



National Pg 3 TGL donates 50 cartons of pads



National Pg 4 Alarm makes Speaker adjourn session



National Pg 11 Firm launches insurance product



Page 13



Cattle fattening group training ends October

By Correspondent James Kandoya

THE Ministry of Livestock and Fisheries is conducting cattle fattening training for 240 young people to bridge the gap between processors and livestock keepers.

Dr Angelo Mwilawa (pictured), the research, training and extension director in the ministry, said in an interview yesterday that the one year training ends in October at eight selected centres across the country.

At the end of training, the selected youths will be handed the credit to purchase ten heifers each, fattening and selling them later to meat processors, he said.

The youths will benefit from savings obtained from premium and final prices each quarter for one year, he said, noting that the training is part of 'building a better tomorrow youth initiative in agriculture' (BBT-YIA) emanating from President Samia Suluhu Hassan.

Mwanza, Tanga and Kagera host the centres, where upon completion the beneficiaries will be offered land plots to

Ruaha Park loses 47,800ha, Kigosi is now forest reserve

By Getrude Mbago, Dodoma

The National Assembly has approved a resolution to deduct a total of 478 square kilometers (47,800 hectares) from the Ruaha National Park to be used for agriculture and livestock rearing.

MPs also approved another resolution to revoke national park status for the Kigosi conservation area in the Lake Victoria zone changing it into a forest reserve to facilitate settlements and various economic activities.

Activities expected to take place include research, bee-keeping, fishing and farming, helping to reduce tensions between residents of these areas and conservation authorities, diminishing dangers of wildlife invasions.

Mohamed Mchengerewa, the Natural Resources and Tourism minister, said in presenting the resolution yesterday said deducting part of the Ruaha National Park will boost incomes and diminish land disputes.

The land will benefit residents in 29 villages surrounding the park, with the land being divided and used as per an improved land use plan to be arranged by the residents and the local government authorities, he said.

There will be special areas for farming, grazing and other activities, thus producing social, economic and environmental opportunities to the people, and help to protect water sources in the Usangu basin.

This will gradually strengthen the flow of water in the Kipengere and Uporoto mountains to Ihefu basin, where Ruaha River originates, he said.



Members of Parliament exit the National Assembly debating chamber in Dodoma city yesterday moments after Speaker Dr Tulia Ackson drew their attention to the ringing of emergency alarm bells - with House business well in progress. However, there were no immediate reports of any serious development. Story on Page 4. Photo: Correspondent Ibrahim Joseph

DP World pact: 'MPs have to alter ratification procedure'

By Henry Mwangonde

THE parliamentary standing orders (of June 2020) paragraph 108 should be amended to strengthen the legislature's role in ratification processes for international agreements, the Tanganyika Law Society (TLS) has declared.

Harold Sungusia, the TLS president, said in a statement yesterday that amending the standing orders would target mandating an adequate timeframe within which stakeholders can comprehensively analyze the agreements and submit their recommendations to the relevant parliamentary committees.

He said that, as the bar association for the Mainland, it is mandated to propose substantial revisions to the legal framework on procedures for ratifying international

agreements, affirming that the clauses involved are not well-drafted and lead to vagueness, doubts, ambiguities and diverse interpretations by different actors.

He said the proposal arises from having followed the public discourse around the ratification process and content of the IGA between Tanzania and Dubai concerning economic and social partnership for the development and improving the performance of sea and lake ports in Tanzania.

"TLS formed a team of experts to dissect the proposed IGA between the government and the Emirate of Dubai," he said, elaborating that the team was also tasked to seek advice from relevant individuals.

They could provide additional insight to enhance the analysis, findings and

TURN TO PAGE 2

The bank is working closely with the group in preparing bankable small business plans

harness their skills, feeding and fattening animals before they are sold.

The programme will create a number of gainful opportunities for the youth, as it in the government's interest to see that the group is empowered for self-employment through livestock keeping as the sector has so many opportunities to grab, he stated.

At the end of the programme, each youth would have sold 40 cattle, with banks such as NMB showing interest to support the youth. The bank is working closely with the group in preparing bankable small business plans, he affirmed.

The programme initiators have a component for helping the youths find markets, as meat exports outside are on a steady increase, he stated, with this initiative being an aspect of boosting productivity in the livestock sector.

Extended efforts like this eventually improve the sector's contribution to the country's economy.

Last August, the ministry established four incubation hubs for training youths on how to manage beef cattle fattening, after President Samia expressed the wish to see groups of young people empowered for self-employment through livestock keeping.

We stress on leveraging TLS experts and individual private advocates to aid our nation in negotiating and drafting significant investment agreements

Lower network laying fees to lift internet use

By Guardian Reporter, Dodoma

REDUCING charges for laying network infrastructure along roads to enable internet services to reach people in various areas from US\$ 1,000 to \$200 per kilometre is likely to reduce internet costs, a regulator has asserted.

Dr Nkundwe Mwasaga (pictured), the Information and Communication



Technologies Commission (ICTC) director general said in an interview yesterday that this is among complaints raised on internet services as legislators debated the 2023/24 budget, endorsed early this week.

On May 13, President Samia Suluhu Hassan pledged to address the matter as it was increasingly the subject of complaints by internet services providers, that the charges increase the cost of internet bundles. The charges occasion increases of internet service costs, he stated.

Emerging skills of innovation among the youth is among the government focus in establishing the ICT commission to assist the public, especially the youth make use of

TURN TO PAGE 2

Currently, our country exports 1,700 tonnes of honey priced at \$14m, which is equal to five percent of the total amount locally produced at present

Other benefits are improving ecosystems of the Usangu basin, restoring wildlife and natural vegetation to the Ruaha National Park as well as strengthening the conservation of natural resources, especially wildlife, plants, spawning grounds and enclosures for fish and other marine life, he further stated.

The move will completely eliminate border disputes between the park authorities and respective villages, increase the contribution to the gross domestic product (GDP) via tourism, he elaborated.

The erstwhile Kigosi National Park that covers a total of 7,460 hectares is revoked to provide more opportunities for people surrounding it to engage in economic activities, he said.

It was established in 2019 to improve conservation and promote tourism, facilitate research and provide practical education to people visiting the reserve, he said.

Establishing the park prevented human activities including beekeeping, fishing and other spheres, occasioning hardship for missing those opportunities, the minister declared.

This pushed the government to review its status to convert it to a forest reserve, as the Forest Act, Cap 323 allows conducting economic activities in forest reserves, compliant with conservation and specific procedures, he affirmed.

The new reserve offers opportunities for 125 villages in Geita, Kagera, Kigoma, Shinyanga and Tabora regions, with

TURN TO PAGE 2





Former President Jakaya Kikwete pictured in Dodoma city on Monday addressing senior officials from institutions under the Water ministry. He is flanked by Water minister Jumaa Aweso (L) and deputy minister Maryprisca Mahundi. Photo: Correspondent Ibrahim Joseph

Lower network laying fees to lift internet use

FROM PAGE 1
innovative ideas on ICT.

The commission formed eight years ago while the first ICT policy was proclaimed in 2003, reworked after 10 years and was being implemented, he said.

ICT is the focus of activity on the youth, as the government wishes to make sure the youth make use of opportunities locally and outwardly, benefiting from loans where possible, he said.

Since it was set up, the commission

has seen and initiated activities to develop ICT skills among the youth, as from the started it was clear that the youth have great ability for innovation, he said.

The commission coordinates youth innovations and provides the needed recognition in collaboration with the Copyright Society of Tanzania (COSOTA) and the Business Registration and Licensing Agency (BRELA), he stated.

Youths with innovation ideas need to register them in order to be

certain that no one will take away their innovations, he said, pointing out that the commission has noticed that there are people from outside the country regularly stepping into the country to purchase such ideas.

Many of them would not agree to purchase unregistered innovations, he said, as chances rise of running into copyright violations if the same idea was registered by someone elsewhere.

"People with capital are ready to provide funding to develop such

innovations," he said, pointing out that there are many such buyers in Tanzania who seek out the commission to find the right procedures to take on such purchases.

"There one thing I have discovered among many innovators is that they have great capabilities to create things in the areas of technology. They create systems for other things but the areas they need assistance is commerce," he added.

Ruaha Park loses 47,800ha, Kigosi is now forest reserve

FROM PAGE 1

Bukombe, Mbongwe, Biharamulo, Kakonko, Kahama and Kaliuao districts being within its area, he said.

"Residents in the villages will be allowed to conduct economic activities within the forest reserve including beekeeping and fishing in accordance with regulations," he said.

This will stimulate commercial beekeeping where 1,764 beekeepers with an estimated 521,406 beehives earlier conducting their operations in the forest will be accommodated

and more people set up similar ventures, he said.

Honey production will move from an average of 32,691 tonnes to 138,000 tonnes annually with sales going up.

"Currently, our country exports 1,700 tonnes of honey priced at \$14m, which is equal to five percent of the total amount locally produced at present," he said.

In debate, lawmakers commended the government for coming up with the decisions to help residents surrounding national parks, wishing for an improved land use plan to prevent conflicts.

DP World pact: 'MPs have to alter ratification procedure'

FROM PAGE 1

suggestions or conduct comparative study on similar inter-governmental agreements in other jurisdictions, specifically those involving the Emirate of Dubai, he specified.

"TLS recognizes and acknowledges the government's commendable initiatives to attract foreign investments and stimulate the national economy for the country's prosperity," the statement declared.

TLS fully supports all efforts that enhance national prosperity and the rule of law, it affirmed, reiterating that it however urges the government and the legislature to consistently secure ample and extensive public involvement in the matter.

It ought to relate to planning, discussion and decision-making stages concerning national resources and such grand-scale investments as required by the law, the statement underlined, urging the reviewing and removal of some clauses in the Inter-

Governmental Agreement (IGA) for port development with the Emirate of Dubai.

Some of the clauses overlook, contradict and contravene national interests and thus deserve to wholly removed, TLS intoned, insisting that the clauses could lead to disputes during implementation of the IGA, subsequent host government agreements (HGAs) and project agreements.

In view of this, TLS advocates the active involvement of stakeholders with specialized expertise to share their insights on crucial matters towards modifying the highlighted provisions, it emphasised.

"We stress on leveraging TLS experts and individual private advocates to aid our nation in negotiating and drafting significant investment agreements," it further noted.

This will ensure better clarity, efficiency and mitigate the risks of future investment disputes as these could be costly for our country, the statement added.

TPHA to promote agricultural rules health regulations for most pesticides

By Correspondent Mutayoba

Arbogast, Bukoba

THE Tanzania Plant Health and Pesticides Association (TPHA) has assured residents of Kagera region that it was working on strengthening accountability in all border posts.

TPHA acting director general Prof. Joseph Ndunguru when he held talks with Kagera Regional Administrative Secretary (RAS) Toba Nguvula that the agency was mandated to protect and promote agricultural health and provide efficient regulations of pesticides and production of quality marketable agricultural products

He said that TPHA will continue making necessary strategies to improve good performance to great to serve the customers.

However, Nguvula informed him of some challenges need to be attended to, to make the public enjoy services given by his institution.

Later Prof. Ndunguru toured Missenyi district Mtukula post border to Uganda, and in Ngara districts as well as Rusumo post bordering Rwanda and Kabanga and Omurusagamba posts bordering Burundi.

"I am told by our inspectors here, that unscrupulous traders mix two types of food production or unwanted particles to deceive as one type, notably rice. We are going to buy a new and modern machine, Portable DNA Sequencer, powerful in detecting food and plants for food safety to meet this challenge", said Prof. Ndunguru.

He added that a device will be brought at Rusumo border soon as a way of strengthening the markets and adding productivity in

agriculture as well as income.

He said most challenges about pesticides was lack of effective control measures which has forced farmers in many countries to rely on pesticides, which are in most cases misused, thus posing a threat of pollution of ecosystems and subsequently decline of productivity of aquatic fauna including fish, which provides a source of protein and nutrition to rural and urban households.

The TPHA boss was in Kagera Region, in a working tour to direct and motivate his institution workers to perform for positive results.



I am told by our inspectors here, that unscrupulous traders mix two types of food production or unwanted particles to deceive as one type, notably rice. We are going to buy a new and modern machine, Portable DNA Sequencer, powerful in detecting food and plants for food safety to meet this challenge



Yessaya Mwakifulefule, Tanzania Civil Aviation Authority's communications and public relations manager, announces in Mwanza city yesterday the agency's non-recognition of the registration of what is known as Tanzania Aviation College. He said the college's registration expired in 2018. Photo: Guardian Correspondent

Samia commended for releasing funds for water projects in Moro

By Guardian Correspondent,

Morogoro

DEPUTY Water Minister, Eng Maryprisca Mahundi has lauded President Samia Suluhu Hassan for providing funds for implementing various water projects that aim to relieve water buckets off the heads of women in Morogoro Region.

The Deputy Minister made the remarks when she visited Magadu Water project in the region, saying water projects implemented by Morogoro region Water and sanitation Authority (MORUWASA) were going on well and upon completion they will be of great assistance to the women in the

region.

She also commended the region's water sector for its great cooperation in the supervision of water projects and the protection of water sources.

The Magadu water project will benefit nearly 23,000 people in of Magadu Ward.

She also stressed on the residents to make sure they take care of the water infrastructures and water sources to make the project resilient for the future generations.

Morogoro District Commissioner, also praised President Samia and her officials in the water ministry for the good job they are doing in supplying residents of Morogoro

region with water.

Morogoro Urban MP, Abdulaziz Abood also commended the water ministry for making sure the CCM election Manifesto was being implemented at 100 per cent, as what had been pledged to the people were now being implemented.

MORUWASA director, Eng. Tamim Katabweba said the construction of the project was in its last stages and expected to serve the people beginning July this year.

He said MORUWASA is also implementing other short time projects to enable Morogoro Municipality receive water supply services at 96 per cent by 2025.

Deputy water minister Mahundi also visited the project for the conservation of Tangeni River water source, implemented by Wami-Ruvu Water Basin (WRWB) and commended the efforts being made towards the protection of the water source.

Speaking during the inspection of the project, WRWB Director, Elibariki Mmasay said the Board is erecting a fence around 13 water receptacles used by MORUWASA as well as RUWASA in Morogoro Region.

He said WRWB continues making researches in areas with water treasures under the ground as well announcing as reserved areas for water sources.



Nipasha newspaper managing editor Beatrice Bandawe (L) pictured in Dar es Salaam yesterday presenting 50 cartons of sanitary pads to Justine Kessy, 'ambassador' of the Namthamini campaign run by East Africa Radio and EATV. It was a donation by The Guardian Ltd, publishers of The Guardian and Nipasha newspapers, to schoolgirls. Photo: John Badi

TGL offers 50 cartons of sanitary towels to support EATV project

By Correspondent Mary Kadoke

THE Guardian Limited (TGL) yesterday donated 50 cartons of sanitary towels to support the seventh phase of a 'Namthamini project' run by East Africa Television (EATV) and East Africa Radio that aims to raise the sanitary materials for girls.

The handover ceremony took place at EATV headquarters in Dar es Salaam and is targeting 10,000 girls in five regions of Katavi, Mara, Geita and Kilimanjaro.

Speaking at the ceremony, Nipasha Managing Editor Beatrice Bandawe, said the move was part of the company's Corporate Social Responsibility policy which aimed to support the needy group of girls that drop school due to lack of sanitary pads.

"The Guardian Ltd has donated 50 cartons of sanitary pads to support our sister company's 'Namthamini Project', a campaign that aims to assist school girls who fail to purchase sanitary towels every month hence miss classes," she said.

She added: "As a sister company we call other stakeholders to join the move considering the fact that they are the leaders of tomorrow."

Namthamini project ambassador from EATV Justine Kessy, commended TGL's support noting that it will fully support the needy girls through the project.

"We really thank The Guardian Limited for supporting our campaign; they have been supporting us in every phase of the Namthamini project. It's a project that we have decided to manage by opening doors to other stakeholders to support the girls' future," she said.

The Namthamini campaign started in 2017 after receiving reports that between 50 and 60 students discontinue their studies every year due to lack of sanitary pads.

The campaign has helped to break the taboo in regard to menstrual hygiene by reaching 19 regions including Arusha, Kagera, Dar es Salaam, Lindi, Coast, Tabora, Tanga and Singida. 80 Districts have also benefited from the project.

Speaker calls for action to tame wild rogue lions

By Getrude Mbagu, Dodoma

SPEAKER of the National Assembly, Dr Tulia Ackson has directed the government through the Ministry of Natural Resources and Tourism to take immediate measures to tame rogue lions that have been roaming into forests, farms and streets in Iringa Region. The lions that are said to come

from Ruaha National Park have been seen in the areas of Kalenga in Iringa Rural, Kilolo District and Gangilonga in Iringa municipality.

She made the statement in the House yesterday soon after Kilolo MP, Justin Nyamoga asked for Speaker's guidance on the challenge that residents in Iringa are currently facing due to the lions that have been seen in some open areas.

Nyamoga claimed that residents in the region including those at Gangilonga Street in Iringa municipality are currently living in great fear after the lions were seen in their areas during night.

"I am requesting for the Parliament session be adjourned so as to allow lawmakers to discuss this matter in deep and advise the government for the best ways to

take to rescue lives of people in Iringa who are currently under fear due to the groups of the dangerous animals that are roaming in their areas," Nyamoga explained.

According to him, the situation was becoming more intense as previously the lions were seen in other distant areas but they are now roaming in Iringa urban where the population of people is higher than villages, something which also affects daily economic activities.

Later in the evening, Minister for Natural Resources and Tourism Mohammed Mchengerewa said that the government has now sent a special helicopter and team of wildlife officers who are there searching for the lions in Iringa.



We really thank The Guardian Limited for supporting our campaign; they have been supporting us in every phase of the Namthamini project. It's a project that we have decided to manage by opening doors to other stakeholders to support the girls' future

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Call for Consultant Proposal for Baseline Study and Technical Support for the Establishment of Sustainable Water Use, and Management Models in Kilimanjaro Headwaters Related to Tsavo and Amboseli

Introduction

Water is one of the most important resources with great implications for Africa's development. The overuse of water resources is causing massive damage to ecosystems, and community livelihoods, as well as increasing human-wildlife conflicts across the Uganisha landscape, an area with high ecological and economic importance, a hub for wildlife corridors and tourism development despite its rapidly growing human and wildlife populations, economy, and agriculture as well as livestock (Refer to ToR). The root causes of water resource overexploitation that WWF Tanzania is seeking to address are among others; unplanned abstractions, inefficient use, wastage use and insufficient community participation and empowerment in the development and implementation of allocation agreements and management plans.

WWF is envisioning to establish a community-based water management bodies, or strengthen where the already existing ones, support to establish coherent and participatory water management structures, develop and implement water management and allocation plans, water use agreements, watershed restoration plans and ensure the transboundary cooperation is encouraged, established, supported and promoted in the Uganisha landscape.

The Overall Purpose

The overall purpose of the consultancy is to: collect baseline information, design the process, and provide technical support towards the establishment of sustainable water use, and management models in two priority sub-basins (related to Kilimanjaro -Tsavo - Amboseli headwaters).

Application Procedure & Submission of Applications

All interested applicants may get the detailed ToR on WWF websites at https://www.wwf.or.tz/jobs_and_opportunities/consultancies_and_tenders/ and send their full proposal (technical & financial) through procurement email at procurement@wwftz.org

Only softcopy proposals should be submitted and addressed through;

Secretary, Procurement Committee
WWF Tanzania
Kiko Street, Off Mwai Kibaki Road Plot 252, Mikocheni
P. O. Box 63117, Dar es Salaam, Tanzania
Tel: +255 22 277 5346/277 2455/270 0077 Fax: +255 22 277 5535;

All applications should reach us by or before **1600hrs** Tanzania local time on **Tuesday, 11th July 2023**.

WWF has a principle of zero-tolerance to fraud and corruption, if you encounter such incident, report by sending an email to fcci@wwftz.org

TAWA strives to introduce more tourist attractions, increase number of visitors

By Felister Peter

THE Tanzania Wildlife Management Authority (TAWA) is working around the clock to ensure the government's goal of attracting more than five million tourists by 2025 is achieved.

With the increased number of visitors, both local and international, the tourism industry's contribution to the country's economy will reach \$6 billion.

Msafiri Kasara, Senior Conservation, Zonal Protection Officer in charge-TAWA Dar es Salaam said the authority is also striving to introduce new attractions as well as increasing availability of touristic facilities, amenities, and infrastructure that are demand-driven and tailored to various market segments.

Kasara made the remarks recently at a Biodiversity Conservation Breakfast debate themed 'The Role of Conservation Stakeholders and the Government in Combating Human-Wildlife Conflict in Tanzania' that was organized by the Journalist Environmental Association of Tanzania (JET).

He however said that despite the ambitious goals, TAWA faces various challenges which include financial constraints to cover potential markets and to conduct a market research to identify potential customers and opportunities.

"We still have inadequate tourism attractions; we need to enhance our strategies to come up with new products. We are also working to ensure the presence of adequate infrastructures and facilities," he said.

Kasara mentioned poaching and illegal wildlife trade as a challenge, noting the authority works to strengthen law enforcement by inspecting wildlife trophies at entry and departure points at airports, seaports and at international borders.

He said the authority also conducts intelligence investigation and prosecution as it supervises and monitors hunting activities in various hunting districts to ensure

compliance.

"We conduct anti-poaching patrols in response to the rapid increase in wildlife crime, including poaching and unlawful ivory trade such as rhino horns and other animal products. Poaching has resulted in the decline of wildlife populations, particularly African elephants," the official explained.

The official added that TAWA also provides education to sensitize communities and stakeholders on the value of wildlife resources and their protection. He said they oversee the management of wildlife in village land, Wildlife Management Areas (WMA), zoos, wildlife sanctuaries, wildlife ranches and wildlife farms.

Commenting on human-wildlife conflicts, John Noronha who is the Monitoring and Evaluation Manager, USAID Tuhifadhi Maliasili project said the conflicts occur when humans enter wildlife areas.

He underscored the need for collaborative efforts between stakeholders and the government to successfully control them. He said improvement of policies and laws governing conservation of natural resources would greatly contribute to facilitating the co-existence of human and wild animals as well as its management.



We still have inadequate tourism attractions; we need to enhance our strategies to come up with new products. We are also working to ensure the presence of adequate infrastructures and facilities



Small-scale gold miners at Mwime in Zongomela in Kahama District filter a sample of soil for mineral content yesterday. Photo: Correspondent Shaban Njia

Ministry in talks with investor for Mchuchuma, Liganga coal project

By Polycarp Machira, Dodoma

THE ministry of Investment, Industry and Trade has initiated talks with the investor at the Mchuchuma and Liganga coal project in effort to ensure the investment does not cause loss to the nation.

Deputy Minister, Exaud Kigahe made the statement yesterday while responding to a question asked by the Special Seats MP, Neema Mgaya (CCM), who had wanted to know when the government would sign agreement with the investor.

"When shall the government

complete talks with the investor in order the project to commence and contribute to the national economic growth?" asked the lawmaker.

In response, the deputy minister said the government is committed to see the projects' commencement and continuity. He noted that it has taken various steps towards that plan.

According to Kigahe, such steps include payment of 15.42 bn/- in compensation to some 1,142 people. "The government has started talks with the investor in order to ensure that the project does not turn out to be hazardous to the nation" said the

deputy minister.

Meanwhile, the government has stated that preparation of annual budget and development plan is in line with the national vision 2025.

Deputy Minister for Finance and Planning, Hamad Hassan Chande made the clarification in the Parliament yesterday while responding to a question asked by the Hai MP, Saashisha Mafuwe (CCM).

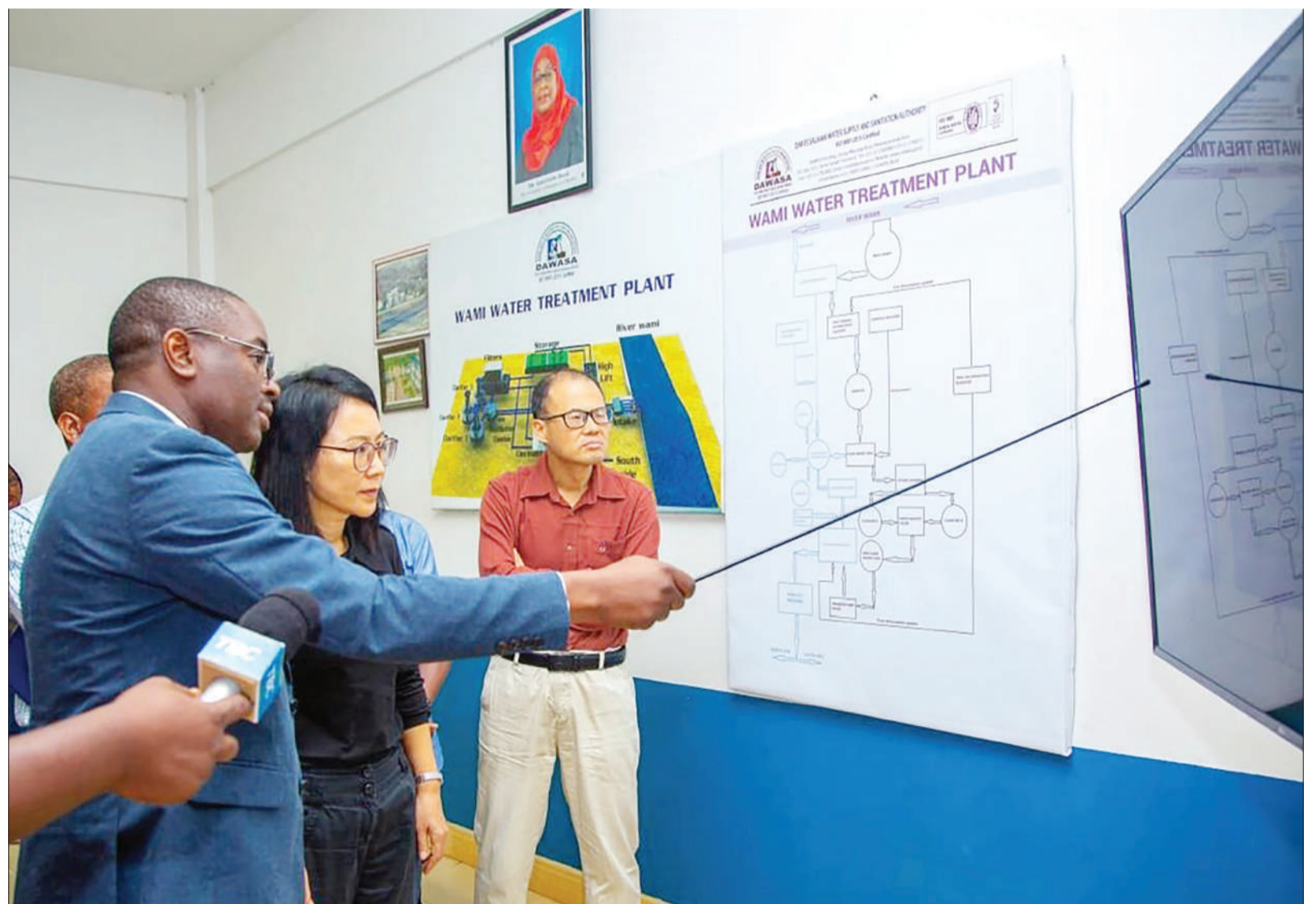
The MP had wanted to know the government's plan to change the system of budget preparation and make it more than five years.

The deputy minister in response

said the government budget is always within the Vision 2025, whose implementation is under long term of 15 years from 2011/12-2025/26.

He said the long-term implementation has been divided into three terms of five years development plans of 2011/12 - 2015/16, 2016/17 - 2020/21 and 2021/22 - 2025/26).

"The government is preparing the budget that reflects on five years development plan with a vision of more than five years and being part of the implementation of Vision 2025" said the deputy minister.



Dar es Salaam Water and Sanitation Authority (Dawasa) acting CEO Kiula Kingu (L) pictured in Chalinze District yesterday briefing China's Ambassador to Tanzania, Chen Mingjian (to his left) on the implementation of the third phase of the Wami water project. Photo by Correspondent Joseph Mwendapole

Tanzania appeals for India's collaboration to develop its blue economy

By Guardian Reporter

TANZANIA has appealed to the Indian government to collaborate with Tanzania in its efforts to develop the blue economy sector.

Ambassador Samuel Shelukindo, Permanent Secretary in the Ministry for Foreign Affairs and East African Cooperation made the appeal at the 10th Meeting for the Joint Commission for Cooperation on economy, science and technology between India and Tanzania held online on Monday.

"I recommend the Indian

government to cooperate with Tanzania to develop the blue economy sector, especially deep sea fishing, establishment of processing plants for fish products and boat building," Amb. Shelukindo said.

He named India as a big and important Tanzania's partner in various sectors including trade, investment, infrastructure development, defence and technology.

He added that India is the third largest trade partner of Tanzania and statistics show that between

2021 and 2022 trade between the two countries attained USD 6 billion.

He further said that India is among five leading countries investing in Tanzania with the value of investment totalling USD 3.68 billion, while data at Tanzania Investment Centre (TIC) show that in 2021-22 the country registered 630 projects that provided 60,000 new jobs.

The PS also used the meeting to thank the Indian Government for various assistance extended to Tanzania in various sectors,

including the water sector.

The meeting participants included the ministries Permanent Secretaries, their Deputies with many recommended for new areas of cooperation with India in the farming, ICT, water, sports and culture, trade and investment.

Leader of the Indian delegation at the Joint Commission meeting, who is the Acting Permanent Secretary in India's Foreign Ministry, Amb. Punnet Roy Kundal pledged that his country will continue cooperating with Tanzania.

Tulia adjourns parliamentary session as warning alarm rings

By Getrude Mbago, Dodoma

SPEAKER of the National Assembly Dr Tulia Ackson yesterday adjourned the morning parliamentary session for about 20 minutes after a warning alarm rang in the House.

When the emergency occurred at around 9:50am, Dr Tulia took some few seconds to listen to the alarm before she was satisfied that there was an emergency thus announcing the adjournment of the session.

Dr Tulia declared a state of emergency and asked all the people present inside the House, MPs and visitors to leave by using any closest door.

"Honorable MPs, that voice indicates that we should get out of here very quickly, everyone should find the exit door and let us all go to the assembly area, I will postpone the session until the situation calms down," Dr Tulia insisted.

Members of Parliament, guests and staff had to immediately leave their seats and run out of the House. While outside, both MPs and visitors were seen being filled with fear.

However, ten minutes later, the Fire and Rescue squad arrived at the Parliamentary area and went directly to investigate what happened.

Few minutes later after the team of the Fire and Rescue Force were satisfied with the safety of the area, MPs and guests were told to return to the Parliamentary hall to question the session.

Clarifying on the matter soon after the completion of the answer and question session, Dr Tulia commended lawmakers and guests for getting out quietly by using all the three doors.

She however said that there are no impacts that occurred to people and priorities insisting that the

House was safe and well equipped with all required tools to control safety and provide early warning whenever any emergency occurred.

She said that the House's installed modern tools sensed the dust that were coming from the room as smoke thus making the warning alarm to ring.

She explained that there was no fire incident as it was thought by many, but what happened was the safety tools of the building, capturing the dust that was coming from the ongoing construction of one of the rooms in the House's underground floor sensing it as smoke.

"When we were going on with our session here, there were repairs by technicians that were going on in the House's lower part in one of the rooms, so when the exercise was going on dusts came from the room as a result of the repairs thus leading the alarms to ring as they sensed the dusts as smoke," she explained.

She wanted lawmakers and guests to always be vigilant and be prepared of any emergency so as to take immediate safety action.

"Whenever such emergencies occur, there are three safe assembly places for people to go, so it is better for lawmakers, guests and staff to understand them," she added.



so when the exercise was going on dusts came from the room as a result of the repairs thus leading the alarms to ring as they sensed the dusts as smoke



Inspector General of Police Camilius Wambura (L) exchanges greetings with Bank of Africa Tanzania managing director and CEO Adam Mihayo when the latter led a delegation from the bank on a visit to the Police Headquarters in Dodoma city on Monday. Photo: Guardian Correspondent

Govt all for sustainable use of natural resources

By Polycarp Machira, Dodoma

THE government through the Tanzania Forestry Services (TFS) is keeping a close eye on the business of products harvested from forests for sustainability of the resources and environment protection.

It has said maintained that it will keep on ensuring that the business of forestry products adhere to rules and regulations running the industry thus both parties operate without affecting the environment and resource management.

The Deputy Minister for Natural Resources and Tourism, Mary Masanja gave the statement in Parliament yesterday when responding to a question by Kibaha Urban MP, Michael Mwakamo (CCM) who wanted to know the status of the forestry products business and mechanism control done by TFS.

Responding further, Deputy Minister said the government will strive to ensure there are management of the resources for sustainability of the business of the forestry products.

"I call upon forests harvest products business operators and all those with good will they must be guided by the rules, regulations

and procedures for protection of the forestry resources as for the national industry growth" said Masanja.

She said the Forestry Act of 2004 has put clear the procedures to be followed when harvesting the forests products, transportation and products business should adhere the terms of ownership be it



I call upon forests harvest products business operators and all those with good will they must be guided by the rules, regulations and procedures for protection of the forestry resources as for the national industry growth

individual, village authorities, local or central government.

In another development, the government named four measures undertaken to empower councils whose local revenue details their efforts in the implementation of the development projects.

Deputy Minister for Regional Administration and Local Government, Deogratius Ndejemi outlined some of the steps taken is to reduce the amount of revenue lined up to contribute the development basket of the national development projects.

Ndejemi gave the sentiments in respond to a question by the Special Seats MP, Grace Tendega (CCM) who wanted to know what the government does to set rationale in councils budget since majority of them cannot raise revenue to operate fully due to financial limitation.

Ndejemi said they have categorized the councils in to four grades taking into revenue collection opportunities available in their respective administrative areas.

He named other measures as to revive the councils from the list of contributing ten percent of local revenue collection to the roads infrastructure construction.

Others are government support payment of the monthly benefits or department directors entitled and monthly councilors allowances.

Ifakara Health Institute underscores importance of having equipment to ensure better healthcare

By Correspondent Mary Kadoke

IFAKARA Health Institute (IHI) has underscored the need to create devices and infrastructure for high-quality maternal and new-born care in providing and maintaining lifesaving neonatal devices that allow timely critical assessment and support.

Dr Nahya Salim, Newborn Essential Solutions and Technological program (NEST 360) Country and Clinical Lead at IHI made the remarks recently at the 11th Muhimbili University of Health and Allied Sciences (MUHAS) scientific conference in Dar es Salaam.

She said (NEST 360) focuses on delivering a health systems package including a bundle of technologies in 67 hospitals that provide lifesaving care to help meet Every Newborn Action Plan (ENAP).

"We develop and deliver a bundle of affordable technologies for new-borns care, build human resources to support new-born care and innovation, likewise developing policy and the investment of care to sustain quality new-borns care," she said.

Dr Wilson Kitinya, Touch Foundation Director of Clinical Services highlighted on the impactful innovations such as NEST360—a health system approach addressing comprehensive quality inpatient new-borns care, m-mama connecting women to facilities via a coordinated referral system, WatotoCare an approach targeting delivery of post-discharge follow-up through triaging and Jhpiego Afya Yangu focusing on strengthening human resource workforce through competence based mentorship.

He said all innovations address the leading global causes of maternal, neonatal deaths and stillbirths by ensuring quality continuum of care for pregnant women and their new-borns to arrive, survive, thrive, and transform using a national hub and spoke model.

Dr Felix Bundala, Assistant Director for new-borns, child and adolescent health in the department of reproductive, maternal and child health in the Ministry of Health stressed the need for short courses relevant for new-borns care.

Dr Bundala said the government is committed to meeting the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) by reducing maternal mortality ratio from 556 to 100/100,000 live births by 2025 as it accelerates its progress for maternal and small and new-born care.


He said the government is deeply committed to meeting SDGs 3.1 (maternal health) and 3.2 (newborn survival) by 2030 to reduce the maternal mortality ratio from 556 to 100/100,000 live births by 2025 at national level.

However, to achieve the goals, it needs to accelerate progress for maternal and small and sick newborn care. Since most births in Tanzania are now in hospitals, the majority of deaths can be prevented by closing quality gaps, he added.

The partnership to accelerate reduction of maternal and new-born mortality engaged Ministry of Health and stakeholders including IHI, MUHAS, Haydom Lutheran Hospital (HLH) - Manyara, Tanzania, Touch Foundation, Rice University - Houston Texas, United States of America, Jhpiego's 'Afya Yangu' project and RMNCAH Project - USAID Tanzania.


Sub-Saharan Africa accounts for 13 percent of the global population, with over half of the world's 3 million maternal deaths, 2.3 million new-born deaths and 2 million stillbirths.

In Tanzania, 83 percent of births occur in hospitals, but each year, 11,000 Tanzanian mothers die giving birth, 40,500 stillbirths occur, and 44,000 new-born deaths occur. Only 53 percent of health facilities had access to emergency transfer systems for new-borns and mothers with complications.



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Insurance firm launches new product for farmers

By Guardian Reporter

STRATEGIS Insurance has launched Mtezi agricultural insurance, a product that comes as a savior to farmers against perils that affect crops production in the country.

Speaking during the launch of the new insurance yesterday in Dar es Salaam, Commissioner of Insurance in Tanzania, Dr Baghayo Saqware praised Strategis Insurance for coming up with Mtezi Agriculture Insurance which he believes will protect farmers across the country.

"Strategis insurance has been largely investing in new products lately, this is what we need in our market. I also urge Strategis to design other agriculture insurance products that are required in the market," Dr Saqware said.

The group CEO, Dr Flora Minja said the contribution of agriculture insurance in the overall gross written premium in 2021 was about 1% which she believes it is a high time now all key stakeholders to come together to grow this line of business.

"There is a lot of potential, and I believe Strategis Insurance, as one of the key stakeholders has a role to play in making sure that farmers are guaranteed to get what they are expecting to produce," she said.

Dr Flora also emphasized the advantages of the new insurance as among others, financial protection, risk management, improved access to credit, business sustainability, encouraging investment in agriculture and ensuring peace of mind.

Jabir Kigoda, Strategis' chief executive officer (non-medical) described the Mtezi agriculture insurance as the product that designed to ensure farmers receive comprehensive insurance that provides cover against all major perils which include drought, hails, flood, frost, windstorm, pests and diseases with the optional add-on of the Weather Index Insurance which basically cover floods and drought.

"We have currently seen several initiatives taken by the Government towards improving Agricultural sector in the Country. The

investments and the plans that have been made have given stakeholders hope that the potential for the sector in Tanzania will continue to grow.

"However, it is essential to exercise some caution, particularly concerning protecting investments directed to the sector by farmers and other key stakeholders including the Government. Strategis Insurance believes, while there is potential to enhance production in agriculture, the risk of losses is also rising due to various factors that can be covered by insurance," Kigoda said.

Mtezi agricultural insurance typically covers a wide range of crops, including major crops such as Cereals, Oilseeds, Legumes, Roots (or tubers), Sugar crops, and non-edible crops.

Strategis Insurance is a general insurance company that has been in a market for more than 20 years. The company has 5 branches in the country which include Mwanza, Zanzibar, Arusha, Dodoma and Kisumu - Dar es Salaam. Other than Container Insurance, Strategis Insurance also offers other insurance products such as Motor Insurance, Travel Insurance, Property Insurance, Marine Insurance, Medical Insurance and many more.



Strategis insurance has been largely investing in new products lately, this is what we need in our market. I also urge Strategis to design other agriculture insurance products that are required in the market

Respect CCM's ethics, Ali Karume cautioned

By Guardian Reporter, Zanzibar

THE ruling CCM has ordered Ali Karume, a son of the first Zanzibar President Sheikh Abeid Amani Karume, to adhere to the party's ethic, if he wants to remain an active member of the party.

According to CCM's letter dated June 15, 2023 with reference number CCM/JMT/VOL/D/1/3023, the warning has been issued by the CCM Central Advisory Committee in Tunguu Constituency after the Ambassador Karume was questioned by the electorate's ethics committee.

The party asked Karume to stop from breaking the taboos and values of the party.

"From the ethics committee regarding the interview that was held on Ambassador Karume and the electorate's ethics committee along with other offences apologised and the meeting warned him and urged him to adhere to the party's ethics," the latter said in part.

The party also said that it has been forced to take that step due to the words spoken by Ambassador Karume and that it has been circulated on social media networks.

The idea to question Karume came from his claim that CCM has not been winning in the Zanzibar elections since the kick-start of the multi-party system in 1992. Karume has been claiming that CCM has been putting candidates who aren't accepted by party members in Zanzibar.

Once, Ambassador Karume quoted as accusing that the current Zanzibar President was appointed by the late President John Magufuli instead of being elected by the

party embers in the Indian Ocean archipelago.

Karume also has been accusing the 8th-Phase government that it has been appointing people from outside Zanzibar and giving them leadership positions in the Isles' government contrary to the public service law.

He also accused the government for not floating tenders in public for development projects, contrary to the law.

The action of questioning Ambassador Karume has come one year after the veteran politician and Bwana Mohamed Shamte was expelled from the party after being found guilty of breaking the taboos and morals of the party by making accusations against the Zanzibar President.

Shamte said that the Zanzibar State House has been doing business for private interests, including the privatization of small islands as well as the conservation buildings of the old town of Zanzibar.

In addition, Shamte said that due to the things that continue to emerge in Zanzibar, the president should stay in power for one period of five years, as happened with the late President Idrisa Abdulwakili.

Other leaders who expelled from party's membership for various reasons include late Seif Sharif Hamad and six of his colleagues who were fired by CCM on May 13, 1988.

Others are the late politician Shaban Kahamis Mlooh who was the chief judge of Zanzibar, the late Ali Haji Pandu, the former Director of Zanzibar Security Hatibu Hassan Khatibu, Hamad Rashid Mohamed, Soud Yussuf Mgeni and Suleiman Seif Hamad Amabao were accused of starting a party within the party.



Zanzibar Blue Economy and Fisheries minister Suleiman Masoud Makame pictured in Dar es Salaam yesterday speaking at the opening of the 2nd Blue Economy Conference organised by the Dar es Salaam Marine College. Photo: Correspondent Sabato Kasika

Govt calls for appropriate solid waste disposal in Lake Victoria

By Guardian Reporter

THE government has urged institutions dealing in marine issues, regional officials in the Lake Zone and other stakeholders to make sure there are conducive environments in place for the management and disposal of solid waste produced not to affect marine life in Lake Victoria.

Ilemela District Commissioner, Hassan Masala made the directives in Mwanza on Monday when wrapping up the four-day Day of the Seafarer Exhibition that involved concerned ministries from both parts of the Union and

other institutions dealing with marine issues.

DC Masala stressed that investment by the government and the private sector and the private sector particularly in ship building will increase the production of solid waste, hence without early preparations, marine vessels can face various challenges, including frequent breakdowns thereby effecting the important investment.

"Various international agreements in marine transport management stresses for the importance on environmental conservation and it should be noted that Tanzania has ratified

the agreements, hence we cannot avoid the responsibility in the preservation of marine environment," said DC Masala.

He added that the government continues to create friendly environment for sailors who graduate by discussing with various shipping institutions to enable these experts acquire necessary qualifications to work within and outside the country.

Stella Katondo, director of environmental safety in the ministry of Works and Transport said that the government through the Dar es Salaam Maritime Institute (DMI) continues to improve the

curricula as well as increase various courses to satisfy both the domestic and foreign markets.

Katondo added that the government continues to allocate funds every year for the improvement of infrastructures at ports to make the sector spur national economic growth through the country's maritime sector.

World Day of the Seafarer is celebrated every June 25 whereas this year's slogan is "50 of MARPOL Our Accountability Must Continue" and involved various rescue exercises in Lake Victoria and the provision of education on various maritime issues.



Macon Dunnagan (4th-R, foreground), Goodwill Ambassador of Tanzania's Tourism in the US, poses for a photo with tourists from his country (front row) and their ZARA Tours guides, porters and cooks at Rongai Gate in Rombo District, Kilimanjaro Region, earlier this week. They were on their way to the summit of Mount Kilimanjaro - Uhuru Peak - to celebrate his 50th climb of the highest mountain in Africa and the highest single free-standing mountain in the world. Photo: Correspondent James Lanka

Forest reserve invaders get land for settlements

By Guardian Correspondent, Shinyanga

RESIDENTS of six villages in Shinyanga District who have invaded Nindo Forest Reserve in the district have now been apportioned 3,726 hectares for settlements.

Nindo Forest Reserve was legally set aside via Government Notice (GN) no 10 of 1958 with 27,446 hectares, but after the invasion by villagers only 10,969 hectares

remain as forest reserve.

This was revealed by TFS Chief Conservator Grade II for west zone, Lucas Nyambala at a meeting that discussed the implementation of the Eight Sectorial Committee of ministers on the resolving the conflict in the forest reserve that saw the relocation of villagers to the allocated areas.

He said in resolving the conflict, the government, through the ministerial sectoral Committee


decided to apportion 3,726-hectare area inside the reserve for human settlements

"Residents of six villages that invaded the area - Ng'homango, Mwabundala, Lyamidati, Kadoto, Mwajiji and Buzinza are required to vacate the areas and relocate to the area set aside by the government," said Nyambala.

For his part, Shinyanga Regional Commissioner, Chistine Mdemela lauded President samia Suluhu

Hassan for apportioning the area inside Nindo Forest Reserve, and called on the villagers who are supposed to vacate their areas should do so and live in the apportioned areas.


For their part, some of the meeting's participants said before the residents start to move from their old areas, they should first be educated on the entire issue and later beacons should be erected to mark the new boundaries.



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TCCIA Investment Public Limited Company
AUDITED FINANCIAL RESULTS FOR 2022

Commentary
 The audited financial results for the year ended December 31, 2022, are being presented by Directors with satisfaction. In comparison to 2021, the company witnessed an 11% increase in investment income, reaching TZS 2,998 million. This growth can be attributed to higher dividend and interest income. Additionally, other operating gains experienced a substantial surge of 73% to TZS 411 million. Meanwhile, operating expenses rose by 5.8% to TZS 1,073 million during 2022. Impressively, the company achieved a remarkable 47% increase in profit after tax, amounting to TZS 1,960 million in 2022. Notably, TCCIA's investment portfolio value saw a significant rise of 15% to TZS 34,000 million in 2022, marking the third year of successful implementation of the Company's investment diversification plan.

Dividends
 The Directors are putting forth a recommendation for the payment of a final dividend of TZS 13(2021: TZS 10) per share for 2022. However, the approval of this proposal is subject to the upcoming Annual General Meeting.

STATEMENT OF PROFIT OR LOSS AND OTHER COMPREHENSIVE INCOME

	2022 TZS '000	2021 TZS '000
Income	2,997,973	2,690,726
Other operating gains (losses)	410,548	237,135
Operating expenses	(1,072,564)	(1,014,150)
Operating profit	2,335,957	1,913,711
Finance costs	(349,966)	(374,670)
Profit before taxation	1,985,991	1,539,041
Taxation	(26,181)	(209,182)
Profit for the year	1,959,810	1,329,859
Other comprehensive income:		
Items that will not be recycled to profit or loss:		
Fair value gain (loss) on equity instruments	3,839,666	(58,088)
Other comprehensive income for the year	3,839,666	(58,088)
Total comprehensive income for the year	5,799,476	1,271,771
Basic earnings per share	26.86	18.22

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION AS AT 31 DECEMBER 2022

	2022 TZS' 000	2021 TZS' 000
Assets		
Non-Current Assets		
Property, plant and equipment	117,257	139,447
Investment property	221,347	221,347
Right of use assets	31,050	3,256
Intangible assets	3,000	4,500
Loans receivable	28,734	-
Equity investments	19,620,534	15,253,840
Investment in government securities	13,589,143	12,985,104
Other investments	150,000	-
	33,761,065	28,607,494
Current Assets		
Loans receivable	32,994	-
Trade and other receivables	605,431	589,870
Current tax receivable	286,996	242,682
Cash and cash equivalents	530,185	1,011,299
	1,455,606	1,843,851
Total Assets	35,216,671	30,451,345
Equity and Liabilities		
Equity		
Share capital	2,167,952	2,167,952
Total Reserves	8,883,288	5,327,762
Retained Income	21,277,811	19,908,600
	32,329,051	27,404,314
Non-Current Liabilities		
Borrowings	2,157,861	2,396,962
Deferred tax	1,784	23,890
	2,159,645	2,420,852
Current Liabilities		
Trade and other payables	127,863	132,095
Borrowings-CL	239,081	209,231
Dividend Payable	330,428	284,853
Lease Liability	30,503	-
	727,875	626,179
Total Liabilities	2,887,620	3,047,031
Total Equity and Liabilities	35,216,671	30,451,345



STATEMENT OF CASH FLOWS

	2022 TZS '000	2021 TZS '000
Cash flow from operating activities		
Cash generated from operations	2,080,332	1,908,698
Finance costs	(349,966)	(374,670)
Tax paid	(92,602)	(157,880)
Net cash (used in) from operating activities	1,637,764	1,376,148
Cash flow from investing activities		
Purchase of property, plant and equipment	(10,567)	(142,192)
Acquisition of right of use assets	(57,323)	-
Purchase of intangible assets	-	(6,000)
Movement in investments in government securities	(527,028)	(463,814)
Movement in equity investments	(604,039)	593,071
Issue of loans receivable	(61,728)	-
Acquisition of other investments	(150,000)	-
Movement in retail bonds investments	-	10,000
Gain/(Loss) on disposal of equity investments	154,457	36,952
Net cash (used in) from investing activities	(1,256,228)	28,017
Cash flow from financing activities		
Movement in borrowings	(209,251)	(183,094)
Movement in lease liability	30,603	(39,093)
Dividends paid	(684,002)	(376,912)
Net cash (used in) from financing activities	(862,650)	(599,099)
Cash and cash equivalents:		
Net increase/ (decrease) in cash	(481,114)	805,066
Cash at the beginning of the year	1,011,299	206,233
Cash at the end of the year	530,185	1,011,299

STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN EQUITY

	Share capital TZS '000	Share premium TZS '000	Total share capital TZS '000	Fair valuation reserve TZS '000	IPO Cost TZS '000	Retained earnings TZS '000	Total equity TZS '000
Previous year							
Balance as at 1 January 2021	1,459,153	708,799	2,167,952	6,060,512	(629,662)	18,972,205	26,571,007
Profit for the year						1,329,859	1,329,859
Other comprehensive income				(58,088)		(58,088)	(58,088)
Transfer between reserves				(45,000)		45,000	-
Dividends						(438,464)	(438,464)
Balance as at 31 December 2021	1,459,153	708,799	2,167,952	5,957,424	(629,662)	19,908,600	27,404,314
Current period							
Balance as at 1 January 2022	1,459,153	708,799	2,167,952	5,957,424	(629,662)	19,908,600	27,404,314
Profit for the year						1,959,810	1,959,810
Other comprehensive income				3,839,666		(58,088)	3,839,666
Transfer between reserves				(284,140)		284,140	-
Final WFT on dividend income adjustment						(145,162)	(145,162)
Dividends						(729,577)	(729,577)
Balance as at 31 December 2022	1,459,153	708,799	2,167,952	9,512,950	(629,662)	21,277,811	32,329,051

We, the undersigned, attest to the faithful representation of the above statements. We declare that the Statements have been examined by us and, to the best of our knowledge and belief, having been prepared in conformance with International Financial Reporting Standards, they present a true and fair view.

<p>Name Mr. Fortunatus M. Magambo Chairman</p>	 Signed	Date 20/05/2023
<p>Name Prof. Lucian A. Msambichaka Director</p>	 Signed	Date 20/05/2023

Invasive wildlife: Focus on rapidly usable way, fencing

MEMBERS of the legislature have towards the end of the Budget session of Parliament pinned down the government for its nonchalant outlook on invasive wildlife. With minimal compensation sums for injury and deaths, along with paltry sums for crop destruction, conservation authorities and the ministry sit back on their sofas, lamenting what NGO euphemism views as 'human wildlife conflicts.' Equating the villagers and beasts as land stakeholders is appalling.

Reports said that nine legislators stood up in the National Assembly querying steps being taken by the government to control destructive wildlife across the country. The Natural Resources and Tourism deputy minister was pressured to show what measures the government was taking on the situation, though it appears ministerial staff or experts, prefer communication to real measures. This was visible in the wake of a warning to Iringa Region residents not to roam about at night to avoid stray lions from the Ruaha National Park, as adequate.

MPs demanded a waiving of procedure to make room for a wider range of supplementary questions on the issue, and the constituencies where the issue is acute are geographically well distributed. Questions came from areas as diverse as Mwibara in Mara Region, Liwale and Nachingwea districts, Kilolo in the Ruaha conservation sphere, among others. The most offending beasts are without question elephants and lions, and each time conservation officials want overtime teaching methods like beehives against elephants or lighting fires in villages next to wildlife zones to keep away lions, all of it being experimental.

Several MPs expressed disquiet

at compensation rules where fierce animals attack and wound people, and the victim is paid 500,000/- in compensation. If a person is killed the family is paid 1m/-, and worse, when elephants destroy crops, the farmer is paid 2,500 per acre, the price of a kilo of rice in a shop. While the deputy minister was compelled to admit that these compensation rates are grossly unfair, the regulatory premise is clear: it is the humans who intrude.

At various places villagers have seen havoc from elephants that led to food shortages, elephants, crocodiles and hippos ravaging villages and killing people. The government has in place elaborate deterrence on livestock herders invading wildlife areas (or conservation areas to use the standard formula) but scarcely any defences on wildlife invasions. The various agencies act as regulators on any stakeholders seeking the use of range lands, to learn to chase away jumbos, avoid lions by learning their behaviour, be paid paltry sums if they make errors and lose crops, are injured or someone dies. Villagers use rangelands at a risk.

The set attitude of conservation officials, which have to do with the 'humanism' of various mentor organisations among donor agencies, makes it a human duty to preserve an animal, irrespective of tangible benefits in so doing. This puts villagers in a victim situation, at times from livestock herders whose cattle have priority of regard over crops, just as wild beasts have priority over cattle. Restoring fairness is vital by prioritizing preventive measures, of physical limitation of intruding animals, not the professional education of the victims. Low lying electric fencing is vital on notorious sections, not as supplementary funds on auxiliary needs to education but a clear strategy. MPs would see to that as well.

We have to galvanise MSMEs worldwide

BEFORE delegates from around the world gathered in Glasgow, Scotland, in November last year for the 26th United Nations Climate Change conference, the event was being referred to as 'the last best chance' for resolving climate change.

If we were to assess the Glasgow Climate Pact as a decisive turning point, then our assessment would be that of failure. However, that does not mean all is lost. Certain doors have been opened, even if we are yet to walk through them. The next COP will be held in Egypt in less than a year. This is the chance we must take. There is global momentum on climate action, even if political action is still lagging.

The reality is that expectations were already subdued, even before delegates descended on Glasgow, because on the two main issues - progress on net zero commitments to slow global temperature rise, and the finance to support low carbon development in the developing world - the cards were already dealt by the G20, and key emitters, even before any delegate badges could be collected at the Scottish Exhibition Centre venue on the banks of the River Clyde.

The biggest reason for pessimism after Glasgow is that the record on implementation is low. The Paris Agreement ultimately is built around commitments by individual states. Commitments have not been met. Thus, even as commitments in Glasgow fall short, the question is: will even these insufficient commitments be upheld?

Micro - small and medium sized enterprises are vital in achieving the Sustainable Development Goals. They are an important element in

the implementation of SDG 8 (decent work and economic growth) and SDG 9 (industry, innovation and infrastructure).

Multiple simultaneous shocks and crises have disturbed the global working environment for entrepreneurs and micro-, small and medium-sized enterprises (MSMEs). In addition, conflicts, commodity dependence, geopolitical tensions, and pandemics drive social and economic instability, making MSMEs extremely vulnerable to rising inflation and supply chain disruptions.

Among the most vulnerable, women- and youth-owned enterprises are often at risk of external shocks. This is when the percentage and overall number of business formations by women and youth are increasing worldwide. However, facing limited access to affordable finance, capacity-building support, partnership networks, and global markets, women and young entrepreneurs need help to overcome the numerous challenges that frequently stifle the growth of their businesses, confining many of them to informality or necessity entrepreneurship.

This MSMEs day will also focus on supporting resilient supply chains to ensure workers and the environment benefit. Supply chains are a critical component of global trade and commerce, and conflicts, disasters, and pandemics can quickly impact their functioning, increasing costs and making transactions more difficult. Therefore, policymakers and businesses must join forces to ensure economically viable, socially, and environmentally sustainable supply chains.

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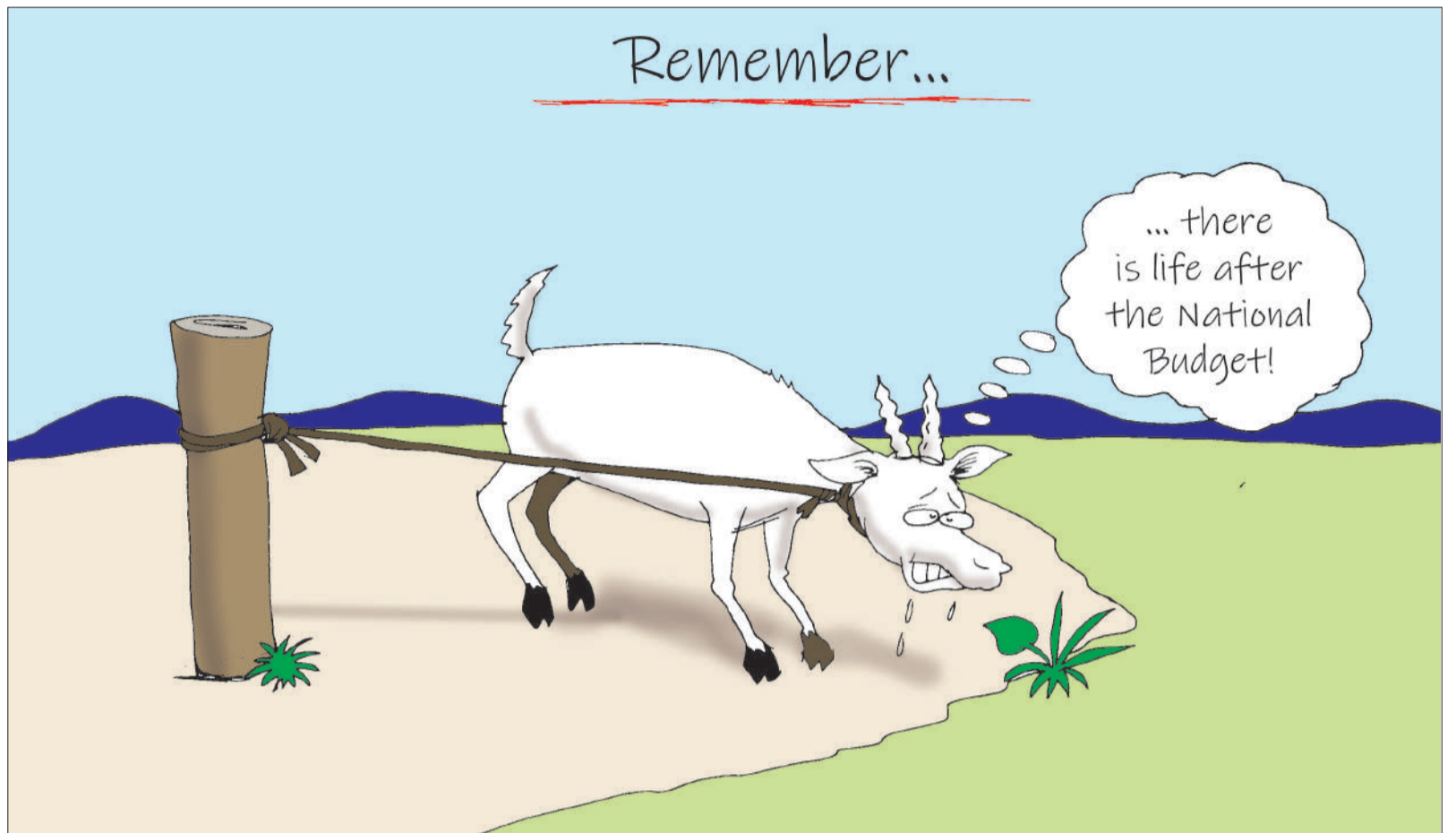
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By Damian Radcliffe

EARLIER this month, the Reuters Institute for the Study of Journalism published its latest Digital News Report. The 2023 publication covers 46 markets around the world and features findings from a survey of more than 93,000 digital news users.

I have dug deep into the report to identify some of the most interesting findings, focusing on data from outside the U.S. Here are five takeaways - and their implications - that you may have missed:

ONE: TikTok is no longer a fringe channel. Proof, if it were needed, of the importance of the Chinese-owned app is front and centre in the new report. TikTok is the fastest-growing social network in the Institute's survey.

One in five 18-24-year-olds (20 per cent) harness the platform for news, with nearly half of this demographic (44 per cent) using the network on a regular basis. For outlets wanting to reach younger audiences, this provides strong evidence that a presence on TikTok really needs to be part of your portfolio.

Generally, usage of TikTok is heaviest in parts of Asia, Latin America and Africa, while the popularity of the platform for news is highest in Peru and Thailand (30 per cent having used in the past week), with Kenya (29 per cent) following close behind.

Journalists and media companies may want to look at these markets to determine some of the lessons they can apply to their own approaches, and look to learn from their peers at some of the bigger outlets (e.g., The Washington Post) that are on this platform.

It's also notable that "while mainstream journalists often lead conversations around news in Twitter and Facebook, they struggle to get attention in newer networks like Instagram, Snapchat, and TikTok," the report notes.

It adds that in those spaces, "personalities, influencers and ordinary people are often more prominent, even when it comes to conversations around news".

Again, there's much to learn in terms of why that's the case and how these groups use the platform. It highlights, too, why partnering with personalities and influencers may be important for newsrooms if they want to increase their impact on TikTok.

The data also show that TikTok viewing isn't just focused on "fun news" and viral content. In some markets, it's also a popular channel for diving into domestic politics, health news and wider geo-political events.

Five global trends in digital news worth knowing about

the platform.

TWO: Online misinformation is a huge challenge - and an opportunity for newsrooms. More than half (56 per cent) of survey respondents reported that they struggle to distinguish between fact and fiction online. Concern levels are highest in Africa, with more than three-quarters (77 per cent) expressing this concern.

These misgivings can be seen around important topics such as politics, health and climate change. And the volume of misinformation is shown to increase in countries such as Kenya and Nigeria, during elections. This is a period when journalists - and consumers - need to be most on their guard.

We seldom see a consensus about how to best tackle this scourge, but news organisations can play a key role in verification, fact-checking, combating rumours and promoting the media literacy skills that **netizens** (that is, habitual or keen internet users) need to flourish online.

The report notes that in Taiwan, for example, independent media organisation Watchout () produces handbooks on how to spot disinformation; and the Taiwan Fact Checking Centre publishes dozens of articles each week "on issues ranging from consumer scares to geopolitical propaganda".

Elswhere, in countries such as Australia and Singapore, efforts are under way to develop codes of practice and consistent ways of dealing with misinformation.

THREE: In some markets, more people are tuning out of the news. Interest in news is falling - in some cases precipitously over time - in countries such as Argentina, France and Spain, as well as the US and the UK.

This can be due to a number of factors. Active news avoidance might be triggered by the tone and style of coverage, perceptions of relevance, and disinterest with respect to certain topics. These are challenges that newsrooms will need to address if they are to try and reverse these trends.

"Falls are often greatest in countries characterised by high levels of political polarisation," the authors observe.

Alongside this, in the likes of Finland and the Netherlands - countries boasting stable, well-funded media and high trust in institutions" - interest levels have remained reasonably consistent.

However, this isn't always a proxy for news interest levels. "Previously stable markets such as Austria and Germany are starting to be

affected," the report cautions.

FOUR: Public service media needs to win over more hearts and minds. "Public service media outlets continue to face critical scrutiny and skepticism - whether from private sector competitors, some politicians, or parts of the public," the study states.

It adds: "Even where the public service mission is accompanied by significant public funding, however, reaching the whole public, and serving everybody, is a challenging remit."

The report's data clearly show this. In only four of the 19 countries sampled did digital news consumers say that they found publicly funded news services important.

The figure was only slightly higher when they were asked if it was important for society. In multiple markets a large percentage of respondents, typically ranging from 20 per cent to 40 per cent, indicated that this output was "neither important nor unimportant" or they didn't know the answer to this question.

With many public service outlets always facing pressure from a tightening of the public purse strings, it's important for these outlets to enjoy a breadth of support from across the country. It's not easy to cater for everyone, but that's also intrinsic to the public service model.

As the study notes, these findings should not be seen as a reflection on the quality of work being produced by public news providers.

But, nevertheless, public service news providers will need to continue their efforts to diversify their content (in terms of style, products and the journalists working for them) in order to stave off criticism and financial threats, as they continue to find their place in an increasingly crowded digital marketplace.

FIVE: Consumption of news podcasts appears to have plateaued. Podcast fans have access to an incredible range of shows and programmes. It's also a medium that's incredibly attractive to publishers and advertisers alike, as usage skews towards younger and more affluent consumers.

However, although the number of people listening to podcasts has grown in the last five to six years, the number of people accessing news podcasts has remained pretty static.

Listening to news podcasts remains virtually unchanged, nudging up from 11 per cent in 2018 to just 12 per cent in 2023.

This finding does not take into account the volume of podcasts that this 12 per cent of respondents listens to. However, it does show the difficulty of punching through and bringing non-news listeners to this medium.

Given the investment many media outlets have put into podcasting, and the volume of fresh news podcasts that have launched in the last half decade, the data suggest that these efforts are not necessarily helping news providers find new audiences.

This could be because of the breadth of non-news podcasts that are out there (remember, the number of people listening to all podcasts has grown).

Factors associated with news avoidance (style, tone, relevance) may also be applicable here. And it's possible that the sheer number of podcasts is also a turn-off for some audiences.

As a result, newsrooms may need to do more to bring new listeners into the podcasting fold, investing more in marketing and diversifying their audio offering.

Meanwhile, perhaps outlets also need to think differently about their podcasting strategies. Podcasts may not be the right way to attract new audiences. Other approaches may be more effective here.

Yet they can be a valuable means to engage younger audiences. And they're also a great way to **super serve** existing audiences, by digging deeper into specific topics as well as offering audiences a chance to peek behind the curtain of how the news is made. Of course, super-serving one's customers in the main means helping them gain a competitive advantage by focusing on effectiveness instead of efficiency.

*A dispatch by the International Journalists' Network (IJNet), a project of the Washington-based International Centre for Journalists. Damian Radcliffe is the Carolyn S. Chambers Professor in Journalism at the University of Oregon in the US, a fellow of the Tow Centre for Digital Journalism at Columbia University in NYC, an honorary research fellow at Cardiff University's School of Journalism (in Wales), Media and Culture Studies, and a fellow of the London-based Royal Society for the Encouragement of Arts, Manufactures and Commerce.

COVID-19 vaccination taught us the real threat of misinformation

By Abdallah Bakari, Liwale

A PART from COVID-19 itself, another pandemic that Tanzania and the rest of the world fought was vaccine hesitancy occasioned by fake news, misinformation and disinformation about safety and efficacy of vaccines.

From politicians to religious leaders, statements and sentiments opposed to jabs came from right, left and centre. As a result, many people did not know what to believe. The good news is that many listened to voices of reason, believed in science and took the jab.

Liwale District in Lindi Region is one of places where there were confusion brought about by fake news. As a result, the brave ones who took the jab were believed to have had made the biggest mistake of their lives.

"I heard a lot of misinformation about COVID-19 vaccines which demoralized me at first. I was told that after vaccinating I would turn into a robot because vaccines were mixed with chemicals meant to manipulate our brains," said Hildegardis Maurusi, a resident of Liwale Town.

"Others said that the vaccines were designed to make us infertile, meaning no more children would be born thereafter and speakers we so confident and that made me afraid at first."

She said that it took her some months before deciding to take the jab and that decision came after she watched President Samia Suluhu Hassan and other government leaders being vaccinated in public.

"It took efforts of other leaders who also sensitized us by saying that if vaccines were terrible as claimed, President Samia would not have dared to take it, she said.

"I was vaccinated in January 2021 and since then, nothing terrible has happened to me and in May this year, I delivered healthy baby boy."

Petronila Paul, resident of Mkutano Village in the district said that the confusion was worsened by some elements in the previous regime who denied COVID-19 itself and did not encourage people to take the jab.

"The truth is that the narrative changed only after President Samia took over following the death of her predecessor John Maghfuli in March 2021. Before that government leaders were not free to speak in support of vaccines," she said.

According to him, information was being spread to the effect that all who vaccinated would die after a certain period of time or thereafter sire zombie babies.

In February 2021, Tanzania was reported to have hesitated to receive COVID-19 vaccines. Later, the government explained that there were concerns with initial vaccine safety but the country was ready to work with the international community in the fight against the pandemic.

After the appointment of a presidential task force in



President Samia Suluhu Hassan takes COVID-19 vaccine in public. This gesture is believed to have changed the minds of many Tanzanians who had been swayed by misinformation. File photo

April, 2021 to establish the country's direction on COVID-19 response as initially recommended by the expert committee, the country joined global vaccine access facility (COVAX) and the first batch of US-donated Janssen (Johnson & Johnson) vaccines arrived on July 24, 2021.

However, initial vaccine uptake was extremely low due to skepticism catalyzed by misinformation. In September, 2021, Tanzania began an intensive campaign to vaccinate all eligible adults older than 18 years. Multi-pronged strategies were applied to combat vaccine hesitancy and build confidence, especially among health-care workers.

The Liwale district is allocated 195 kilometers away from regional headquarters, marking the farthest and peripheral district among the five.

Dr Glory Andrew, Liwale District Medical Officer said that the district had a target of vaccinating 60,779 people and by April 56,431 equivalents to 93 percent were given at least one dose.

"We have not recorded any serious side effects from COVID-19 vaccines so far; we deployed human resources intensively and extensively to educate the public on safety of these vaccines and counter the widespread misinformation, disinformation and fake news" she said.

"I can say that here we defeated misinformation on and that's why data show that we have reached 93 percent of our target in a periphery and mainly rural district"

Data from World Health Organization (WHO) on Tanzania COVID-19 Dashboard show that more than 377 million people, representing 62 percent of the total population 61 million people according to 2022 census data and close to 87 percent of all eligible adults above 18 years have been vaccinated whereas national target was to fully vaccinate 70 per cent by December, 2022.

The country has emerged as the best performing among 34 African countries for concerted support by the COVID-19 Vaccine Delivery Partnership, as vaccine delivery enters

a phase of integration with routine services, according to WHO former Representative for Tanzania, Dr Zabulon Yoti.

In an interview with this paper as part of Global Health Reporting Initiative in Africa 2022 fellowship by International Women in Media (IWM) Dr Yoti said:

"The rapid increase in COVID-19 vaccination is a consequence of heightened political commitment at the national, regional and district levels, as well as service delivery through house-to-house strategy made vaccines readily available at zero cost, acceptable and affordable to beneficiaries."

Mahesh Swaminathan, Centers for Disease Control (CDC) Tanzania Country Director said that, multisectoral approach in COVID-19 vaccine and vaccination has borne remarkable fruit as the nation ranks among higher performers despite initial hesitancy.

"CDC focused on vaccinating people at highest risk of getting COVID-19, including people with HIV, staff in healthcare facilities, and community workers. Sometimes

addressing the barrier to vaccination was as simple as having a sign that says 'COVID-19 vaccine is here,'" he said.

He explained that more than 9.2 million Tanzanians were vaccinated with CDC support. With the additional global support CDC and partners launched a broad vaccination campaign in Dar es Salaam and other regions, including hard-to-reach remote areas around the Lake Zone.

"There was great intervention to bridge information gap and counter misinformation on COVID-19 vaccine and vaccination, religious leaders were asked if CDC and partners could offer COVID-19 vaccinations at their mosques and churches on the weekends and they agreed," he said.

Minister for Health Ummu Mwalimu said COVID-19 vaccination campaign has been fruitful as 86 percent of eligible targeted population received full dose by December 2022.

WHO states that booster doses are administered to a vaccinated population that has completed a primary vaccination series (currently one or two doses depending on the product) when, with time, the immunity and clinical protection has fallen below a rate deemed sufficient in that population. The objective of a booster dose is to restore vaccine effectiveness from that deemed no longer sufficient.

Senene: From free delicacy to big business affecting school attendance

By Correspondent Mutayoba Arbogast, Bukoba

DECADES ago, it was a delicacy that was freely available in Kagera Region during peak season in the months of May and June. But that was then. Things have now changed and senene now competes with the likes of peanut and cashew among ready-to-eat food vendors in Tanzanian major cities and towns.

Welcome to the world of the longhorn grasshopper, known scientifically as *Ruspolia differens*. Commonly known as senene in Tanzania, this is one of the most appreciated edible insects by societies around Lake Victoria but so much among the Haya people where nothing beats it as a treat.

As a respected guest, you are welcomed with coffee beans, at meal time the main course will be cooked bananas served with fresh fish but your treat thereafter will definitely be senene. And they have amazing ways of preserving it to ensure it doesn't go out of stock off-season.

All was well until recent years when some shrewd businesspeople thought of making this treat available not only within Lake Zone but all major cities and towns in Tanzania. This means its packaging has improved with as little as 200 grams fetching up to 5000/-.

Senene's status has changed from catch-and-eat at home to catch en masse, fry very well, package neatly and ship to other regions. To earn big money, folks in senene industry slowly started engaging services of school-going as catchers.

Because the insects tend to come out during full moon, catchers have to be ready out at night near the locally made traps. Because the demand is and the money is good, many catchers, including pupils, forget about school; the next day.

The involvement of pupils in the business has now rubbed local authorities the wrong way as it emerged that the learners spend most of the nights catching senene and failing to turn up at the school in the morning.

This is a big change driven by the demand because in the past, gathering senene was done in the early morning when one would visit the wildernesses to search for them in a way called 'Okulinga' and when found, the person would call other villagers by making a special call through ululation.

Upon hearing the sound, the villagers would leave behind whatever undertaking and rush to the site with locally-made containers with small open spaces to enable the catch get air.

Back then it was strictly for adults with children taking part only during school holidays. All the catch would be taken home, prepared by removing wings, legs, tails and horns, boiled with salt and deep fried,



Longhorn grasshopper, known as senene in Tanzania, is a delicacy in Kagera Region which is now popular in other towns and cities. Photo courtesy of the internet

ready for eating and preserving.

Only men and male boys monopolized the consumption of senene as it was a taboo for women and girls to eat it. If it appeared that the head of the family was away, dried senene would be wrapped in old peels of banana trunk and hanged above the cooking place until his return.

Stories are told here of Haya men who went away in the far lands to fight in the first and second world wars but upon return, they found their share of senene waiting. Upon receiving it, men were obliged to reward their wives a nice pair of Kitenge fabric, an East African wax.

There was no entrepreneurship in senene as we see today hance nei-

ther women nor children would sell the grasshoppers while in the wilderness or the fried ones at home. Today, women enjoy it openly. Things have changed, as Chinua Achebe wrote in his book *Things Fall Apart* that Ineke the bird said "Since man learnt to shoot without missing, I have learnt to fly without perching on a twig." Likewise, women have broken the chain of living under taboos and started eating senene and as its trade has increased, both men and women have turned to senene businesses to earn a living.

In fact, it is parents who encourage their school-going children to accompany them to the fields at night to add volume of the catch for more money.

Of course, there are cases of children venturing out without parental knowledge.

Catching of grasshoppers has increased tremendously in recent years because of emergence of iron sheet traps folded into a cone shape leading to a large bucket which collects the falling grasshoppers.

They are attracted by very bright lights and heavy smoke from burnt fresh grass make them dizzy and finally fall into the bucket, property of the owner, while those that fly around are caught by anyone.

Back to truant pupils, leadership of Bugombe Village in Kanyigo Ward, Misenyi District last recently called a meeting which discussed the matter

and issued a statement warning parents against involvement of children in senene catching.

The village has two primary schools namely Kanyigo and Bugombe which are both affected. Japerson Mutabuzi, Bugombe Village Chairman said many pupils who catch senene at night fail to attend classes the next day as they become tired and sleep-deprived.

"We have also found out that some of those pupils who attended classes the next day cannot pay attention and grasp and lessons," he said.

An official letter was sent a letter to Kanyigo Ward Executive Officer explaining the situation and proposing that stern measures be taken against parents who allow their children to work as senene catchers.

"This affects not only the said schools but almost the whole district of Misenyi and the entire region," he said.

Children in some of the country are subjected to the worst form of child labour, including forced labour in mining, quarrying, and domestic work.

The National Multi-sectoral Early Childhood Development Programme (NM-ECD), 2021/22 - 2025/26 which directly invests in Tanzania human development through accelerating early childhood development targets enhancing multi-sectoral approach to young children of 0 to eight years to see that "all children in Tanzania are on track to develop their full potential".

Early Childhood Care and Development is now a global agenda with ECD services, recognized as essential to the achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) which provide a crucial opportunity for achieving equity among all children globally, with every country expected to work towards achieving SDGs by 2030.

Among the main SDGs that directly relate to ECD is Goal 4 that calls for governments to "ensure inclusive and equitable quality education and promote lifelong learning".

Women suffer harassment, discrimination on Chile's public transport

By Orlando Milesi

SEXUAL harassment and discrimination are daily realities for women on public transport in Chile and also an obstacle for plans to expand mass transit in order to reduce pollution in several cities in this South American country.

Santiago, the capital, is the most polluted city based on fine air particulate matter among the large Latin American cities, according to the World Air Quality Report 2022, ahead of Lima and Mexico City, while five other Chilean cities are among the 10 most polluted in South America.

Sexual harassment is the most visible form of discrimination against women in Chilean public transportation, in addition to insecurity due to poorly lit bus stops, inadequate buses, and more frequent trips at times when women are less likely to travel.

Personal accounts gathered by IPS also mentioned problems such as the constant theft of cell phones and the impossibility for young women to wear shorts or low-cut tops when traveling on buses or the subway, the backbone of Santiago's public transportation system.

To address these problems, the Chilean government and the Santiago city government adopted gender strategies: they put in place special telephones to report harassers and thieves, began installing "panic buttons" and alarms at bus stops, and incorporated more women in driving and security.

"When I was younger I suffered a lot of harassment because I didn't have the character to stand up to the harassers. Now that I am older, I am able to confront an aggressor without fear, even when he is harassing another person, whether a man or a woman. When I confront them, they run away," Bernardita Azócar, 34, told IPS.

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"It happened to me a couple of times when I was younger. They want to grope you or try to touch another girl and now I confront them. I suffer less because I'm more aware and I try not to put myself at risk," she added during a dialogue at the University of Chile subway station in Santiago.

Azócar, who works for a collection company, said the root cause of harassment lies in education and in Chilean society.

"If you wear a miniskirt or show cleavage, society points the finger at you, as if you were provoking men and it was your fault. And I don't think that's why it happens. It's abuse to be harassed in the public system...or anywhere else," she said.

Maite, a humanities student at the Catholic University, feels that women are at a disadvantage on public transportation.

"When a woman takes a bus, she tends to sit next to the aisle to have an easier way to flee from any threat. Or she sits next to another woman so as not to travel alone. There are many things that women do that are not explicit. They are behaviors we learn, to get by on public transportation," said the young woman who, like her friends, preferred not to give her last name.

According to Maite, "women can't wear shorts or backpacks on the bus, or openly use a cell phone. Every time you get on the bus you have to take a lot of measures."

Maite and four other classmates told IPS that they take a combination of buses and the subway to go to school and that none of them have suffered harassment on the bus, but they know of several cases that happened to



Perla Venegas is one of 1444 female bus drivers in the surface public transport network in Santiago, Chile, which aims at gender inclusion and offers job stability and shift flexibility compatible with family life. CREDIT: Orlando Milesi / IPS

their friends.

"If someone tries to touch me or crowd me too closely I don't feel so safe," said Elena, a commercial engineering student.

"A friend of mine had her cell phone stolen. I have not been harassed, but I would never go on the bus or subway in shorts even if I were dying of heat. I wear long pants because wearing shorts is a risk," added Emilia, a psychology student.

The joys and pitfalls of being a female bus driver

Getting more people to use buses and other public transport in Chile, a long narrow country with a population of 19.8 million, is difficult because 71 percent of households own at least one car.

The incorporation of more female bus drivers is aimed at a friendlier mass transit system.

Perla Venegas, 34, has been working as a bus driver in Santiago's public transportation system for six years.

"I like my job and driving. The most complicated thing is dealing with cyclists, pedestrians and passengers, who are never satisfied," she told IPS while parked waiting to pull out on the corner of Santa Rosa and Alameda, in the heart of downtown Santiago.

Her route connects downtown Santiago with the municipality of Maipú, in the western outskirts of the capital.

"I'm on a par with the male drivers, but I'm more cautious, not so aggressive and I'm a more defensive driver. I have been complimented several times, especially by elderly people," said Venegas, who lives with her two daughters, aged 16 and 8.

"I have female colleagues who have been hit and beaten. I received a death threat from a passenger because when the route ended he wouldn't get off.

He was a homeless drug addict. It was 5:30 AM. In the end I found a carabineros (police) patrol car and I turned him in," she said.

She added that she has had both pleasant and negative experiences and acknowledged that she is proud that her eldest daughter also wants to be a bus driver "although I would not like her to experience the hard parts."

Staying alert in the subway, the main means of public transport

On the Santiago subway there are 2.3 million trips on working days. Its tracks cover 140 kilometers on six lines, with 136 stations in 23 of the 32 municipalities that comprise the metropolitan area. Greater Santiago is home to 7.1 million people.

An additional 2.1 million average daily trips are made on surface public transport.

According to official statistics, during the first five months of the year there were 21 pollution episodes in Santiago above the maximum standard level and eight environmental alerts for excess fine particulate matter, so increasing the use of public transport instead of private vehicles is considered a priority for the authorities.

Paulina del Campo, the subway's sustainability manager, told IPS that gender issues are a strategic objective in this state-owned company.

"We have taken the issue of harassment very seriously. We do not have large numbers, but we do have moments

like March 2022 when the issue was raised because of situations in the streets and in universities that included public transportation," she said.

After meetings with authorities and student leaders, the subway increased the presence of female security guards at stations in the university district.

"One of the things they said is that in a situation of harassment it is much more comfortable to ask for help from a woman than from a man," explained Del Campo.

The company thus hired a specific group of female guards to receive and respond to complaints.

"Qualified staff respond and are trained to provide support for the victims. We can quickly activate the protocols with the carabineros police. When it happens we can intercept the train and often arrest the people (aggressors) on the spot," said Del Campo.

In another campaign, a standard methodology designed by international foundations with expertise in harassment was adapted to the situation in Chile.

At the same time, the subway increased its female staff and the number of women in leadership positions.

"Two years ago we had a female staff of around 20 percent and now, in May, 26.5 percent of the 4,400 subway workers are women. In the area of security guards we have a staff of approximately 700 and of these 110 are women," explained the company's Sustainability Manager.

Gender policies in public transportation

The Metropolitan Public Transport Directorate (DTPM) informed IPS that it aims to reduce the male-female gap in public transport.

It also plans to increase the number of women bus drivers.

The Red system, with buses running throughout Santiago, currently employs 1,444 women - only 7.6 percent of all drivers.

"Many women who have entered this field come from highly precarious and unregulated jobs, so this opportunity has allowed them greater autonomy and, on many occasions, to leave violent environments and improve their self-confidence," the DTPM stressed in response to questions from IPS.

"This has meant an effort to train and generate conditions to keep and promote women who are part of the system," it added.

Origin-Destination Surveys reveal that women are the main users of public transport and 65 percent of trips for the purpose of caring for the home, children or other people are made by women. They are more likely to make multidirectional trips and in the so-called off-peak hours, with little traffic.

According to the DTPM, waiting for the bus is one of the most critical moments in every trip.

"This is why we installed the panic button at bus stops and real-time information on the arrival of buses to improve the perception of security," it explained.

The information is available through an application on cell phones, while the panic buttons began as a women's safety pilot plan in October 2022 at stops in one of the capital's municipalities. The plan is to extend them to a large number of stops in Santiago.



The Santiago subway is the backbone of mass transit system in the Chilean capital. It makes it possible to reach 23 of the 32 municipalities that encompass the capital. CREDIT: Orlando Milesi / IPS

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 UMJUAYYO 16:00-18:00HRS ALIYEVUMA 18:00-21:00HRS BUZUKI TIME 21:00-22:00HRS SPOTI 22:00-05:00HRS MUZIKI (MCHAGANGANYIKO)	07:00-09:00HRS HABARI NA MATUKIO YA WIKI 09:00-11:00HRS THE SUNDAY 11:00-13:00HRS TOP 20 13:00-14:00HRS DW RADIO 14:00-16:00HRS CAPITAL MICHEZONI 16:00-18:00HRS UKURASA WA MBELE 18:00-21:00HRS JIACHIE 21:00-22:00HRS SPOTI 22:00-01:00HRS LADHA LAINI 01:00-05:00HRS MUZIKI (MCHAGANGANYIKO)

Tembelea mitandao ya kijamii ya CAPITAL RADIO



CAPITAL RADIO

TAMFI promotes renewable energy through microfinance

By Guardian Reporter

AS Tanzania sets ambitious renewable energy targets for 2025, the Tanzania Association of Microfinance Institutions (TAMFI) reports an encouraging response from financial institutions supporting renewable energy financing at the grassroots. This marks a crucial step towards achieving the goal.

President Samia Suluhu Hassan has targeted the production of 6,000MW from renewable energy sources by 2025.

"To meet this target, concerted efforts from key players, including financial institutions, are required. TAMFI is pleased with the positive response from several financial institutions in Tanzania towards renewable energy financing for end users," said TAMFI CEO Winnie Terry (pictured).

According to TAMFI, a greener and more sustainable Tanzania powered by renewable energy sources such as solar, is no longer a distant dream, but a promising reality.

The not-for-profit umbrella organization for microfinance institutions in Tanzania has been promoting decentralized renewable energy (DRE) financing in Tanzania, and their efforts are finally bearing fruit.

Terry is optimistic about the future and delighted to see that several TAMFI members have started lending to end-users for renewable energy. This has been made possible thanks to a project supported by the

C.S. Mott Foundation, which is committed to building an inclusive financial ecosystem for end-users and enterprises in Tanzania.

"Access to finance is a game-changer for Tanzania's renewable energy sector. I am thrilled that a few MFIs are lending to end-users for renewable energy. I believe financing renewable energy will soon become standard practice for financial institutions in Tanzania," said Terry.

TAMFI has been implementing the first and second phases of the Energy Access: Building an Innovative Financial Ecosystem for Enterprises and End Users project. This project has increased awareness of the need for renewable energy financing among FIs, and it is expected to positively impact Tanzania's economic development, poverty reduction, and environmental sustainability. Financial institutions, including Enokwe Finance Ltd, Samekaya SACCOS, Vision Fund Microfinance Bank, Maendeleo Bank, BRAC Tanzania Finance Ltd, Tujijenge Microfinance Ltd, Engishon Microfinance Ltd, and HP Finance are some of the Financial Institutions under TAMFI which have started rolling out Renewable Energy products and services.

"We are greatly heartened by the proactive steps taken by some Financial Institutions (MFIs) in Tanzania towards financing renewable energy. By extending loans to renewable energy end users, these financial institutions have made significant strides in mainstreaming renewable energy financing. We eagerly antici-



pate more institutions joining this progressive trend. Such initiatives are pivotal in the pursuit of universal access to sustainable, clean, affordable, and reliable electricity in Tanzania," Terry highlighted.

In realizing this work, the C.S. Mott Foundation has been actively supporting TAMFI's efforts to increase access to renewable energy in Tanzania. TAMFI continues to collaborate with development partners and stakeholders to promote the adoption of DRE financing and address the challenges that hinder progress towards achieving universal access to sustainable, clean, affordable, and reliable electricity in the country. According to TAMFI the growth of renewable energy financing in Tanzania will contribute to achieving Sustainable Development Goal

(SDG) 7 - universal access to electricity by 2030. TAMFI will continue to promote the growth of the renewable energy sector in Tanzania, creating a more equitable energy system where everyone can access reliable and sustainable energy sources.

Tanzania, like the rest of sub-Saharan Africa, faces the challenge of providing sustainable, affordable, and reliable electricity to its population. According to reports by the International Energy Agency (IEA), International Renewable Energy Agency (IRENA), United Nations Statistics Division (UNSD), and the World Bank, over 570 million people in sub-Saharan Africa lack access to electricity.

In Tanzania, a significant portion of the rural population remains without electricity access, and a

substantial number of households are outside the power grid coverage. TAMFI's strong belief lies in the potential of renewable energy technologies, such as solar, wind, and geothermal energy. These technologies are seen as drivers for productive energy and light usage, and for irrigation farming in agricultural development.

TAMFI maintains that adopting these energy-efficient, renewable technologies is about more than merely meeting energy requirements; it represents a significant step towards reducing environmental impact, lowering carbon emissions, and contributing to a healthier, greener planet. They assert that the time is ripe for transitioning towards sustainable, reliable, and economically viable renewable energy

solutions, and they are committed to facilitating this transition within Tanzania.

Renewable energy is crucial to universal access to Tanzania's sustainable, clean, affordable, and reliable electricity. The government and development partners have taken significant strides in promoting the use of renewable energy in the country. However, there is still a long way to go in increasing awareness and educating communities and financial institutions about the benefits of renewable energy.

As part of its efforts to promote renewable energy financing, TAMFI has been conducting training and capacity-building workshops, renewable energy field tours, round-table discussions with stakeholders and policymakers, and linkage meetings for financial institutions in Tanzania. These interventions focus on equipping financial institutions with the knowledge and skills required to finance renewable energy projects.

The training sessions cover product development, marketing strategy, risk assessment, credit analysis, loan structuring, and risk management. TAMFI has also provided technical assistance and support to financial institutions to help them develop financing products tailored to the needs of renewable energy projects.

Richard Nyamonge, Managing Director of Enokwe Finance Limited, expressed commitment towards financing renewable energy end users, stated, "In our role as a financial institution, we bear the responsibility of endorsing sustainable practices. Financing renewable energy projects is one approach towards fulfilling this responsibility. We take immense pride in contributing to the progression towards a more eco-

By Correspondent Maulid Mmbaga

TIRA to work on clients' setbacks

THE Tanzania Insurance Regulatory Authority (TIRA) has announced that it was working on addressing challenges raised by clients on delays to receive their entitlements upon raising their claims to various companies.

Commissioner General of the Tanzania Insurance Regulatory Authority (TIRA), Baghayo Saqware made the remarks during the annual meeting that brought together

insurance agents in Tanzania with the aim of discussing the conduct of their work.

He said the regulatory body has discovered that through meeting it held in existence in Dodoma, Mbeya, Mwanza, Pemba and Zanzibar. "That has been a big challenge and it has helped us to improve our regulations and recently we issued a regulation on the rates of

payment to a third-party payment who has had an accident, also this has helped us to set a specific time for everything when paying," said Saqware.

He added that another challenge is that many citizens do not have insurance and that they claim other people's insurance, explaining that there are three types of insurance on cars, including for

the car, driver and the car injuring another person, noting that many complaints are received from people who do not have cars that they have been hurt.

According to the commissioner, if a person does not have his own insurance, there are challenges when he has a problem because they have to make sure that a person is hit by a car, where and the

court must confirm that the person who was hit has fault.

However, he called on all insurance companies to follow the procedure otherwise the law will take its course, and that they have instructed all companies to start using the Swahili language in insurance contracts.

He congratulated the more than 1,000 licensed agents for having

the courage to start insurance services in the country, explaining that they are helping them in serving Tanzanians and that they will continue to listen to their challenges and solve them.

Chairman of the Association of Insurance Agents in Tanzania, Sai Daudi, said that the insurance companies are few but they are many and they have spread to the villages and that they have met to share methods on how to be the best service providers in the insurance market.

Medical specialist urges youths in Mwanza to shun drug abuse

By Correspondent Wilhelm Mulinda, Mwanza

YOUTH affected by drugs in the Mwanza Region and surrounding areas have been urged to attend a Medically Assisted Therapy (MAT) clinic at Mwanza Regional Referral Hospital Sekou Toure for treatment.

Mwanza referral hospital's Medical In-Charge, Dr. Bahati Msaki when speaking on the benefits of the clinic to the drug users, the call that went alongside International Day of Protest against drug abuse at Mwanza Regional level.

"Youths affected by the drugs should not hesitate to come to the clinic in order to do away from that problem as the government provides treatment free of charge", said Dr. Msaki noting that aim is to see the youths not using the illicit drugs that have detrimental effect to their health.

Speaking at the event, Head of MAT clinic, Dr. Meshack Samwel said that commemorations of protest against drug abuse is a test towards efforts taken by the government against the illicit drugs that negatively impacts on the health of people, the young ones in particular.

Dr. Samwel also thanked the government for providing medicine to the addicts free of charge, noting that in other countries the addicts incur costs to access the medical services.

Drug users getting treatment at the clinic are being identified on streets by Community Outreach Volunteers (COV) under steps Tanzania implementing Fikia project to reduce harm caused by drugs with support from ICAP Global Health, he said.

One of the beneficiaries under Steps Tanzania, (Fatuma Marresa) said that is now in good health after using methadone at the clinic and hailed the government for providing the treatment free of charge.

My relatives now have faith in me because by the time when I was still taking the drugs I used to steal at home and from other people to get money to buy the drugs, a situation that made the community dislike me, she said.

Not only that also sometimes engaged in prostitution just to get money to buy drugs, a situation that was endangering my life as I could even contract HIV/AIDS, she said.

Another beneficiaries, (John Ally) hailed ICAP Global Health for supporting Steps Tanzania as it has enabled them to get treatment at the clinic and are now productive.



TIRA commissioner general Dr Baghayo Saqware (R), Strategis Insurance Group CEO Flora Minja (C) and the CEO Non-Medical Jabir Kigoda moments after the launch of Mtetezi Agriculture Insurance in Dar es Salaam yesterday. Photo: Guardian Correspondent

Tanzanians urged to grab many opportunities from the sea

By Correspondent Sabato Kasika

ZANZIBAR Minister for Blue Economy and Fishing, Suleiman Masoud Makame has said there are many economic opportunities in the deep sea and called upon Tanzanians to emerge and grab them.

Makame made the remarks in Dar es Salaam yesterday when opening the Second Workshop on the Blue economy, that was organised by the Dar es Salaam

Maritime Institute (DMI).

"In the deep sea there are numerous resources that are discernible by eyes and many others unseen. There is oil and gas, all these are opportunities in the blue economy, hence Tanzania should grab the opportunities in their exploitation," said Makame.

He explained that opportunities obtained through the blue economy, have prompted President Samia Suluhu Hassan and

her Zanzibar counterpart, Dr Hussein Ali Mwinyi to address them.

"the blue economy is the cure for the poverty of Tanzanians, as 75 per cent of transport of all goods we see have been conveyed by the sea," he said.

He added that it is important to value the contribution of seafarers and urged Tanzanians to study the field.

Head of DMI, Dr Tumaini Gurumo said the Institute has

plans to mobilise Tanzanians to study seafaring and other maritime subjects.

"For example, we have set for ourselves five-year goals, by 2026 we should have 26,000 students in various fields," said Dr Gurumo.

He said as for now the Institute has 3,000 students in long term courses and 5,000 in short yearly courses.

DMI Board Chairman, Capt. Ernest Bupamba said they

have secured areas in Mwanza and Lindi for establishing DMI branches.

"In Mwanza we shall build our branch in order to teach the youth how to build ships and in Lindi we shall build the branch to teach how to make dhows," he said, and added that DMI has also the task to advertise marine opportunities including holding workshops such as this one that bring together various stakeholders.

Natural gas consumption by vehicles in record high rise

By Guardian Reporter

THE migration from the use of petrol and diesel to natural gas as an alternate energy to run vehicles in Tanzania is increasing, after the new report showing the annual growth of 47.6 percent during the year ended in March this year, the highest rate than other consumptions.

The recent data by Tanzania Petroleum Development Corporation (TPDC) featured in the quarterly consolidated zonal economic report for March this year issued by Bank of Tanzania (BoT) shows natural gas consumption for vehicles reached 17.4 Metric Million of Standard Cubic Feet (MMSCF) from 11.8 MMSCF recorded at the end of March 2022.

However, natural gas consumption on vehicles is still low, accounting for only 0.1 percent of total natural gas consumption in Tanzania.

There are at least 2,000 vehicles in Dar es Salaam currently using natural gas in an alternate to fuel.

It costs at least \$1,000 to convert a car to use natural gas and many Tanzanian motorists have embraced this new, more efficient and seemingly cheaper technology despite its high cost of conversion.

Compressed natural gas (CNG) is the potential alternative fuel in Tanzania's road sector due to its plentiful and environmental benefits.

CNG use as a source of energy is facing several challenges including inadequate number of conversion centres; higher conversion charges and limited number of CNG filling stations.

Earlier this month, works and transport minister, Prof Makame Mbarawa said the government was considering giving subsidies for Compressed Natural Gas (CNG) vehicles to encourage uptake



Compressed natural gas (CNG) is the potential alternative fuel in Tanzania's road sector

of the alternative to fuel consumption.

"The government is considering the possibility of introducing a subsidy program to attract more people to convert their cars to CNG," said the minister during an event to celebrate 50 years of Scania operations in Tanzania held in Dar es

Salaam.

Total natural gas consumption reached 20,457MMSCF in Q1, 2023, against produced 20,735.9MMSCF, an increase from 18,168.2MMSCF consumed during similar quarter of last year against produced 16,200.1MMSCF.

"The increase was largely caused by a rise in demand

by gas-fired power plants," TPDC said in the report.

Natural gas consumption for power generating plants remains the largest as it account for 86.12 percent of total consumption.

The TPDC data show natural gas consumption for power generating plants increased by 18.5 percent to

17,635MMSFC during the first quarter of this year, compared with 14,877.5MMSCF recorded during similar quarter of last year.

The second largest natural gas consumption is on industries which accounted for 13.7 percent of total consumption.

However, the TPDC data

shows natural gas consumption during the reviewed period decreased by 14.5 percent to 2,801.6MMSCF during the first quarter of this year, compared with 3,275.9MMSCF recorded in Q1, 2022.

Natural gas consumption to households also increased during the reported period to 1.2MMSCF from 0.4MMSCF respectively, while other consumption also went down by 2 percent to 2.7MMSCF in March 2023. The report shows Songosongo based in Lindi is leading natural gas producer with 57.9 percent of total production, and it recorded an increase of production to 12,002.4MMSCF during the first quarter of this year, compared with 10,040.7MMSCF recorded at the end of March 2022.

The second producer of natural gas Mnazi Bay based in Mtwara region, which accounts for 42.1 percent share of total production recorded tremendous increase of production by 41.8 percent to 8,733.5MMSCF from 6,159MMSCF respectively.

At an estimated 57 trillion cubic feet of gas reserves both in the Indian Ocean and offshore, Tanzania holds east Africa largest gas deposits, with an annual production of 110 billion cubic feet from three fields: Songo Songo, Mnazi Bay, and Kilwani.

European stocks slip as global growth fears return

FRANKFURT

EUROPEAN stocks fell on Tuesday, as the European Central Bank signalled that interest rates would need to rise further in order to stamp out sticky inflation.

Europe's region-wide Stoxx 600 index gave up its early-morning gains to trade 0.2 per cent lower, while Germany's Dax was down 0.1 per cent and London's FTSE 100 was flat.

Stocks moved lower after ECB president Christine Lagarde said in a speech that her "job is not done", signalling that policymakers would need to tighten monetary policy further in order to tame persistent inflation in the region.

"Barring a material change to the outlook, we will continue to increase rates in July," noted Lagarde, adding to investors' concerns that high borrowing costs could weigh

on growth in the single currency bloc.

The ECB is likely to be swayed by inflation figures due on Friday, said economists. Price growth is expected to come in at 5.7 per cent in the year to June, compared with 6.1 per cent a month earlier. Yet rate setters are likely to remain concerned over the region's underlying price pressures. Core inflation, which strips out volatile food and

energy prices, is expected to have accelerated, necessitating further ECB tightening.

The ECB in June raised its benchmark deposit rate by a quarter point to 3.5 per cent, its highest level in 22 years.

Wall Street futures rose, however, with contracts tracking the benchmark S&P 500 index adding 0.2 per cent and those tracking the tech-heavy Nasdaq 100 gaining 0.4 per cent ahead of the New York

open. Oil prices continued to fluctuate after the weekend's armed mutiny in Russia raised serious questions about the outlook for Vladimir Putin's regime and doubts over crude output from one of the world's top suppliers.

International benchmark Brent crude traded 1 per cent lower at \$73.48 a barrel while the US marker, West Texas Intermediate, was also down 1 per cent at \$68.71.

In China, equity markets were up, with Hong Kong's Hang Seng index rising 1.9 per cent and China's CSI 300 gaining 0.9 per cent.

Investors welcomed the assurance that China's officials intended to support growth in the world's second-largest economy, which has struggled to pick up steam this year since reopening after the pandemic. China's premier Li Qiang gave a speech at the

World Economic Forum's Annual Meeting of the New Champions, known as the "Summer Davos", relaying Beijing's intentions to enact more effective policies to bolster domestic demand.

Policymakers this month cut benchmark interest rates in an attempt to stimulate growth, but economists anticipate a range of further support measures over coming months.

Kenya's mobile telecoms uptake falls for first time

NAIROBI

THE number of mobile phones in Kenya fell by 397,429 in the first three months to March 2023, the first decline since the launch of the industry trends report by the Communications Authority (CA) last year.

As at March 2023, the number of mobile devices stood at 62.9 million, a 0.63 percent drop compared to the preceding quarter (September to December 2022), with smartphones recording the steepest decline and accounting for 64 percent of the total.

"The total mobile phone devices stood at 62.96 million as at the end of the reference period. This translates to a penetration 124.5 percent. Penetration for feature phones and smartphones stood at 66.2 percent and 58.3 percent respectively", CA states in its latest report.

The authority does not provide reasons for the drop in the number of devices and had not responded to Business Daily queries by the time of going to press.

The decline in devices notwith-

standing, the number of SIM cards reported in the country posted a marginal increase of 0.5 percent from 65.7 million to 66.1 million in the period under review.

Pre-paid subscribers account for the lion's share at 64.7 million, representing 98 percent of total SIM cards against 1.3 million of those that are categorised as post-paid.

Safaricom Plc retains the biggest share of registered users at 66 percent followed by Airtel Kenya at 27 percent and Telkom Kenya at 4.2 percent. The authority, however, notes that there has been a drop in the SIM card penetration rate, which is principally due to the revision of the country's population size as per the Economic Survey of 2023.

"This translated to a mobile (SIM) penetration rate of 130.5 percent, representing a drop of 2.6 percentage points. The drop of penetration rate is attributed to the review of the country's population figures from 49.4 million to 50.6 million as per the Economic Survey 2023", the authority says. The report further shows that the number of mobile



money subscriptions reported a decline in the period between the two quarters, closing at 38.4 million compared to 38.6 million in the quarter that ended in December 2022.

This decline took place even as the registered number of mobile money agents increased by 3.9 percent

from 318,607 as at December 2022 to 331,065 as at March 2023. "Mobile money subscriptions stood at 38.4 million, translating to a penetration rate of 76 percent, which was a drop of 2.2 percentage points. The decline in the subscriptions is attributed to reduced activities in mobile money services during the quarter

under review", the authority says.

In the period under review, the total mobile data consumed by registered users stood at 208,565 gigabytes (GBs) up 21 percent compared to the volume of data consumed in the period ended December 2022.

OPEC forecasts 23pc rise in oil demand through 2045

KUALA LUMPUR

THE Organization of the Petroleum Exporting Countries (OPEC) this week said that global oil demand will rise 23 percent to 110 million barrels per day by 2045 as the global economy doubles in size.

The Organization of the Petroleum Exporting Countries (OPEC) forecasts global oil demand will continue to rise through 2045, fueled by economic growth and increasing urbanization.

While acknowledging that renewable sources of energy will play a more important

role, OPEC reaffirmed that oil is "irreplaceable for the foreseeable future."

Global oil prices rose to their highest in almost a decade last year amid Russia's invasion of Ukraine, with the price of Brent crude averaging \$101 per barrel.

It's the latest projection from OPEC's World Oil Outlook 2023, in which the organization states global oil demand still has room to grow as the world's population continues to expand, urbanization rates increase, and global GDP doubles compared to 2021 levels.



"Oil is irreplaceable for the foreseeable future," said OPEC Secretary General Haitham Al Ghais at the inaugural Energy Asia conference held in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia. While acknowledging that hydrocarbons and renewable sources of energy will play a more important role in the future, he reaffirmed that "oil remains an integral part of the mix."

The projections contradict an earlier report by the International Energy Agency (IEA) which projects that oil demand will peak before the end of the decade as the tran-

sition to clean energy gathers pace. The agency forecasts global oil demand will rise just 6 percent to a peak of 105.7 million barrels per day in 2028, before plateauing or declining afterward.

Global oil consumption rose by 2.9 million barrels per day last year to 97.3 million barrels, according to the 2023 Statistical Review of World Energy. It was a smaller increase compared to the previous year, with consumption still 0.7 percent below pre-pandemic levels.

Globally, oil prices rose to their highest since 2013, with

the price of Brent crude averaging \$101 per barrel amid Russia's invasion of Ukraine and as demand continued to rebound from the COVID-19 slump. The price of West Texas Intermediate (WTI) crude peaked near \$130 per barrel in early March.

Oil prices have since retreated to near \$70 per barrel, prompting OPEC and its allies to cut production in an effort to support prices. Since November, OPEC+ has cut output by a combined 3.66 million barrels per day, or roughly 3.6 percent of global demand

US urged to apologise for inhuman treatment at Guantanamo Bay

UNITED NATIONS

A UN expert on Monday called on the US government to apologise for the inhuman treatment at the Guantanamo Bay detention facility, which was established by former US president George W. Bush's administration in 2002 following the Sept 11, 2001 attacks.

The UN special rapporteur on the promotion and protection of human rights and fundamental freedoms while countering terrorism, Fionnuala Ni Aolain, said the 30 men that are still being held there are subject to "ongoing cruel, inhuman and degrading treatment."

Ni Aolain's trip to Guantanamo Bay was the first official visit to the site by a UN expert. "I want to acknowledge that there have been significant improvements made to the conditions of confinement at the Guantanamo Bay detention facility. That said, I still have serious concerns about the continued detention of now 30 men still there and the persistent arbitrariness that pervades their day-to-day existence," she told reporters.

"My report details structural shortcomings and systematic arbitrariness, including in training, operating procedures, and the fulfillment of detainees' rights to health care, family, counsel, and justice."

The report sets out in detail how

such arbitrariness brings about deep insecurity, suffering, and anxiety to all detainees without exception, she said. "I observed that after two decades of custody, the suffering of those detained is profound and is ongoing."

"Every single detainee I met with lives with the unrelenting harms that follow from systematic practices of rendition, torture, and arbitrary detention...And their past experiences of torture live with them in the present without any obvious end in sight, including because they have not received any adequate torture rehabilitation to date," said Ni Aolain. She said that despite the evident nature of the physical and psychological harms, the Guantanamo Bay detention infrastructure entails near-constant surveillance, forced cell extractions, undue use of restraints, and other arbitrary and human rights-noncompliant implementation of the standard operating procedures.

"The totality of all of these practices and omissions ... have accumulative, compounding effects on the dignity and fundamental rights and freedoms of each detainee and amounts in my assessment to ongoing cruel, inhuman and degrading treatment under international law," she said.

The US government must ensure accountability for all violations of interna-



In this file photo dated Aug 29, 2021 reviewed by US military officials, flags fly at half-staff at Camp Justice in Guantanamo Bay Naval Base, Cuba. AP

tional law, both for victims of its counter-terrorism practices, present and former detainees, and victims of terrorism, said Ni Aolain. "I underscore the importance of apology, full remedy, reparation and guarantees of non-repetition to all victims. And these guarantees will be no less pressing in the years ahead."

Ni Aolain was appointed the special rapporteur on the promotion and pro-

tection of human rights and fundamental freedoms while countering terrorism by the UN Human Rights Council. She took up her functions in August 2017.

Agencies

Global refugee resettlement needs grow in 2024 - UNHCR

GENEVA

UNHCR, the UN refugee agency, has anticipated a significant rise in global refugee resettlement needs for next year.

According to the Projected Global Resettlement Needs Assessment for 2024 released today, over 2.4 million refugees will be in need of resettlement, marking a 20 per cent increase compared to 2023.

With a deepening refugee crisis and the emergence of new displacement situations, urgent action is required to address the escalating challenges faced by millions of refugees and displaced individuals worldwide.

"We are witnessing a concerning increase in the number of refugees in need of resettlement in 2024. Resettlement remains a critical lifeline for those most at risk and with specific needs," said Filippo Grandi, UN High Commissioner for Refugees.

"I ask all states with the means to step up and provide sustainable and multi-year resettlement commitments to offer safety and protection to those in need and to share the international community's responsibility for refugees."

The Asia region tops the list of estimated needs in 2024, with nearly 730,000 refugees requiring resettlement support, representing 30 per cent of global needs.

In 2022, out of approximately 116,000 submissions, only 58,457 refugees were able to depart for resettlement. UNHCR continues to advocate the importance of allocating more places for emergency and medical cases and ensuring timely processing and departure.

Resettlement provides a lifeline of hope and protection to those facing extreme risks by offering a durable solution while at the same time playing a pivotal role in relieving the pressure on host countries and strengthening the broader protection framework.

ANI



The Asia region tops the list of estimated needs in 2024, with nearly 730,000 refugees requiring resettlement support

COVID-19 vaccine scheme for poorest has \$2.6 billion left to spend

LONDON

SEVERAL billions of dollars left in a scheme to deliver COVID-19 vaccines to the world's poorest could be diverted to prepare for other pandemics or to support vaccine manufacturing in Africa, the scheme's partners said.

The COVAX initiative, run by Gavi, the Vaccine Alliance, the World Health Organization (WHO), and the Coalition for Epidemic Preparedness Innovations (CEPI), has \$2.6 billion left in its coffers as the emergency phase of the pandemic draws to a close, according to documents seen by Reuters and two sources close to

the scheme.

The initiative is set to wind up at the end of this year, although some of its work will continue. With demand for COVID-19 vaccines dwindling, the partners are now working out how best to use the remaining cash - a significant sum in global health - alongside the donors who originally pledged it.

Around \$600 million was given as part of a "contingency" fund in case the pandemic escalated again. The remaining \$2 billion has come back to COVAX after drugmakers agreed to refund deals agreed for vaccines at the height of the pandemic.

"This money was designed as an instrument of



A nurse prepares a syringe of the Pfizer-BioNTech COVID-19 vaccine at a vaccination center, in Garlan, western France, on May 31, 2021. AFP

contingency, so we could respond to the twists and turns of the pandemic," said Marie-Ange Saraka-

Yao, Gavi's head of resource mobilization. "We don't want the money to be idle."

Around \$700 million is likely to be used for an ongoing COVID-19 vaccination programme in countries supported by Gavi, for 2024 and 2025. This option will be discussed by Gavi's board this week. Another portion of the money will be used for booster shots this year and next.

Saraka-Yao said the donors, including rich countries like the United States and Germany as well as philanthropic organizations like the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation, had all been asked if they wanted the rest of the money back at a meeting in March. None did. The donors, and the WHO, were not immediately

available for comment.

A CEPI spokesperson said that while no decision had been made on the funds, it was "prudent to remain prepared" both in case the COVID-19 situation changes, and for future pandemics.

"They (donors) want to keep the spirit of the political intent when the money was given...to help protect the rest of the world," Saraka-Yao said.

One option is to invest in wider pandemic preparedness initiatives, Gavi said. Another idea that has gained traction is to use some of the money to boost vaccine manufacturing in Africa, Saraka-Yao said.

Gavi is proposing a fi-

financial support system which would help new manufacturers bring products to market competitively, particularly for diseases like cholera or yellow fever, where there are shortages of vaccine for diseases that kill hundreds of thousands of people in Africa every year.

Separately, Gavi announced on Monday that its incoming chief executive, Muhammad Ali Pate, would no longer be joining the organization as he was returning to his home country of Nigeria. Instead, chief operating officer David Marlow will become interim chief executive after Seth Berkley steps down in August.

Agencies

Security situation in eastern DRC continues to deteriorate - UN official

UNITED NATIONS

THE security situation in eastern Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC) has continued to deteriorate over the past three months despite a lull in armed clashes between the M23 Movement (M23) and government forces in North Kivu province, said Martha Pobebe, UN assistant secretary-general for Africa, on Monday.

Thus far, the cease-fire between the M23 rebel group and government forces has relatively held and contributed to some security gains. However, the withdrawal of M23 from the occupied areas has been piecemeal, tactical and political.

The M23 still controls a large part of the Masisi and Rutshuru territories as well as the movement of people and goods in those areas, she told the Security Council.

Moreover, the M23's offensive repositioning in recent weeks has raised fears that hostilities could flare up again at any moment. The M23 continues to create insecurity, reportedly killing at least 47 civilians in North Kivu over the recent period, she said.

Pobebe welcomed the continued efforts of regional leaders to persuade the concerned parties to implement the decisions of the Luanda roadmap and the Nairobi process, and reiterated the readiness of the UN peacekeeping mission in the DRC, known as MONUSCO, to assist the Con-



Martha Pobebe (Front), UN assistant secretary-general for Africa, speaks at a Security Council meeting on the Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC) at the UN headquarters in New York, on Monday. The security situation in eastern Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC) has continued to deteriorate over the past three months despite a lull in armed clashes between the March 23 Movement (M23) and government forces in North Kivu province, said Martha Pobebe, UN assistant secretary-general for Africa. Xinhua

golese authorities with the pre-cantonment and disarmament of the M23.

Last week, MONUSCO and the Congolese authorities undertook a reconnaissance mission at the Rumangabo base to assess the conditions for the pre-cantonment of the M23.

For these efforts to bear fruit, it is urgent that the M23 withdraw completely from the occupied territories, lay down their arms unconditionally and join the demobilization, disarmament, community recovery and stabilization program, she said.

The relative security gains in North Kivu are unfortunately fragile and overshadowed by the deteriorating situation in neighboring Ituri province, said Pobebe. Ituri has suffered from the security vacuum created by the government forces' redeployment to North Kivu. Over 600 people were killed by armed groups in the past three months.

The Cooperative for the Development of the Congo (CODECO), Zaire militia, and the Allied Democratic Forces (ADF) are the main perpetrators of these atrocities, she said. A particularly heinous example was the CODECO militia attack on the Lala site for internally displaced persons in mid-May.

More than 40 displaced people were killed and 800 shelters were burnt, she noted. Despite the joint operations of the armed forces of the DRC and Uganda, the ADF has extended its area of influence to an unprecedented level and remains a serious threat to the security and stability of the DRC, she said. "At the same time, the persistent

activities of armed groups in South Kivu for the control of mining sites, in particular Mai-Mai militias, reminds us that it is imperative to resolve the root causes of the conflict in eastern DRC for peace to be restored," said Pobebe.

"We urge all armed groups to cease hostilities and call for a redeployment of national security forces, particularly in Ituri, to restore state authority in this area.

The population, especially the most vulnerable, cannot remain without the protection of the Congolese state. The consequences of this absence are deeply worrying."

Pobebe expressed deep concern about the growing number of women and girls who have been subjected to gender-based violence and sexual exploitation, noting that gender-based violence has increased by 23 percent nationwide, and by 73 percent in North Kivu province alone, compared with the same period last year.

These violations are linked to the proliferation of armed groups in areas where displaced people are hosted, and to frequent breaches of the civilian and humanitarian character of these displacement sites.

Furthermore, the surge in sexual violence against children has also increased and is particularly horrifying, she said.

A significant scale-up of services to prevent and respond to sexual violence in and around displacement sites as well as to ensure better access to food, water and safe sanitation facilities is urgently required, she said, calling on the Congolese authorities to take stronger action, including the provision of additional sites to assist and protect displaced people, and better security in the sites, and in the fight against impunity.

In addition to the security and humanitarian challenges in eastern DRC, pockets of instability have resurfaced in the western and southern parts of the country, said Pobebe.

Violence has persisted in the provinces of Mai-Ndombe, Kwilu and Kwango, and spread to Maluku in the province of Kinshasa, leaving at least 67 people dead in the last three months. Tensions and violence have also been reported in other places, she said. "We urge the authorities to hold the perpetrators of violence to account and to take measures to strengthen social cohesion to preserve the gains made toward stability in these areas."

Xi calls on Communist Youth League to shoulder missions

BEIJING

Xi Jinping, general secretary of the Communist Party of China (CPC) Central Committee, on Monday called on the new leadership of the Communist Youth League of China (CYLC) to earnestly shoulder their missions and tasks entrusted by the CPC in the new era.

Xi, also Chinese president and chairman of the Central Military Commission, made the remarks while meeting with the leading members of the newly-elected Central Committee of the CYLC. Xi urged the CYLC to give full play to the country's youths so that they will be fully committed to advancing Chinese modernization.

Noting that the future of the cause of the Party and the nation rests on the younger generation, Xi expressed his hope that the CYLC Central Committee will better rally young people around the Party to continuously strive for building a stronger country and realizing national rejuvenation.

Cai Qi, a member of the Standing Committee of the Political Bureau of the CPC Central Committee and a member of the Secretariat of the CPC Central Committee, participated in the meeting. With a clearer goal and mission, the CYLC has taken on a new look among the young people since the 18th CPC National Congress in 2012, Xi said.

Over the past five years, the CYLC has mobilized its members and other young people to take an active part in major tasks

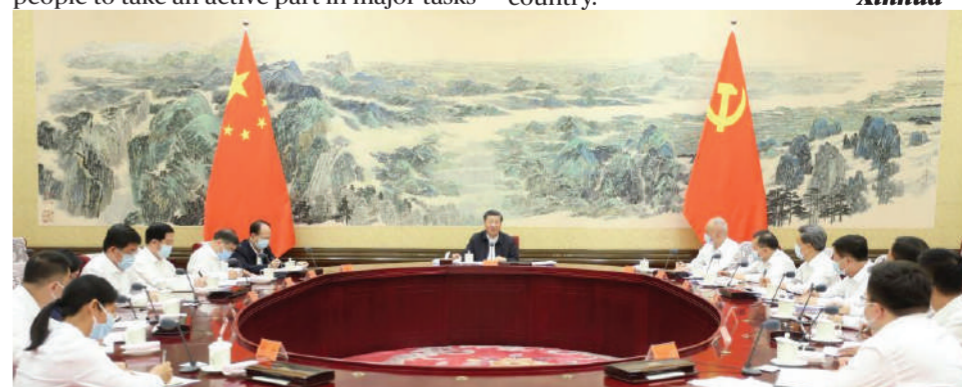
such as creating a new development pattern, boosting high-quality development, securing a victory in the fight against poverty, and responding to the COVID-19 epidemic, showing great courage and commitment of Chinese youth in the new era, Xi said.

The CPC Central Committee expects the leading members of the CYLC Central Committee to play an exemplary role in pushing forward the CYLC cause and the work related to youth, he said. Being an aide and reserve force of the Party, the CYLC must center its work on the Party's central task on the new journey of the new era, set at the 20th CPC National Congress, he stressed.

Noting that greater efforts should be made to enhance political guidance for young people, Xi said the CYLC should give top priority to strengthening political guidance for CYLC members and other young people, and make dedicated efforts to nurture the next generation, who will fully develop socialism and carry forward the socialist cause.

He stressed that the CYLC should actively orient itself toward the implementation of major national strategies and tasks, and mobilize youths to dedicate themselves to Chinese modernization and strive to become pioneers and a fresh driving force in sectors such as sci-tech innovation, rural revitalization, green development, social services, and defending the border for the country.

Xinhua



General secretary of the Communist Party of China (CPC) Central Committee Xi Jinping, also Chinese president and chairman of the Central Military Commission, meets with the leading members of the newly-elected Central Committee of the Communist Youth League of China (CYLC) and delivers an important speech in Beijing on Monday.

SPORT



Barrick Bulyanhulu na Geita Gold Mine basketball teams' players take on each other in a friendly tie which took place at Bulyanhulu basketball court in Shinyanga recently. Geita Gold Mine team notched 85-81 win over Barrick Bulyanhulu squad. PHOTO: CORRESPONDENT

Dua Said relives challenging atmosphere of professional soccer in nearby leagues

By Correspondent John Kimbute

VETERAN Tanzanian football player Dua Said, having hanged his boots and moving his skills to train as a coach, has been reliving his experiences in popular sports sit-ins on radio and television.

His current interest is not to take up league soccer but developing talents among young people in schools and eventually in youth teams, based on extensive remarks over the weekend. It looks candid and quite realistic.

Some of the things that the former Simba SC star winger talked about were so to say within the imagination of listeners, though when someone has lived through that experience it is easier to believe the sort of suspicions we often have.

One is the idea that when local players arrive in the Middle East - perhaps until recently - some recruitment agents or team managers would be under the impression they will take any salary, paltry as they come as if they were refugees. So he left.

At a different landing, this time in South Africa, he enrolled in the Jomo Cosmos side and played one season, then a surprising incident occurred.

Another Tanzanian player also playing for the side and still on contract told the management he was sick and wished to travel home to recover, and was permitted.

And before reporting back, there was a much-vaunted local soccer event that saw him appear apparently for one of the city giants. The report intensely irritated his club, axing both players.

What they said in that regard wasn't that this or that player has misbehaved, but that Tanzanian players are unreliable if they are given a contract, take things lightly and go back home, appear for their former clubs.

The issue there is the risk of injury and what it means for a player having a contract with a foreign club side, and then appear in competitive encounters they have not authorized, for instance, if it was a national team appearance. They cannot be blamed.

The other scenario was in Mauritius whose contentions or close rivalries appeared sharper than the usual level of contention between the city giants in Dar es Salaam, or so the player must have learned.

One incident he especially recalls was a moment where he scored with a header, the referee pointed to the center, and the linesman or assistant referee had his flag raised for offside.

Chaos ensued, the match had to be abandoned 20 minutes before time and riots swept Port Louis, with hordes of youths or fans moving to burn sugarcane plantations of sponsoring company of the rival side.

That approximates something like Azam FC playing one of the city archivals - and upon game stoppage for a disputed goal, a crowd goes on a rampage against factories or upcountry estates of this or that company.

That is entirely out of place in Dar es Salaam, which reflects underlying social matrices, with Said noting that the conflict and arson on sugar plantations had religious undertones, reflecting the dual social obedience of that country.

It is similar to the early colonial history of Uganda where massacres occurred as two Christian factions jostled for influence around the Kabaka, the Ba-Ingleza (Anglican) and Ba-Fransa (Catholic) factions.

Narrations of who went there first and how he was invited to the Middle East and then to South Africa, and who else he was in a position to call when asked for possibly invite to either of those places a player like him.

He mentioned Ali Yusuf 'Tigana' and Monja Liseki, all of these names having paled from memory as the mind habitually cleans up data it no longer needs, thus at present youths and even adults know of Mbwana Samatta, the returning Simon Msuva, George Mpole and a few others, not the previous generation. Media forays help to relieve that era.

Beyond these experiences with professional soccer in different countries and their often contrasting environments, not to say sheer surprises of what to expect, there are spheres where the Said narration is an update on the state of soccer as a way of life in the country.

Often when former top players are brought into studios for a session in 'psychoanalysis', one issue that is anticipated by many listeners or viewers is what they are doing after football, and indeed how they are managing in life.

The scene is changing, and stories of poor old former players are being erased.

There have been instances of 'passing the bowl' among well-wishers not just for former traditional music legends but also former soccer players, those who mostly remained inside and perhaps played only fleetingly for the city rivals.

In a good number of cases, they moved on to either worthwhile small businesses or to coaching with varying levels of success - or airs of confidence in that regard.

The current scene is mixed in which players are already community notables and club sponsors within their playing days, like Ali Kiba of Coastal Union fame, who was lately arranging charity encounters with equally successful Samatta.

The horizon is less gray and more silver for professional soccer end-of-career expectations, and that is precisely what should be the case - not success and then older age abject poverty.



Kagera Sugar FC players celebrate after one of the squad's footballers netted a goal in a recent NBC Premier League tie against Mbeya City FC that took place in Mbeya. PHOTO: COURTESY OF KAGERA SUGAR FC

SPORTS

Yanga and Simba SC need to be given a run for their money

By Correspondent Lloyd Elpokea

SINCE time immemorial, Yanga and Simba SC have been the fiercest of archivals on the perennially action-packed domestic football stage.

Indeed, the two celebrated clubs have claimed more trophies than any other club in the interesting lore of local football.

Over the years, many top-flight football outfits simply could not hold a candle to Yanga and Simba SC in domestic football championships as the two clubs were utterly head and shoulders above the rest.

Having said that though, in this 21st century, a few clubs have taken a stab at toppling Simba SC and Yanga from the summit of local football.

For example, in the early 2000s, Mtibwa Sugar regularly challenged Yanga and Simba in an intense battle for top honors although without much success.

Interestingly, when a new club Azam FC was founded several years ago, many pundits believed that the 'ice cream makers' were going to be the football side that would halt the outright dominance of Simba SC and Yanga in local football.

However, despite their immense exertions, Azam FC has sadly failed to snap the long winning streak of Yanga and Simba SC, as the past six seasons so clearly illuminate.

Indeed, Yanga clinched the league title for the second time on the trot last season, while Simba SC commandingly held sway over local football in the four seasons before that by claiming the league trophy four successive times.

It can thus be seen that Yanga's and Simba SC's amazingly glorious spell of success during the last six seasons distinctly demonstrates that the two age-old foes are ruling the roost in local football.

At this important juncture, I would like to go to great pains to underscore the fact that despite Yanga's and Simba SC's unchallenged hegemony over domestic football, our football standard as a country



Tanzania's Yanga center-back Bakari Mwamnyeto (L) outfoxes Algeria's USM Alger attacker, Aymen Mahious, during the first leg of the 2022/23 CAF Confederation Cup final which took place in Dar es Salaam on Sunday. Yanga lost 2-1 to USM Alger. PHOTO: CORRESPONDENT JUMANNE JUMA

has significantly risen as was evidenced by the sterling displays of our two football juggernauts in CAF's inter-club competitions last season.

The point, however, that I'm striving to make is that local football would receive a much-needed shot in the arm if there were one or two clubs who could become a real thorn in the side of Yanga and Simba SC on the home front.

Such a scenario would immediately up the standard of local football as greater competition also makes for a stronger national football team.

Let us now zero in on the enchanting sport of women's netball as excitement is beginning to mount ahead of the women's Netball World Cup, which is expected to begin unfolding on July 28 this year in the picturesque city of Cape Town.

From an African standpoint, the continent will be represented by four teams which are to wit South Africa, Malawi, Uganda, and Zimbabwe.

Out of this quartet of four netball teams, South Africa and Malawi will be the cynosure of all eyes on the

continent as these two countries frequently hold their own impressively against the world's most impeccable sides.

Nevertheless, it is a certainty that to have a shout at securing the trophy, South Africa and Malawi will have to overcome the sport's elite teams which are Australia, New Zealand, and England.

Axiomatically, then, it seems that we are set for a veritable battle royal for women's netball's most cherished piece of silverware at the world cup this year.

TFF urged to elevate Dar footballers' status

By Correspondent Renatha Msungu, Dodoma

RETIRED President Jakaya Mrisho Kikwete has asked the Ministry of Culture, Arts, and Sports to cooperate with Tanzania Football Federation (TFF) to ensure that domestic players get great recognition domestically and internationally.

Kikwete issued his request at the presentation ceremony for this year's JKT Marathon held at the Jamhuri Stadium in Dodoma last weekend.

The JKT Marathon witnessed participants battling it out in 21.1km, 10km, and 5km races.

He was adamant domestic footballers need to be duly appreciated as is the case with such popular foreign footballers like Yanga's Fiston Mayele and Djigui Diarra, as well as Simba SC Jean Baleke.

Kikwete said that his biggest concern is that he and the rest of the Tanzanians are eager to witness domestic footballers currently featuring for various teams garner praise as a result of their contribution to their teams.

"The Deputy Minister for Culture, Arts, and Sports, I ask you to work on this issue of identifying famous

players to ensure that they are found in Tanzania," Kikwete stated.

He further explained that prominent Tanzania clubs, Simba SC and Yanga are doing well but their success is mostly brought about by foreign professionals' contributions.

The retired President noted the ministry and the federation should henceforth set forth strategies to ensure that Tanzanian players are equally valued.

He further asked the army to organize itself and set strategies to ensure that the newly promoted Premier League side, Mashujaa FC, registers good players so it can post good results in the top flight.

He stressed the army-owned Kigoma team ought to prepare well for the Premier League because the showdown will see the team lock horns with, among other contenders, domestic football big guns.

He said that Premier League is currently very competitive, so, Mashujaa FC should invest in players as well as technical bench so that the squad can successfully compete in the top flight.

"The Premier League is very competitive right now, there are teams that have invested well in players,

coaches, and the technical bench, so the Chief of Defence Forces should invest in Mashujaa FC so that it can compete," Kikwete stated.

Chief of Defence Forces, Jacob Mkunda said that the army is looking forward to forming an outfit, Ngome, which will be competing in all sports disciplines.

Mkunda said that the institution is well organized in sports and that is why Tanzania People's Defence Force and JKT athletes excel in various sports tournaments in the country.

"We are well organized in sports, we will ensure that our football, athletics and other sports teams do well," Mkunda affirmed.

Speaker of the National Assembly Tulia Ackson asked Mbeya City FC, which has succumbed to relegation to next season's Championship League, not to give up and, instead, the team should reorganize so that it can make its way back to the top flight.

National Service (JKT) Chief, Rajabu Mabele, congratulated the army for overseeing good preparation for the 2023 JKT Marathon, which culminated with winners raking in cash prizes and medals.

Yanga's new head coach hints at hunger for success

By Correspondent Nassir Nchimbi

YANGA's new head coach Miguel Angel Gamondi has expressed excitement to continue winning trophies at the club after signing a two-year deal.

The 56-year-old Argentine gaffer will be taking over the reins from Nasreddine Nabi, who recently bid farewell to the club after the conclusion of the highly competitive 2022-23 season.

With an impressive managerial career spanning various continents, Gamondi brings a wealth of experience and tactical acumen to the Tanzanian outfit.

"I'm Miguel Gamondi, a coach from Argentina. I was working more than 20 years in African football," he said in his unveiling video.

"I was coaching teams like Wydad Casablanca, Mamelodi Sundowns in South Africa, CR Belouizdad in Algeria, Esperance in Tunisia.

"I was lucky to get some good results, some good achievements with them.

"I'm very excited to join this big club with a huge history. For me, it's one of the greatest clubs in history, with incredible fans as well."

"I strongly believe, if we can work together - fans, management, players, and technical staff, we can continue to

bring success and even greater results.

"I'm excited to join and hope to see you very soon," He said. The gaffer had successfully managed clubs such as Mamelodi Sundowns, USM Alger, CR Belouizdad, Wydad Casablanca, IR Tanger, and Platinum Stars, among others.

His appointment at Yanga has sparked excitement and anticipation among the outfit's passionate fan base.

His track record of success and his reputation for implementing an attacking style of play have made him a much sought-after coach in the African football landscape.

Gamondi's tenure at Mamelodi Sundowns, a South African powerhouse, was particularly noteworthy.

During his time at the club, he guided them to several domestic triumphs, including league titles and cup victories.

Under his guidance, Mamelodi Sundowns developed a reputation for their free-flowing, high-scoring brand of football, leaving fans in awe of their performances on the pitch.

The Argentine coach also had successful stints in Algeria, where he worked with USM Alger and CR Belouizdad, achieving notable milestones at both clubs.

With USM Alger, Gamondi played a pivotal role in their Algerian Ligue Professionnelle 1 success, while at CR Belouizdad, he led the team to a thrilling Algerian Cup triumph.

West Ham reject Manchester City's £90m offer for Declan Rice

COMPREHENSIVE REPORT, PAGE 19



Tanzania U-18 women's football side.

FIFA clamps down on Yanga

By Correspondent Nassir Nchimbi

TANZANIA'S football big gun, Yanga, has reportedly been handed a transfer ban by FIFA. Yanga, this season's Premier League champion, was instructed by the world football governing body in October 2022 to pay the side's former head coach Luc Eymael outstanding fees for unfair dismissal.

"We take due note that in its correspondence, the creditor informs us that the respondent, Young Africans SC, has not complied with its financial obligations following the decision of FIFA," read a letter signed by FIFA's disciplinary coordinator, Pablo Arias.

"In this regard, we wish to inform the parties that a ban on registering new players internationally has been implemented by FIFA as of today."

"Moreover, and following this aforementioned decision, the respondent's member association (TFF) is requested to immediately implement on the respondent, Young Africans SC, a ban from signing new players at the national level."

The ban comes after FIFA, in October 2022, ordered the Tanzania football heavyweights to pay their former head coach Eymael \$148,000 (346m/-) for unfair dismissal.

The club then allegedly contacted Eymael to accept the payment in installments, despite the FIFA order stating it needed to be an immediate lump sum.

Eymael is said to have accepted the deal in good faith as he looked to ease the situation and was not having to fork out the full amount.

"I told him the proposal was dangerous, maybe he liked the club and accepted to receive it in a few installments, so he signed the settlement agreement," his lawyer Semeria Antoine said.

The first payment was on October 31, 2022, for \$20,000, and after that, it was scheduled for each month on November 30 with an agreement of \$33,000 until the 28th of February.

"The club paid with many delays, only the first two installments, the first came on November 16 and the second one at the end of December when the deadline was November 30," he added.

"The third one was not initially paid but eventually came just before I referred the case to FIFA and after that, they stopped all payments. So on February 3, I referred the case and they still have \$99,000 unpaid with a \$5,000 penalty for the delay."

On March 7, the case was officially referred to FIFA to certify that the club didn't respect the settlement agreement and to condemn the club to pay the full amount plus the penalty.

FIFA then sent the decision condemning the club to pay Luc Eymael the sum of \$66,000 with a \$5,000 penalty with a 45-day deadline to pay since the notification.

"They didn't pay, so I wrote to FIFA [again] on June 19, 2023, to ask to certify the club didn't pay during this period of 45 days and to order the ban of registration during the windows," he confirmed.

"After that I received something, to confirm that FIFA communicated with the Tanzania Football Federation (TFF) to inform all parties that Young Africans SC didn't comply with the financial obligations following the decision of FIFA and, in this regard, they informed the party of registering new players, internationally has been implemented and the TFF have to watch if the club breaks this ban."

The former AFC Leopards coach and Yanga parted ways after the tactician is said to have referred to the fans racially.

This will be a big blow for Yanga, who are just coming off an impressive campaign both at the national and continental levels.

Yanga enjoyed an impressive 2022/2023 campaign after clinching the Premier League title while they also reached the CAF Confederation Cup final, where they lost to USM Alger over two legs.

Yanga will now need to pay him in full or the ban will remain in effect and this website understands the club has made no official communication with Eymael's lawyer and FIFA since the ruling was passed down on Sunday morning.

Azania Bank Upanga SC clinches 2023 Petrofuel DC Caravans T20 Cup tourney top honour



Cricketers making Azania Bank Upanga SC that has clinched this season's Petrofuel Dar es Salaam Cricket (DC) Caravans T20 Cup tournament title celebrate their victory along with Chairman and Managing Director of Petrofuel, Satish Kumar, and Chairman of Caravans Cricket Club, T.G. Thulaseeddas. Azania Bank Upanga SC beat Aurobindo Aga Khan SC in the final held in the city on Sunday. PHOTO: COURTESY OF CARAVANS CRICKET CLUB

By Guardian Reporter

AZANIA Bank Upanga SC has lifted this season's Petrofuel Dar es Salaam Cricket (DC) Caravans T20 Cup silverware, beating Aurobindo Aga Khan SC by a staggering 88-run margin on Sunday.

The match took place at the esteemed Leaders Club ground in Dar es Salaam, and it marked the third consecutive final appearance for Aurobindo Aga Khan SC, aiming to turn into one of the most successful teams in the competition's history.

Winning the toss, Aurobindo Aga Khan SC elected to field first, hoping to restrict Azania Bank Upanga SC's batting line-up.

Opener Yelda Reddy provided a solid start for Azania Bank Upanga SC with a quickfire 26 off just 15 deliveries, laying a strong foundation for the team.

However, Uganda's senior national team's star Riazat Ali Shah was the cricketer who stole the show, delivering an exceptional performance.

Shah's unbeatable knock of 61 runs off just 31 balls displayed his prowess and dominance on the pitch.

The cricketer was rightfully honoured as the Colourflex Man of the Match for his explosive batting display.

Supporting Shah's outstanding innings was Maker Mukesh, who contributed a commendable 53 runs off 41 deliveries, earning him the Rickshaw Game Changer of the Final award.

His outstanding performance throughout the tournament earned him the prestigious TATA Best Batsman award.

With these remarkable performances, Azania Bank Upanga SC amassed an impressive total of 180 runs for the loss of six wickets in their allotted 20 overs.

Aurobindo Aga Khan SC's bowling attack struggled to contain the opponents' rampant batting display, with Sivaraj Selvaraj emerging as the sole notable performer for the former.

Selvaraj managed to take three crucial wickets and was recognized with the RAS Logistics Best Bowler award for his exceptional efforts. Chasing a formidable target of 181 runs, Aurobindo Aga Khan SC faltered under the pressure of the final.

Only Ajith Augustin managed to put up a fight with his quick knock of 25 runs off 12 balls. The rest of the batting line-up failed to make an impact as Aurobindo Aga Khan SC crumbled under Azania Bank Upanga SC's relentless bowling assault.

Dinesh Nakrani spearheaded the bowling onslaught, wreaking havoc on Aurobindo Aga Khan SC's batting order.

Nakrani's remarkable spell saw him claim four wickets while conceding just 15 runs in 2.5 overs. Asuri Rajendra and Sanjay Bom also contributed to the team's success, picking up three wickets and two wickets respectively. The final result was a resounding victory for Azania Bank Upanga SC, as Aurobindo Aga Khan SC was dismissed for a mere 92 runs in 14.5 overs.

This loss marked Aurobindo Aga Khan SC's first defeat in this year's Petrofuel DC Caravans T20 Cup and served as a remind-

er that the final is what truly matters in determining the ultimate champion.

Individual awards were also presented to the best players of the tournament. Umar Shaikh of All Seasons Lions received the ASAS Emerging Player Award, recognizing his talent and potential.

Bom was awarded the Alliance Champion of Champions title. Augustin, who displayed consistent excellence throughout the tournament, was honoured with the Car & General Man of the Series award and went home with a brand new TVS Apache RTR bike.

The 2023 Petrofuel DC Caravans T20 Cup concluded with an enthralling final, showcasing exceptional cricketing skills and the determination of the competing teams.

Azania Bank Upanga SC's dominant victory established their place in the annals of the prestigious tournament's history, while Aurobindo Aga Khan SC will have to regroup and strive for success in future editions.

This season's tournament penned a landmark achievement being the first tournament in the country to feature over 15 foreign players that played for various teams in the tournament.

The Petrofuel DC Caravans T20 Cup is an annual T20-formatted cricket competition organized by Caravans Cricket Club.

Petrofuel is the title sponsor of the show-down. Other sponsors include Alliance Insurance, Colourflex, TATA Africa Holdings, ASAS, Rickshaw Travels, RAS Logistics, Pepsi, e-Parking, Remax, Flashnet, and Aurobindo.

Others are Azania Bank, Jiuzhou, All Season Hotel, General Petroleum, UMC International, Automark, Hisense, Oman Air, Ashton Media, Mo Assurance, Aucom & Harmonic, and Car & General.

National U-18 women's squad dissolves camp

By Correspondent Nassir Nchimbi

THE Council of East and Central African Football Associations (CECAFA) has pushed forward the CECAFA U-18 Women's Championship that will be staged in Nairobi Kenya.

After weeks of rescheduling, everything now points to another postponement of the CECAFA U-18 Women's Championship initially scheduled for the June 29 kickoff.

This comes after fresh developments indicated that both Tanzania and Uganda had resulted in dissolving active camps.

The move has been brought about by the fact that CECAFA, through the body's Executive Director Auka Gecheo, had 'informed the teams that the competition had been postponed to a later date'.

"We just have out the information that the tournament may be moved to after July 13, we will give a final position on the way forward once we finalize the arrangements," the official noted.

If the reports are factual, that would present the fourth time the tournament has been moved in months.

The first CECAFA U-18 Women's tournament of the season was initially penciled to take place on June 3-17 before being pushed to June 24-July 8.

Just a week ago, CECAFA, while announcing that seven teams had confirmed their participation, opted - this time in negotiation with FKF - to push the tournament by five days; resetting the dates to June 29-July 11.

With Tanzania and Kenya camps broken, it is noted that 30 out of 44 players making Kenya's U-18 women's team camp are active.

"If they move it a lot of countries will withdraw," Otieno added. "July 13 is tricky for most countries with exams and school games," Football Kenya Federation CEO Barry Otieno clarified.

The confidence that pushing the start of the showpiece forward will give Member Associations enough time to prepare their teams for the season-opening tournament on the CECAFA calendar has turned out to be different after Tanzania and Uganda dissolved their teams' camps.

The countries that had confirmed participation include Kenya's Junior Starlets, Ethiopia, Mainland Tanzania, Uganda, Burundi, Rwanda, and Zanzibar.

Flexibles by David Chikoko

