (FGM) has led to an increase in the acts in various communities something that hampers liberation efforts for female children in the country.

Valerian Mgani, project manager at the Association for the Termination of Female Genital Mutilation (ATFGM) Masanga, in Tarime District, Mara Region said to fight the increasing cases of FGM need strong laws and commitment by leaders.

He said that currently many cases regarding sexual harassment ends with the accused being released where some people, including the victims, fail to appear in court to give evidence that will enable the conviction of those ac-

tion (ATFGM) Masanga, in Tarime District, Mara Region said to fight the increasing cases of FGM need strong laws and commitment by leaders.

used of violence against girls and women.

"Despite several measures being taken to oppose acts of female genital mutilation by non-governmental organisations (NGOs) including the government investing in facilitating education, strict laws against the vice are still needed," he said.

Mgani was speaking at a two-day seminar on the dangers FGM to

journalists from nine regions held in Tarime and sponsored by the United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA).

Dubbed: "Resisting FGM across borders", the training aimed to train journalists on how to write and publish information aimed at educating the community against such gender based violence (GBV).

Michael Marwa, a facilitator from C-Sema said the objectives of the training are also to enable journal-

ists to publicize the effects of sexual violence in order to stimulate positive thinking in the society.

"We think that journalists have a great opportunity to reach many people at the same time by using their pens to help eradicate stereotypes against women, including female genital mutilation that crosses the borders of the country," Marwa said.

He added that some countries in

Africa including Kenya have enacted specific laws against FGM and thus they are running a special campaign using non-governmental organisations to advise the government to enact strict laws.

Every two years, some communities in the Mara Region carry out FGM on young girls while they allegedly smuggle them to neighbouring countries to avoid the hand of the law.

NBC Connect now launched in Mbeya

By Guardian Reporter

THE National Bank of Commerce (NBC) has announced the launch of NBC Connect, the latest addition to its innovative suite of digital banking services in Mbeya.

Speaking during the event last weekend, James Metairon, the corporate banking director of NBC Bank Tanzania Limited, said NBC Connect is a cutting-edge digital banking platform that offers a wide range of convenient and secure banking services, accessible anytime, anywhere, using a mobile device.

According to Metairon, with NBC Connect, customers in Mbeya and the surrounding regions will have access to a host of banking features that are designed to simplify their financial transactions and enhance their banking experience. This includes the ability to pay all type of payments i.e. Local, International, Government and Mobile payment all from the convenience of their mobile devices, computer, or tablet device. Customers will get online financial status of their account and transactions at the convenience of their fingertip.

NBC Connect is built on a robust and secure technology platform that prioritizes the safety and confidentiality of customer's information. It is designed with multiple layers of security measures, including encryption and multi-factor authentication, to ensure that customers' financial information is protected at all times.

Metairon added: "We are thrilled to introduce NBC Connect to the people of Mbeya and surrounding areas. This digital banking platform is a testament to our commitment to providing our customers with cutting-edge banking solutions that are convenient, secure, and user-friendly solutions to banking. NBC Connect will empower our customers to bank on the go, anytime, anywhere, and enjoy seamless and hassle-free banking services."

In addition to its robust features, NBC Connect also provides personalized customer support through its customer care center and dedicated relationship managers and customer service center, who are available to assist customers with their banking needs and provide guidance on how to use the platform effectively.

To celebrate the launch of NBC Connect in Mbeya, NBC Bank Tanzania



Prof Joyce Ndalichako (2nd-R), Minister of State in the Prime Minister's Office (Labour, Youth, Employment and Persons with Disabilities), presents an award to the head of Tigo's safety and health department, Dismas Anthony, in Morogoro municipality. The firm excelled in a workplace health and safety contest, with winners awarded at the World Day for Safety and Health at Work (April 28). Photo: Guardian Correspondent

Limited will be offered an exclusive details and product presentations for customers who signed up for NBC Connect and actively use the platform for their banking transactions.

"We invite all our customers in Mbeya and surrounding areas to experience the simplicity, convenience, flexibility and security of NBC Connect. It's a game-changer in the way banking is done, and we are confident that our customers will find it immensely beneficial," added Metairon.

Present during the launch was

the Mbeya district commissioner, Benno Malisa, who then thanked NBC Banked for this great innovation and encouraged the customers to explore the new simplified banking to ease their daily transaction hustle. He also thanked the bank's management for adding another branch in Mbeya town and for its social corporate responsibility activities that impact most citizens across the nation.

"The launch of NBC Connect in Mbeya represents the bank's strategic expansion plan to serve more communities in Tanzania and con-

tribute to the country's economic growth. NBC Bank is known for its strong commitment to corporate social responsibility, including supporting local communities through various initiatives, such as the NBC Dodoma international marathon that raises awareness and treatment for cervical cancer, maternal health support through mobile clinics, financial literacy programs, youth empowerment through the sponsorship of the NBC national premier league. I truly commend these efforts done by NBC" said Malisa

The NBC Connect launch in Mbeya goes along with a newly opened branch in Mwanjelwa market that will offer a wide range of banking products and services, including but not limited to personal and business accounts, loans, savings and investments, foreign exchange services, and digital banking solutions. Customers will also have access to experienced and dedicated banking professionals who are committed to providing personalized and efficient banking services to meet the financial needs of the community.

Tourism stakeholders to market Mount Kilimanjaro in new style

By Correspondent James Lanka, Moshi

TOURISM stakeholders are set to use Mount Kilimanjaro as a special platform to unite young Africans with different dreams and visions through the art of painting in spreading the special message of Africa that says "The Africa we Want" by 2063.

The move is part of the series of activities of the African Union (AU) Day Celebration, which is celebrated on May 25, every year.

Emanuel Mota director of the Moshi-based Origin Trails said over the weekend when commenting on the African

Union (AU) day, whereby stakeholders will climb the Africa's highest mountain peak for seven days with some paintings and other artistic works with good messages on the 'Africa We Want' project for sustainable local and international tourism.

He said that the painted pictures will express more than the words a person can say, but in a language that everyone can interpret in their own way.

Mota said that every youth with his/her talents will use to market Mount Kilimanjaro in Africa and the entire world

"We want a platform that includes everyone. A person can contribute to explain

the Africa he/she wants."

Munyaradzi Muzenda, director of TAFRICAN Great Art Banner (GAAB) asked young Africans to use the opportunity to show the various talents they have as part of employment.

"This event is also an opportunity for painters because they can create many permanent jobs when we are heading towards this important day for Africans, this is a great job opportunity but people don't see that, most people have been just waiting to be told," Muzenda said.

Vitus Mgaya, Conservation Officer from the Tanzania National Park (KINAPA) said that they will ensure that they

support the efforts made by tourism stakeholders in this country so that their ambition can come true.

"We as KINAPA are here to support them because this thing is important for African countries and the message that will be carried is for Africa to explain what they want which is the agenda of the African Union (AU) 2063," he said, adding: "We'll make sure that this program goes well from the beginning because it is an agenda that will exist for 40 years now and it will help Africans and the whole world to know Mount Kilimanjaro and others to be attracted to come and climb our mountain."

African Development Bank rolls out new 'whistleblowing policy'

ABIDJAN

THE African Development Bank Group (AfDB) has launched a six-month campaign to sensitise its internal and external stakeholders on its new whistle blowing Policy, approved by the Boards of Directors in January this year.

The Whistleblowing Policy 2023 builds on a 2007 policy, which at the time was widely considered as progressive and reflective of the value the bank group places on the contribution of whistleblowers to its anti-corruption processes, and its zero tolerance of any retaliation against them.

The new policy sets additional standards, by bringing the bank's boards members and elected officials under the disciplinary scope of the policy where they are found to have threatened or participated in retaliation against any internal or external party reporting fraud and corruption in bank operations, or assisting in audits, investigations and disciplinary processes.

Enhancing its ability to protect external whistleblowers, the new policy classifies retaliation by external parties within the context of AfDB-financed operations as Obstructive Practices, which are subject to debarment under the Bank's sanctions system. The new policy ensures that the Bank will continue to protect natural persons or entities who make disclosures of fraud or corruption in good faith, refuse to violate the law by making public disclosures, challenge national or international illegality, as well as abuse of authority, mismanagement, gross waste, or substantial health or safety threats, are mistakenly identified as whistleblowers, including AfDB staff and consultants, private citizens, development partners, non-governmental organisations, professional bodies, government officials and officials of other international financial institutions, and employees of vendors and contractors participating in AfDB-financed projects, by making the guarantees of whistleblower rights by employers, a contract condition.

The new Whistleblower Policy also ensures due process guarantees by providing interim relief to persons impacted by retaliation pending the final determination of their grievances, protecting the rights of whistleblowers to seek recourse against decisions made by the bank, protecting the anonymity of whistleblowers by maintaining confidentiality in its processes, and protecting the rights of whistleblowers to be notified of the status of their submissions.

The bank's boards of directors have further committed to reviewing the new policy in 2028, after five years of implementation, taking into consideration implementation reports and feedback from stakeholders.

In 2007, a review of the bank's whistleblowing policy by the United States-based Government Accountability Project (GAP) indicated that the African Development Bank was the first multilateral development bank to substantially comply with the whistleblower transparency reforms authored by senators Patrick Leahy (D-Vt) and Richard Lugar (R-IN) and approved in an October 2005 U.S. appropriations law.



JAMHURI YA MUUNGANO WA TANZANIA
WIZARA YA KILIMO
MAMLAKA YA UDHIBITI WA MBOLEA TANZANIA



TAARIFA KWA UMMA

RATIBA YA KUWASIKILIZA MAWAKALA WALIOFUTIWA LESENI ZA USAMBAZAJI MBOLEA YA RUZUKU KATIKA MSIMU WA 2022/2023

Kufuatia tangazo lililotolewa na Mamlaka tarehe 17 Aprili, 2023 kwenye magazeti ya **Mwananchi** na **The Guardian** lililofuta leseni za usambazaji mbolea kwa mawakala 721 na kufuatiwa na tangazo la tarehe 19 Aprili 2023 lililoagiza kila wakala aliyefutiwa leseni kutoa maelezo kwa maandishi ndani ya kipindi cha siku kumi na nne (14) kuanzia tarehe ya tangazo hilo na kufika Ofisi za Mamlaka kwa ajili ya mahojiano tarehe 4 Mei 2023.

Kutokana na idadi ya Mawakala wanaotakiwa kufika kwa mahojiano kuwa kubwa; Mamlaka inawaagiza mawakala waliofutiwa leseni kufika Ofisi za Mamlaka za Kanda badala ya Makao Makuu kama iliyoelekezwa hapo awali. Ratiba ya Mahojiano kwa kila kanda ni kama inavyooneshwa kwenye jedwali hapa chini. **VITUO VYOTE VITAANZA KAZI SAA 2.30 ASUBUHI**

RATIBA NA MGAWANYO WA VITUO KWA AJILI YA KUWASIKILIZA MAWAKALA

SN	TAREHE	KANDA	MKOA	KITUO/MAHALI
1	4/5/23	Kanda ya mashariki	Dar Es Salaam, Pwani, Lindi, Mtwara na Morogoro	TFRA - DSM
2	8/5/23	Kanda ya Nyanda za Juu Kusini	Ruvuma, Rukwa na Katavi	Ofisi ya Mkuu wa Wilaya Mbeya (Bomani)
3	9/5/23	Kanda ya Nyanda za Juu Kusini	Njombe na Iringa	Ofisi ya Mkuu wa Wilaya Mbeya (Bomani)
4	10/5/23	Kanda ya Nyanda za Juu Kusini	Songwe	Ofisi ya Mkuu wa Wilaya Mbeya (Bomani)
5	11/5/23	Kanda ya Nyanda za Juu Kusini	Mbeya	Ofisi ya Mkuu wa Wilaya Mbeya (Bomani)
6	13/5/2023	Kanda ya Kati	Tabora, Kigoma, Dodoma na Singida	Ukumbi wa Ofisi ya Mkuu wa Mkoa Tabora
7	15/5/2023	Kanda ya Ziwa	Shinyanga, Simiyu, Geita, Mwanza, Kagera na Mara	Ofisi ya Mkuu wa Wilaya Nyamagana
8	17/5/2023	Kanda ya Kaskazini	Kilimanjaro, Manyara, Arusha na Tanga	Ofisi ya DED Meru

Kwa maelekezo zaidi tafadhali wasiliana na Ofisi za **TFRA**

- 1) Kanda ya Nyanda za Juu Kusini - Michael Sanga - 0786279848
- 2) Kanda ya Kati - Joshua Ng'ondya - 0783820089
- 3) Kanda ya Ziwa - Dkt. Asheri Kalala - 0787750752
- 4) Kanda ya Mashariki - Raymond Konga - 0717548500
- 5) Kanda ya Kaskazini - Gotthard Liampawe - 0786309409

Dkt. Stephen Ngailo
MKURUGENZI MTENDAJI
TAFRUGENZI MTENDAJI
Mei 1, 2023

Kwa taarifa zaidi:

Tembelea ofisi yetu iliyoopo Kitalu Na. 15471, 1 Mtaa wa Kilimo, Jengo la Kilimo I, S. L. P. 46238, Dar es salaam, Tanzania au piga +255222861939.

Observe professionalism ethics, TASAF staff told

By Guardian Reporter

TANZANIA Social Action Fund (TASAF) employees have been urged to observe professionalism and ethics to make sure more poor households are lifted from poverty.

Mululi Mahendeka, State House's Permanent Secretary made the call over the weekend in Dar es Salaam when addressing delegates at the TASAF employees' annual general meeting.

Mahendeka said: "One of the challenges that the fund is facing is the interference of politicians who have been giving misleading information by linking them with political and tribal ideologies."

The fund's employees have an obligation to observe integrity and professionalism and make sure their work is not distorted by some politicians, he added.

He said TASAF is a government institution that follows the stipulated guidelines. He directed the fund's management to fulfill its obligations effectively by inspecting the projects

implemented as well as talking to beneficiaries in order to understand their challenges and address them.

"Work hard to make sure the fund's objectives to serve the communities better are achieved," said Mahendeka.

Chairperson of the national steering committee, Peter Ilomo thanked the State House Permanent Secretary for the directives pledging to implement them to increase the fund's efficiency.



Work hard to make sure the fund's objectives to serve the communities better are achieved



Mbeya regional commissioner Juma Homela (R) takes part in construction work at Chunya District hospital at the weekend. Next to him is Chunya Council chairman Ramadhani Shumbi. Photo: Correspondent Nebart Msokwa

Prof Ndalichako advises employers to ensure safety, health of their employees

By Guardian Correspondent, Morogoro

EMPLOYERS have been challenged to take action to ensure the safety and health of their workers as required by the Occupational Health and Safety Act No. 5 of 2003.

Prof. Joyce Ndalichako, Minister of State in the Prime Minister's Office, Labour, Youth, Employment and Persons with Disabilities made the call over the weekend when awarding best exhibitors at

the 2023 Occupational Safety and Health Authority (OSHA) exhibition at Tumbaku grounds in Morogoro Municipality.

The minister said that it's time for employers to adhere to rules and regulations governing the sector.

She also directed them to collaborate with the Occupational Safety and Health Authority (OSHA) to provide employees with education on how to use systems that promote a healthy and safe work environment.

The operations of the OSHA are guided by the Occupational Health and Safety Act, 2003, National Occupational Health and Safety Policy, 2010 and its various regulations.

During the awarding ceremony, Geita Gold Mine Ltd (GGML) won the best overall exhibitor at 2023 OSHA exhibition.

Doreen Denis, GGML's Communication Officer said: "We are proud to announce that GGML

was this award is a testament of AngloGold Ashanti's Tanzania operation commitment to Safety and Health at Work, and we couldn't be more excited about it."

"Our team of experts has been working hard to showcase our health and safety practices, and we're so happy to see their efforts recognized. Thank you to everyone who stopped by our booth to learn more about GGML, and we hope to see you again soon," she said.

At the event Barrick Tanzania also bagged six awards at the 2023 Occupational Safety and Health (OSH), with Bulyanhulu Gold Mine snatching the most coveted prize - the Top Overall winner in OHS 2023 Award. Bulyanhulu also scooped the Best Risk Assessment Report in mining and the Best OHS winner in the mining sector. Barrick North Mara also won the top accolades in the: Most

Caring for Workers with Special Needs and the Best OHS policy. It was also the first Runner Up in the Mining sector winner.

This year Buzwagi Mine also attends the exhibition and snatched the Best Responsive OSH Action Plan.

Barrick Tanzania's 2023 wins swoosh from the company's 2022 successes in which it won the: Overall; Best outreach; Exhibitor; and most compliant awards.

Nacopha lauds US agencies for enhancing HIV quality services

By Guardian Reporter

THE National Council of People Living with HIV (NACOPHA) has commended the support from the US President's Emergency Plan for AIDS Relief (PEPFAR) and United States Agency for International Development (USAID) in executing its duties.

NACOPHA CEO, Deogratias Rutatwa expressed his gratitude to PEPFAR/USAID Tanzania when speaking at the end of a three-day community-led monitoring (CLM) planning meeting for the Hebu Tuyajenge Project.

"We commend you for funding this project, civil society organizations and government representatives who participated in the planning meeting. We look forward to continued collaboration with stakeholders to ensure success and achievement of targeted goals of the 'Hebu Tuyajenge Project,'" said Rutatwa.

'Hebu Tuyajenge' project aims to implement CLM to enhance the delivery of quality HIV services at facility level.

The meeting brought together representatives from nine civil society organizations and PLHIV Clusters leaders to generate a common understanding of the process, approach, and coverage of CLM implementation.

The focus was on empowering people living with HIV to actively monitor the provision of quality HIV services while addressing systemic and policy challenges to service delivery.

A comprehensive approach was used to ensure that the priorities of (COP22) were met by incorporating key populations, HIV-positive pregnant women, and paediatric service recipients.

The meeting provided an opportunity for civil society organizations and PLHIV representatives to collaborate and generate understanding of the process, approach, and scope of CLM based on COP23 priorities.

NACOPHA collaborates with partners and the government to ensure the project goes a long way to improve provision of quality HIV services in Tanzania, particularly to most at-risk and vulnerable populations.

The organization is committed to ensuring that all parties involved in the project have a good understanding of the process, approach and commitment to ensure effective implementation of CLM for achieving desirable outcomes in HIV response.



Doreen Sinare (R), CEO and Copyright Administrator of the Copyright Society of Tanzania, airs her views at World Intellectual Property Day April 26 panel discussion held in Dar es Salaam at the weekend. She is with Business Registration and Licensing Agency (Brela) acting director (Intellectual Property) Seka Kasera (L) and a University of Dar es Salaam lecturer. Photo: Correspondent Halfan Chusi

Govt to employ more professionals, teachers at day-care centres for children with autism

By Guardian Reporter

HEALTH Minister Umyi Mwalimu said yesterday that the government is working to increase the number of professionals, teachers at day care centres for children with autism.

She made the statement in Dar es Salaam at a marathon dubbed 'Run 4 Autism' season II that was organised by the Lukiza Autism Foundation (LuAF). Mwalimu said the government through Muhimbili University of Health and Allied Sciences (MUHAS) expects to introduce new degree and diploma courses on clinical

psychology and science in rehabilitation services.

"We are aware of the limited day care centres for children with autism; we only have 57 specialised teachers at all our 18 integrated schools that provide inclusive education," Mwalimu said, adding the government is also sponsoring 10 students undertaking Degree courses on psychology at MUHAS.

She said as part of efforts to ensure the country has a good number of professionals to deal with mental health challenges, the government has introduced a special Diploma Course at the Arusha based-Pa-

tandi Teachers College.

Mwalimu said data from the World Health Organisation (WHO) shows that in Tanzania, out of every 160 live births, one child is born with autism. She said with the approximately 2.4 million live births per year, some 15,000 children with autism are born in the country annually.

She called upon parents with children suffering from autism not to hide them, insisting they should be enrolled at the designated integrated schools.

Hilda Nkabe, founder and executive director of the Lukiza Autism Foundation appealed to the government to increase

the number of experts who will work to reduce autism challenges especially among children. "It is important that the government produces the teachers from its universities and colleges; the good number of professionals will help reduce mental illness challenges in our society," said Nkabe, noting many Tanzanians are now aware of autism, the thing that has reduced stigma.

Dr Edward Kija, LuAF board chairman and a paediatric neurologist at the department of paediatrics and child health-MUHAS, said autism affects children's ability to communicate, hence the need

for parents to make sure they participate in community events such as marathons.

"These kinds of events help mentally challenged children to communicate with others; through sports we can improve their living standards. Parents should allow them to participate in various games as part of treatment," said Dr Kija.

Silvia Luwambo, is a specialised teacher for children with autism, she said: "Any person can be born with autism; we do not stigmatize the mentally challenged children because they have talents and can express themselves if properly trained."

Actors push for inclusiveness in SADC integration process

By Correspondent Mary Kadoke

NON-State Actors (NSA) has appealed to the government to facilitate their participation in the South African Development Community (SADC) national advocacy committees, to ensure an inclusive national and regional integration process.

Dr Ambrose Aheisibwe, Regional Director of the Sustainable Development Goals Centre for Africa (SDGCA) made the remarks over the weekend in Dar es Salaam during a two-day workshop dubbed: 'Engagement for Results' 'Capacitating National Civil Society Organizations (CSOs)' that aimed to ensure NSA participates fully in the SADC regional integration process.

He said that NSA participation in the regional SADC development programs is limited, suggesting for the government to facilitate their participation.

"We are not properly organized at national level. It is time we actively participate in

the SADC national forum committees," he said.

He said the ministry should borrow a leaf from countries like Malawi, Zambia, Botswana and Zimbabwe because they have succeeded with the best practices. He said the countries had their NSAs fully engaged and participates in the committees towards the SADC agenda implementation.

A Chief Economist from the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and East African Cooperation, Augustine Likwelle commended the importance of NSA as their engagement helps in policy making.

He said NSA has a lot of information from the grass root, stressing their backup role in linking the government and the citizens.

He added: "To make SADC engagement successful, initial stakeholders' processes can involve the Permanent Secretary who will give a way forward, thus easing access to the SADC parliamentary committee."

Joe Mzinga from the Eastern and South-

ern Africa Small Scale Farmers Forum (ES-AFF) said the drive to the SADC national advocacy forum engagement should go hand in hand with tabling the secretariat agenda.

"One thing to ask ourselves: do we have an integration agenda? It is time we start planning and see how we move forward. Yes we are aiming for the engagement but do we have plans?"

National Council of NGOs (NaCoNGO) CEO Rachel Chagonja, said their mandate will be based on capacitating NGOs as they ensure social and economic development at the national and regional level backed with evidence based research.

December last year, NSAs resolved to formulate a temporary steering committee that will work on the available challenges likewise setting resolutions as a way forward towards the achievement of which one of the resolutions was to ensure the availability of tangible evidence of how they are going to support the government.



Dr Ambrose Aheisibwe, Regional Director of the Sustainable Development Goals Centre for Africa Regional Director of the Sustainable Development Goals Centre for Africa, addresses representatives of non-state actors at a two-day workshop held in Dar es Salaam at the weekend. Photo: Correspondent Mary Kadoke

Smiles as 22 people walk away with various items

By Guardian Reporter

TWENTY-TWO people country-wide have walked away with various prizes including motorcycles, smart TV, smart phones and a brand-new car in a campaign organized by Serengeti Breweries Limited (SBL)'s beer brand, Pilsner Lager.

The two-month campaign covering lake, southern and northern

zones, attracted three lucky Pilsner consumers who participated were awarded with motorcycles. One of the winners is the Mwanza-based resident Neema Mathias, who won a motorcycle in the first draw of the 'Kapu la wana campaign'.

Neema said that winning the motorcycle will completely change her life, noting: "I never imagined that a beer of 1,200/- would transform my life to this extent, in other words,

has opened my eyes because I'll expand my business." She is planning to use the motorcycle to generate more money as the transport vessel in the road as taxis (BodaBoda), where Neema hired someone who brings her 8,000 everyday and she opened bank account specifically for the business.

"I deposit all my earnings from this business in that bank account, my goal is to have another motorcy-

cle in a year that is why I now focus on saving what I get from this business," she said, lauding SBL for the campaign that rewards consumers with prizes that give them an opportunity to change their lives for the better. Felix Minja of Mbeya City is another winner of motorcycle, who described the award as a game-changer as he will use it for improving his farming activities.

Apart from being employees in

one factory in the city, he also do farming "so the motorcycle will transform my life."

Arusha-based resident Shamimu Mushi, went away with a brand-new car—Toyota IST that is going to simplified her life. "I am small business owner, so for me this car has simplified how I reach my clients and I get a lot more work done because I no longer have to wait for public transportation, and with car I can see my

business grow in the near future," she said.

Shamimu also noted that the car makes her life easier as sometimes she the car to drop and pick children to and from school.

Wankyo Marando, Pilsner Lager brand manager said the campaign was designed for the purpose of rewarding Pilsner Lager's hard-working consumers and elevating their lives in one way or another.

UNECA urges harmonising informal cross-border trade toward effective monitoring of Africa trade

ADDIS ABABA

THE United Nations Economic Commission for Africa (UNECA) has called on for harmonising informal cross-border trade toward effectively monitoring intra-Africa trade.

The UNECA said in a statement that informal cross-border trade in Africa is known to be large and an important contributor to the livelihoods of millions of Africans, but there are no agreed methods to measure it accurately.

"Understanding the scale, magnitude and characteristics of informal cross-border trade will be instrumental in accurately monitoring intra-African trade, as well as the development of appropriate economic policy," a UNECA statement quoted Melaku Gebeye Desta, coordinator of the African Trade Policy Centre at the UNECA, as saying.

Desta noted that official trade statistics often capture formal trade and leave out informal trade, leading to an underestimation of the magnitude of intra-African trade.

He said the size of informal cross-border trade in Africa means that the level of intra-African trade is probably much higher than the figure that is often used by experts.

The file photo shows trains parking on the track at the Mobolaji Johnson Railway Station of the Lagos-Ibadan railway in Lagos, Nigeria, on June 10, 2021. (Photo by Emma Houston/Xinhua)

Acknowledging that there were some estimates of informal cross-border trade in Africa, Desta observed that the lack of an agreed definition of the phenomenon and common methodological tools used by different national statistical agencies have diminished the quality and utility of the resulting estimates.

According to the UNECA, there is no universally agreed definition of informal cross-border trade, as it has often been conflated with smuggling and other illegal practices.

It said informal cross-border trade has been broadly defined to include informal or unregistered traders and firms operating entirely outside the formal economy and the formal or registered firms, fully evading trade-related regulations and duties, for example, avoiding official border crossing posts. The UNECA made the call during the first physical meeting of the task force on developing a harmonized methodology for informal cross-border trade data collection.

The task force was established by the African Union, in collaboration with the UNECA and the African Export-Import Bank, with a mandate to provide political and technical guidance to the process of developing the continental methodology for informal cross-border trade data collection and overseeing its implementation.

Safety is a key component of Barrick's DNA. The company has a special program for the safety of its employees and contractors, ensuring that everybody is going home healthy and safe. On top of all that in Barrick everyone is committed to doing all that He/She can to create a Zero Harm Workplace.



Hanang' district commissioner Janeth Mayanja brandishes a trophy meant as a token of respect to President Samia Suluhu Hassan for outstanding leadership. This was at this year's edition of Hanang' women's gala held at Katesh yesterday. Photo: Correspondent Gift Thadey

Ruto to launch 'State of Migration in East and Horn of Africa'

By Guardian Reporter, Arusha

KENYAN President William Ruto is expected to grace the launch of the flagship report titled "The State of Migration in the East and Horn of Africa" on 2nd May, 2023 in Nairobi.

According to the East African Community (EAC)'s statement issued yesterday here, the inaugural report, co-published by the International Organization for Migration (IOM) Regional Office for the East and Horn of

Africa, the East African Community (EAC) and the Intergovernmental Authority on Development (IGAD) sheds light on the mobility dimensions of regional integration in the East and Horn of Africa region.

It said that the report takes stock of achievements and challenges in advancing regional integration and human mobility in the region. It makes policy proposals for consideration by Member States, EAC, IGAD, and other partners in an

effort to advance human mobility that is safe, orderly and regular, and contributes to the socio-economic development and integration of the region.

Covering 12 countries in the region, including Burundi, Djibouti, the Democratic Republic of Congo, Ethiopia, Eritrea, Kenya, Rwanda, Somalia, South Sudan, Sudan, United Republic of Tanzania and Uganda, it is the first comprehensive report on the mobility dimensions of regional integration.

In its analysis, the report reviews migration and mobility trends, trade and mobility, labour mobility, cross-border health, climate change and human mobility, sustainable re-integration, gender, integrated border management, digitalization, and the Global Compact for Migration.

The report highlights that access to health remains an essential part of ensuring cross-border movement is safe, and that climate change plays a ma-

jeor role in reshaping the mobility of persons. The report also highlights gender equity as a cross-cutting and critically important facet of human mobility and regional integration.

East and Horn of Africa is estimated to be home to approximately 464 million people. At the same time, it hosts 8.5 million international migrants, which includes 4.7 million labour migrant workers. There are also 22.3 million displaced persons, of which approxi-

mately 17 million are Internally Displaced Persons (IDPs), and 5.4 million refugees and asylum seekers.

Dr. Peter Mathuki, EAC Secretary General said the EAC is honored to have leveraged its skills, capacities, and resources together with IOM and IGAD to produce this flagship report.

"I am convinced that this publication is a timely, useful contribution to policymaking and will better aid to implement the EAC Common Market

Protocol, and advance regional integration and its mobility dimensions," said the Secretary General.

Mohammed Abdiker, IOM Regional Director for East and Horn Africa said the upcoming report provides contemporary thinking on the mobility dimension of regional integration and serves as an intellectual compass for defining the future policy agenda of the Regional Economic Communities and governments.

The Guardian

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MONDAY 1 MAY 2023

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

Iron and coal: Agreeing with investors fiscally appropriate

DISCUSSION on the Minerals ministry estimates had legislators seeking to obtain assurances from the government that it would move to secure loans for the Mchuchuma-Liganga iron and coal project if arrangements for private sector involvement are yet to bear fruit. That was the main line of discussion, but other policy making spheres have not given up seeking for investors in that area. Indeed President Samia Suluhu Hassan has often expressed disdain on handling investors.

So the jury is still out as to whether indeed there are no feasible investment bids that can be taken up on a fruitful basis for the government, or a scenario is in a sense arranged for apparent failure, to encourage a borrowing spree. For one thing, a number of contributors to the debate tended to express irritation with waiting for investors, seemingly convinced that this is where there is a problem. A different undercurrent, less pronounced, saw things differently, and this provides an exit.

MPs were advising the government to invest into the project instead of hoping for investment, more or less taking for granted that this route has actually failed. The standard line of appeal was that the government needs to borrow to invest in the coal and iron project in like manner as the standard gauge railway and the Julius Nyerere hydropower project. The difference is that compared to the coal and iron project, these infrastructure projects are huge, and conceivably need a state hand.

The coal and iron project on the other hand is modest in scale though the sums needed are massive by budgetary standards, thus making

it more feasible to seek for investors. The total project investment is estimated at \$3bn, with some experts saying its likely returns are as high as \$1.4bn a year, which however depends on the feasibility, the market outlets, pricing, and environmental risks that may arise. It is possible there are onerous risks as coal is being frowned upon, in most places.

That may partially explain the problem as minister Dr Ashatu Kijaji was trying to explain, that the Chinese company committed to invest on the project since 2011 was seeking terms that are unfavourable to the government. But as the pact had been signed at that time, and it is a long time since then, perhaps there are changed conditions; looking at the global flow of climate change negotiations perhaps it isn't hard to see 'the witch' in the situation. It is entirely possible that the risks are higher, thus the government may need to extend more generous terms than earlier.

The trouble with the borrowing option is that a section of MPs appear to take it lightly, while they admit that it would cost upwards of \$3bn for the project to be completed. Experience also shows that when the risks are low for an implementing agency, chances of prolonging that initial phase where the funding is higher is likely to be experienced, and what that kind of money involved, the bill could indeed be too high for comfort. In addition, coal and iron are important additions to the value cycle, but they are nowhere as strategic as SGR or JNHPP as some claim.

So policy makers are right, a \$3bn debt for marginally strategic projects is faulty.

Digital transformation is vital for healthcare supply chain

HEALTHCARE is a best prospect industry sector for this country. The country is a resource strained country with not very strong healthcare system which is challenged by high maternal mortality, child mortality, HIV/AIDS, pneumonia, and malaria just to mention but a few. Its population also has some of the lowest rates of access to health personnel in the world. Over 60 per cent of Tanzania healthcare facilities are run by the government with the rest being either faith-based or private.

As the country, Tanzania is progressing towards universal healthcare. In 2020/2021 the government allocated \$387.9 million for the health sector of which \$155.5 million was spent on development projects, which would help the government to implement its health improving initiatives. The sector has been allocated 1.109 billion/- in 2022/2023.

Healthcare financing is complemented by international donors. The US government, through USAID and CDC, contribute significantly to programmes that assist the government. Health insurance coverage is still low with only 32 per cent of Tanzanians as of 2019 covered by health insurance. The Government in 2022/23 budget identified some of the issues which will be of great importance or priority; Strengthening the delivery of vaccines for children under age of five; and strengthening the quality of delivery of health services in the country

Against the backdrop, the government has called upon investors to establish pharmaceutical factories within the country. However, firms operating locally face several challenges such as need for skilled human resources, availability of modern technology and the ability to reach sufficient scale to compete with international suppliers.

The Medical Stores Department (MSD) is the state-run unit which makes these initiatives possible. It en-

sures that everyone in Tanzania gets drugs and medical facilities where they are.

Over 25 years, MSD continues to innovate and maintain efficient, secured and cost-effective systems of its four functions of production, procurement, storage and distribution.

It is currently undergoing complete reformation processes aimed at improving its operational performance.

Mavere Tukai, MSD's director general says that the main focus areas include service and operational excellence, timely availability of quality health commodities with affordable price through local production, as well as promoting good governance.

Following acceptable quality criteria to store health products in accordance with the manufacturers' guidelines. All products are received, stored and released. Currently, MSD has achieved many achievements to be proud of since its inception. Among the achievements is the purchase, distribution and installation of CEMONC products 256 types out of 345 with a value of 65bn/- (65 percent) of 99.6bn/- received at 284 health centers.

MSD has been able to install 2,315 laboratory machines and the supply of reagents to move services to people, reduce examination costs and increase the availability of services at centers as well as distributing 140 new blood purification machines in 14 referral hospitals.

It has also built capacity for laboratory experts and standard technicians and medical equipment engineers about 346 across the country.

However, the improvements taking place in the health sector, including the increase in health care centres in the country, are not a threat to MSD due to the strong modern systems that have been set up for the distribution of health equipment, including medicines, to the door of the respective centre.

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Ahead of WPFDF - May 3 - data show media freedom challenged worldwide

By Andrew Heslop

THREATS against media are increasing, with methods designed to silence and intimidate the press targeting individual journalists, pressuring editorial independence, and undermining the business operations of news organisations worldwide.

WAN-IFRA's latest World Press Trends Outlook report features data collected on specific incidents of media freedom violations. In this extract from the full report, adapted for World Press Freedom Day (May 3), we see a broad split, echoed in our data, between developed and developing markets and between online and offline attacks.

At least 66 journalists were killed in 2022, at least 40 of them for reasons directly linked to their work, with estimates suggesting that a record number - 363 - are currently in jail (a 20 per cent increase on 2021).

Physical intimidation remains an effective means to silence the press, particularly in countries where public institutions are weak or under threat and the rule of law is challenged.

Globally, the rate of physical attacks and murders has risen this year compared to 2021 figures, with the conflict in Ukraine contributing additional casualties - owing, in part, to the heightened risks and dangers of war reporting, but also the deliberate targeting of journalists by invading Russian forces.

Early PPE (personal protection equipment) shortages, a lack of safety training, and the relative inexperience of many journalists covering the conflict highlight the need for continued investment in this area, and for media organisations (under their duty of care obligations) to better prepare staff for dangerous assignments.

Impunity around attacks and killings also continues to fuel the rising numbers, with lacklustre investigations and low prosecution rates for those who commit crimes against journalists in hotspot areas ultimately providing scant deterrence.

Globally, approximately 80 per cent of attacks against journalists, including murders, remain unsolved. Systemic failings within national justice systems coupled with general financial and resource mobilisation issues across many fragile states and emerging democracies contribute to a weak legal environment.

Corruption and intimidation of the legal profession in many countries further reduce access to justice and challenges the rule of law, all of which ultimately points to an ongoing lack



of genuine political will to tackle assaults on the press in many jurisdictions.

Legal harassment continues to undermine public interest reporting worldwide. Libel and SLAPPs cases drain immense resources and time from even the most well-funded news organisations, with the risk of criminal prosecution still a reality across numerous jurisdictions.

Even the mere prospect of facing costly and lengthy legal proceedings can be enough to bury a story. National security and anti-terror legislation also continue to be widely applied and misused to target the press, jail journalists, and justify blocking access to information against claims of the wider public interest.

The need for legislative revision remains key in a number of countries still applying outdated, vaguely defined, or broadly applicable laws that do not meet accepted international standards and leave the door open for abuse, particularly in the online sphere.

Censorship and the criminalisation of journalism have intensified as the debate around online regulation continues. The risk of laws either inadequate in their provisions, or far too overreaching in their potential application, leaves journalists and media organisations increasingly isolated and exposed to the twin caprices of legislative interpretation and political interference.

On the reverse side, our data show that online harassment against journalists - particularly women journalists - is becoming more prevalent across all regions. In the absence of effective deterrents, greater aware-

ness amongst media managers and better access to support for victims remains an urgent priority.

Related, and increasingly common since the height of the Covid-19 lockdowns, we are seeing a significant increase in demand to address mental health and wellbeing issues alongside coping mechanisms for digital burnout and stress-related illnesses associated with heavy workloads, heightened performance pressures, and the 'always online' culture.

Uncertainty around the future of Twitter led to great alarm, particularly for journalists based in countries hostile to press freedom where the platform has become entrenched as a reliable source of independent news.

Concerns more broadly focus on the ability of tech platforms, themselves undergoing significant retrenchments and repositioning, to provide consistent content moderation, ensure safeguarding protections, and police extremism and other forms of online hate speech that inevitably risk leading to increased threats against media professionals.

It is possible that the dramatic changes to-date may satisfy the libertarian interpretation of unfettered freedom of speech online. However, the risk of an unchecked spread of misinformation and disinformation - coupled with the very real-world consequences facing individuals and groups at risk of discrimination - seriously calls into question the safety of journalists engaging across the major platforms.

Newsrooms are also grappling with the mainstream arrival of artificial intelligence and its impact on journal-

ism. While undoubtedly presenting significant opportunities, AI has the potential to exacerbate risks already inherent in the relationship between technology and modern journalism.

Underlining all of this, the financial health of media and the long-term sustainability of many organisations remain critical, particularly at this crucial stage of post-Covid-19 recovery.

Independent media, particularly in fragile markets, are susceptible to financial pressures more so than at any previous time. This is given reduced advertising revenues and increased reliance on either state or donor support with a finite timeline and strings often attached.

More than ever, the media must be acutely aware of exposure to soft censorship practices as they seek new investment in attempts to reach a more stable position.

Finally, as long as question marks remain over the viability of independent media titles, a free press will forever be limited in terms of its potential to contribute to critical democratic processes.

The proliferation of news deserts and the negative impact these have on access to reliable information can only be reversed with investment in, and prioritisation for, public interest media, good journalism and trustworthy news.

Successful continuance of the democratic, rights- and rules-based societal model goes hand in hand with the health of the independent media sector. Otherwise the gap between those thriving and those barely surviving will only increase - much to the detriment of us all.

May Day 2023: It's time to prioritise social justice

By Gilbert F. Hounbo

MAY 1 is alternately known as May Day, Labour Day or Workers' Day. It is a day when we celebrate the contribution of workers worldwide. It is a moment for pride, celebration and hope.

After three years of the COVID-19 crisis, followed by inflation, conflict, and food and fuel supply shocks, we badly need this. But the promises of renewal made during the pandemic, of 'building back better', have so far not been delivered for the great majority of workers worldwide.

Globally, real wages have fallen, poverty is rising, and inequality seems more entrenched than ever before.

Enterprises have been hard hit. Many could not cope with the cumulative effects of recent unexpected events. Small and micro-enterprises were particularly affected, and many have ceased operations.

People feel that the sacrifices they made to get through COVID-19 have not been recognized, let alone rewarded. Their voices are not being heard clearly enough. This, combined with a perceived lack of opportunities, has created a disturbing level of mistrust.

It doesn't have to be like this. We are still the masters of our fate. But if we are to shape a new, more stable and equitable world, we must choose a different path—one that prioritizes social justice.

I believe this is not only do-able but essential for a sustainable and stable future. So, how do we get there?

First and foremost, our policies and actions must be human-centred, to allow people to pursue both their material well-being and their spiritual development in conditions of freedom and dignity, economic security and equal opportunity. This approach is not new, it was set out and agreed in the aftermath of World War Two, when the ILO's international membership signed the 1944 Declaration of Philadelphia.

This visionary document set out guiding principles for our economic and social systems, that they should not be turned exclusively to hitting specific growth rates or other statistical targets, but to address human needs and aspirations. This means focusing on inequality, poverty alleviation and core social protection. The most effective way to do this is by providing quality jobs so that people can support themselves



and build their own futures - able Development Goal 8 terms 'Decent Work for All', as Sustain- it.

It means realistically addressing the long-term structural transformations of our time; ensuring that new technology creates and supports employment; pro-actively facing the challenges of climate change and ensuring we offer the jobs, skills training and transition support necessary for workers and businesses to benefit from the new low-carbon era; treating demographic changes as a 'dividend' rather than a problem, with supporting action on skills, migration and social protection, to create more cohesive and resilient societies.

We also need to reassess and refashion the architecture of our social and economic systems, so that they support this change of course towards social justice, rather than continuing to channel us into a policy 'doom loop' of inequality and instability. We must reinvigorate labour institutions and organizations so that social dialogue is effective and vigorous. We must review laws and regulations affecting the world of work, so that they are relevant and up-to-date and able to protect workers and support sustainable businesses.

To make all this happen, we need to recommit to international cooperation and solidarity. We must enhance our efforts and create greater policy coherence, particularly within the multilateral system, as the United Nations Secretary-General, Antonio Guterres calls it.

This is why we need a Global Coalition for Social Justice. This Coalition will create a platform to bring together a broad range of international bodies and stakeholders. It will position social justice

as the keystone of the global recovery, so that it is prioritized in national, regional and global policies and actions. In sum, it will ensure that our future is human-centred.

We have the chance to reshape the world we live in - economically, socially and environmentally. Let us take this opportunity and move forward to build the equitable and resilient societies that can underpin lasting peace and social justice.

Gilbert F. Hounbo (pictured) is the Director General of the International Labour Organization



Union at 59: Debunking falsehoods and misconceptions about its formation (2)

By Obadia Kajungu

IF something went missing, does that mean it never existed? To answer this question, one should be knowledgeable about the law of evidence, contract and legal methods.

In the law of contract, something which otherwise not expressly a condition precedent in the contractual text, the law always implies it and adopts it in practice and in the course of dealings in the sense that it does not need to be expressly provided for in the written contractual text.

In the law of evidence we have something known as presumptions and judicial notice. Presumptions is a logical rule of interpretation of statutes where facts are presumed to exist the inference of which is drawn from the surrounding circumstances even if not physically traceable. For example, a person who has gone missing may be presumed to have died if he or she so remains untraceable for more than six consecutive years.

The records of the United Nations show that it recognized the union of Tanganyika and Zanzibar as they were given a single seat in the General Assembly of the United Nations "following the ratification on the 26 April, 1964 of Articles of Union between Tanganyika and Zanzibar." Therefore, the United Republic of Tanganyika and Zanzibar continued as a single member, later changing name to the United Republic of Tanzania on 1 November 1964.

Therefore, the contention that original Articles of the Union which contain both signatures of Nyerere and Karume are yet to be found is worth dismissing because by no means the United Nations would accept the union of Tanganyika and Zanzibar without any document. The question that the said document is untraceable is obsolete because the law of evidence recognises situations when a document may be lost!

Furthermore, in their arguments, however, the critics never considered the interim constitution of 1964 that was adopted ad hoc, which included the Acts of Union themselves and directions on steps to take to elaborate a definitive constitution, to be elaborated by a constituent assembly comprising representatives of both TANU and ASP.

The interim constitution was modified several times after its first layout. A major change was made in 1965 to formalize one-party nation of Tanzanian government. Coherent to the double government structure defined in 1964, the 1965 constitution identified two government parties, that is TANU for the Union and ASP for Zanzibar. All of these procedures are what articles of the union expressly provide for, except the critics are perplexed by the title of such articles of union.

Legitimacy of the structure of union government

The government structure is the question of convenience of the appropriate state according to her social reality and convenience. According to the Draft Declaration on the Rights and Duties of States, "every member state of the world community has



the right to independence and hence to exercise freely, without dictation by any other state, all its legal powers, including the choice of its own form of government."

The government of the union of Tanganyika and Zanzibar is that both Tanganyika and Zanzibar lost sovereignty, except Zanzibar remained with identity while Tanganyika lost both, thus forming the government of the United Republic of Tanzania and the Revolutionary Government of Zanzibar. This structure of the government has proved invincible by surviving so many attempted subversions.

Critics are either being perplexed by

logic which has little to do with the path of the law or they have malice behind their criticism against the national integrity of Tanzania. According to the renowned legal philosopher Oliver Wendell Holmes, "the life of the law has never been logic but experience." Therefore, it is sufficient to say that the government structure of the United Republic of Tanzania is what fits the social reality of our local circumstances.

Conclusion

Most of the criticisms of the union of Tanganyika and Zanzibar have been mostly on concern about the consent of the gov-

erned in line with the Vienna Convention on the Law of Treaties 1969, which does not apply in the formation of sovereign state unions except in the formation of government unions such as NATO, EAC, AU et cetera.

Although Tanzania's anti-union writers and critics are acting under the umbrella of freedom of expression of human rights law, they have gone ultra vires because their criticisms are in contravention of Article 19(3) of the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights (ICCPR) which is the foundation of civil liberties in modern constitutions.

This Article provides and directs states to set restrictions in the enjoyment of freedom of expression by not harming national integrity and security of a given society. This is according to Article 19(3) of ICCPR.

The author is an advocate of the High Court

Rising to the challenge: UN Road Safety Fund in a polycrises world

By Nneka Henry

CRISES may be a centuries-old phenomenon, but so too is human resilience.

The high number of road deaths and life-changing injuries in the global south is a crisis that affects millions of people every year. In 2018 alone - the year that the UN Road Safety Fund was established - 1.3 million people died on the world's roads, and another 50 million were injured or disabled.

These numbers are even more sobering against the backdrop of multiple global crises that range from the coronavirus pandemic to the climate emergency, the cost of living crisis to geopolitical conflicts. As daunting as the world may be, the millions of lives and livelihoods lost to road crashes has made the Fund as resolute as ever to continue to mobilize and coordinate effective responses to very real road safety needs.

Recognizing the world's state of increasing complexities, the Fund has been meeting the global road safety challenge head-on. It has done this through a coordinated and multi-faceted approach that addresses the underlying cause of unsafe roads whilst also addressing interconnections with other global development crises.

As the only United Nations body solely dedicated to channelling resources and expertise to tackling the root cause of the crisis, preventing further loss of life is, and will always be, our ultimate goal.

How could it not be - considering that road traffic crashes take the lives of around 3,700 people each day; the equivalent of losing a large cruise ship of passengers at maximum capacity. Through annual Calls for Proposals, the Fund coordinates and finances projects that help ensure road safety is treated as the significant public health issue that it is.

In Brazil, our project partner, the UN Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean, worked with the Department of Transport to correct and improve speed control operations including with the use of portable equipment on all of the Pará State highways. The project resulted in a doubling breathalyzer tests to over 78,000 carried out in 2022 and contributed to decreasing the rate of traffic deaths by a third, down from 6.13 per 10,000 vehicles in 2021 to 4.13 in 2022.

Underpinning the Fund's ability to effectively address the road safety crisis is our comparative advantage of encouraging international collaboration and cooperation through pooled financial resources and technical knowledge. The more financial and technical partners that participate in the Fund the more comprehensive our response has been, spanning road safety-related legislation, enforcement, education, use of technology and implementation of international regulations and standards.

In the case of West Africa - led by our project partners the UN Environment Programme and UN Economic



An aerial photograph of a busy roundabout in Lusaka Zambia. Credit: UNRSF.

Commission for Europe - the Fund collaborated on an initiative with the UN Economic Commission for Africa, FIA, and the International Motor Vehicles Inspection Committee.

This has supported the 15 ECOWAS members states to adopt and roll out a regionally-harmonized vehicle directive and technical inspection system, which sets a common standard to safeguard the safety and environmental-friendliness of used vehicles on West African roads. It is now helping to decrease the number of vehicles involved in fatal crashes due to technical defects by 50%, saving thousands of lives.

Key to strengthening the Fund's global outreach and engagement is our commitment to communicate clearly and effectively with the public, stakeholders, and decision-makers to ensure that everyone is up-to-date and engaged in the response efforts.

In addition to project planning information sessions which encourage knowledge exchange, and building synergies and complementary financing opportunities before projects are finalized; the Fund also delivers three main flagship events. These include the virtual Open Day for project partners to share project results, the launch of

the Annual Impact Report, which takes place on the margins of the International Transport Forum Summit, and the Highlights Country Visit for stakeholders to deep dive into projects that the Fund is supporting.

As global citizens we are all facing a crossroads of crises. The Fund's response has been to invest in supporting interconnections with other development priorities as a way to build resilience and preparedness for future crises.

Mindful of economic crises, the Fund's investment in safe transport and road infrastructure is vital. This is what we have been do-

ing in support of the Tanzanian government - with project partners the International Road Assessment Programme, International Road Federation and the UN Economic Commission for Africa.

This initiative has been helping to reduce traffic crashes that place a heavy additional economic burden on families, governments and employers - spanning medical expenses, lost income, and reduced productivity - all of which costs the global economy US\$ 1.85 trillion each year.

Low- and middle-income countries devote considerable public personnel and

other resources to the treatment and rehabilitation of people injured in road crashes. There is, therefore, a compelling need to reduce the road crash burden on national healthcare systems freeing up critical resources to address other pressing health issues.

Considering ongoing health crises, the Fund is investing in effective post-crash responses - a focus area for the 2023 Call for Proposals and an issue we address in countries like Bangladesh and Azerbaijan, which suffer high rates of road casualties.

Mitigating the effects of climate change, the Fund also invests in cleaner ways of moving safely, including through the Reclaiming the Streets project across Africa to prioritize safe walking and cycling lanes for pedestrians and cyclists who also happen to be our most vulnerable road users.

During these years of polycrises, the Fund has relied on the global solutions approach to rise to the global road safety challenge. And, this month, as the Fund celebrates five years, I challenge more nations, companies and individuals to invest in the only global response comprehensively addressing the root causes of poor national road safety systems across the world. Join us in our sustained effort and rise to meet the serious and interconnected challenges that is the global road safety crisis today.

Nneka Henry is Head of UN Road Safety Fund

Now Europeans learn what climate extremes are all about

By Baher Kamal

APOLOGIES to those Western politicians and media who continue to say that Ukraine's brutal proxy war stands behind whatever catastrophes, disasters or crises occur in the Planet.

Is this accurate?

Scientific evidence confirms that, much earlier than that war, Europe, like many other regions, was already walking closer to the edge of extreme weather consequences.

Europe's worst drought in 500 years?

"The drought episode that affected Europe in 2022 could well be the worst in 500 years," reports Copernicus, the Earth observation component of the European Union's Space programme which "looks at our planet and its environment to benefit all European citizens and offers information services."

This European service further explains that the 2022 drought episode "is attributable to a severe and persistent lack of precipitation, combined with a sequence of repeated heat waves that have affected Europe from May to October."

Put simply, the reported climate extremes in Europe are not the consequence of the Ukraine war, and they were already there many years earlier to when it started in February 2022.

Anyway, European citizens now hear the devastating impacts of climate extremes in their own rich continent, which is one of the major global contributors to the ongoing climate emergency.

Are climate emergencies just an impoverished regions' problem?

So far, the severe impacts of climate extremes in Africa and other impoverished regions, would jump to the news every now and then, by showing short videos of errant human beings and deserts... before analysing in-depth the latest soccer games or reporting on the new friend of a reality-show star. And highway accidents or a fight between young gangs.

Western citizens are also used to hearing that the horrifying numbers of hungry people (more than one billion human beings), in particular in East Africa due to long years of record droughts, is either caused by the war in Ukraine or that their situation was exacerbated by it.

Now European citizens wake up to the upsetting fact that they also fall under the heavy impact of the steadily rising human, economic, and environmental toll of climate change.

How come those impacts are now becoming news?

A swift answer is that such climate extremes,

heat waves, severe droughts, water and food production shortages have been causing increasing damage to private businesses, as well as to medium-to-small-size agriculture activities. In short, damaging their pockets.

See what the very same European Union officially says at the macro level:

Weather- and climate-related hazards, such as temperature extremes, heavy precipitation and droughts, pose risks to human health and the environment and can lead to substantial economic losses.

Between 1980 and 2021, weather- and climate-related extremes amounted to an estimated EUR 560 billion (2021 values).

Hydrological events (floods) account for over 45% and meteorological events (storms including lightning and hail, together with mass movements) for almost one-third of the total.

When it comes to climatological events, heat waves are responsible for over 13% of the total losses while the remaining +/-8% are caused by droughts, forest fires and cold waves.

The most expensive hazards during the period 1980-2021 include the 2021 flooding in Germany and Belgium (almost EUR 50 billion), the 2002 flood in central Europe (over EUR 22 billion), the 2003 drought and heat-wave across the EU (around EUR 16 billion), the 1999 storm Lothar in Western Europe and the 2000 flood in France and Italy (both over EUR 13 billion), all at 2021 values.

A relatively small number of events is responsible for a large proportion of the economic losses: 5% of the weather- and climate-related events with the biggest losses is responsible for 57% of losses and 1% of the events cause 26% of losses (EEA's own calculations based on the original dataset).

This results in high variability from year to year and makes it difficult to identify trends. Nevertheless, the average annual (constant prices, 2021 euros) losses were around EUR 9.7 billion in 1981-1990, 11.2 billion in 1991-2000, 13.5 billion in 2001-2010 and 15.3 billion in 2011-2020. The Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change predicts that climate-related

extreme events will become more frequent and severe worldwide. This could affect multiple sectors and cause systemic failures across Europe, leading to greater economic losses.

Only 30% of the total losses were insured, although this varied considerably among countries, from less than 2% in Hungary, Lithuania and Romania to over 75% in Slovenia and the Netherlands.

Also at the medium-to-micro level

Most medium-to-small agricultural cooperatives, unions and associations in those European countries more stricken by droughts, have been rising their public protests, demanding their governments to compensate them for the big losses of their harvests.

In the specific case of Spain, farmers' unions and agri-food cooperatives report crop losses of up to two-thirds of the expected harvest.

Back to Copernicus

The "historical drought" affected Europe as evidenced by the Combined Drought Indicator of the Copernicus Emergency Management Service European Drought Observatory for the first ten-day period of September 2022.

On this, Copernicus reports the following findings, heatwaves: 2022 was also characterised by intense, and in some areas prolonged, heatwaves which affected Europe and the rest of the world, breaking several surface air temperature records.

As reported in the July 2022 Climate Bulletin published by the Copernicus Climate Change Service July 2022 was the sixth warmest July in Europe.

Temperature anomalies reached peaks of +4°C in Italy, France, and Spain. According to the European Union's Copernicus, the prolonged drought that has affected various parts of the globe together with the record temperatures were contributing forces that have certainly caused an increased wildfire risk, which peaked during the summer season both in Europe, in the Mediterranean region, and in the north-west of the United States.

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



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DC Mpogolo urges companies to appreciate workers' contribution

By Guardian Reporter

ILALA district commissioner Edward Mpogolo has tasked companies to establish effective human resources policies that promote the well-being of employees.

DC Mpogolo made the call over the weekend when speaking during the awards ceremony for the best employees of the year for Simba Supply Chain Solutions Ltd (SSCS), Simba Trailers and Simba Logistics which are subsidiaries of Simba Bingwa.

Apart from lauding Simba Bingwa Group of companies for introducing special awards, the DC urged other companies to inculcate a habit of recognizing the remarkable contribution of its workers in realization of various development goals.

"This move gives workers more courage to work hard but also promote welfare and economy of the company and the nation in general. It motivates workers and in turn realise the company's dreams," Mpogolo said, adding: "It is a good and proud thing, the government is proud to have employers who appreciate their employees."

"In a special way, I would like to congratulate the directors of Simba Bingwa Companies (Simba Chain, Simba Logistics and Simba Trailers) for establishing effective human resources policies that promote the well-being of employees. It is a good and proud thing, the Government is proud to have employers who appreciate their employees," he said.

He added: "The success of the employees is the success of the Company now and in the future, so I urge the employees to increase their efforts and knowledge in their work and enable the Company to achieve great goals."

DC Mpogolo said that currently, the Simba Bingwa Companies have approximately 400 directly employed workers. "The government wishes to see



Ilala DC Edward Mpogolo speaks at the weekend during an event to award best employees of the year for Simba Supply Chain Solutions Ltd (SSCS), Simba Trailers and Simba Logistics.

within the next few years, these employment opportunities are doubled for rapid development."

Dar es Salaam City's Mayor, Omary Kumbilamoto said: "I commend Simba Companies by providing 0.3 per cent of their levies to support development initiatives in Dar es Salaam including constructions of dispensaries, schools and many more."

Aly Dewji, one of the directors for Simba Bingwa said that they officially launched the Simba Bingwa system on July 1, 2021, specialized in managing and coordinating the employees' performance evaluation and the very first award event was in March 2022.

"This system is essential for our company to ensure that employees are aware of the Company's goals which are

to work collaboratively and to increase efficiency in the workplace in order to achieve strategic goals in business," he said.

Hussein Dewji, co-director for Simba Bingwa said: "Our Company is in the process of bringing all employees into health insurance, so as to make sure that the workers and families are all getting health service. We believe that

when the employee's family is stable, then the employee will work efficiently and thus the company will move forward and achieve its goals."

He stated that for a long time, Simba Bingwa was involved in the transportation of goods by road as well as the creation of trailers to facilitate the transportation sector, but recently they have expanded the scope of business by establishing a clearing and forwarding unit alongside with warehouses operations in Tanga (Simba Terminals).

"Through Simba Terminals, the company has already imported two ships into the country through Tanga port and bringing more than 13,000 tons of cargo. We believe that through the port of Tanga, our company will increase the value in the supply chain," the Director said.

Employees who won the awards as the best employees thanked the companies for recognising and their efforts saying that the awards have brought a new spirit of dedication to the employees to achieve personal academic and developmental goals but also to help the Company achieve its goals for the well-being of the Nation.

Group of companies Chairman, Azim Dewji urged the employees, especially drivers, to build patriotism and when they are outside the country, should be good ambassadors to promote the good things of the nation.

'Decentralising Samia Suluhu Hassan super specialists key in health equity spread in Tanzania'

By George Mwitwa

THE Samia Suluhu Super Specialist programme has been hailed as a significant milestone in Tanzania's healthcare system, with the potential to address the shortage of specialists and nurses in regional referral hospitals across the country. However, for the programme to have a transformative impact, it is essential to ensure that the doctors trained under the programme are decentralised across all 31 regions in Tanzania.

Decentralization of the Samia programme will be excellent for many reasons, including reducing the burden on the National Referral hospital,

improving access to healthcare services, and promoting equitable distribution of healthcare resources.

Decentralisation is an essential aspect of healthcare systems, and it refers to the distribution of resources, power, and decision-making from the central authority to local authorities. In the context of the Samia Suluhu Super Specialist programme, decentralisation means distributing the specialist doctors, and nurses trained under the programme to regional referral hospitals across Tanzania. This move will ensure that patients in remote areas can access specialist healthcare services without having to travel long distances to the national refer-

ral hospital, Muhimbili in Dar es Salaam.

It is important to reiterate that decentralisation will save patients' time and money. Currently, patients in regional referral hospitals have to travel long distances to receive specialised care. This move is not only time-consuming but also expensive for patients who have to pay for transportation and other associated costs.

In my view decentralization of healthcare services has several advantages. Firstly, it promotes equity in healthcare service delivery. Decentralization of the Samia programme will improve access to healthcare services in remote and underserved areas of the country.

The shortage of specialists and nurses in regional referral hospitals has often led to patients in remote and underserved areas of the country not accessing the much-needed healthcare services.

Decentralizing the programme will ensure that trained specialists and nurses are stationed in these areas, providing quality healthcare services to patients who previously had limited access to healthcare services. This will go a long way in reducing the disparity in health outcomes between different regions in the country and promote equity in the distribution of healthcare resources and improve the health outcomes of communities in remote

and underserved areas of the country.

Secondly, decentralization improves the efficiency and effectiveness of healthcare service delivery. Regional referral hospitals will have specialist doctors who can provide high-quality healthcare services to patients, reducing the burden on the National Referral Hospital, Muhimbili in Dar es Salaam in this case. This will not only improve the quality of healthcare services but also reduce the waiting times for patients seeking specialist healthcare service.

Thirdly, decentralization enhances local decision-making and accountability. Local authorities, such as regional referral hospitals, have

a better understanding of the healthcare needs of their communities. By decentralizing specialist doctors, the national government will be empowering these local authorities to make decisions that are in the best interest of their communities. This will promote accountability and transparency in healthcare service delivery, which is essential for building public trust in the healthcare system.

In conclusion, the Samia Suluhu Super Specialist programme is a significant step towards addressing shortage of specialist doctors and nurses in Tanzania's healthcare system. However, for the programme to have a transformative impact there is a need

to decentralize the doctors trained under the program across all the 31 regions in Tanzania.

Decentralization will promote equity in healthcare service delivery, improve the efficiency and effectiveness of healthcare service delivery, and enhance local decision-making and accountability. The government should, therefore, prioritize the decentralization aspect of the program to ensure that all Tanzanians have access to high-quality specialist healthcare services.

Dr. George Mwitwa is the Tanzania country director, Medical Teams International.

New technologies to uphold work safety and health lure thousands

By Guardian Reporter

MODERN technologies to maintain workplace safety and health developed by Geita Gold Mining Limited (GGML) have attracted hundreds of people who attended the just-concluded showcasing event to mark the World Day for Safety and Health.

Held in at national level in Morogoro municipality the event captured the public attention at the company's pavilion at the Tumbaku Grounds.

The technologies, which are specific to the health and safety of workers working in mines, were mentioned as unique due to the innovations implemented by the company to bring about reforms in the mining sector.

Sospeter Mkombati, mining firm' senior officer of safety and health at workplace said that despite the company being one of the number one stakeholders, this year it has decided to come up with different things.

He said that GGML for many years has participated in the exhibitions organized by Workplace Health and Safety Agency (OSHA), aimed at educating the public on safety issues at the workplace, this time round it wanted to teach them, so that they bring reforms to their companies.

He said that the technologies that GGML has brought in this year's exhibition, whose motto says: "Safe and healthy environment is a basic principle and right at the workplace," confirm the company's first priority, which is safety and health at the workplace.

Mkombati named the first technology as a 'refugee chamber' which is a special emergency room that is placed inside the mine underground to enable the workers inside the mine to gather, while waiting for another rescue from above.

"Refugee chamber is a device that is used underground to help the worker when there are various accidents, maybe a rock has fallen or a fire accident, the worker instead of trying to find a way out goes to the room that can accommodate more than 20 people and it is packed with various rescue equipment such as oxygen cylinders as well as information systems.

"So those who are outside will know the kind of rescue to prepare for, before ascending to the room which cannot penetrate fire or rocks underground," he says, mentioning another technology that they came up with that is for fire accident control systems in cars, where now all the company's cars, including mechanical ones, are fitted with the systems in the engine.

The official says that the systems have the ability to provide special water to extinguish any fire that may occur inside the car engine or plant without the driver ordering or getting out of the car to find a fire extinguisher.

Mkombati added that the third technology that GGML has brought to the exhibition was the use of drones in taking pictures and videos inside the



mine to identify the safety of the rocks before the worker goes to dig.

"The workers were going to mine, sometimes inside the rocks they find stones that are not patterned well and cause concern about the stability of the rocks, but now we have come with drone technology

that goes inside to take pictures and then we check the place that is safe and not safe to ensure a safe environment for our workers," he says.

According to him, another technology he mentioned was a special rescue ladder that is used on the emergency route when escaping

or saving life from inside the mine apart from the main way to enter and exit the mine.

"If you leave the emergency room 'refugee chamber', GGML has designed an emergency way or escape way which has modern stairs that enable a worker who saves himself

from the mine to climb without slipping, but also every six meters he can rest because sometimes there may be a distance of 150 meters from inside the mine to come out.

"This technology uses something like plastic drums where inside there are non-slip stairs and places to rest (platform), so it is a new technology that companies in this mining sector can imitate and use," he notes, pointing out that GGML has now come up with a special toilet that has been designed for underground miners, instead of going outside for the same purpose.

He further says: "These toilets are taken inside the mine where the worker walks a few meters and use. They are modern toilets, they have insecticides and when they are about to fill up, they are taken by machine and taken outside the mine to be cleaned."

According to him, people who visited the booth expressed their interest in the innovative equipment, which is increasing the morale of the company's employees to pay more attention to safety and health issues at the workplace and to work hard.

One of the residents who visited the GGML pavilion, Novatus Chuwa says that he learned many things that are foreign, but now he is tempted to choose to work in the mines because of the certainty of safety at the workplace.

Another person, Alice Kyando says that the number of people who rush to the GGML booth has proven how the company has planned to ensure that the work environment is well prepared and that the employee works in a safe place and in accordance with international guidelines for safety and health at the workplace.

'They treat you like an animal' - How British farms run on exploitation

By Emiliano Mellino, Rudra Pangeni and Charles Boutaud

MIGRANTS on the UK's rapidly expanding farmworker visa scheme face systematic bullying, abuse and growing debt, an investigation by the Bureau for Investigative Journalism and VICE World News has found.

It's 875. Angel still remembers her number, months after leaving the UK. The number assigned to her by the farm. The number used instead of her name when her supervisor ordered her to work faster or punished her.

Angel, a single mother from South Africa, said that she felt like a prisoner, being shouted at and undermined constantly, no matter how hard she worked. Her name and the real number she was called by have been changed to protect her identity.

"Even before we start work the supervisors would be screaming at us... they would treat you like an animal," she said.

Last year, Angel and hundreds of other workers on Dearnsdale fruit farm in Staffordshire were told to pick and sort about 100kg to 150kg of strawberries every day inside polytunnels designed to trap heat. It was so hot that at least one worker fainted, she said. The strawberries they picked ended up on the shelves of some of the UK's largest supermarkets, including Tesco, Co-op and Lidl.

An investigation by the Bureau of Investigative Journalism and VICE World News has uncovered widespread mistreatment of migrants working at more than 20 UK farms, nurseries and packhouses in 2022. Workers reported a litany of problems, from not going to the toilet for fear of not hitting targets, to being made to work in gale-force winds. Some said they would be shouted at or punished for having their mobile in their pocket or talking to work colleagues while on the field. Others said they were threatened by recruiters with being deported or blacklisted.

Many were left in debt and destitution, and some left the UK being owed money by their employers. One worker even had to pull out his own tooth because he could not find appropriate medical care. Our findings expose a poorly enforced government visa scheme that is flagrantly breached by farms and recruiters, and which leaves people vulnerable to exploitation.

"Slavery has been outlawed, but it still exists within the farm. You can't physically abuse people, but you can verbally abuse people and threaten them with their livelihood."

At Dearnsdale, those who made mistakes or failed to hit targets were routinely sanctioned. The most common punishment was to have their shift cut short - every day several workers would be sent back to their caravans after only a few hours' work. That meant that on a day when a worker was hoping to earn money for eight hours of work, they would be paid for only three. The practice is common on farms using the visa scheme.

For workers like Angel, who took on debt to pay for visas and flights to the UK, having their earnings cut was devastating. Even after picking fruit and vegetables for five months, she still has not been able to pay off her £1,250 loan.

Dearnsdale said: "We do refer to members of staff by their numbers, however this is not to degrade the individual but purely on a business need basis as is standard in the industry."

On the issue of workers having their hours cut short, it said: "We are not aware that people are sanctioned in the manner suggested." The farm added that it took allegations of bullying and the health and safety of workers seriously and was "upset" to be made aware of the allegations. It said that it actively monitors the temperature inside polytunnels and ensures that appropriate steps are taken to maintain worker safety in hot conditions. It also said it took "appropriate steps" in response to medical emergencies.

Professor Dame Sara Thornton, the former independent anti-slavery commissioner, said TBJ's findings intensified her concerns that indicators of forced labour are present on British farms.

With food shortages repeatedly hitting the headlines in recent weeks, there is likely to be increased pressure from farmers to issue more visas for migrant workers, she said. But to her, the findings suggested that problems with the visas remain, more than a year after a government review said conditions were "unacceptable".

Culture of fear

Before the UK's departure from the European Union, the vast majority of the 55,000 casual seasonal workers in British agriculture came from Europe. The seasonal worker visa scheme was launched in 2019 to cover the gaps left by Brexit, but labour rights organisations have warned that the way the six-month visa is designed puts workers at risk of exploitation.

Workers are in the UK for a short time and can only work for farms that have contracts with their recruiter, so have difficulty leaving situations in which they feel exploited. Workers often take out loans to pay for the costs of coming to the UK, which means that they are less likely to speak out for fear of losing work and not being able to pay off their debts.

But pressure from the National Farmers Union, an industry association representing farm owners, has resulted in the government increasing the number of workers who come to the UK on the scheme by thousands each year. In 2023, up to 55,000 visas could be issued, up from just 2,500 in 2019.

While these workers are often talked about as a solution to the UK's labour and potential food shortages, their voices rarely form part of the conversation. Even the government's review of labour shortages is led by a panel made up mainly by food business executives, without a single worker representative.

To understand the reality of working under this scheme, TBJ interviewed nearly 50 workers who had come to the UK from Nepal, Kazakhstan and South Africa, among other countries, and analysed data from The Work Rights Centre, a charity that advocates for the rights of migrants, covering an additional 23 workers' experiences. While the work is always tough and physically demanding, some farms and supervisors treated workers significantly better than others. For many workers the scheme is an opportunity to earn far more than would be possible in their country of residence.

However, nearly half of the workers TBJ interviewed described a culture of fear. Supervisors at some farms would shout at workers or order them to pick faster, while threatening to cut their shifts or hours if they failed to hit targets. Roughly the same proportion felt that complaints to farm managers or recruiters were ignored, or that it was difficult to make complaints.



Dearnsdale fruit farm in Staffordshire in the United Kingdom. Photo: Dearnsdale.co.uk

Some also said they faced discrimination.

One Ukrainian worker said that managers at a nursery in Worcestershire made them pull down polytunnels during Storm Eunice, the most powerful storm to hit the UK in decades. He feared for his life. At one point, as he was pulling down the plastic sheet with several other workers, a gust blew and swept them a foot into the air.

A worker from Nepal said that at a farm in Scotland, they were forced to line up outside every morning for as long as 15 minutes, even in the rain, until the manager arrived, without any explanation as to why they had to do this. Those who did not line up would be denied work.

Growing debts

At about the same time Angel was starting her placement in Staffordshire, more South Africans were arriving at Tuesley Farm, Surrey, which supplies Tesco, Co-op and Waitrose. One of them was Sybil Msezane (41), who decided to apply to work as a fruit picker in the UK when her work as a human rights consultant dried up during the Covid-19 pandemic. She had previously worked with trade unions in South Africa and was shocked to discover how few labour protections workers had in the UK.

Another worker at Tuesley said that she couldn't go to the toilet because she would miss targets; if she did not, she would get shouted at. "You get mentally, physically, and emotionally broken down" "Slavery has been outlawed, but it still exists within the farm," she said. "You can't physically abuse people, but you can verbally abuse people and you can threaten them with their livelihood."

From the first day, she said, she was put to work on the field without training and was expected to hit targets. While the visa scheme rules state that workers should be treated "fairly", punishing workers who miss targets is widespread in farms across the country - workers told TBJ of at least seven farms where this practice was common.

Like most soft fruit farms in the UK, Tuesley relies heavily on migrant workers. In 2017, Tuesley's farm manager told Radio 4 that in the previous five years only one British person had worked on the farm, and had quit after one day.



Sybil Msezane was put to work on a field without training and was expected to hit targets from her first day as a fruit picker. (Photo: Kat Pirnak)

Msezane said that in her first few weeks she saw people crying as they returned from the fields. Two South African workers told TBJ that they left the farm just weeks into the job after suffering bullying by supervisors and allergic reactions to the fruit they were picking that the farm did not address. One of them put in a detailed complaint to her recruiter, the charity Concordia, but never heard back.

Another worker at Tuesley, whose name we are withholding at her request, said that she couldn't go to the toilet because she would miss targets; if she did not, she would get shouted at. "You get mentally, physically, and emotionally broken down," she said. "The way they work with people I wouldn't even do to my worst enemy. Then they tell you if you don't want to work on these standards, you can go."

Msezane said that she used the last of her savings to pay for her flights to the UK, but many of her compatriots approached loan sharks who charged as much as 70% in interest. This creates a system of "indentured servitude", where workers are less likely to speak out for fear of being refused work and having their earnings cut, she said.

Tuesley Farm did not respond to a request for comment

Some workers arrive in the UK with even bigger debts. Several Nepali workers told TBJ that their flights and visa cost as much as £1,500. Some paid informal brokers more than £4,000, having been told it would guarantee them a place on the scheme.

While a culture of bullying and cutting shifts does not exist at every farm, workers at some farms still felt other kinds of financial pressures. Farmers often charge workers for accommodation, such as a small shared room in a caravan, and gas and electricity bills. Some also demand workers pay for their own bed linen - one farm charged £15 for a duvet and pillows - and pay £1 a go to use the washing machines. One worker said she even had to pay for transport to the fields. At least one farm, Gaskains in Kent, charged workers nearly £85 per week for a shared room in a caravan last year - more than the pay for eight

hours of work. Gaskains said it complied with garment caps on rent.

This is in sharp contrast with seasonal worker programmes in other countries, like the US, where flights and accommodation costs are covered by the farm, or Canada, where the cost of accommodation is capped at CA\$30 (£18) per week. Workers also have income tax deducted directly from their payslips, even though many will not earn enough in the six months they are in the UK to reach the £12,750 minimum taxable threshold.

A Waitrose spokesperson said: "Worker welfare is absolutely vital to us, and we're really concerned to read these allegations. We're looking into this with our supplier as a matter of urgency."

Lidl and Co-op did not respond to requests for comment.

Tesco directed TBJ and VICE World News to a statement by the British Retail Consortium, which said: "Protecting the welfare of people and communities in supply chains is fundamental to our members, and any practices that fall short of our high standards will not be tolerated. Our members are urgently reviewing the allegations raised by these workers, engaging with their primary suppliers to ensure a comprehensive investigation is undertaken."

Lack of enforcement

The government has said that it is the responsibility of the recruiters who sponsor the workers' visas to monitor and ensure their welfare. But in practice the scheme's rules to ensure workers' welfare are rarely enforced.

A report published last year by the independent chief inspector of borders and immigration found that even though workers told Home Office officials about poor treatment, discrimination, issues with accommodation and being obstructed from accessing healthcare, "no allegations were investigated by the Home Office, by scheme operators, or by other government organisations". In one case, a Home Office compliance officer said a worker found it so hard to get healthcare that "he was in agony for about four hours and then he had to pull out his own tooth". The report went on: "When serious concerns have been raised by workers themselves, [the Home Office] did not act promptly or seriously."

'They consider us cheap labour and worthless people'

The Home Office told TBJ and VICE World News: "The welfare of visa holders is of paramount importance, including in the Seasonal Workers scheme, and we are clamping down on poor working conditions and exploitation... We will always take decisive action where we believe abusive practices are taking place."

The government recently announced that from April 2023 it would stop requiring farms to pay seasonal workers above the minimum wage. But it also promised measures around safeguarding, including requiring farms to guarantee workers at least 32 hours of work per week.

RADIO One RATIBA YA VIPINDI JUMATATU - JUMAPILI

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Blasius Lupenza, Human Resources Director, Alliance One Tobacco Tanzania Limited (L) hands over t-shirts to Morogoro Regional Commissioner Fatma Mwasa in supporting the preparation for Workers Day to be commemorated nationally today in Morogoro. Photo by Guardian Correspondent

Glass factory workers complain on low wages

By Enock Charles

EMPLOYEES of the Keda glass factory located in Mbezi Msufini village Mkuranga district, Pwani region have complained about the low wages paid by the investor of the factory, claiming that it does not meet their needs and asking the government to intervene so that they can be raised to required level. Speaking to journalists yesterday, the workers claimed that the rate of six thousand shillings per day they are paid is low, and therefore they want it to be increased to match the current living standard, where important necessary commodities including food have increased in prices.

One of the workers who identified himself as Ramdhani Mkali said when the investor came they were informed by the village government that there will be jobs for laborers and technicians in the factory, some of which will be given to the residents of the village, but now those jobs have become a thorn in

their side due to low wages they get.

"We as local workers, the main problem as laborers is low wages. First of all, it is very minimal and then is not paid on time" said Ramadhani.

"At first, they told us that they would pay us on weekly basis, but they didn't pay accordingly as they promised before" he said.

In addition to low wages, the workers have also complained about discrimination in their workplace between other workers from Chalinze and the locals from Mbezi Msufini village, claiming that this is hurting them economically and demoralising.

Speaking about the claims, the Chairman of the village, Ibrahim Thabit said that they have not yet reached his office even though he has been hearing their claims from the villagers and advised to lodge the claims to the village office in order for the village government to deal with them properly.

"Those claims have not reached to the village office" said the Chairman.

China reopening party over, emerging markets slip back into the void

BEIJING

Emerging-market bulls betting that China's reopening would drive a year of asset outperformances are seeing their dreams turn into dust.

The benchmark gauge for developing-nation stocks has not only totted up losses of more than 7 percent since a peak in January but is also underperforming its rich-nation counterpart by the most in three years.

Chinese shares have contributed 70 percent of those losses, helping to erase \$750 billion in market value. And the selloff is spreading to nations with the closest trade ties to China, such as South Korea and South Africa.

The losses have come despite the second-biggest economy expanding at a faster-than-forecast clip, led by surging exports and consumer demand.

That underscores a plethora of idiosyncratic risks, not the least of which are China's increasingly assertive stance on Taiwan, its relationship with Russia and the regulation of the private sector.

Investors remain underexposed to China as they seek more consistent policy signals that can sustain the economic recovery.

"Even though data is still supportive of China recovery, we of course are still a bit more skeptical and look through to see if that recovery is that real," Wilfred Wee, a money manager at Ninety One Singapore Pte Ltd., said on Bloomberg Television. "It's not just about a sweetener or a reserve-requirement-ratio cut, it's about coaxing and engaging companies to excite the private sector."

The MSCI Emerging Markets Index is heading for a 1.5 percent decline in April, trimming its 2023 advance to 2 percent.

The MSCI World Index of developed-market equities is sitting on gains of four times as much. That has sent the ratio between emerging markets and rich nations down 5.6 percent this year, the biggest retreat since at least 2020.

China's economic fortunes weigh on almost two-thirds of the benchmark index's performance as in addition to its own 30 percent direct weighting, it impacts the outlook of eight of the 10 other nations with the biggest presence on the gauge. It's this influence that drove a 25 percent rally in the MSCI measure between October and January when China rolled back its crippling Zero Covid policy and set the stage for an economic reopening.

CRDB Bank scoops three health and safety awards

By Guardian Correspondent, Morogoro

CRDB Bank Plc has been recognized and awarded by the Occupational Health and Safety Authority (OSHA) for being an example among financial institutions in complying with health and safety requirements to its employees countrywide.

OSHA Chief Executive Officer (CEO) Khadija Mwenda said this during the climax of the occupational health and safety week's commemorations held at the national level in Morogoro.

The three scooped awards include the overall winner in banking on implementing OSHA policies award, the efficiency in services offering that are considering occupational health and safety award and the Best OSHA committee in banking services offering award.

"I congratulate CRDB Bank for being good example on complying with occupational health and safety and I call for other financial institutions to learn this example to improve compliancy," the CEO said. The CEO said the main objective of occupational health and safety week is to sensitise the public on the importance of their health of which OSHA supervise under Act number 5 of 2003 as well as remembering workers who have died or affected at work to present the better way of improving safety at work," she said.

Prof Joyce Ndalichako, the Minister of State, Prime Minister's Office, Labour, Youths, Employment and People with Disabilities, the event's guest of honour said the government recognizes and value the issue of health and safety at work.

"The sixth phase government led by Dr Samia Suluhu Hassan recognizes that health and safety at work



Minister of State, Office of the Prime Minister, Labour, Youth, Employment and People with Disabilities Prof Joyce Ndalichako (R) hands over one of three awards to Misana Mutani, the CRDB Bank's head of Security, Safety and Business Sustainability (L) during the climax of the occupational health and safety week held over the weekend in Morogoro. Photo by Guardian Correspondent

is the basic right of each worker in this country, that is why our president has been in fore front to ensure that the country's labour force is protected," she said.

Professor Ndalichako said the government through OSHA will continue to close supervise the Occupational Health and Safety Act No.5 of 2003 with the aim of ensuring that all work places have proper systems to protect workers against injuries or diseases.

The head of CRDB Bank security, safety and business sustainability Misana Mutani said the bank's efficiency led into scoop-

ing of three awards on occupational health and safety.

Mutani said the bank not only observe safety of employees at work, but also ensuring that the communities, specifically customers and visitors who are visiting the bank premises remain safe.

Apart from observing health and safety at work, he said, CRDB Bank Plc organizes annual CRDB Marathon aimed at raising funds for social supports, specifically children with cardiovascular problems at the Jakaya Kikwete Cardiac Institute in Dar es Salaam.

He said the funds are used to fully finance treatment of children with cardiovascular problems and other funds were used to construct the modern call centre at the CCBRT Hospital to enable improving services offering.

Elia Mnonjela, CRDB Bank's service assistances manager, said the bank has been caring and providing equitable services to all social groups.

"Our bank has put in places enabling environment for people with special need through building friendly services offering," he said.

Foreigners return at DSE by purchasing TCC shares

By Guardian Reporter

Foreign investors made a comeback during the closing day of last week by purchasing 69,250 Tanzania Cigarette Company (TCC) shares valued 715mn/- sold by local investors through the pre-arrangement market board.

The Dar es Salaam Stock Exchange (DSE) daily market report shows this has translated into 400mn/- foreign investors' net inflows during the first month of the second quarter. During the last quarter ended in March, foreign investors recorded net outflow of nearly 3.1bn/-.

TCC has registered a record-breaking performance in terms of sales volumes in 2022, fueled comprehensive business strategic approach, exceptional product portfolio, and steadfast partnerships.

TCC Plc's Board Chairperson, Paul Makanza, laid bare the company's outstanding achievements yesterday while addressing the company's shareholders and stakeholders in Dar es Salaam in its annual general meeting.

He commended TCC's performance of strong top and bottom-line growth, robust operating cash flows and increased shareholder value for the third consecutive year.

In his statement, Makanza stated, "In terms of our financial results, I am pleased to report that our profit before tax (PBT) for the year increased by an impressive 23.7 percent to 106.8bn/-, compared to 86.3bn/- in 2021".

He further said; "Although our income tax increased by 40.2 percent due to prior years' income tax adjustments, our profit after tax (PAT) still showed a remarkable increase of 16.2 percent to 69.2bn/- from 59.6bn/- in 2021. This growth in profit was driven



TCC's CEO and General Manager, Takashi Araki in a handshake with one of the shareholders at the 58th AGM

by strong volume growth, operational efficiencies, and effective cost management."

The company CEO and General Manager Takashi Araki said domestic volumes reached 5.7 billion units during the period, which was a 10 per cent increase from 2021.

Further, he noted, the company's highest ever manufactured volume reached 9 billion units while at the same period, its profits grew by double digits.

Araki said; "Our dedicated employees have been our greatest asset, enabling TCC Plc to be recognized as a top employer in Tanzania and Africa for five consecutive years. We will continue to invest in our people and foster a

diverse, inclusive, and empowering workplace environment."

He also extolled the Government's efforts in creating a trustworthy and business-friendly environment which included providing incentives for using locally-sourced tobacco and the stabilization of the excise duty that had enabled the company to improve its market and thus give back to the country and the community.

On social sustainability, Araki explained; "Sustainability is a core priority at TCC Plc. We have undertaken numerous initiatives to protect the environment, operate responsibly, and ensure good governance, including investments in solar energy, water and waste management projects over and

above community investment".

The report shows during the ended month, foreign investors bought shares valued 2.5bn/- of 43.93 percent of the total value of shares bought and sold shares valued 2.1bn/- which are 36.67 percent of total shares sold in the market.

However, the market activities still dominated by local investors as they accounted for 56.07 percent of the total of shares bought and 63.33 percent of total value of shares sold.

A total turnover of 715.2mn/- was recorded during the closing day of last week from the transaction of 550,462 shares sold in 68 deals.

FIPL optimises local capacity for enhanced power generation

Port-Harcourt

First Independent Power Limited (FIPL), a Sahara Group Company, has restated its commitment to increasing power generation and sustainability impact in the sector through robust local capacity optimisation.

Speaking here late last week at the Nigerian Content Conference organised by the Nigerian Society of Engineers, FIPL chief executive officer Dr Kenechukwu Nwangwu said retooling and investing in shoring up local capacity has the potential of transforming the power sector.

Nwangwu lauded the NSE Port Harcourt branch for assembling prominent industry leaders and professionals to discuss the impact of the Nigerian Content Act 2010 - 2020 on the Oil & Gas Sector and the Power Industry.

In his keynote address, he said strengthening local content in the power sector would promote job creation, funds retention, and the development of skills and competencies of Nigerians.

The Act symbolises the intention of the nation towards growing local capacity, he noted, urging all stakeholders to explore all possibilities, "holistically and transparently". Elaborating, Nwangwu said: "It is a laudable thing for us to deliberate on the impact of the local content Act in the power sector at this forum. A robust local content in the



FIPL Corporate Communications Lead Kelvin Obi; Facility Management Team member Lemea Kamanu; Chief Corporate Services Officer Olurotimi Famoroti; MD/CEO Dr Kenechukwu Nwangwu; Manager (Management Information Systems) Solomon Ekwueme; and Operations Engineer Anthony Ibanga at the FIPL Exhibition booth during the NSE Nigerian Content Conference in Port-Harcourt, Rivers State.

power sector will lead to job creation, funds retention, and domiciliation of the operations of foreign companies in Nigeria while enabling the development of skills and competencies of Nigerians."

He called on regulators to drive compliance, stating: "We already have a formidable regulation in the sector, and all we need now is implementation across the value chain in strict compliance with the provi-

sions of the law."

The CEO said FIPL remained a frontline promoter of local content in Nigeria, adding that FIPL continues to "bring energy to life responsibly to over six million lives with the

collaboration and support of community stakeholders, suppliers, artisans, health and safety workers who we support with training, sustainable impact projects and capacity building opportunities".

He noted that the ongoing transformation of FIPL is driving the top-flight performance of the 54MW capacity power plants in Rivers State.

"It has been a privilege for us to serve the nation through the professionalism and expertise of our people and the drive and investment of our parent company, Sahara Group. FIPL is here to make a difference and this remains our overarching pursuit," he added.

The CEO explained that the human capital transformation programme at FIPL had demonstrated that, with the right training and exposure, there would be less demand for foreign expatriates in Nigeria.

The two-day conference provided an opportunity for FIPL to network with other industry leaders and professionals, exchange ideas, and showcase its commitment to the sustainable development of Nigeria's power sector.

During the conference, FIPL displayed the achievements of its young engineers at its exhibition stand. This includes a load display app that shows real-time generation across all FIPL plants on mobile phones, helping the company monitor performance effectively and generate power optimally.

National intellectual property policy in offing

By Correspondent Joseph Mwendapole

THE Ministry of Investment, Industry and Trade is in the final stages of preparing the National Intellectual Property Policy.

This was said over the weekend in Dar es Salaam by the Permanent Secretary of the Ministry, Dr Hashil Abdallah, who represented Minister, Dr Ashatu Kijaji, in the celebration day of Creative Property organized by the Business Registration and Licensing Agency (BRELA) held at the Julius Nyerere International Conference Center.

Dr Abdallah said that the completion of this Policy will help to provide guidelines that will strengthen the legal and institutional structures in managing Intellectual Property issues, have simple and facilitating registration procedures and various protections, strengthen more protection and add new areas for the protection of Intellectual Property.

"The government under the able leadership of the Honorable Dr. Samia Suluhu Hassan, President of the United Republic of Tanzania, continues to implement various strategies, especially the implementation

of the objectives of the business environment improvement Program (Blueprint), in order to create a better and enabling environment in all sectors including the area of Intellectual Property which is growing rapidly in the world", emphasized Dr. Abdallah

He added that the government has begun the process of reviewing various Intellectual Property Laws as some of those Laws are outdated and some areas are not protected by law, so when it is completed the management of Intellectual Property issues will be friendly and helpful to businessmen in order to stimulate the development of economy in general.

For his part, BRELA Advisory Board Member, Judith Kadege, who represented the Chairman of the Board, said that the registration system for the protection of Intellectual Property in Tanzania will help to protect the innovations made by various businessmen and designers, especially in the period when technology continues growing rapidly.

Earlier, speaking at the occasion, the Chief Executive Officer of BRELA, Godfrey Nyaisa, said that the Institute will continue



Minister of Investment, industry and trade Dr Ashatu Kijaji

to improve its internal registry systems and put in place good strategies to improve the services they provide and attract more designers of various jobs to increase the number of registries and license their work as well as ensuring that those designers get the benefits of those works.

He said the strategies include

the initiation of the celebrations, competitions and awards of Creative Property in the country which are expected to start soon, collaborating and visiting stakeholders of Creative Property such as Institutes and Colleges as well as schools to provide education on Patents and other issues of Creative Property.

Nyaisa said the goal is to ensure that Creative Property is used as a catalyst for economic growth for individuals and the Nation as a whole due to its importance in development.

For the year 2023, the celebration of Creative Ownership carries the slogan "Women and Creative Ownership: Accelerating Innovation in Business".

IITA, A-Z mills Ltd partner to mitigate aflatoxins in crops

By Correspondent Valentine Oforo, Dodoma

THE International Institute of Tropical Agriculture (IITA) is implementing a sustainable project targeting to research and produce varieties of aflatoxin-free to help counter a negative spate of aflatoxins contamination in crops.

The robust project which has successfully developed aflatoxin biocontrol technology, Aflasafe commenced since 2015 is being implemented by the international agro institute in partnership with the Arusha-based A to Z Mills Ltd, and has so far fetches reasonable outcomes.

Aflatoxins are a family of toxins produced by certain fungi that are found on agricultural crops such as maize (corn), peanuts, cottonseed, and tree nuts.

The main fungi that produce aflatoxins are *Aspergillus flavus* and *Aspergillus parasiticus*, which are abundant in warm and humid regions of the world.

Aflasafe is a safe and effective natural product for the integrated management of aflatoxin in the maize, sorghum, and groundnut value chain.

Speaking with the publication during the on-going exhibitions of the innovation week in the capital city, Jacob Njela, the research associate in the biological control of aflatoxin from IITA expressed that the project started with the countrywide baseline survey to determine the spread of the toxins in different crops.

"After conducting the thorough survey in 2012 in cooperation with the Sokoine University of Agriculture (SUA), the Partnership for Aflatoxin Control in Africa (PACA) and the then Tanzania Food and Drugs Authority (TFDA) we discovered that all regions across the country are prone to aflatoxins," he unveiled.

"In the course of developing the aflasafe, we took samples of groundnuts and soils, and then through 'stretch development process' we finally managed to innovate and produce two varieties of Aflasafes, including Aflasafe TZ 01 and Aflasafe TZ 02."

He detailed that, the following stage was to conduct an active performance trials of the produced Aflasafes, the process which runned for at least three consecutive years, from 2015 to 2018.

"We conducted the trials in eleven different districts of Kongwa, Kondo, Chamwino, Kiteto, Mpwapwa, Kilosa, Kilombero, Nanyumbu, Masasi and Kibaigwa," he informed.

After the trial results proved effective that the developed Aflasafes have capacity to control aflatoxins to the tune of at least 98 percent, IITA registered the products at the responsible authority before entering into contract with A to Z Mills Ltd for the professional multiplication of the aflasafes.

"And to ensure the outcomes of the research not ending up in shelves and laboratories we established the 'Aflasafe Technological Transfer Commercialization (ATTC)', he noted.

He further communicated that the Arusha-based company is in contract to produce and market the Aflasafe to the farmers in a period of five years, at a patriotic price of 16,000/- per 4kg.

"The company started to manufacture the Aflasafe in 2019 and our role has always been to capacitate them with needed technology and procedures in order to assure quality control," he expressed.

Deloitte joins anti-HIV, sexual violence drive in Iringa

By Correspondent Friday Simbaya, Mufindi

The Deloitte Consulting has launched a new project to support the fight against the HIV infections, good use of Anti-retroviral Drugs (ARVs) and fighting against sexual violence against girls in Iringa region, targeting to reach 9,000 beneficiaries, specifically girls in school.

Through Kizazi Hodari campaign project, the consulting firm is involved with distribution of various items include educational materials and sanitary towels to female students.

According to Dorothy Matoyo, the chief of party of Kizazi Hodari, the project was launched after been learnt that some girls have been unable to fulfill their dreams due to the lack of essential needs while in schools.

"This project intervenes the prevention of HIV transmission, advises on the use of ARVs through provision of education on nutrition, as well as the strengthening of economic activities for the beneficiaries and their guardians. Today, we have come to Mufindi District to dis-



Students of Mlangali Primary School in Iringa municipality in jovial mood during the distribution of educational materials and sanitary towels to adolescent girls by Deloitte Consulting recently. Photo by Correspondent Friday Simbaya

tribute of school supplies which is part of the project," she said.

She said the Kizazi Hodari project in southern zone will ensure the acts of violence against girls to reduce the number of girls drop outs.

"The goal of the project is to reach 9000 beneficiaries and many beneficiaries we hope to find here in Mufindi district. We are expecting to do the same in Iringa municipal," she said.

She said the tools will help re-

duce the challenge of students who failed to attend school due to the lack of school items.

"To ensure that our children get school supplies and to prevent the wave of children from not attending school due to the lack of essential school supplies due to their parents' economic inabilities," said Matoyo.

Dr. Clement Almasi, Mufindi district Chief Medical Officer, said that they are grateful to the kizazi Hodari project, as it has

helped to reduce poor school attendance among female students.

He asked the students who benefited from the project not to misuse the items they are given.

Kenny Shilumba is the Acting Executive Director of the Mufindi District Council has congratulated the project, but saying he was reviewing the content provided to the students to see if they are not containing prohib-

ited contents.

Shilumba said that through the educational materials given to female students living in vulnerable situations aged 10 to 14 will help them, as well as parents and guardians in upbringing their children.

He said the educational materials provided will be a light for the benefiting students by protecting them from the social effects that exist in society.

"Statistics show that a group of adolescent girls are at a very high risk of contracting the AIDS virus and facing the challenge of sexual violence and thus failing to continue their studies. Therefore, this group needs a common strategy to save them from new infections and acts of violence that we continue to condemn in cooperation with teachers to ensure that they continue to be safe," he said.

On their part, the beneficiaries of the Kizazi Hodari project said they are grateful to Deloitte, an aid organization USAID and PEPFAR for the help they got, because it will be a springboard to do well in their studies and face the challenge of gender based violence.

WORLD

Fighting rages in Khartoum, but envoy sees sides open to talks

KHARTOUM

AIR strikes and artillery rocked Khartoum on Saturday as Sudan entered a third week of fighting between rival military forces despite a ceasefire, prompting more civilians to flee and renewed warnings of wider instability if the war is not stopped.

By Saturday evening, heavy clashes could be heard near downtown Khartoum, close to the army headquarters and the presidential palace.

In one of the latest efforts by foreign governments to evacuate their citizens and others, a US-government organized convoy arrived at the Red Sea city of Port Sudan on Saturday, evacuating US citizens, local staff and others, US State Department spokesperson Matthew Miller said.

The US government will help evacuees travel on to Jeddah, Saudi Arabia, Miller added. He did not say how many Americans remained in the country.

A UN envoy earlier offered a possible glimmer of hope for an end to the fighting, saying the warring sides that have so far shown no sign of compromise were now more open to negotiations - though no date had been set.

Hundreds of people have been killed and thousands wounded since April 15 when a long-simmering power struggle

between the army and the paramilitary Rapid Support Forces (RSF) erupted into conflict.

The fighting has pitched Sudan towards a civil war, derailing an internationally-backed transition aimed at establishing a democratic government and sending tens of thousands of people fleeing into neighboring countries.

The army said in a statement it had conducted sweep operations and clashed with RSF troops in northern Bahri and in Omdurman, across the Nile from Khartoum, and destroyed 25 vehicles of RSF reinforcements. It said several banks and stores across the capital had been looted.

Eyewitnesses told Reuters they saw army drones targeting RSF soldiers near one of the country's main oil refineries north of the capital.

The sides have continued to battle during a series of ceasefires mediated by foreign powers, notably the United States. The latest 72-hour truce expired at midnight yesterday.

"I'm afraid that one day I'm asleep and I wake up to a bomb falling on my house," said a man named Khalid, speaking to Reuters from Khartoum where he has stayed because his elderly grandmother and ill sister would suffer on the long and costly trip out.

"That's my deepest fear right now.



Zimbabwean evacuees from Sudan are seen upon arrival at Robert Mugabe International airport in Harare, Zimbabwe on Saturday. (PHOTO / AP)

That's all that I think of. That's why I can't sleep at night."

The RSF said in a statement on Saturday it had shot down an army warplane in Omdurman, and accused the army of violating the ceasefire with an attack there. The army did not immediately respond to a request for comment. Reuters could not independently verify the RSF report.

The army has previously blamed the RSF for violations.

For periods on Saturday, violence was less intense in the capital area than in recent days, residents said.

Residents also reported relative calm in the city of El Geneina in the western Darfur region after days of fighting there. The Darfur Bar Association said the death toll had reached 200, with thousands wounded.

The prospects for negotiations between the army and paramilitary have so far seemed bleak.

On Friday, army leader General Abdel Fattah al-Burhan said he would never sit down with the RSF's "rebel" leader, referring to General Mohamed Hamdan Dagalo, also known as Hemedti. The RSF chief in turn said he would talk only after the army ceased

hostilities.

Nonetheless, the UN special representative in Sudan, Volker Perthes, told Reuters he had recently sensed a change in the sides' attitudes and they were more open to negotiations, and were saying they would accept "some form of talks".

"The word 'negotiations' or 'talks' was not there in their discourse in the first week or so," Perthes said.

"This war cannot continue"

Perthes said the sides had nominated representatives for talks which had been suggested for Jeddah, or Juba in South Sudan, though he said there was a practical question over whether they could get there to "actually sit together".

The immediate task, Perthes said, was to develop a monitoring mechanism for ceasefires.

"They have both accepted that this war cannot continue."

At least 528 people have been killed and 4,599 wounded, the health ministry said. The United Nations has reported a similar number of dead, but believes the real toll is much higher.

Agencies

Europe looks to tap potentials in cooperation with China

FRANKFURT

THE economic output of the European Union (EU) registered a 0.3 percent quarterly growth in the first three months of 2023, according to preliminary data released on Friday by Eurostat, the statistical office of the supranational union.

The increase in GDP, meager as it was, enabled the EU to narrowly avoid a technical recession which is defined as two consecutive quarters of negative GDP growth. The GDP of the EU registered a quarterly contraction of 0.1 percent in the fourth quarter of 2022.

Nonetheless, the nascent and slow recovery does not allow the bloc to lean back. Faced with a wide array of challenges, the EU's economy is still at bay and a sustained recovery hinges on its ability to steer out of the current predicament of balancing inflation with recession and tap external growth potentials, which, to a great extent, will derive from enhanced economic cooperation with China.

No room for complacency

In the first quarter, seasonally adjusted GDP increased by 0.1 per-

cent in the euro zone and by 0.3 percent in the EU from the previous quarter, according to Eurostat's data. Year on year, GDP in both zones grew by 1.3 percent.

Portugal recorded the highest quarterly increase of 1.6 percent, compared with 2.7 percent plunge in Ireland. Germany, the largest economy in the EU, was stable in the first quarter after shrinking 0.5 percent in the fourth quarter of 2022.

Although the EU economy looks more resilient than expected a few months ago, Carsten Brzeski, ING Germany's chief economist, believes "there is no reason for complacency."

In a note published on Friday, Brzeski identified the warmer winter weather, lower wholesale energy prices, China's optimization and adjustment of epidemic prevention measures, and lavish fiscal stimuli as some of the key factors behind the marginal economic increase in the EU.

Meanwhile, the divergence of growth in the 20-member euro zone is categorized by Brzeski as a source of concern, which "doesn't make the European Central Bank



Chinese flag (left) is draped beside the EU

(ECB)'s task any easier."

With a mandate of upholding price stability in the euro zone, the ECB is faced with the daunting task of taming inflation without crippling the economy.

The inflation rate in the euro area and the EU came down to 6.9 percent and 8.3 percent respectively in March, from 8.5 percent and 9.9 percent in February.

Despite the decline, the inflation rate in the euro zone is still well above the ECB's target of around 2 percent in the medium term. "While declining, inflation remains very high," the International Monetary Fund (IMF) said in its latest

regional economic outlook for Europe. On top of the fight against sustained inflation, the EU will have to face the simultaneous task of sustaining economic growth and preserving financial stability at the same time.

Overall, "Europe's outlook is one of slow growth and sticky inflation," the IMF said.

According to the report, the risks for the EU are "severe and interconnected." For instance, if the EU fails to contain financial stability and bring down inflation fast enough, crisis and lower growth will ensue as a result.

In addition, tight labor markets,

a resurgence of high energy prices, and fragmentation risk are also dampening the prospect of economic recovery of the EU.

Growth-inflation tradeoff

Partly due to persisting high inflation and monetary tightening by the ECB to rein in inflation, the economic recovery in the EU started to stumble since the middle of 2022.

To bring down inflation, the ECB has been tightening its monetary policies, mainly by hiking interest rates, which will inevitably push borrowing costs higher, slow down investment and thus weigh on the economic recovery.

"Monetary policy has been tightened by the sharpest pace in 40 years, which is resulting in a sharp deterioration of credit and monetary conditions," Milla Savova, a strategist with Bank of America, was quoted by Bloomberg as saying while commenting on the outlook of European equity markets.

"We expect this to lead to recessionary growth conditions over the coming months, which, in turn, would be consistent with a meaningful widening in risk premia," said Savova. **Xinhua**

Russian embassy in Warsaw ready for any decisions after Russian school seizure - envoy

MOSCOW

RUSSIA'S embassy in Warsaw is ready for any decisions made by Moscow after the seizure of the building of the Russian school by Polish authorities, Russia's Ambassador to Poland Sergey Andreyev told TASS yesterday. "The center takes the decisions. Let it be so as our leadership decides," he said when asked about possible severance of diplomatic relations.

"Today the staff of the school and support personnel are involved in moving equipment out. We will officially submit the note after the weekend ends on Tuesday. Today and tomorrow are days off," Andreyev point-



ed out.

The teaching and learning activities will resume after the May holidays in one of diplomatic buildings, the diplomat said. "I think starting May 10 classes will be held as usual," he noted.

On Saturday morning, Polish authorities began seizing the building of the Russian embassy school in Warsaw by force. The teaching staff were told to vacate the building by 07:00 p.m. Moscow time of the same day. Rus-

sia's embassy to Poland described the Polish authorities' steps as illegal.

The Russian Foreign Ministry said that Moscow deemed the Polish authorities' intrusion into the Russian embassy school in Warsaw as a blatant violation of the 1961 Vienna Convention and another encroachment on Russian diplomatic property in Poland. The ministry pledged that Warsaw's steps would not remain without Moscow's firm response and consequences for Poland. **Agencies**

Merkel says she used everything to try to prevent conflict in Ukraine

BERLIN

FORMER German chancellor Angela Merkel said she used every means at her disposal to try to prevent the current conflict in Ukraine.

"I used everything at my disposal to try to prevent this situation," Merkel said, commenting on the Russian special operation in Ukraine on Saturday in an interview with the German daily Die Zeit.

"The fact that it failed is not proof that it was wrong to try," she stressed. Diplomacy is a "necessity," as the ex-Chancellor noted.

However, Merkel repeatedly defended her policy towards Russia. She called the efforts to resolve the conflict in eastern Ukraine after the events in Crimea in 2014 as part of the so-called Minsk agreements correct.

"I support these diplomatic efforts," the former head of the German government said, adding that she was "very worried" about Ukraine.

"To my great chagrin, there were quite a few who were not interested in this," Merkel admitted. According to her, in the European Council Germany and France, made efforts to resolve the conflict in eastern Ukraine.

The ex-Chancellor of Germany said that she talked a lot with the former President of Ukraine Pyotr Poroshenko and the current President Vladimir Zelensky. "President Zelensky was very critical of the Minsk agreements."

He already said this during his election campaign and noted that he considers it unfeasible," Merkel stated. She noted that, according to Ukrainian political leaders, this agreement is not popular in Ukraine, and it was very difficult to implement it politically.

In an interview with Die Zeit, published on December 7, 2022, Merkel stated that the 2014 Minsk agreements were an attempt to let Ukraine gain time.

She said "it was clear to everyone" that the conflict had been frozen and the problem had not been resolved. Russian President Vladimir Putin later said that he found Merkel's statement completely unexpected and disappointing.



US, allies 'erode global security architecture', SCO meeting hears

NEW DELHI

ACCUSING the United States and its allies of moving against a multipolar world, Russian Defense Minister Sergei Shoigu said their hegemonic attempts have negative impact on global security.

Shoigu (pictured) made the remarks in his address at the Defense Ministers' Meeting of the Shanghai Cooperation Organization or SCO in New Delhi on April 28. Defense Ministers of India, Russia, China and other member nations of the SCO deliberated on pressing regional security challenges and related issues at the conclave.

"By seeking to preserve their global dominance, the US and its allies have seriously eroded the global security architecture. They initiated the breakdown and dismantling of key agreements on arms control and confidence-building," Shoigu said at the meeting.

The West's countermeasures against developing multilateralism could be evidently observed in the Asia-Pacific region. "There the USA paved the way to disintegration of the existing regional security system... The NATO is willing to establish dominance in the Asia-Pacific region, that is why QUAD and AUKUS are integrating into the NATO," General Shoigu said in his address. Shoigu's remarks are meant in the context of what Russia believes is the "hostile encirclement" of Russia and China by the "Collective West", said Professor Archana Upadhyay with the Centre for Russian and Central Asian Studies, Jawaharlal Nehru University in New Delhi.

In the case of Russia the statement indicates the West ganging up in favor of Ukraine, the crippling sanctions imposed against Russia and attempts to isolate Russia internationally, according to him. And in the case of China, the statement should be seen in the context of QUAD and ARKUS. The statement is important also because it has been made in India.

The conflict in Ukraine is a clear demonstration of this NATO policy. "Its real aim is to inflict a strategic defeat on Russia, threaten China, and maintain its monopoly position in the world," Shoigu said.

"To contain China, a front is forming. The tensions around the so-called Taiwan problem are purposely escalated, and territorial disputes in the South China Sea and East China Sea are being heated. In our understanding, one of the major achievements in the Asia-Pacific region is bloc-free and equal interaction, and it must be preserved," Shoigu said. **Agencies**

THE exports of excavators can indicate the development of the engineering machinery industry and even the manufacturing industry. Since this year, the exports of Chinese excavators have been on a constant rise, becoming a highlight of the sluggish world economic recovery.

According to a survey that covered major Chinese manufacturers of excavators launched by the China Construction Machinery Association, China exported 28,643 excavators in the first three months this year, up 13.3 percent year on year. In particular, the exports of some leading players doubled, and the number of orders they receive is still rising.

The Ministry of Industry and Information Technology said that China is currently able to produce 22 cat-

Chinese excavators welcomed in global market

egories of engineering machinery, and is one of the countries with the widest range of products. It is the world's largest producer of excavators, cranes, loaders and other major engineering machinery.

What has contributed to the rapid growth of China's exports of excavators is the high-quality development of Chinese manufacturers.

Wu Yuanfeng, vice general manager of an earthmoving machinery company under Chinese machinery manufacturer Zoomlion, told People's Daily that the exports of Zoomlion's flagship excavator model jumped over 200 percent from a year ago in Q1 this year, and this great performance was

attributed to the company's strong investment in R&D and manufacturing techniques.

"We have built the first whole-process intelligent excavator manufacturing base in Changsha, central China's Hunan province, which lifts the average production capacity by nearly 70 percent and reduces the production cycle by 65 percent when compared with the traditional plants," Wu noted.

He said medium- and large-sized excavators produced by Zoomlion have won high recognition from overseas clients thanks to these machines' great performance in operating power, construction efficiency, energy

conservation and adaptability.

In Q1 this year, the excavator exports of Guangxi LiuGong Machinery Co., Ltd., headquartered in south China's Guangxi Zhuang autonomous region, increased 16 percent year on year. In particular, the exports of heavy-duty excavators above 30 tons surged 80 percent, he added.

The company's improved customer service is an important reason for its success with clients from abroad, said Lin Shencai, international business director of the company's excavator department.

According to Lin, LiuGong Machinery has seven sales divisions that cover 102 countries globally, and every divi-

sion has its own sales channels and after-sales service system. These divisions all offer 24/7 services.

"Our excavators have an average trouble-free time of more than 1,700 hours. We also sell graders, bulldozers, loaders and other earthmoving products and boast a worldwide after-sale network that provides comprehensive support for customers," Lin told People's Daily.

As the world faces downward economic pressure, economies in North America, Europe, Southeast Asia, the Middle East and other regions are enhancing their investment in infrastructure and mining to stabilize economic growth, which is an important reason for the rise in the overseas demand

of excavators and other engineering machinery, said Zhou Minliang, a researcher with the Institute of Industrial Economics of the Chinese Academy of Social Sciences.

Chinese enterprises have seized the opportunity from overseas markets thanks to their reliable technological capability, good reputation and quality service system, Zhou added, to achieve the growth of domestic excavators and other products exports.

Wan Zhe, a research fellow at the Belt and Road School of Beijing Normal University, believes that the popularity of Chinese excavators overseas mirrors the worldwide recognition of Chinese manufacturing, as infrastructure is a foundation for a region's economic and social development.

People's Daily

Indian cough syrup: Mystery middleman may be new clue

NEW DELHI / LONDON

AN unnamed middleman in Mumbai provided a crucial raw material used in Indian-made cough syrups that have been linked to the deaths of more than 70 children in Gambia, a chemicals trader involved in the supply chain told Reuters.

The World Health Organization said last year the syrups, made by Indian manufacturer Maiden Pharmaceuticals Ltd, contained lethal toxins ethylene glycol and diethylene glycol (DEG) - used in car brake fluid. These ingredients can be used by unscrupulous actors as a substitute for propylene glycol, which is a key base of syrupy medicines - because they can cost less than half the price, as Reuters reported in March.

The children who died were mostly under age 5 and died of acute kidney injury, some within days of taking the syrups.

LtdIndia's drugs regulator told the WHO in December that the propylene glycol used in the syrups came from Goel Pharma Chem, a Delhi-based pharma-supplies company, and was "recorded to have been imported" from South Korean manufacturer SKC

Co Ltd.

Sharad Goel, whose eponymously named company is based in north Delhi, said he had bought the ingredient in sealed barrels - but not directly from SKC.

"We bought the propylene glycol from an importer in Mumbai who bought it from SKC," Goel told Reuters in February, speaking out for the first time.

"I can't name the supplier - we have business links that we need to keep," said Goel, adding his company had "not done anything wrong." He said his business was "just a trader and we pass on sealed barrels that we get. We can do nothing with them."

Reuters could not independently confirm Goel's assertion. He said that after the Gambia poisonings, his company had stopped selling PG but continued to supply other products such as starch, and that he generally buys most of his products from 8-10 importers.

Goel subsequently stopped answering calls and when a reporter called at his business twice in April, it was locked. Workers at a neighboring factory said they had not seen it opening in the past few months.



SKC told Reuters it had never supplied any PG either to Goel or to Maiden. If true, Goel's claim would point to a missing link in investigations by Gambia, India and the WHO into the contaminated products. The clue comes as the WHO and Gambia's government say the search for a culprit has been stymied by a lack of information from India.

India's drugs regulator said in December its own tests found no toxins in the syrups, but its factory inspectors did earlier find that batches of medicine may have been incorrectly labeled, according to a notice it sent to Maiden seen by Reuters.

It has not made clear how, in light of that, it can be sure it tested the correct batch.

India's health ministry did not respond to questions about the alleged intermediary or about any of the other issues raised in this story.

Asked to comment on the claim there was a middleman in the supply

chain, the WHO's lead investigator said inquiries have reached a "dead end" due to a lack of information from the Indian authorities and the drugmaker.

"If you ask and you don't get informed, it's a dead end," Rutendo Kuwana, the WHO's team lead for incidents with substandard and falsified medicines, told Reuters in an interview on March 31.

A WHO spokesperson said this week that the information it has received from Indian authorities so far is only that Goel bought propylene glycol from SKC, but that no evidence of the trades was provided. The WHO said it also has not been able to confirm that transaction with the Korean regulator. The Korean regulator did not respond to a request for comment.

India's regulator said its information on the raw materials came from certificates of analysis (COAs) - standard paperwork used to track each ingredient in a drug supply chain. Maiden said last October that it had obtained raw materials from "certified and reputed companies."

Agencies

Russia ensures efficient work of UN Security Council despite West's efforts - MFA

MOSCOW

THE Russian side managed to ensure the efficient work of the UN Security Council despite the heated environment due to Western delegations' efforts, according to a statement released by the Russian Foreign Ministry on Sunday following Russia's UN Security Council presidency in April 2023.

"On April 30, Russia's UN Security Council presidency ends. Despite the very heated environment in the Security Council due to Western delegations' efforts, we managed to ensure the efficient work of this crucial body of the UN system," the ministry said, noting that during Russia's presidency "all events implied by the Council's mandate and reporting and cycle in April were held."

During its presidency, "Russia relied on the task of confirming the role of the Security Council as an efficient instrument of coordinating efforts to find answers to threats to global world and security," the ministry stressed.

Agencies

Rwanda to digitise genocide memorial sites Barrick's sustainable delivery centered on the achievement of UNSDGs

KIGALI

RWANDA is set to digitise selected genocide memorial sites in the country as part of the efforts to preserve the history of the 1994 genocide against Tutsi and ease visitors' access to memorials, an official said on Friday.

Jean Damascene Bizimana, minister of national unity and civic engagement, made the remarks during an event to unveil a 10-year funding package for the project in the Rwandan capital of Kigali.

"Digitisation will preserve the history and provide visitors with electronic access to all information through videos and audio. It will enable people to visit these memorials without the need for a guide," said Bizimana.

The move will start with three memorial sites, including Nyange and Murambi in



western Rwanda, and Ntarama in the east, but with a target of covering other memorials across the country, according to the minister.

Bizimana (pictured) said necessary data, including survivors' testimonies, pictures, information about trials, and other relevant information, has been collected to ensure

the successful implementation of the project.

The latest official figures show that there are more than 170 genocide memorial sites in the country.

Efforts are ongoing to merge some genocide remains from smaller sites to new standard sites with enough space to preserve genocide history and create a memorial garden in order to ensure their proper preservation.

Xinhua

TORONTO

BARRICK Gold Corporation's sustainability strategy is based on integrated and holistic management and aligned with the objectives of the United Nations' Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), which seeks to deliver outcomes that are achievable, demonstrable and align with global priorities, says president and chief executive Mark Bristow in the company's 2022 Sustainability Report, published over the weekend.

Bristow says by using the SDGs as the central framework of its sustainability reporting, Barrick is better able to link an integrated approach to sustainability management, and to avoid the siloed thinking and mere box-ticking approach that can be a consequence of taking an ESG compliance-driven approach.

Barrick's latest Sustainability Report, its fifth since the transformational merger with Randgold Resources in 2019, still complies with important key reporting frameworks, but its primary lens for understanding and measuring its progress in sustainability aligns with a focus on the SDGs - an often-forgotten global commitment.

"Our sustainability approach allows us to

tackle the challenges of alleviating poverty, managing changes to the climate and preserving biodiversity holistically and concurrently because they are inextricably connected," he says.

For example, Barrick generated more than \$10.7 billion in economic value and created 21,000 jobs in 2022 (SDG 8: Decent Work and Economic Growth). Additionally, 96% of its employees and 78% of its senior site managers are host country nationals, and \$1.4 billion worth of goods and services were procured from suppliers in the communities closest to its mines. In total, Barrick spent over \$6.1 billion on host country suppliers in 2022.

It also invested more than \$36 million in community development projects from education facilities in Nevada (SDG 4: Quality Education), to business incubators in the Dominican Republic (SDG 9: Industry, Innovation and Infrastructure) and gender-based violence awareness in Tanzania (SDG 5: Gender Equality).

Barrick's employees at its Pueblo Viejo mine in the Dominican Republic are now 23% women, with a target of 50% female representation for all new hires (SDG 5: Gender

Equality and SDG 10: Reduced Inequality). Pueblo Viejo is the first Dominican mining company to have been awarded the highest level of gender equality certification by the country's Ministry of Women and the United Nations Development Programme.

On the environmental front, Barrick has set itself a greenhouse gas emissions reduction target that is both demonstrable and achievable (SDG 13: Climate Action).

The company's total emissions in 2022 were 6,705kt CO2e (Scope 1 and 2: market-based), which is 6% lower compared to the year before and an 11% reduction against its 2018 baseline.

"Our vision is to create the world's most valued gold and copper mining company by creating long-term value for all our stakeholders, driving social and economic development in our host communities and countries, and to responsibly manage the impact of our business on the environment.

For us, sustainability is instrumental in our continued drive to operate mines that are welcomed and respected as development partners throughout the world," Bristow says.

Agencies

Cultural digitalisation makes progress at Sanxingdui Ruins site

THE Sanxingdui Ruins site in Guanghan, southwest China's Sichuan province, are dubbed as one of the world's greatest archaeological findings of the 20th century. Every new excavation at the site would trigger an archaeology craze across China. The Sanxingdui Museum has thus become the hottest museum in Sichuan province.

Earlier this year, new findings were once again reported at the Sanxingdui Ruins site. A bronze kneeling statue holding a Zun-vessel over head unearthed at the No.3 sacrificial pit and a bronze mythical beast found at the No.8 sacrificial pit were virtually combined under the assistance from 3D scanning technology.

The two cultural relics, buried in two different pits, finally "reunited" with each other after more than 3,000 years and now constitute a larger bronze artifact, which is unprecedented even in the world.

The successful virtual combination of the two cultural relics was a result of the application of digital 3D model technology. It marked another innovation in China's technical approaches to cultural relics conservation and studies, as well as a typical example of the cultural digitalization development of the Sanxingdui.

"We employ digital technologies when archaeological excavation starts," said Zhu Yarong, deputy curator of the Sanxingdui Museum, adding that the museum aims to vitalize cultural relics through digital technologies and creative protection methods.

According to her, the inter-discipline cooperation during the archaeological excavations at the Sanxingdui Ruins site represents a new model of future archaeological development. The integration of a new generation of digital technologies and archaeology is important to archeological development, she added.

A tourist surnamed Chen from Xi'an, northwest China's Shaanxi province, recently visited the Sanxingdui Museum and watched a mixed reality (MR) movie about the Sanxingdui culture, the first of its kind launched by the museum.

With a pair of MR goggles, Chen saw ancient citizens of the kingdom of Shu praying around a sacred tree and a three-legged crow flying in the sky. Besides, in the earphones she wore, there was also a virtual tour guide explaining the history of cultural relics at the Sanxingdui Ruins site.

This brand new model of museum visiting, which enables visitors to watch cultural relics in a movie, can better present the splendid Sanxingdui culture to visitors.

It's not rare in China to present cultural relics in 3D pictures with augmented reality and MR technologies, said Zhang Song, an employee with the Sanxingdui Museum. What's different at the Sanxingdui Museum is that virtual scenarios are mixed with reality so that visitors can not only see 3D pictures of cultural relics, but also have immersive experiences in a world of mixed reality, Zhang explained.



A bronze sculpture of human head with gold mask unearthed at the Sanxingdui Ruins site is exhibited at the Anhui Museum in east China's Anhui province, April 20, 2023. (Photo by Li Pengfei/People's Daily Online)

"Apart from archaeological excavation and conservation, it's also important to make the value of cultural relics known to all through technologies," Zhang told People's Daily.

Since 2016, the Sanxingdui Museum has implemented three projects of digital cultural relics conservation, during which it collected high-precision data of most of its cultural relics and set up a management platform of digital resources. So far, these achievements have been widely applied by the museum in display, cultural relics conservation, tour guide services, cultural communication and the development of cultural products.

Every cultural relics at the Sanxingdui Ruins site has a QR code that records its identity and whole life cycle from its excavation to repairing, which lays a data foundation for future utilization and development of relevant cultural products, Zhang said.

The possibility of combining fragments of cultural relics is estimated based on their colors, textures and cross

sections after the fragments receive 3D scans, which significantly improves work efficiency, Zhang noted.

Digitalization is an important way to vitalize cultural resources. Earlier this year, Sichuan province issued an action plan on promoting cultural digitalization, which centered on seven aspects such as connecting the province to a national database of Chinese culture, building cultural digitalization infrastructure and building a cultural data service platform, and listed 22 major tasks including utilizing the results of cultural resource censuses, establishing a provincial data system and setting up an interaction platform of cultural data.

An expert told People's Daily that the efforts made by the Sanxingdui Museum to advance cultural digitalization not only demonstrated the strong impetus of Sichuan province for cultural digitalization, but also has made new business forms that combine culture and technology a key driver of growth in the culture industry.

People's Daily

Biden takes his re-election pitch to financial backers

WASHINGTON

US President Joe Biden made his pitch for re-election on Friday night to a small group that may prove essential to his candidacy: the wealthy.

Biden (pictured), who launched his bid for the 2024 presidential election in a video posted online on Tuesday, gathered fewer than 200 of the top donors and volunteer fundraisers from his last bid for office at the five-star Salamander hotel in Washington.

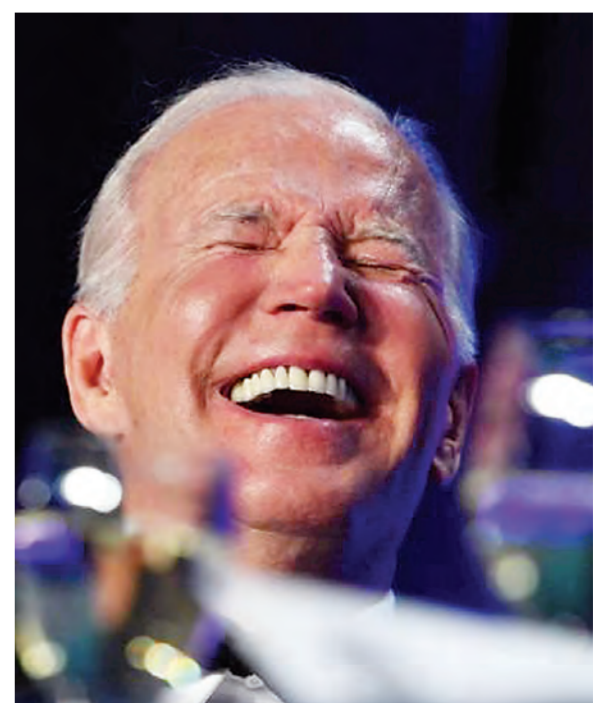
They dined under blue stage lighting with rising political stars in the Democratic Party who have opted to support Biden, 80, rather than running against him, including Governors Gavin Newsom of California and Phil Murphy of New Jersey.

Biden may need to raise and spend more than \$1 billion to run a competitive campaign in 2024, allies believe.

Among those attending the event were former hedge fund manager Tom Steyer, who spent \$300 million on his own presidential campaign in 2020 before shifting his millions in donations to Biden and other Democrats, and former Disney executive Jeffrey Katzenberg, the sole fundraiser among Biden's initial, seven campaign co-chairs.

"We couldn't have done it without you, and I think it sounds like you're ready to do it again," said Biden, who has used his presidential bully pulpit to call for higher taxes on the wealthy and increased corporate regulation. "I'm here tonight to ask for your help to help me finish the job. Folks, here's the bottom line: it's very simple. We need you. Our democracy needs you because this is about our freedoms."

Among those attending the event were former hedge fund manager Tom Steyer, who spent \$300 million on his own presidential campaign in 2020 before shifting his millions in donations to Biden and other Democrats, and former Disney executive Jeffrey Katzenberg, the sole fundraiser among Biden's initial, seven campaign co-chairs. A small group of reporters were allowed to observe a portion of the event before being ushered out.



Biden made no mention of Republican frontrunner and former president Donald Trump or any other potential Republican rivals in his remarks, even though Trump and Florida Governor Ron DeSantis featured in his campaign launch video. A Reuters/Ipsos poll completed on Monday showed that a majority of registered voters do not want either Biden or Trump, 76, to run again.

Top volunteer fundraisers generally give money to a campaign themselves but are also expected to tap their networks of wealthy potential donors, host events that can cost hundreds or thousands of dollars to attend and even meet certain fundraising targets set by the campaign.

That money complements millions in individual, small-dollar donations of as little as \$1 that roll in through the campaign website and other sources.

The event on Friday capped a fairly low-key first week of campaign events for the Biden campaign, which has included a video to prospective volunteers and a television advertisement being run in political battleground states.

Instead, Biden has mostly filled his days with traditional Oval Office duties, including hosting South Korean leader Yoon Suk-yeol for a state visit. On Saturday, Biden is due to deliver light-hearted remarks at the annual White House Correspondents' Association Dinner.

Agencies



A Dar es Salaam golfer, Nicholas, puts his skills to show in this season's Galinoma Memorial Tournament that took place at Tanzania People's Defence Force (TPDF) Lugalo Golf Club course in the city last Saturday. PHOTO: CORRESPONDENT JUMANNE JUMA

Samatta eyes Belgian Pro League title with KRC Genk

By Correspondent Nassir Nchimbi

TANZANIA's senior national soccer team's skipper, Mbwana Samatta, is on the run to win the Belgian Pro League title for the second time with KRC Genk with two fixtures remaining as the squad leads the standings.

Samatta was on the score sheet when KRC Genk was held to a 2-2 draw by Charleroi at Stade du Pays de Charleroi last weekend.

The Eastern Belgium-based KRC Genk has collected 75 points to stay on top of the regular season's top-flight table, boasting a better goal difference over Royale Union Saint-Gilloise given KRC Genk has registered 41 goals and Royale has scored 29 goals.

KRC Genk has another task to ensure the squad clinches the Belgian Pro League title, an honour the club last won in the 2018/19 season and now the side is on the verge of retaining glory at the Luminas Arena.

With the regular season over, the league leader points are converted into 38 points above the league log, staying level with Saint-Gilloise on the championship round matches of four teams that will play home and away seeking to clinch the league silverware.

Third-placed Royal Antwerp FC has collected 36 points while Club Brugge occupies fourth place with 30 points with either of the clubs having an equal chance to win the league.

Despite having a tough season, Samatta scored in back-to-back games with his previous goal coming

in a fixture against Anderlecht and consequently having the goal-getter notching six goals from 30 league games.

Samatta has been on a dreadful season, as far as his standard is concerned, scoring six goals and executing one assist in 27 games.

This season he has received several critics from Genk legends, as previously written by The Guardian, due to having a slow start.

Should Samatta score at least four goals before the end of the championship round season he will put behind his dreadful season with a medal around his neck.

Since his move to Premier League's Aston Villa in January 2019 the former attacker for Tanzania's Simba SC is yet to settle into scoring goals after netting once for Aston Villa before being sent on loan to Fenerbahce in Turkey.

The goal-getter played 33 games in all competitions and scored 6 goals for two seasons, he later returned to Belgium last season to serve Royal Antwerp FC.

The goal-getter posted eight goals in 38 games in all competitions including three in the UEFA Europa League.

Ghanaian Joseph Paintsil has been the stand-out performer for KRC Genk this season contributing four goals from the last seven games as he racked 14 goals and 13 assists in the ongoing season.

The 25-year-old forward is set to be on the transfer market during the European summer window as big clubs already eye his services.

Special Olympics set for inclusion in Umisseta, Umitashumta games

By Correspondent Joseph Mchekadona

THE government says plans are underway to include Special Olympics in National Inter-Primary School Games (Umitashumta) and National Inter-Secondary Schools (Umisseta).

Officials from National Sports Council (NSC) and President's Office-Regional Administration and Local Governments (TAMISEMI) stated so in the National Youth Summit organized by Special Olympics Tanzania (SOT) in Dar es Salaam on Thursday.

Charles Magunzu, an NSC official, and Agnes Mwangila from the ministry said deliberations are underway to include Special Olympics in the schools' games.

Magunzu said there are many talented Special Olympics athletes and the schools' games will be a platform for the athletes to show their potential.

He also said including Special Olympics athletes in the competitions is a sign of affirmative of the government in its inclusive drive.

"As the government, we have programs for Special Olympics athletes, next year we plan to have many courses and seminars for coaches and officials of Special Olympics," Magunzu pointed out.

"We are doing this as we value the joy that Special Olympics athletes have brought to the country, they are one of the sporting groups that have brought many medals to the country," he said.

Agnes shared Magunzu's sentiments and added that the gov-



Children with special needs engage in volleyball training at Msimbazi Center in Dar es Salaam recently. PHOTO: COURTESY OF SPECIAL OLYMPICS TANZANIA

ernment will build 50 hostels countrywide in schools with special needs students.

The SOT National Youth Summit was held under the theme 'Diversity and Inclusion, Moving from Saying to Doing'.

The topics at the summit included inclusive leadership experience, how to implement effective inclusion within schools and community setup, effective resource mobilization and management in ensuring program sustainability and digitalizing the Special Olympics movement.

Charles Rays, SOT Director, in the past, complained that failure to include Special Olympics athletes in the competitions is a clear indication of segregation.

However, yesterday he confirmed that discussions to include Special Olympics athletes in the two games are going on very well, adding he is hopeful

of getting positive results.

He appreciated all summit participants and sponsors for their involvement in the meeting.

Rays also disclosed that preparations for the Special Olympics team's departure to Germany for the Summer Games are going on very well.

He said Tanzania's team is expected to depart on June 12 with a delegation of 31 people to the Summer Games slated for June 17-26 and local athletes will compete in athletics and mixed unified volleyball.

Rays said the team is made up of 22 athletes selected from SOT subprograms/regions which battled it out in the National Special Olympics Games that took place in Mwanza last year.

The athletes will be accompanied by four coaches, three officials, and two team physicians. This will be the first time that

Germany is hosting the World Special Olympics and more than 700 athletes with intellectual disabilities from 170 countries will take part in the show-down.

The Special Olympics World Summer Games are held every four years and are the world's largest inclusive sports event.

Tanzania has been doing well in Special Olympics Games. The country, for one, collected 11 medals in last year's Pan African Special Olympics Games that took place in Egypt.

The 11 medals were won by Khalfan Jihad, winning two gold medals and one bronze medals, Hidayat Vuai won one gold, one silver, and one bronze medal.

Other athletes, Nerverson Minja and Elizabeth Kisaka won a gold medal and a silver medal apiece, and Salama Kheri ended with one gold medal.

Youngsters' involvement in sports nurtures talent, fights moral decay - II

By Correspondent Cheji Bakari, Tanga

EVERY parent wants his/her kids to have a memorable childhood by gaining achievements such as good behaviour and excelling in life through participation in sports.

Henceforth, establishing sports and games by organizing inter-class tournaments and inter-school games will be the first step towards having great achievement in youngsters' moral and future career devel-

opment.

Having more physical education teachers and purchasing sports equipment will further facilitate the program.

This will encourage a spirit of motivation and competition and motivate pupils to push themselves to obtain greater performance.

Young players will learn basic skills like dribbling, shooting, and other skills and will hopefully begin to develop a passion for a particular game that they

can build on in the future.

Youth soccer leagues create fond memories and are good for promoting cognitive development for children as they play a fun sport and make friends along the way.

Children have to think quickly and respond immediately to whatever is happening on the pitch, which improves cognitive flexibility.

Other benefits coming from all the running involved in soccer, even on small non-professional

fields, are improving a child's health, increasing coordination, and strength, and boosting the youngsters' skills.

Sports further instill respect, responsibility, and sportsmanship in youngsters, for example, in junior soccer, children are getting used to treating teammates, coaches, and opposing players with respect.

Children are also relied on to participate and share responsibility for what happens during a game/practice.



Retired Permanent Secretary, Ombeni Sefue, executes a shot at this season's Galinoma Memorial Tournament, which took place at Tanzania People's Defence Force (TPDF) Lugalo Golf Club's course in the city last Saturday. PHOTO: CORRESPONDENT JUMANNE JUMA

Namungo FC expects tough challenge from Simba SC in Premier League tie

By Correspondent Nassir Nchimbi

NAMUNGO FC head coach Denis Kitambi is wary of the threat which will be posed by Simba SC when the outfits meet in a 2022/23 NBC Premier League match in Lindi on May 3.

The visitors' fine form has lately revived their hopes for the 2022/23 NBC Premier League title.

Namungo FC, nicknamed 'Southern Killers', will be at home at Majaliwa Stadium to face Simba SC, an outfit the former has never beaten in all competitions domestically.

The hosts will aim to record back-to-back wins in this season's top-flight after beating Mbeya City FC 2-1 in their previous encounter, aiming to climb to the fifth place.

The victory will witness Namungo FC bridging the gap between it and sixth-placed Kagera Sugar now with 35 points

and seventh-placed Ihefu SC which has notched 33 points.

Simba SC will head into this match in fine form, fresh from beating the top-flight defending champions Yanga 2-0 at the Benjamin Mkapa Stadium in Dar es Salaam recently.

In November 2022, Simba SC won 1-0 against Namungo FC to stretch the former's record to four wins and one draw in the last five meetings between the teams.

"It is a big game for us, it is a massive game and difficult as well, their fans will be packed in our stadium," Kitambi said.

"I don't count the points distance between us and them but we have to go for it," he added.

Kitambi disclosed: "We know it is difficult, we all know Simba SC is a side that is well-organized, attacking and defending at an extremely high level and counter-attacking is a massive thing."

"Simba SC is in a good mo-

ment, the club beat Yanga at Benjamin Mkapa Stadium and defeated CAF Champions League defending champions Wydad Casablanca, so, they are now confident and strong," he noted.

Kitambi said he has been satisfied with the schedule of the Premier League in which changes have been made with various games having been re-scheduled.

"We had a schedule to stay out of action for more than a month before the game versus Simba SC, we were supposed to play against Azam FC on May 15 but now we will start with Simba SC, which is good for us," the coach pointed out.

Simba SC is sitting second in the 2022/23 NBC Premier League with 63 points after playing 26 games, while Namungo FC is occupying sixth place with 35 points after playing 26 games.

Erik ten Hag opens door to Harry Kane swoop

By Mike McGrath

ERIK Ten Hag has raised the prospect of Manchester United bidding for Harry Kane this summer by insisting his squad needs a No 9 striker to build on their progress this season.

The United manager wants to bolster a frontline that has relied on Marcus Rashford's goals, with a central midfielder the other priority for the next transfer window. Rashford's form has taken United within sight of a Champions League return despite Cristiano Ronaldo being released mid-season and Anthony Martial struggling with fitness.

United took over Besiktas' loan of Holland striker Wout Weghorst to give them cover in the January window - he has scored twice in 25 appearances - but Ten Hag has made it clear he is in the market for a forward to build his team around.

"Everyone knows, it's not a secret that over the whole season we had a shortage of No 9s," said Ten Hag. "First we had the dropout of Ronaldo, then Antony Martial was often not available, Jadon Sancho was often not available, then you have a shortage of frontline players."

"With less players we have to cover many games, so definitely we need in the frontline players who strengthen the squad."

United fans sang Kane's name during the 2-2 draw at Tottenham last week, cheekily chanting "we'll see you in June". However, Spurs chairman Daniel Levy has resisted selling Kane before.

As reported by Telegraph Sport, Kane is considering running down the final year of his contract as one of his options beyond this summer.

His contract expiring in 2024 means United can pile pressure on Levy with a bid this summer, knowing Spurs can lose him for free in a year's time.

Nigeria striker Victor Osimhen is another option. Osimhen is on the brink of winning the Serie A title with Napoli and is on the radar of all major European clubs after his freescoring season.

However, his Italian club have a reputation of holding firm in the transfer market when their players are wanted. Osimhen does not have a fixed release price, which means his market value is well above the Premier League record fee.

United have looked at other strikers including Benjamin Šeško, who has agreed to move clubs within the Red Bull group this summer and has signed for Leipzig from Salzburg. Juventus' Dusan Vlahovic is admired by United and other Premier League clubs.

Signing a No 9 would give more options to Rashford, who has played centrally recently but has been in devastating form this season cutting in from the left.

"You can approach that from many ways. The typical No 9, [but] Rashford can also play very good as a No 9 and Anthony Martial is a great No 9," said Ten Hag. "We have players who can play in that role but definitely we need some offensive players who are really impact players, quality players, who improve the frontline."

Rashford has scored 29 goals this season and has worked on playing as a No 9 on the training pitches of United's HQ at Carrington.

"We worked on that. I think he can do both [striker and left wing], it depends on the opposition, which role is the best fit, it's also the formation that's important for him, to bring players around him and especially to bring players in the back from him in the formation, where he can make combinations and make movements," said Ten Hag.

"I think he's doing that very well and I'm happy and satisfied with his role. But also, when he's playing from the left he has a big impact on our games."

United face Aston Villa on Sunday as they look to hold off the challenge of Unai Emery's team for a place in the top four. Villa defeated them earlier this season in the first days of Emery's reign.

"We met him [Emery] the first game and he surprised us. We were low energy levels so we have to avoid that, but he surprised us with the system. Three days after we learnt a lot from that game and we bounced back and had a good win over them (in the FA Cup)," said Ten Hag.

"Sunday will be a tough game, we're totally aware of it, this team made good progression, but it's up to us, if we're ready for the game, we have the eight energy levels, with the right focus, at Old Trafford with the fans behind, then we know we have a good chance to win this game because we know we are very strong."

THE TELEGRAPH

Crowd trouble in Tunisia as Esperance reach CAF Champions League semis

TUNIS

CLASHES between police and spectators in Tunisia delayed a CAF Champions League quarter-final by 45 minutes on Saturday before local club Esperance survived a tense finish to march on.

Esperance drew 1-1 with Algerian visitors JS Kabylie to advance 2-1 on aggregate to a semi-final showdown with Al Ahly of Egypt.

Mohamed Ali Ben Romdhane gave Esperance a 49th-minute lead and Adem Redjem levelled with five minutes of regular time remaining.

Including added time, Kabylie had 12 minutes to score again and win overall on away goals, but failed to do so.

After a goalless first half, video footage showed police firing tear gas into a section of the crowd occupied by supporters wearing the colours of Esperance.

Pleas from several Esperance players to the crowd to stop throwing objects on the pitch were initially ignored at



A fire burns after clashes between Esperance supporters and riot police during the CAF Champions League quarter-final football match between Tunisia's Esperance Sportive de Tunis and Algeria's JS Kabylie at the Hammadi Agrebi Stadium in Rades on April 29, 2023. (AFP)

the national stadium in Rades on the outskirts of Tunis.

According to eyewitnesses, Esperance supporters tried to enter the pitch after the first half, but the police intervened and clashes broke out.

An AFP photographer saw looting in the stands and tear gas covered the stadium in thick smoke. Several police officers were injured by projectiles.

Order was eventually restored and the second

half of the second leg kicked off 45 minutes behind schedule.

Ahly, who have featured in five of the last six Champions League finals but won only two, drew 0-0 with Raja Casablanca in Morocco to qualify 2-0 on aggregate.

Raja squandered a great chance to halve the overall deficit in first half added time when Yousri Bouzouk slammed a debatable penalty against the crossbar.

Ahly midfielder Aliou Dieng appeared to touch

the ball rather than Bouzouk in the box but, after reviewing the incident at the touchline VAR monitor, the Libyan referee pointed to the spot.

The home team wasted another golden opportunity to take the lead on the night when their leading Champions League scorer, Hamza Khabba, failed to connect with a low cross on 75 minutes.

After eliminating Raja at the last-eight stage for the second successive season, record 10-time

African champions Ahly will face Esperance during May for a place in the final.

Raja face Sundowns - The other semi-final will feature one of the great modern-era Champions League rivalries with title-holders Wydad Casablanca of Morocco confronting Mamelodi Sundowns of South Africa.

Sundowns ended a run of three straight last-eight losses by coming from behind to complete a double over Chabab Belouizdad of Algeria with a 2-1 victory in Pretoria.

This tie was effectively decided last weekend with two goals from Namibian Peter Shalulile helping Sundowns build a 4-1 first-leg lead in Algiers, and they advanced 6-2 on aggregate.

Belouizdad are no strangers to quarter-finals heartache as this was the third season in row that their Champions League campaign ended in the first knockout stage.

Needing to score at least four goals in South Africa to pull off a sensational recovery, they took the lead on 24

minutes when captain Sofiane Boucher nodded in a corner.

Sundowns captain Themba Zwane was outstanding in midfield for the home team and he levelled in the final minute of the first half with a close-range shot after slick, short passes.

Thapelo Morena was the second-leg match-winner, pushing a cross into the net at the far post four minutes into a second half that began in sunshine and ended in torrential rain.

Wydad were the first club to qualify for the penultimate stage after edging Simba of Tanzania 4-3 on penalties after a 1-1 aggregate draw on Friday.

Trailing 1-0 after the first leg in Dar es Salaam, Wydad won the return match in Casablanca by the same score thanks to a 24th-minute goal from giant Senegalese Bouly Sambou.

It was the eight consecutive appearance in the quarter-finals by the Moroccan club and only once did they fail to go further in the competition.

AFP

Unai Emery is most successful appointment in season of Premier League blood-letting

By Sam Wallace

Unai Emery was the man who joined a relegation battle at Aston Villa and turned it into a fight for the European places, which makes him the most successful appointment of this Premier League season of managerial blood-letting.

A 10-game unbeaten run in the Premier League reaches a pivotal moment at Old Trafford on Sunday where Villa may go fifth should they win. The first game of the Emery reign in early November was his new club's first win over United in the league at Villa Park since 1995. The form since the end of February has been revelatory: eight wins, two draws. Even so, some way to equal his best run in English football. At Arsenal he went 22 games unbeaten in all competitions from the end of August to mid-December 2018, 14 of which were in the Premier League.

Strange how the 18 months at Arsenal have scarcely been used as a reference point for Emery in the Premier League, Part II. Emery at Arsenal feels like a different manager to Emery at Villa. Not simply the man himself but the perception too. Previously he followed a legendary club manager, latterly damaged goods, at a club clinging to a rapidly declining status on the European stage. At Villa it is different. They might have one more European Cup on the shelf than Arsenal but in the 2020s hierarchy, Villa count as underdogs relative to the elite. That seems to fit Emery much better.

There are certain parts of the man himself

that have not changed. He starts his day early and finishes late with a formidable work ethic sustained by very strong coffee. He wants accommodation to be built on site at Bodmoor Heath, the club's training ground, so he can spend even more time there. He is a tactical puzzle solver and there are long team meetings to explain his solutions. But what has been most notable in private is something that he was never given credit for at Arsenal: a sense of humour.

A feature of his time at Arsenal were his solemn battles with the English language. He was under-servicing of the jokes made at his expense, from myself included. The rogue plosive Basque 'b' sound in his trademark "Good evening" salutation was smoothed out long before he left Arsenal. At Villa he has made communication his strength. There are still words that threaten to smother his flow as effectively as a full press but he tends to battle through.

Team meetings have showcased a willingness to shoulder his way past difficult English words and problematic surnames of opponents with the kind of enthusiasm shown in that regard by the late great Sir Bobby Robson. Emery went into his first Arsenal press conference in May 2018 speaking a language with which he was not fully acquainted and was rightly praised for it. In the 18 months that followed the struggle undermined him at times. When the Arsenal fans sang for him to give them a wave he would stand on the touchline oblivious. Not necessarily the most important



Unai Emery

aspect of a manager's brief but when the end came it was held up as one of those symbols of a disconnect.

Between Arsenal and Villa, Emery won Villarreal's first European trophy, broke their record unbeaten run, turned down Newcastle United and vastly improved his communication in English. He already had three Europa Leagues titles at Sevilla. His status as a leading managerial talent was not in doubt. But to return to the scene of a notable failure, that suggests a real steel.

Villa's hierarchy always believed their squad was better than it had performed under Steven Gerrard. There was a sense of underachievement for what the club regarded as a team worthy of the top eight at least. No doubt that Gerrard had a point about certain players but Emery's performance this season would seem to have won that argument. The upturn in results has coincided with the absence of highest earner Philippe Coutinho through injury, a rare starter under Emery even when he was fit.

Now the question is just what Emery might build in his second season. In his first at Arsenal he finished fifth and reached the Europa League final but he was never given the resources or the license to rebuild as ruthlessly as his successor Mikel Arteta was permitted.

More than £300 million has been spent on turning Arteta's Arsenal into title contenders - in signings as well as paying off the unwanted. Arteta was authorised to get rid of Pierre-Emerick Aubameyang whatever the cost. In Emery's time, Arsenal could not even move on Shkodran Mustafi.

That was just a small part of the chaos that engulfed Arsenal in the immediate post-Wenger aftermath. There was Laurent Koscielny's pre-season walk-out, the Mesut Özil saga, the Granit Xhaka saga, the carjacking saga, the departure of senior dressing room voices like Petr Czech and Aaron Ramsey. It turns out that Arteta reached the same conclusions as Emery about Nicolas Pépé and Lucas Torreira.

Even Kieran Tierney is no longer first choice. Of the Arsenal team that started against City on Wednesday, none were signed in the Emery era.

Perhaps Emery's Arsenal months will, in time, be subject to some revisionism. For now he has seized upon all the short-term wins available to any manager parachuted in mid-season. He works hard on the training ground. He has improved his players as individuals, and done a good job of motivating them as a group. But no-one would blame him for approaching the summer at the end of his first season with caution.

At Arsenal, it was the beginning of the end. He was in charge of the team but it never felt like he was in charge of a club going through tumultuous change. Villa have two very wealthy and ambitious owners, in Nassef Sawiris and Wes Edens. Experience will tell Emery that he will have to ensure that their vision matches his own. He has certainly earned the right to do it his way.

THE TELEGRAPH

Gwiji by David Chikoko



SPORT

Crowd trouble in Tunisia as Esperance reach CAF Champions League semis

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EATV Sports
MONDAY
11:00 DADAZ LIVE
12:00 Weekend Movie (r)
14:00 SKONGA (r)
14:30 Planet Bongo (r)
15:00 Funguka
15:30 Akili & Me (r)
16:30 #HASHTAG
17:00 SSELEKT
17:35 Kurasa
18:00 eNews
18:30 Bongo Hit
19:00 EATV SAA 1
20:00 DADAZ (r)
21:00 SPORTS LIVE
22:00 Zote kuntu
23:00 Kurasa (r)
23:05 EATV SAA 1 (r)

TONIGHT @ 9:00
Sports

eastafrica 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

88.1FM
DAR ES SALAAM

Pamba FC promotion hopes suffer blow, JKT Tanzania crowned Championship League winners

By Correspondent Michael Mwebe

MWANZA's Pamba FC's faltering bid to make the NBC Premier League promotion suffered a potentially fatal blow when they were held 1-1 by relegation-threatened African Sports in this season's Championship League tie that took place at Mkwakwani Stadium in Tanga on Saturday.

After an even start to the game, with few clear-cut openings at either end, Pamba FC stunned their hosts by opening the scoring after just the stroke of the half-time break. Malulu Masunga nodded home an inviting cross from Rodgers Gabriel.

African Sports went on to dominate the second period, earning a deserved equalizer in the 74th minute through Omary Charles who converted from an awarded spot-kick.

Africans Sports join Copco FC on 23 points, although with just two games to play their automatic survival hopes are slim, to say the least.

Pamba FC is guaranteed one of the promotion play-offs spots but their mind is on winning the two remaining games against JKT Tanzania and Mbuni FC while hoping second-placed Kitayosce FC slip for the Mwanza club to snatch an automatic promotion spot to the NBC Premier League.

In Morogoro, Kitayosce were left frustrated after being held to a 0-0 draw by Fountain Gate FC at CCM Shabiby Ground, Gairo, but the point did see the Tabora-based side retain their second place in the table to remain in pole position to join JKT Tanzania in the promotion to NBC Premier League.

In Dar es Salaam, already promoted JKT Tanzania was crowned as champions despite being held to a thrilling 3-3 draw by promotion play-offs chasing Mashujaa FC at Isamuhyo Stadium. JKT Tanzania was promoted with two games to spare last week.

The draw was a major blow to Mashujaa FC's promotion play-offs hopes as they can now be overtaken by Kengold who are two points behind but with one game in hand.

At the bottom end of the table, Gwambina FC have already been relegated following their withdrawal while Ndanda FC are also believed to have thrown the towel due to financial difficulties.

Up to six teams including Biashara United, Copco FC, African Sports, Green Warriors, and Transit Camp FC are in the relegation play-offs battle.

The promotion and relegation play-off fixtures are played after the conclusion of the regular Championship League season. For the promotion play-offs, they feature teams that finish third and fourth in the league.

It is a two-legged affair, with the aggregate winner advancing to play the loser from the NBC Premier League promotion/relegation play-offs.

The Championship League relegation play-off semi-finals are two-legged affairs, with the winners retaining their status while the losers face First League opponents for a second chance to save their status.

Robertinho proud of Simba SC despite elimination



Tanzania's Simba SC midfielder, Saidi Ntibazonkiza (2nd L), dribbles past Morocco's Wydad Athletic Club defender, Houcine Benayada (L), and midfielder Yahya Jabrane when the clubs faced each other in a 2022/23 CAF Champions League last-eight rematch at Stade Mohammed V in Casablanca last Friday. Wydad Athletic Club commanded a 4-3 win in the penalty shootout. PHOTO: COURTESY OF SIMBAS SC

By Correspondent Michael Mwebe

SIMBA SC head coach Robert Oliveira 'Robertinho' believes they can walk with their heads held high despite the team's elimination from the 2022/23 CAF Champions League.

The Tanzanian representative lost 4-3 to Morocco's Wydad Athletic Club at Stade Mohammed V in Casablanca on post-match penalties to bow out of the CAF Champions League at the quarter-final stage on Friday night.

The game had to be decided from 12 yards out after Wydad Athletic Club, also CAF Champions League defending champions, won the return fixture 1-0 in Casablanca to tie the aggregate score at 1-1.

Senegalese forward Bouly Sambou's goal for Wydad Athletic Club, which is his seventh goal of the campaign, ensured the game went into penalties.

The striker, who missed the first leg in Dar es Salaam due to a yellow card suspension, headed home in the 24th minute after Simba SC right-back Shomari Kapombe's awkward clearance of Wydad Athletic Club's Yahya Attiat Allah's cross fell kindly into the attacker's path.

Despite Wydad Athletic Club enjoying a lion's share

of the possession, Simba SC kept its defensive shape and allowed the Moroccans to keep the ball, but they never created much danger, the game being forced to roll into penalties.

Wydad Athletic Club's second-choice goalkeeper Youssef El Motie saved Shomari Kapombe and Clautous Chama's penalties to put to an end Simba SC's CAF 2022/23 Champions League campaign.

Erasto Nyoni, Saidi Ntibazonkiza, and Moses Phiri scored spot kicks for Simba SC, popularly known as

'Wekundu wa Msimbazi'.

Wydad Athletic Club's players did not miss any of their efforts as they expertly slotted home four spot kicks and did not need to go into the fifth after Chama's miss.

Wydad Athletic Club captain Yahya Jebrane, Ayoub El Amloud, Amine Abdoufath, and Abdellah Haimoud all tucked home their efforts past Simba SC's third-choice goalkeeper Ally Salim.

Speaking after Simba SC arrived in Dar es Salaam on Sunday morning,

Robertinho congratulated his players for the courage and spirit they showed in battling Wydad Athletic Club in both legs, adding there is little one could do when it comes to the lotteries of penalties shootout.

The tactician pointed out: "It was a difficult game. Our objective was to qualify and win. We played well, the players gave their maximum on the pitch."

"Penalties are penalties, you can't make quick decisions but I'm happy about the performance of the team, the pace," Robertinho stated.

"I think Simba SC showed everyone our capacity, many more people in different countries now know who Simba SC are."

"I am very happy about our personality with ball possession, and compactness. Penalties are part of football but we cannot talk about them. Congratulations to everyone, fans, players, and management of the team," the Brazilian revealed.

Simba SC will now have to put behind the disappointments and quickly embark on preparation for a crucial and tough Azam Sports Federation Cup (ASFC) semi-final game against Azam FC slated to take place at Nangwanda Sijaona Stadium in Mtwara on Saturday.

Mtibwa Sugar joins coaching merry-go-round party

By Correspondent Michael Mwebe

THE ever-revolving door for NBC Premier League coaches has claimed another victim.

Mtibwa Sugar has parted ways with its head coach Salum Mayanga after a string of disappointing results.

A potential top-four push evaporated by November, last year, and instead Mtibwa Sugar is fighting to avoid the relegation play-offs once again with only three games to the end of the season.

A run of just two wins in their last 15 games has left the Turiani-based side two points above the relegation zone forcing the management to pull the trigger on Salum Mayanga.

The latest development means 12 out of 16 clubs have already made at least one coaching change this campaign.

Simba SC and Azam FC have already had three separate men in the hot seat as the coaching merry-go-round is in full swing.

There is no doubt the most high-profile changes have been at Simba SC after Serbian Zoran Maki walked out on the club after only two league games of the season to take up a post with Egyptian side Al Ittihad. Maki had replaced Pablo Martin Franco.

Selemani Matola was appointed on an interim basis

before former Coastal Union head coach Juma Mgunda took over until January.

Brazilian coach Robert Oliveira 'Robertinho' was brought to boost the technical bench ahead of the CAF Champions League Group Stage campaign.

Somali-American Abdihamid Moallin had begun the campaign at Azam FC but was axed five games in and Frenchman Deni Lavagne was handed the reins in the hope

he could steer the ship.

However, Lavagne barely lasted for two months before he was sacked and replaced by Kalimangonga Ongala.

Coastal Union is another club that has overseen three coaching changes, though in their case it was enforced by circumstances beyond their control. Following the abrupt departure of Mgunda to Simba SC, they appointed Kenyan coach Yusuf Chipso.

However, Chipso's appoint-

ment did see a change in fortune as Coastal Union lost five consecutive games under the Kenyan coach.

He was sacked in December and has since taken charge of the Championship League side, Pamba FC.

In terms of stability, Nasredine Nabi has passed the two-year mark at Yanga and is the current longest-serving head coach in the NBC Premier League.

He is about to defend the

Premier League crown as well guiding the club to a historic CAF Confederation Cup semi-finals qualification.

Geita Gold FC is set for another season in mid-table finish under the watch of head coach Fred Felix 'Minziro' who is now the second longest-serving coach.

Minziro was appointed to replace Burundian Etienne Ndayiragije who was sacked after only four games at the start of last season.



The 2023 Galinoma Memorial Golf Tournament's overall winner, Khalid Shemndolwa (2nd R), poses for a photo with the tournament's guest of honour, former minister Abdulrahman Kinana (R), after completion of the event at Tanzania People's Defense Force (TPDF) Lugalo Golf Club course in Dar es Salaam last Saturday. Standing (L-R) are Leon Munyetti, a representative of one of the tournament's sponsors Tigo, and Grace Galinoma, the widow of the late Brigadier General (Retired) Ernest John Galinoma. PHOTO: CORRESPONDENT

Flexibles by David Chikoko

