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TANZANIA

THURSDAY 6 APRIL, 2023

National Pg 3 Utilisation of local construction materials



National Pg 4 ICT Commission and Aron Group sign MoU



National Pg 7 Mbeya school faces shortage of latrines



Treasury staff query pensions computing

By Guardian Correspondent, Dodoma

COMPUTING retirement benefits at 33 per cent lump-sum has resurfaced a bone of contention as retiring Ministry of Finance and Planning officers appealing to the minister, Dr Mwigulu Nchemba (pictured) to seek top level government arbitration on the matter.

The demand came up yesterday after the minister opened the ministry's general workers council meeting here, as soon after he opened the meeting, he called on anyone with complaints to air them.

A meeting participant, Consolata Maimu complained about the computation of social security benefits for public employees, saying the lumpsum benefit was far too low for their change over to a new life.

"Our complaints regarding computation of social security benefits for public employees is that it is still a sharp thorn in our flesh. If you consider an employee who has worked for 37 years and left employment at a salary of 1.6m/- a month, is supposed to be paid a 62m/- lump sum benefit while if he was to be paid from the terms of the original work contract he is supposed to be paid 126m/-," the officer intoned.

She said those who are retiring now should not be paid in accordance with the new work



...underlining that so far it has paid over 34bn/- in arrears and provided 79bn/- in transportation facility loans

contract as they were employed on the earlier contract, well before the new computation method came into being.

"We plead with you to refer the issue to higher authorities for the government to review the system," she emphasised, amid applause, where the minister promised a meeting between the Public Service Management (in the President's Office) and the Prime Minister's Office, to "use the occasion to air this complaint."

Earlier, when opening the meeting, the minister appealed to strive to set examples in diligence on utilisation of state funds, being strict with the budget allocated.

"This is a meeting for self-evaluation," he declared, saying that Treasury appeals to other ministries receiving budget funds to exercise strict controls in expenditure, thus it needs to be reflected in the Treasury itself.

Desk officers were asked to grab the study sponsorship opportunities to go outside the country which in recent times Tanzania has lacked people to fill.

The government is bent on improving workers' benefits, he said, underlining that so far it has paid over 34bn/- in arrears and provided 79bn/- in transportation facility loans.

Last July, the government started implementing the new formula of calculating lump sum retirement benefits, where servants will now be paid 33 percent of the total pension funds.

The government's 2014 regulations on

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Govt rejects C\$130m gold miner's demand



Former president Jakaya Kikwete, since November 2019 Chairperson of the Global Water Partnership's Southern Africa and Africa Coordination Unit, presents to Zanzibar President Dr Hussein Ali Mwinyi the prestigious Global Water Changemakers Award at Zanzibar State House yesterday. GWP is an international network created to foster an integrated approach to water resources management and provide practical advice for the sustainable management of the resources. Photo: Zanzibar State House

By Guardian Reporter

LITIGATION is picking up at the International Centre for Settlement of Investment Disputes (ICSID), as the Canadian firm is demanding 130m Canadian dollars in compensation principal sum and interest.

A legal team from the office of the Solicitor General led by Dr Boniphas Luhende, who is deputy SG, is handling the case. He is accompanied by senior state counsel George Mandepo, along with Consesa Kahendaguzo, Salome Magesa, Andrew Rugarabamu, and Lydia Thomas.

The office said yesterday that the government has submitted its response against Canada-based Winshear Gold Corp, rejecting the demand for C\$130 million (including interest which continues to accrue), for compensation following the cancellation of its four retention mining licenses at SMP Gold project based in Chunya District, Mbeya region in 2017.

Proceedings of the dispute (ARB/20/25) were held from 13th to 16th February at the ICSID headquarters in Washington D.C. where the claimant also seeks reimbursement of its arbitration costs and fees.

The claimant, represented by Timothy Foden and Dr Marc Veit, told the court that

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PM signals probe into 119 projects

By Felister Peter, Dodoma

A TOTAL of 119 projects taking up 46.04bn/- out of 810 development undertakings valued at 6.89trn/- have been placed under investigation, the government has declared.

Prime Minister Kassim Majaliwa told the National Assembly here yesterday that the projects are those implemented in the 2022/2023 financial year, with appropriate measures set to be taken against those seen to have sabotaged those projects.

Tabling budget estimate for sprawling Prime Minister's Office during the 2023/2024 financial year, which comprises two ministries and the legislature, he said the government will do more to combat

graft in the coming financial year.

Efforts will be directed in the prevention of such acts and promoting awareness campaigns via the Prevention and Combating of Corruption Bureau (PCCB), he stated.

He said until February a total of 696 corruption cases were recorded, with 248 ruled upon and 142 suspects convicted. Similarly, a total of 11,896 civil servants axed for using inappropriate or forged academic credentials have been reimbursed their social security contributions, he stated.

The payments pegged at 35.2bn/- were handled by the National Social Security Fund (NSSF) and the Public Service Social

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'Just one-third of citizens know of climate change'

By Henry Mwangonde

JUST 32 per cent of Tanzanians say they have heard of climate change issues, with awareness being higher among urbanites (46 per cent), a new survey has indicated.

Dr Lucas Katera, acting executive director for the economic think tank REPOA, said in highlighting findings of the survey that urban men were more aware of climate change issues.

This awareness stands at 39 per cent overall while among rural residents awareness climbs down to 24 per cent among men and 25 per cent among women,

he said.

Awareness of climate change increases steeply with respondents' education level, ranging from just 12 percent) for those with no formal schooling to 72 percent for those with post-secondary qualifications, it stated.

Among citizens who are aware of climate change, eight in 10 say it is making life in the country more difficult, with 31 per cent thinking it is 'somewhat worse' and 51 per cent of this group thinking it is 'much worse,' he elaborated.

The survey was aimed at finding out

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59 YEARS of UNION SPECIAL SUPPLEMENT

26TH APRIL TANGANYIKA & ZANZIBAR

The Guardian Limited, publisher of The Guardian and Nipashe newspapers, invites all development supporters to send congratulatory messages on celebrating the 59th Anniversary of the Union of Tanganyika and Zanzibar.

The supplement will be published on 26th April, 2023.

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Govt rejects C\$130m gold miner's demand

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the company suffered a loss of C\$124.78m following the cancellation of project licences.

The licenses appropriation procedure was discriminatory and breached provisions in the Bilateral Investment Treaty (BIT) between Canada and Tanzania, the litigant asserts.

Counsel Kahendaguzo presented the government's submission, where it especially berated against the demands, citing four grounds to demonstrate legal irrelevance of those claims.

Its first submission is that the tribunal has no jurisdiction to determine the matter; second ground being that the claimant has not made any investment in Tanzania.

In the third submission the SG's office affirms that the respondent has never expropriated the claimant's investment in Tanzania and finally, asserts that the claimant is not entitled to any compensation.

In the case the tribunal finds that the claimant is entitled to the compensation, the amount of compensation should not be C\$124.78m being claimed, the response demanded.

Elaborating, the SG's rebuttal asserts that the tribunal has no jurisdiction to determine the matter on two grounds, firstly that the shareholding structure of Bafex (T) Ltd, earlier licensed to carry out mining activities, "does not include Winshear."

Secondly, "ICSID is not the proper forum for challenging a statute repugnant in Tanzania because Winshear did not make any investment through BIT," it said, suggesting that the bilateral investment treaty is inapplicable in the mining sector dispute.

"The respondent submits that both in principle and in practice, Tanzanian laws lay down a very elaborate procedure for challenging the validity or otherwise of a statute in the context of Bill of Rights entrenched in articles 12-19 of the constitution of the United Republic of Tanzania," the affidavit declares.

In particular, the government submits that the constitution vests jurisdiction to determine the constitutionality, inter alia, of the statute to the High Court of Tanzania where any person, including a juridical person like the claimant, who alleged that this right has been violated, it asserts.

"Therefore, the government submits that the tribunal vested with power to determine investment disputes under article 25 (1) of the ICSID convention, has no jurisdiction to determine the validity of the change made to Tanzania mining laws in 2017 and the introduction of new regulations of 2018," it pursued.

The government submits that in September 2014, Bufex (T) was granted with four retention licenses as mentioned, which later in 2017 were cancelled on the basis of amendments to the Mining Act of 2010.

"There is no justification that Winshear Gold, owning shares in Bufex (T) Ltd (BTL) fit for the protection of any investment for any customary law," the submit reads.

The counsel, making the submission, said that records with the Business Registration and Licensing Authority (BRELA), the

agency mandated to register all companies in Tanzania, does not have Winshear Gold Corp. in its registration.

BRELA records show that BTL shared are spread between Bufex Holding Ltd (BHL) which holds 99 percent and Helio Resources Corporation (HRC) which holds one percent of ordinary shares.

The claimant has alleged to have changed its name from Helio to Winshear Gold in 2020, the submission affirms, noting that those changes are not reflected in the record of the host state contrary to section 346 (3) of the law on Business Registration (Miscellaneous Amendments) Act of 2012, together with the Companies Act, chapter 212 of the laws of Tanzania.

The respondent submits that if there was a change of name Helio Resources Corporation to Winshear Gold, the claimant was required to comply with host state laws by notifying the registrar of companies of such changes, making the respondent cognisant of the claimant as shareholder.

"Under section 123 of the Mining Act 2010, the claimant was required to ensure that any change variations to the company should be registered with the Tanzania Mining Commission," the submission underlined.

"The alleged change to Winshear have never been registered to the commission. So Winshear is an unknown person to (the contract involving) BTL," the state rebuttal proceeds.

Non-compliance to the Companies Act and the Mining Act by complainant is contrary to the requirements of the Bilateral Investment Treaty as foreign nationals are subjected to compliance with host state laws, it emphasised.

Background to claim

In July 2017, the government amended the Mining Act 2010 by, inter alia, abolishing the retention licence classification. The company's SMP Mineral Resource was wholly contained within four retention licences.

On 10 January 2018, Tanzania published the new Mining (Mineral Rights) Regulations 2018, which cancelled all retention licences at which point they ceased to have any legal effect.

The rights over all areas under retention licences, including the retention licences held for the SMP Gold Project, were immediately transferred to the government.

During the time from January 2018 to December 2019, the company actively engaged with the Ministry for Minerals and the Mining Commission in an effort to resolve a suitable tenure mechanism for the project licence to be reinstated, without success.

On 19 December 2019, the Mining Commission announced a public invitation to tender for the joint development of areas covered previously by retention licences. The invitation provided that the successful bidder should compensate the previous retention licence holder.

On 20 December 2019, the Mining Commission announced a revised public invitation to tender, which removed the condition that the successful bidder compensate the previous retention licence holder, the affidavit indicated.



Prime Minister Kassim Majaliwa tables his Office's Budget estimates for financial year 2023/2024 in the National Assembly in Dodoma city yesterday. Photo: PMO

PM signals probe into 119 projects

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Security Fund (PSSSF), following directives from President Samia Suluhu Hassan that the matter be settled.

"They were given a golden handshake for their services by paying them their social security contributions," he affirmed, noting further that the government paid 2.17trn/- to PSSF for members moved to the fund from the Parastatal Sector Pensions Fund (PSPF) which was dissolved in 2019. PSSSF has paid retirement benefits totaling

1.074trn/- to 41,939 civil servants during this financial year.

NSSF has paid 438.32bn/- retirement benefits to 66,628 retirees and dependents, he specified, pointing at the reduction of employers' contributions to the Workers Compensation Fund (WCF) to 0.5 percent for the public sector. Private sector employers pay 0.6 percent of their employees' salaries, down from the previous one percent of gross wages and salaries, he said.

In the 2023/2024 financial year, the government will pursue

empowerment programs and search for markets, connecting entrepreneurs to various economic opportunities, he said.

In the current fiscal year, the government extended 326.6bn/- facilitation funds to 903,763 entrepreneurs, where 478,994 (53 percent) are women and 424,769 (47 percent) are men.

A total of 96 women entrepreneurs were financially supported through the Women Development Fund (WDF) with loans amounting to 663.4m/- paid to them this financial year, he added.



Works and Transport deputy minister Atupele Mwakibete (R) and Suo Peng, Chargé d'affaires at the Chinese Embassy in Tanzania, pictured in Dar es Salaam earlier this week placing wreaths at the grave of one of the Chinese experts who died in the course of the construction of the Tanzania Zambia Railway (TAZARA) and were buried at a common cemetery in the city. Photo: Correspondent Halfani Chusi

'Just one-third of citizens know of climate change'

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levels of understanding among the public on climate change issues, where the key finding is that there is little understanding of the matter among wide sections of the population, he said.

This finding points at governance problems as climate change is an issue which must be taken into consideration when conducting project discussions and formulating policies, he asserted.

In another aspect of the survey, the report affirmed that more than half of the public want the government to do more to curb pollution and

protect the environment with trash disposal and deforestation being top concerns.

The survey, focusing on citizens' perceptions on pollution and environmental protection, found that 54 per cent of respondents consider pollution as a serious problem in their communities. Urban residents expressed more concern at 60 per cent while concern among their rural counterparts stood at 51 per cent, the report indicates.

Most of the respondents commended the government's performance in reducing pollution and protecting the environment,

but they want it to be doing much more, with a majority favouring tighter regulation for extraction of natural resources to reduce its impact on the environment.

Derick Msafiri, one of the researchers, explained that Tanzanians assign the primary responsibility of reducing pollution and keeping communities clean to ordinary citizens, by up to 46 per cent.

Others think that it is local authorities or the central government, at 35per cent and 13 per cent respectively, while a small section of respondents look to business and industry (four per

cent) and traditional leaders (one per cent).

Eight in 10 citizens (82per cent) think the government is doing a job of reducing pollution and protecting the environment, he said, elaborating that three quarters (74per cent) say the government should be doing much more to limit pollution and protect the environment.

Virtually eight in 10 citizens (78 per cent) were firm that the government should regulate the natural resource extraction industry more tightly in order to reduce its impact on the environment, he added.

Court sets free ex-Hai DC Ole Sabaya

By Guardian Reporter

THE Moshi Resident Magistrate Court in Kilimanjaro Region yesterday found former Hai district commissioner Lengai Ole Sabaya guilty of fraud, abuse of office and obstruction of justice. He was given one year suspended sentence.

Sabaya who pleaded guilty of the offences through 'plea bargaining' was set free.

Sabaya was the only one left in the case No. 2 of 2022 after his co-accused Sylvester Nyegu, Nathan Msuya, John Aweyo and Antero Asey were set free on September 7 after an agreement with the Director of Public Prosecution.

The case which since it started has not been called for hearing due to various legal issues was yesterday brought to an end.

The case was heard by senior resident magistrate Salome Mshasha and was supposed to be brought to the court for proper arrangement of documents, when the prosecution side was told that the accused wanted the case to be heard outside the court through the DPP.

"We have received a letter from the accused requesting that the case be heard outside the court and we have agreed to that request, but we have opened another case No. 32 of 2023 with two counts," she said.

The respondent side led by Moses Mahuna, Helena Mahuna and Fuadhia Mustapher asked the court to have mercy on their client as it was his first offence and had a child and parents who depend on him.

"Our client is sick that's why he was often asking for permission at your court to go for treatment, he has cooperated with government agencies and the court, he has a family that depends on him, we ask for your mercy," Mahuna said.

Reading the judgment, Mshasha said by considering explanations of both sides, the court has found him guilty under Section 38 of the Penal Code Act in which the accused was freed on plea bargaining.

"You will now serve one-year sentence outside prison without committing any criminal offence, but you are free also to appeal if you are not satisfied with the judgment," said magistrate.

Treasury staff query pensions computing

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pension benefits came after pension funds for public sector employees were merged to form the Public Service Social Security Fund (PSSSF).

This sparked a public outcry in 2018 that saw the fifth phase government under the late Dr John Magufuli suspend using the new formula set at 25 percent lump sum payment.

Excepting NSSF, other funds were directed to revert to the old payment formula of 50 per cent lump sum benefits, which the president said would be applicable for at least five years.

The reason was to provide time for reaching consensus about an appropriate formula, which it is clear can't be resolved by discussions involving pension funds and those nearing retirement, via trade unions.



State Mining Corporation's director general Dr Venance Mwase (R) exchanges contract documents with Azania Bank Limited's senior commercial manager, Jackson Lohay shortly after the signing during a two - days conference of the small scale miners and manufacturers organised by Stamico in Dar es Salaam yesterday. The event was witnessed by Minerals minister Dr Dotto Biteko (hidden back row 3rd R). The agreement allows the bank and Stamico to work together to facilitate empowerment of artisanal miners through loans and technical support. Photo: Guardian Correspondent

Call for more utilisation as local construction materials see boom

By Correspondent James Kandoya

THE value of locally-made construction material increased from 451.6mn/- in the last two years to 1.19trn/- last February, with stakeholders calling maximum utilisation to increase contribution to growth

Doto Biteko, the minister for Minerals said that when officially opening a two-day meeting involving artisanal, confederation of Tanzania industry (CTI) and financial institutions.

The minister also witnessed the signing of memorandum of understanding (MoUs) between the State Mining Corporation (STAMICO) with financial institutions, artisanal and construction companies to enable artisanal to hire drilling or other related equipment.

He said despite its importance in the country's construction sector, its contribution was still small for some reasons including lack of financial support and poor quality of the products.

He said that currently, artisanal contributes between 4 to 40 per cent of all revenues collected from the mineral sector.

Currently, out of minerals, 80 per cent is gold, saying more emphasis should be geared to extraction of locally-made construction material that if used fully can contribute more to the national domestic product.

"We want fully utilization of the locally materials that are easily available in the country to contribute more to the national revenue even early than 2025," he said

"To make it more reality, STAMICO has signed MoUs with financial institutions to provide artisanal financial support and factories to supply them with equipment such as drillers to simplify their work," he added.

He said without artisanal, large factories that relied on local raw materials used for construction in factories cannot cherish adding that large factories can contribute to reduction of poverty in the particular group.

He said there were a number of challenges facing artisanal such as lack of right geology information, some factory owners reject to use indicative price, of right information

The ministry boss also called on the Tanzania Revenue Authority (TRA) to involve artisans when setting tax to avoid oppression and masculinity which affects revenues. Chairperson of Mineral Parliamentary Committee Dastan Kitandula said that if locally-made construction materials are fully utilized, the sector can contribute to the sector to reach the target of 10 per cent even before 2025.

"We are doing well in gold and diamond. We want to do better in the locally made construction materials to increase national revenue," he said.

STAMICO managing director Dr Venance Mwase said that the aim of the meeting was to come up with a solution why large factories use imported materials instead of locally made construction materials.

He called on each financial institution to open a special window for minerals to support artisanal likewise for agriculture and other development windows.

"The signing of MoUs is aimed to eliminate obstacles hindering artisanal to get financial support and hire equipment from construction companies," he said.

"We are doing well in gold and diamond. We want to do better in the locally made construction materials to increase national revenue,"

Government disbursed 17.5billion/- in subsidy to six qualified political parties in 2022/2023

By Felister Peter, Dodoma

THE government disbursed 17.5bn/- in subsidy to six qualified political parties in the 2022/2023 financial year, the National Assembly heard yesterday.

Presenting the 2023/2024 budget estimates for his office, Prime Minister Kassim Majaliwa said decisions to finance political parties' activities are meant to strengthen multi-party democracy in the country.

"The government through the office of the Political Parties Registrar coordinates political parties' activities including

issuance of subsidy to ensure equal playing field," said the Premier, adding the move has so far helped to enhance the parties' activities.

The six political parties are NCCR-Mageuzi, Chama Cha Mapinduzi (CCM), Chama Cha Demokrasia na Maendeleo (CHADEMA), Democratic Party (DP), Civic United Front (CUF) and ACT-Wazalendo.

Majaliwa said in the 2023/2024 fiscal year, the government will embark on preparations for the 2025 General Election and Civic polls scheduled for 2024.

He said some of the activities will include improvement of the

voter's permanent registration book, improvement of election management systems, amendment of some election laws, provision of civic education and preparation of regulations to be used for Presidential election, Members of Parliament and Councilors.

Eligible Tanzanians should register as soon as the exercise begins, he added.

He said decisions by President Samia Suluhu Hassan to allow political parties' activities including rallies has further strengthened democracy and unity among Tanzanians.


"President Samia has been at

the forefront in ensuring political harmony in the country," he added.

He however urged ministries, institutions and officials at regional and district level to enhance revenue collections and ensure proper expenditure of funds.

He said in the coming financial year, the government will continue to implement its strategic projects.

Majaliwa stressed the need for stakeholders and the government to use the results of the 2022 population and housing census in its various activities such as investment, business, research and preparation of development plans.



BARRICK

NORTH MARA

REQUEST FOR TENDER

CORROSION PROTECTION OF STEEL STRUCTURE IN PROCESS PLANT

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

Surface preparation and application of protective coating on Process Plant steel structure as per recognized corrosion protection standards NM0016/2023

Pre-qualification Criteria

- (1) Evidence of suitable HSE, OSHA compliance and site safety program.
- (2) Copy of registration and incorporation certificate.
- (3) Experience on similar projects by having list of clients with LPO/signed contract and certificate of completion.
- (4) Experiences on Surface Preparation, Sandblasting, Coating application and Quality Control Methodology.
- (5) Quality Control/Quality Assurance plan, Execution plan and express how effective/consistent are the execution plan.
- (6) Compliance with local content regulation by having local content plan approved by the Mining Commission
- (7) Evidence of suitable resources availability - Equipment, Systems, and Qualified Personnel (Applicators & Inspectors) on Corrosion Protection
- (8) Describe Detailed "Corrosion Protection" Method statement.

Expression of Interest

If your company meets the pre-qualification criteria and would like to be considered to receive the invitation to tender (ITT), an expression of interest (EOI) including your company profile and evidence of compliance with pre-qualification criteria may be submitted to nm.proposal@barrick.com.


Applicants must quote the reference "NM Corrosion Protection" in the subject line of the email.

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

Key Dates

- Last date to submit EOI **7 April 2023**

North Mara Gold Mine Limited



INVITATION FOR TENDER TO SUPPLY PULSES DEHULLING MACHINE

Rikolto in Tanzania is a non-profit making organization (NGO) registered according to the Non- Governmental Organization Act 2002 with registration Number INGO/R1/002. Rikolto Tanzania, has worked in Tanzania for over 40 years and is part of an international network of non-profit organizations in 17 countries worldwide. We build bridges of trust and trade between the food industry, governments, research institutions, financial institutions, and farmers' organizations around one central question: **'What will we eat tomorrow.** Rikolto Tanzania intends to procure a **Pulses Dehulling machine**, in this light, Rikolto invites qualified and competent bidders to bid for the **Pulses Dehulling machine with the below specifications.**

Pulses Dehulling machine: Pigeon peas, soya beans, chickpeas, and green Grams

| | ø180 | ø240 | ø300 |
|---------------------------|---------------|-----------------|-----------------|
| Roller diameter (mm) | ø180 | ø240 | ø300 |
| Roller length (mm) | 660 | 660 | 800 |
| Spindle speed (rpm) | 1300 | 1050 | 850 |
| Capacity (t/h) | 1-1.5 | 2- ³ | 4- ⁶ |
| Power (kW) | 22 | 30 | 37-45 |
| Dimension (mm) | 1370*700*1900 | 1515*660*2100 | 1690*710*2060 |
| Cif price (USD) in Arusha | | | |

The full tender document is found in this link [Invitation for Tender-Supply of Pulses Dehulling machine | Rikolto in East Africa](#) , all applications should be sent via estafrica.procurement@rikolto.org the deadline for the application is **14th April, at 5pm.**

Government collected 400bn/- revenue from the mining sector in 2022/23 financial year

By Felister Peter, Dodoma

PRIME Minister Kassim Majaliwa said yesterday that more than 400bn/- revenue was collected in the 2022/2023 financial year from the mining sector.

He gave the statistics in the august House yesterday when tabling the 2023/2024 recurrent and expenditure budget estimates for his office.

The revenue collected was about 85.43 percent of the ministry's 479.51bn/- projection in the 2022/2023 financial year. He said the government is committed to ensure that they support the mining sector contribution to the national income.

Majaliwa named the areas which contributed to the revenue collection as inspection fee, mineral sales and deals in the mining markets, licensing fee.

The Ministry of Minerals recently said that there has been a good implementation of the goals set for the 2022/2023 financial year.

The Premier mentioned a number of achievements, naming some as the increase in the contribution of the mining sector to the national income in the third quarter of 2022 (July -September 2022) to 9.7 per cent compared to 7.9 per cent for the same period in 2021.

PM said an increase of the income revenue amount to 457bn/- as of February this year compared to 412.9bn/- collected in the period during the corresponding period in 2022.

The revenue increase has been attributed to a number of factors including the amendments to the laws and regulations which have enabled the ministry to formalise mining activities and enable the government to know the sediments

through GST studies and to have productive discussion with mining companies in which the government participates in joint ventures.

In 2022/23 the ministry set up 26 new mineral markets and five mineral refineries for value addition.

PM Majaliwa expressed the government commitment to encourage investment in the mining sector by empowering small scale miners, value addition activities and capacity building for institutions charged with monitoring of the mineral activities.

Minister for Minerals, Dr Dotto Biteko recently announced to ensure that the planned 2023/2024 financial year budget takes into account the strengthening of revenue collection in order to achieve the goal of contributing ten per cent to the national income.

Dr Biteko called on the employees and experts of the ministry to put emphasis in strengthening and developing strategic minerals, the development of small scale miners, adding value to minerals and building the capacity of the ministry's institutions.



an increase of the income revenue amount to 457bn/- as of February this year compared to 412.9bn/- collected in the period during the corresponding period in 2022



Tanzania Commercial Bank Plc Newala District branch manager Alex Minai (L) hands over some of 100 bags of cement to Newala MP retired Captain George Mkuchika earlier this week as part of the bank's contribution to support the construction at Newala Nursing School wall. Photo: Guardian Correspondent

MSD to build five ultra-modern warehouses to enhance services

By Guardian Reporter, Dodoma

MEDICAL Stores Department (MSD) is set to build warehouses in the five regions of Dar es Salaam, Mwanza, Kagera, Dodoma and Mtwara to improve the performance of their services.

Mavere Tukai, MSD director general unveiled here yesterday when speaking to media editors during a two-day seminar organised by the department.

Tukai said the warehouses will help to improve the department's

storage capacity taking into account that demand of drugs and medical equipment has been increasing on yearly basis.

"In Dar es Salaam we're going to build large and ultra-modern warehouses as we've been servicing big number of people who are estimated to be more than 12 million people. So, the building will cut the demand of people in the country's commercial capital," he said.

According to Tukai, another warehouse will be built in Mwanza,

which serve more than 11million people and another big warehouse in Dodoma. "We'll also build a warehouse in Kagera region and the last one in Mtwara region. The idea is to bring services closer to people."

On MSD performance, Tukai said: "We're working hard to digitalise our systems and abandon paperwork use, which will increase our efficiency and make everything easier."

"This will also make us work online and on transparent manner and this will eliminate bureaucracy,"

he said, noting: "There is no reason to hide public information because everyone should see it and through the internet system and be able to identify employees who perform to the required standards."

Daud Msasi, government chief pharmacist (CP) said that in 2022/2023 fiscal year, MSD was allocated with 200bn/- to buy medicines and medical equipment and by March this year, received 140.9bn/- out of 150bn/- (94percent of the allocated funds in the budget).

"This is a big achievement for the 6th phase government under President Samia Suluhu Hassan," he said.

Msasi also asked media editors to work closely with MSD to provide the public with then right information.

ICT Commission and Aron Group sign MoU to harness technology use for small-scale businesses in Tanzania

By Guardian Reporter

THE Information and Communication Technologies (ICT) Commission and the Aron Group Tanzania Limited yesterday signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) to foster collaborations between the two parties especially in supporting small scale business utilize digital services.

Speaking during the signing event in Dar es Salaam yesterday, Dr Nkundwe Mwasaga, director general of the ICT Commission commended Aron Group for coming up a new application dubbed 'Shake' which is aimed to reach small scale traders with digital services to enable them improve their businesses by making them online and making transactions easily.

Mwasaga said that as the government and stakeholders were working hard to ensure that it expands network and internet access from the current 50 per cent to 80 percent by 2025, attracting more investors to invest in ICT was a matter of paramount importance which the commission has prioritized it.

He said growth of the internet has a positive impact on many aspects of society, including education, the economy and personal issues

thus calling for more coordinated efforts to ensure that digital space continues to bring positive outcomes to people and the country. "We are here to support growth of innovation startups and experts, we assure that with this MoU, Aron Group will work smoothly supporting businesses in the country especially small-scale traders to utilize digital opportunities," he said.

Leonce Mongi, chief operations officer said with the Shake application is built as one stop solution to enable all smart-phone users to make instant payments to other Shake registered merchants from mobile wallet of their choice.

He also said that the group is also developing payment and management solutions for small businesses and Saccos as well as e-commerce solutions for both the private and public sectors.

"As today Aron Tanzania has registered over 380 merchants in Dar es Salaam and will proceed to register an additional of 2700 traders before venturing to other regions such as Dodoma, Mwanza, Arusha and Zanzibar. The application is currently intergrated with Vodacom-Mpesa, Tigopesa, Airtel Money, Halopesa and Z-pesa," he asserted.

Mongi said the company was also happy to join the Tanzania 2022 ICT annual conference event held in Zanzibar. This is Tanzania's largest ICT and information protection event, and is a place to create networks with related institutions and corporate customers in Africa, including investor networking and boosting expertise sharing.

Latest statistics released by the Tanzania Communications Regulatory Authority (TCRA) show that Internet usage in Tanzania has increased by 4.2 per cent from 29.8 million recorded in 2021 to 31.12 million recorded in September, 2022.

The trend in the increase of internet users shows that there was a growth of approximately 17 per cent every year for the 5-years period since 2017 where the country had 16.1 million internet users with the number increasing to 29.1 million at the end of 2021.

The increase in the use of the internet has also been attributed to increased use of Kiswahili. Kiswahili content on the internet is increasing rapidly with the use of programs (applications) in Kiswahili language has also increased. This is due to efforts to spread use of Kiswahili internationally," the TCRA report showed.



MINISTRY DESCRIPTION

JOB OPPORTUNITY

Job Title : Monitoring and Evaluation Specialist

Ministry Function:

Convoy of Hope is a Christian faith-based, humanitarian relief organization with a driving passion to feed the world through children's feeding initiatives, community outreaches, disaster response and partner resourcing.

M & E Specialist is vital to Convoy of Hope's efforts in Tanzania. To that end, COH Tanzania has created the position of M & E Specialist to strengthen and deepen its impact. The Monitoring and Evaluation (M & E) Specialist will be responsible for the design, coordination and implementation of the monitoring and evaluation, research, and learning framework of the Project. He/she will develop a systematic monitoring framework to improve the qualitative and quantitative evidence gathered by the Project. He/she will also provide technical assistance to the implementing programs, particularly in relation to monitoring, reporting and governance issues.

The M & E Specialist supports the ministry of Convoy Of Hope (COH) by working under the leadership of the Tanzania National Director.

Essential Duties and Responsibilities:

1. Collect data on a regular basis to measure achievement against the performance indicators..
2. Develop, Maintain and Administer the M&E database; analyse and aggregate findings.
3. Support project progress reporting, project mid-term review and final evaluation.
4. Identify areas where technical support to project partners is required. Organize refresher training on M&E for team members as required.
5. Identify lessons learned and develop case studies to capture qualitative outputs of the project.
6. Provide advice to the supervisor on improving project performance using M&E findings.
7. Develop the overall framework, for project M&E, for example mid-term project review, impact assessment, final evaluation, develop project Performance Monitoring Plan with relevant data collection systems
8. As a member of the Global Program working group, supports other programs as assigned

Required Knowledge, Skills, and Abilities:

Minimum of Bachelor Degree in Project Planning and

Management, community development, economics, or related field.

Advanced certificate in M&E, statistics or economics or a related field with training in the following areas:

- a. Designing, implementing, operation of project M&E systems from project initiation to closeout stages.
- b. Strategic planning and performance measurement, including indicator selection, target setting, reporting, database management, and developing M&E and performance monitoring plans.
- c. Developing and refining data collection tools
- d. Data quality assessments and oversight

At least {3} year(s) of experience of three (3) years of professional experience in an M&E position responsible for implementing M&E activities of international development projects is preferred.

1. Fluency in spoken and written English and Kiswahili
2. Ability to use Mac/PC software programs, including but not limited to Gmail, Microsoft Word, PowerPoint, Excel proficiently, Salesforce experience helpful
3. Excellent interpersonal skills and ability to work as part of an integrated team.
4. Strong organizational skills with attention to detail.
5. Comfortable traveling to various Program Centers and other project sites within Tanzania.
6. Serve as an advocate for the ministry, striving to nurture, broaden and develop financial and other resource opportunities to support and expand organizational and program ministry.
7. Ability to positively represent the ministry of Convoy of Hope, including its mission statement and core values, to all outside constituencies.
8. As a Christian organization, Convoy of Hope believes it is critical that each staff member embraces the organization's religious purposes for which it exists and not only agrees with its Statement of Faith but demonstrates it in their lives on an ongoing basis.

All application to be directed to tanzania@convoyofhope.org and must be received by 13th April, 2023

Only the shortlisted candidates will be contacted.



Exim Tanzania chief financial officer Shani Kinswaga makes his remarks during an Iftar event organised by the bank for its customers in Dar es Salaam on Tuesday and attended by over 400 invited guests including religious leaders, customers, the bank's agents and staff of the bank. Photo: Guardian Correspondent



EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY

Advisor for the Pan-African e-Commerce Initiative (PeCI)

GIZ is seeking to recruit an advisor for the **Pan-African e-Commerce Initiative (PeCI)** at the EAC- GIZ cluster in Arusha, Tanzania. As a federal enterprise, GIZ supports the German Government in achieving its objectives in the field of international cooperation for sustainable development.

The Pan African e-Commerce Initiative (PeCI) is a joint EAC and GIZ-Project that aims to improve the framework conditions for small and medium enterprises (SMEs) to participate in cross-border digital trade in selected African countries. In addition to strengthening the framework conditions to support the growth of e-Commerce in the East African Community, the initiative aims to build capacities of SMEs to engage in e-Commerce thus boosting their overall revenues and widening their networks in Africa and around the world.

The EAC-GIZ cluster comprises of nine cooperation projects from a wide-range of sectors including health, trade & economic integration, digitalisation, industrial development among others. The cluster supports the East African Community (EAC) Secretariat and the Partner States in driving the process of regional economic integration together with organizations from the private sector, civil society, and academia. Additionally, diversification of industries and adding value to products and services in the region is at the forefront of this partnership.

Duty station: Arusha, Tanzania

Fixed term contract

Job location: Band 4

Responsibilities and Tasks

The advisor is responsible for

- supporting the implementation of the EAC e-Commerce strategy in close cooperation with the EAC Secretariat,
- providing technical advice to increase the availability of safe and affordable cross-border e-payment systems in the EAC region
- the proactive facilitation and technical, administrative and financial implementation of project activities according to agreed targets
- the implementation of daily operational aspects of all issues related to the project
- processing technical aspects and further developing the area of responsibility in accordance with the specified quality standards
- maintaining a good flow of communication and information between all involved institutions and counterparts and GIZ
- the development and exploration of new project interventions also outside the core area of responsibility, to expand the project/cluster portfolio
- enhancing and strengthening the technical cooperation and collaboration with key partners to the project cluster/programme
- monitoring and reporting of project activities
- supporting implementation responsibility (AV and Deputy Programme Manager) in all tasks regarding project coordination

Coordination and monitoring

The advisor

- puts together an overview of project activities, deadlines etc., integrates them into the respective GIZ planning tools (e.g. Onsite Operations) and presents it regularly at e.g. team meetings
- coordinates activities with the team members at other project locations, particularly in East and West Africa, as well as in GIZ HQ
- supports results-based monitoring and updates information on project progress, documents and reports regularly on the status of results in the areas of e-payments and e-commerce
- assists with recording and documenting the results of all activities in GIZ's documentation management system
- supports work plans meetings, workshops, seminars and other project activities with a focus on technical aspects
- follows-up on the implementation of work plans and their timely amendment if necessary
- contributes to, orders and distributes PR materials on the project as well as GIZ PR materials
- assists with PR work for the project and proactively develops input for communication of project results
- assists with drafting Terms of Reference, setting up contracts and following up on their implementation in a timely manner
- guides and assists short-term experts assigned to project in completing their tasks.

Research and knowledge management

The advisor

- in consultation with the team prepares and carries out qualitative and quantitative background research, particularly on e-payments and e-commerce topics
- assists in drawing up reports and also drafts reports independently
- communicates, updates and collects information on e-commerce and private sector related topics and activities and shares them with colleagues and counterparts

Implementation of project activities

The advisor

- is responsible for the timely implementation of agreed work plans as well as their adaption where appropriate in the assigned work areas
- is responsible for organising national and regional workshops
- co-ordinates and leads the recruitment and support of external experts (consultants)
- provides ad hoc support to project implementation of new work streams and projects in the cluster, in addition to the core work area.

General obligations

The advisor

- makes himself familiar with GIZ planning, implementation, contracting and reporting procedures and their changes (GIZ rules and regulations- PuR)
- makes himself familiar with other programme components and GIZ-assisted measures, concepts and status of implementation and knows the corresponding experts and staff
- represents the interest of the GIZ-assisted measure and always acts on its behalf
- carries out important tasks for the project/programme, even if these are not explicitly cited in the job description
- performs other duties and tasks at the request of management

Required Qualifications, Competences and Experiences

- University degree in economics, finance, trade, business informatics or similar
- At least five years of experience in implementing projects in the fields of sales, trade, mobile money or logistic - ideally in the private sector and in export
- Experience in project management and coordination (incl. monitoring) at regional level
- Proven experience in working with multiple stakeholders of the public sector and the private sector
- Strong knowledge of digital modernization in Africa and of digital eco-system in the East African region.
- Knowledge of legal and economic aspects of trade in goods and services, crossborder e-payments and e-commerce
- Excellent organizational and coordination skills
- Ability to work independently, structure tasks and familiarize oneself with new topics quickly and comprehensively
- Willingness to travel frequently in East Africa
- Excellent networking and communication skills
- A great interest in ICT and technology
- Flexibility and ability to work under time constraints
- Fluency in English is vital. Knowledge of Swahili, German and French would be an advantage.
- Demonstrated cultural sensitivity and high commitment to integrity
- Willingness to upskill as required by the tasks to be performed - corresponding measures are agreed with management.
- General understanding of financial planning and accounting
- Experience with development cooperation and donor processes would be an asset

Applications:

Interested candidates should send their letter of application together with the CV and copies of academic certificates by email to hr.giz-tanzania@giz.de.

Please use the subject line "**Advisor for the Pan-African e-Commerce Initiative (PeCI)**". Closing date for submission: **17.04.2023**

Only shortlisted candidates will be contacted.

GIZ Tanzania is an equal opportunities employer and encourages applications from all qualified and eligible candidates regardless of their gender, origin, religion/belief, disability, or any other minority group.



INVITATION FOR EXPRESSION OF INTEREST - PREQUALIFICATION OF CONTRACTORS FOR SUPPLY AND DELIVERY OF RIVER SAND ON DAP INCOTERMS TO GEITA GOLD MINE LIMITED, TANZANIA.

I. INTRODUCTION

Geita Gold Mining Limited ("The Company") an AngloGold Ashanti's ("AGA") asset is located in north-western Tanzania, in the Lake Victoria goldfields of the Geita region, about 5km from Geita town.

The Company is in the process of procuring River sand on DAP INCOTERMS and is, therefore, inviting interested eligible suppliers to submit Expression of Interest for the supply and delivery of this equipment as detailed below.

NB: THE DOCUMENTS REQUESTED BELOW MUST BE SUBMITTED WHEN EXPRESSING INTEREST ON THIS SERVICE/WORK. QUALIFIED CANDIDATES WILL BE SUBJECTED TO ANGLO GOLD ASHANTI VETTING PROCESS.

Scope of work:

| REFERENCE NUMBER | SERVICE DESCRIPTION |
|------------------|--|
| GGME01584 | Supply And Delivery of River Sand on DAP INCOTERMS to GGML |

I. INFORMATION REQUIRED

| PRE-QUALIFICATION REQUIREMENTS | 20% |
|--|------------|
| COMMERCIAL | |
| Company Profile | 1.20% |
| Company Code of Conduct | 1.20% |
| Company Code of Ethics | 1.20% |
| Copy of registration/Incorporation Certificate | 1.20% |
| Copy of Valid Tax Clearance Certificate (TCC) | 1.20% |
| Copy of 2021 BRELA search Registration Documents | 1.20% |
| Copy of Current NSSF Compliance Clearance Certificate (Mandatory Requirement) | 5% |
| Copy of Company Memorandum and Article of Association | 1.20% |
| Copy of Latest BRELA Application of Annual Returns | 1.20% |
| Copy of TIN Certificate of Firm/company and VRN | 1.20% |
| Copy of Current Business Permit/Trade license. | 1.20% |
| Company Shareholding Structure (ownership of shares in percentage (%), Share certificates and Passport/Voter or National ID card for Management & Shareholders | 1.20% |
| List of Directors | 1.20% |
| Compliance with the Mining (Local Content) Regulations, 2018 by having Local Content plan - Approved by mining Commission | 1.20% |
| FINANCIAL POSITION & TERMS OF TRADE | 5% |
| Audited & certified financial statements (2020-2021) | 2.5% |
| At least 1 reference from the applicant's banker regarding supplier's credit position | 2.5% |
| SAFETY AND ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT SYSTEMS | 5% |
| OSHA Compliance Certificate | 1.25% |
| Workers Compensation Fund Certificate/ any proof of compliance | 1.25% |
| Environmental Management Plan / Programme / Policy | 1.25% |
| Health and Safety Programme | 1.25% |
| OTHER POLICIES | 5% |
| Gifts / Hospitality / Sponsorship Policy / Procedure | 1% |
| Policies / Procedures dealing with Forced and Child Labour | 1% |
| Policies / Procedures dealing with Abuse, Discrimination and Harassment | 1% |
| Grievance Procedure | 1% |
| Human Rights Policy / Procedure / Programme | 1% |
| PAST EXPERIENCE | 5% |
| At least 3 names of the applicant's clients, value and duration of the contracts entered with the clients in the past two years (must be listed) | 1.7% |
| Signed contracts/LPOs (proof of the above) | 1.7% |
| Provide at least 3 recommendation letters from different clients | 1.7% |
| TECHNICAL CRITERIA (GGME01584) | 60% |
| Proof of previous experience in haulage works either in mining areas, sand or quarrying or bulk earthworks. Provide evidence of performance in terms of volumes produced against targeted volumes. | 15% |
| Plants and Equipment availability related to haulage works and construction works with proof of ownership, Equipment Rental shall not be acceptable. Minimum 10 Tipper Dump Trucks(10m3) and small canter 5 dump trucks (7.5m3) as well as loading equipment's (Excavator) | 25% |
| Equipment's Maintenance Plans | 10% |
| Certificate of Clearance from Regional Mines Offices | 10% |

Interested bidders must submit their expression Letters of Interest ("LOI") by quoting the **SERVICE DESCRIPTION AND REFERENCE NUMBER (GGME01584)** of the service they intend to express interest on **THE SUBJECT OF THE EMAIL** together with supporting information to GGML, which states the full name, address, telephone and e-mail address of the bidder, name of the principal contact, and signed by an authorized representative. The LOI must outline why GGML is of interest to work with, what you have to offer and how your skills and experience are valuable to the company. All LOIs and support documentation (in PDF format) must be received by the GGML Office via e-mail at geita.eoi@anglogoldashanti.com and not copying any individual from GGML. Submission should not be later than 8.30AM 25th April 2023. (the "LOI" Submission Deadline"). EOI submissions should not exceed 10MB per email. In case the size of the email exceeds 10MB, please split the submissions into more than one email.

=END OF ADVERTISEMENT=



INVITATION FOR EXPRESSION OF INTEREST – PREQUALIFICATION OF CONTRACTORS FOR THE SUPPLY AND DELIVERY OF LV CABLE 500MM2 SINGLE CORE TO GEITA GOLD MINING LIMITED (GGML), TANZANIA

I. INTRODUCTION

Geita Gold Mining Limited ("The Company") an AngloGold Ashanti's ("AGA") asset is in north-western Tanzania, in the Lake Victoria goldfields of the Geita region, about 5km from Geita town.

The Company is in the process of procuring LV Cable 500mm2 and is, therefore, inviting interested eligible suppliers to submit Expression of Interest for the supply of this Equipment's as detailed below.

NB: THE DOCUMENTS REQUESTED BELOW MUST BE SUBMITTED WHEN EXPRESSING INTEREST ON THIS SERVICE/WORK. QUALIFIED CANDIDATES WILL BE SUBJECTED TO ANGLO GOLD ASHANTI VETTING PROCESS.

Scope of work:

| REFERENCE NUMBER | SERVICE DESCRIPTION |
|------------------|--|
| GGME01663 | SUPPLY AND DELIVERY OF LV CABLE 500MM2 SINGLE CORE TO GGML |

II. INFORMATION REQUIRED

| PRE QUALIFICATION REQUIREMENTS | 20% |
|--|-------------|
| COMMERCIAL | |
| Company Profile | 1.54% |
| Company Code of Conduct | 1.54% |
| Company Code of Ethics | 1.54% |
| Copy of registration/Incorporation Certificate | 1.54% |
| Copy of Valid Tax Clearance Certificate (TCC) | 1.54% |
| Copy of 2021 BRELA search Registration Documents | 1.54% |
| Copy of Company Memorandum and Article of Association | 1.54% |
| Copy of Latest BRELA Application of Annual Returns | 1.54% |
| Copy of TIN Certificate of Firm/company and VRN | 1.54% |
| Copy of Current Business Permit/Trade license. | 1.54% |
| Company Shareholding Structure (ownership of shares in percentage (%), Share certificates and Passport/Voter or National ID card for Management & Shareholders | 1.54% |
| List of Directors | 1.54% |
| Compliance with the Mining (Local Content) Regulations, 2018 by having Local Content plan - Approved by mining Commission | 1.54% |
| FINANCIAL POSITION & TERMS OF TRADE | |
| Audited & certified financial statements (2020-2021) | 2.5% |
| At least 1 reference from the applicant's banker regarding supplier's credit position | 2.5% |
| SAFETY AND ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT SYSTEMS | |
| OSHA Compliance Certificate | 1.25% |
| Workers Compensation Fund Certificate/ any proof of compliance | 1.25% |
| Environmental Management Plan / Programme / Policy | 1.25% |
| Health and Safety Programme | 1.25% |
| OTHER POLICIES | |
| Gifts / Hospitality / Sponsorship Policy / Procedure | 1% |
| Policies / Procedures dealing with Forced and Child Labour | 1% |
| Policies / Procedures dealing with Abuse, Discrimination and Harassment | 1% |
| Grievance Procedure | 1% |
| Human Rights Policy / Procedure / Programme | 1% |
| PAST EXPERIENCE | |
| At least 3 names of the applicant's clients, value and duration of the contracts entered with the clients in the past two years (must be listed) | 1.7% |
| Signed contracts/LPOs (proof of the above) | 1.7% |
| Provide at least 3 recommendation letters from different clients | 1.7% |
| TECHNICAL CRITERIA (GGME01663) | |
| Proof of experience of supplying industrial power cable for mines and other heavy industries. | 15% |
| Provide proof of supplying cable in mines and heavy industries within short lead time. | 5% |
| Capable of supplying Low Voltage Cable that meet international standard from International Electrotechnical commission (IEC) specifications. | 15% |
| Capable of supplying Low voltage cable of XLPE Conductor insulation, Copper conductor material and PVC sheath covering. | 15% |
| Capable of supplying Low voltage cable of single core stranded with stamped length in meters. | 10% |
| Total | 100% |

Interested bidders must submit their expression Letters of Interest ("LOI") by quoting the SERVICE DESCRIPTION AND REFERENCE NUMBER (GGME01663) of the service they intend to express interest on THE SUBJECT OF THE EMAIL together with supporting information to GGML, which states the full name, address, telephone and e-mail address of the bidder, name of the principal contact, and signed by an authorized representative. The LOI must outline why GGML is of interest to work with, what you have to offer and how your skills and experience are valuable to the company. All LOIs and support documentation (in PDF format) must be received by the GGML Office via e-mail at geita.eoi@anglogoldashanti.com and not copying any individual from GGML. Submission should not be later than 8.30AM 20th April 2023. (the "LOI" Submission Deadline"). EOI submissions should not exceed 10MB per email. In case the size of the email exceeds 10MB, please split the submissions into more than one email.

=END OF ADVERTISEMENT=



INVITATION FOR EXPRESSION OF INTEREST – PREQUALIFICATION OF CONTRACTORS FOR PROVISION OF HOTELS & LODGING SERVICES FOR GGML VISITORS IN GEITA TO GEITA GOLD MINING LIMITED (GGML), TANZANIA

I. INTRODUCTION

Geita Gold Mining Limited ("The Company") an AngloGold Ashanti's ("AGA") asset is in north-western Tanzania, in the Lake Victoria goldfields of the Geita region, about 5km from Geita town.

The Company is in the process of procuring Service of provision of hotels & lodging services for GGML visitors in Geita and is, therefore, inviting interested eligible suppliers to submit Expression of Interest for the supply of this equipment as detailed below.

NB: THE DOCUMENTS REQUESTED BELOW MUST BE SUBMITTED WHEN EXPRESSING INTEREST ON THIS SERVICE/WORK. QUALIFIED CANDIDATES WILL BE SUBJECTED TO ANGLO GOLD ASHANTI VETTING PROCESS.

Scope of work:

| REFERENCE NUMBER | SERVICE DESCRIPTION |
|------------------|---|
| GGME01651 | PROVISION OF HOTELS & LODGING SERVICES FOR GGML VISITORS IN GEITA |

II. INFORMATION REQUIRED

| PRE-QUALIFICATION REQUIREMENTS | 20% |
|---|-------------|
| COMMERCIAL | |
| Company Profile | 1.20% |
| Company Code of Conduct | 1.20% |
| Company Code of Ethics | 1.20% |
| Copy of registration/Incorporation Certificate | 1.20% |
| Copy of Valid Tax Clearance Certificate (TCC) | 1.20% |
| Copy of 2021 BRELA search Registration Documents | 1.20% |
| Current NSSF Compliance Clearance Certificate (Mandatory Requirement) | 5.00% |
| Copy of Company Memorandum and Article of Association | 1.20% |
| Copy of Latest BRELA Application of Annual Returns | 1.20% |
| Copy of TIN Certificate of Firm/company and VRN | 1.20% |
| Copy of Current Business Permit/Trade license. | 1.20% |
| Company Shareholding Structure (ownership of shares in percentage (%), Share certificates and Passport/Voter or National ID card for Management & Shareholders | 1.20% |
| List of Directors | 1.20% |
| Compliance with the Mining (Local Content) Regulations, 2018 by having Local Content plan - Approved by mining Commission | 1.20% |
| FINANCIAL POSITION & TERMS OF TRADE | |
| Audited & certified financial statements (2020-2021) | 2.50% |
| At least 1 reference from the applicant's banker regarding supplier's credit position | 2.50% |
| SAFETY AND ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT SYSTEMS | |
| OSHA Compliance Certificate | 1.25% |
| Workers Compensation Fund Certificate/ any proof of compliance | 1.25% |
| Environmental Management Plan / Programme / Policy | 1.25% |
| Health and Safety Programme | 1.25% |
| OTHER POLICIES | |
| Gifts / Hospitality / Sponsorship Policy / Procedure | 1% |
| Policies / Procedures dealing with Forced and Child Labour | 1% |
| Policies / Procedures dealing with Abuse, Discrimination and Harassment | 1% |
| Grievance Procedure | 1% |
| Human Rights Policy / Procedure / Programme | 1% |
| PAST EXPERIENCE | |
| At least 3 names of the applicant's clients, value and duration of the contracts entered with the clients in the past two years (must be listed) | 1.70% |
| Signed contracts/LPOs (proof of the above) | 1.70% |
| Provide at least 3 recommendation letters from different clients | 1.70% |
| TECHNICAL CRITERIA (GGME01651) | |
| Quality of the accommodation facilities (minimum 3star hotel standards) | 9% |
| Be adequately staffed with qualified & competent personnel in related fields for smooth and efficient performance of the required tasks. i.e experienced Manager, staff with hospitality experience or qualifications | 8% |
| Hotel operations to meet high level of quality for cleanliness, maintenance, hospitality and service delivery | 8% |
| Rooms to have air conditioning, hot water shower, tea/coffee making facilities & mini fridge, complimentary Wi-Fi | 9% |
| Location of hotel and variety of services offered by the hotel - restaurant, bar, meeting room size, gym, other facilities | 8% |
| Security & Safety aspects of the hotel premises - Guards, CCTV, Safes, access control, security cameras | 10% |
| Be compliant with food and safety management requirements as per Government requirement (FDA) | 9% |
| Total | 100% |

Interested bidders must submit their expression Letters of Interest ("LOI") by quoting the SERVICE DESCRIPTION AND REFERENCE NUMBER (GGME01651) of the service they intend to express interest on THE SUBJECT OF THE EMAIL together with supporting information to GGML, which states the full name, address, telephone and e-mail address of the bidder, name of the principal contact, and signed by an authorized representative. The LOI must outline a statement of firm capability to provide the relevant Services, including similar contracts undertaken over the past three years. All LOIs and support documentation (in PDF Format) must be received by the GGML Office via e-mail at geita.eoi@anglogoldashanti.com not later than 8.30AM 25th April 2023 (the "LOI" Submission Deadline"). EOI submissions should not exceed 10MB per email. In case the size of the email exceeds 10MB, please split the submissions into more than one email.

=END OF ADVERTISEMENT=



Minister for Mineral Dotto Biteko (L) presents a certificate to the GF company director of marketing and communications Salman Karmali shortly after signing an agreement between the firm and the State Mining Corporation (STAMICO) to lease mining equipment to small-scale miners in the country during a two-days conference of the small scale miners and manufacturers organised by Stamico in Dar es Salaam yesterday. Photo: Guardian Correspondent

Mbeya school with 2,000 students facing acute shortage of pit latrines

By Guardian Correspondent, Mbeya

MORE than 2,000 students and 25 teachers at Legico secondary school in Mbeya City are facing health risks due to acute shortage of pit latrines at the school.

This was revealed on Tuesday this week by Majengo Street chairman, Evance Mwambembula at the event in which 50 bags of cement were handed over by Mbeya Urban MP, Dr Tulia Ackson to Mbeya District Commissioner, Beno Malisa for the construction of the school's fence.

He said as for now, the school has only 11 pit latrines serving more than 2,000 students and 25 teachers, the number that does not cater for needs of the students and staff.

He said in the past, since 1954 the school area was used to sell local brew but in 2000 the residents mobilised for contributions, and each household contributed 2,000/- that saw the construction of 16 classrooms.

"District commissioner, Beno Malisa this school still has remnants of infrastructure of the former area for selling local brew with former kitchens turned into teachers' offices, this is a shame for the city council for failure to demolish the structures and build new ones to support people's efforts that saw the construction of 16 classrooms," said Mwambembula.

The school's headmaster, Bujo Kasambala said lack of pit latrines lowers teachers' morale due to the unfriendly environment.

He added that they received 40m/- from Covid-19 funds that was used to build two classrooms and teachers' office.

For his part, Mbeya District Commissioner, Beno Malisa said they received the complaints and will work on them and pledged to contribute 500 bricks for the construction of the fence.

Abigael Mwampashi, Majengo area resident said for the government to abandon the school was against President Samia Suluhu Hassan's call to invest in the education sector.

Police in Lindi hold trader for possessing subsidised maize

By Guardian Correspondent, Lindi

POLICE in Lindi Region are holding Mohamed Salum Seif (50), businessman from Miguruwe Ward, Njinji Division, Kilwa District, Lindi Region allegedly being found in possession of 62 bags of maize sold to farmers by the government at subsidised price.

Lindi Regional Police Commander, Pili Mande made the remarks here early this week as she was submitting to reporters a three-month January - March 2023) performance report.

RPC Mande said the maize totalling 3,200 kgs was seized during a crackdown and patrols mounted by the police that enabled the arrest of people with various offences including theft of government subsidised maize.

She said Seif was arrested March 25 this year with the maize stored in 62 bags, each labelled NFRA, including 100 empty bags stored at the house of one villager known by the name of Msomanga.

She said investigations were continuing to establish how he came to be in possession of the maize after which he will be referred to court.

RPC Mande called on traders in Lindi Region not to involve themselves in acts that could bring problems to them in order to maintain the respect of their businesses.

Some Lindi residents have told this reporter that the businessman is claimed to have been selling the maize at between 900/- to 1,000/- per kilo.

Tanzanians urged to protect Mt Kilimanjaro

By Guardian Correspondent

TANZANIANS have been called upon to take care and preserve Mt Kilimanjaro to enable it continue to benefit the country.

The call was Tuesday this week made by the Minister of State in the Vice President's Office (Union and Environment), Dr Selemán Jafo in the National Assembly in Dodoma when responding to a question from Same East MP, Anne Kilango Malecela who sought to know the government's strategy in addressing fires incidents on Mt Kilimanjaro.

Jafo said the government, through the Vice President Office (VPO) in collaboration with the Ministry of Natural Resources and Tourism has genuine intentions in making sure the fire incidents are stopped.

He said in addition to the government forming for conducting research on the fire incidents, residents in the area and other people have the responsibility to desist themselves from tree cutting and setting fires inside the Mt Kilimanjaro National Park.

Earlier, answering the original question posed by Hai MP, Saashisha Mafuwe, VPO Deputy Minister Khamis Hamza Khamis said the government, in collaboration with various local and foreign institutions, including the University of Dar es Salaam (UDSM), Sokoine University of Agriculture (SUA) and Nelson Mandela University continue researching on the issue.

However, he said some of the reasons contributing to the situation include global warming, unsustainable human activities, wanton tree cutting and setting forest fires.

Meanwhile, Deputy minister Khamis said the government is making sure that the ecosystem-based adaptation for rural resilience (EbARR) projects implemented in Unguja North A District, as well as the LDFS project implemented in Micheweni District, Pemba are completed.

Hence, he added, already the government has taken management decisions by requiring national projects coordinators to make sure the projects are fully completed up to standards.

KCB BANK

Tariff Guide

| SERVICE | TZS | USD/EURO | KES | GBP |
|--|--|---|------------|---|
| STATEMENTS | | | | |
| Monthly Statement | free | free | free | free |
| Duplicated Statements per page (excluding community account) | 2,000 per page/Free via email | 1.30pp | 78pp | 0.70pp |
| Interim Statement per page (excluding community account) | 2,000 per page/Free via email | 1.30pp | 78pp | 0.70pp |
| Balance Enquiry | 1,500 | equivalent | equivalent | equivalent |
| ATM VISA DEBIT CARD | | | | |
| ATM Card Issuance (for the first time) | 7,500.00 | 5 | n/a | n/a |
| ATM withdrawal from KCB ATMs (per transaction) | 1,000.00 | equivalent | n/a | n/a |
| ATM withdrawal from Non-KCB ATMs (Tanzania) | 2500 | 1.3 | n/a | n/a |
| ATM withdrawal from Non-KCB ATMs (International) | 6500 per each 400,000 limit | 3.3 | n/a | n/a |
| ATM mini statements | free | free | n/a | n/a |
| Daily Limit | 2,000,000.00 | equivalent | 50000 | equivalent |
| POS and E-commerce daily limit | 5,000,000.00 | 2,500 | n/a | n/a |
| Minimum withdrawals | 5000 | equivalent | n/a | n/a |
| ATM Card Replacement (lost/destroyed cards) | 7,500.00 | 5 | n/a | n/a |
| Blocking/unblocking ATM cards | free | free | n/a | n/a |
| Card Renewal | 7,500.00 | 5 | n/a | n/a |
| Quarter maintenance fee | 1,000 | 1 | n/a | n/a |
| Camera viewing | 30,000 | equivalent | n/a | n/a |
| STANDING ORDER | | | | |
| within KCB | 2500 | equivalent | equivalent | equivalent |
| Outward to other banks | 5000 | 3 | n/a | n/a |
| Setup/Amend Standing Order | 8,000.00 | 7 | 500 | 4 |
| Unpaid Standing Order (penalty) | 10000 | 10 | 500 | 10 |
| CHEQUES | | | | |
| Unpaid Cheque (insufficient funds) - Outward | 15000 | 13 | n/a | n/a |
| Unpaid Cheque (insufficient) - Inward | 65000 | 52 | n/a | n/a |
| Unpaid Cheques - technical | 15000 | 15 | n/a | n/a |
| USD unpaid cheque | 52 | 52 | n/a | n/a |
| Counter Leaves | 13000 | equivalent | equivalent | equivalent |
| Bankers Cheque | 30,000.00 | 30 | n/a | n/a |
| Stop payment per set up | 25000 | 25 | 1300 | 13 |
| New cheque book retail | 600 per leaf | equivalent | equivalent | equivalent |
| TT & INTERNATIONAL | | | | |
| Outward | 55USD (equivalent) over the counter /45 USD (equivalent) for IB | 55USD over the counter /45 USD for IB | equivalent | equivalent |
| Inward TT (excluding community accounts) | 13USD (TZS equivalent) | 13USD (Euro equivalent) | equivalent | equivalent |
| Recall of funds/Cancellation of TT | 10USD (TZS equivalent) | 10USD (Euro equivalent) | equivalent | equivalent |
| Intercompany transfers (KCB to KCB Regional Transfers) | 40USD (TZS equivalent) | 40USD (Euro equivalent) | equivalent | equivalent |
| Amendment of TT (Customer induced) | 10USD (TZS equivalent) | 10USD (Euro equivalent) | equivalent | equivalent |
| TRANSFERS LOCAL | | | | |
| KCB to KCB | 3,000 over the counter /1,500 on IB | equivalent | equivalent | equivalent |
| EFT (KCB Tanzania to any local bank) | 3500 over the counter /1,500 on IB | 3 | n/a | n/a |
| TRISS/local TT (excluding community account) | 10000 | 13 | n/a | n/a |
| East African Payments (EAPS) | 10000 | n/a | 870 | n/a |
| MINIMUM A/C OPENING BALANCE | | | | |
| Current Account-Compa - my(SME&CORPORATE) | 100000 | 100 | 5000 | 13 |
| Current-Personal | 50000 | 100 | 5000 | 65 |
| Mapato Account | 10000 | 10 | 500 | 10 |
| KCB Junior Account | 10000 | 10 | 500 | 10 |
| KCB Student Account | 10000 | 10 | 500 | 10 |
| KCB Simba Savers | 50000 | 50 | n/a | n/a |
| A/C CLOSURE | | | | |
| Closing account | Free | 39 | 2200 | 26 |
| OTHER SERVICES | | | | |
| Search of old documents | 20,000 | 13 | 900 | 10.5 |
| Forex Cash Deposits (smaller denominations below US \$ 50) | n/a | | n/a | 8% for denominations that are less than USD 50 |
| Dormant Account Activation | free | free | free | free |
| ACCOUNT MAINTENANCE FEES | | | | |
| Counter Withdrawals (excluding: Simba, Cub & Community accounts) | <10million 2500 > 10million 0.1% max 20000 | 0.50% | 0.50% | 0.50% |
| Ledger Fees - Current Accounts (excluding community and salary) | personal current account 10,000, business 20,000, corporate account 30,000 | personal current 10USD/Business 16USD/Corporate 20USD | 700 | personal current 10GBP/Business 16GBP/Corporate 20GBP |
| Ledger Fees - Savings Accounts (Exclude Simba, Cub, Salary & Student Accounts) | Mapato 1,500 | 7 | 176 | 7 |
| THIRD PARTY ENCASHMENT | | | | |
| Withdrawal fee to be paid by the beneficiary | 6500/13USD | 13 | 13 | 7 |
| Annual setup fee (SME's and Corporate) to be paid in by the account holder | 50,000 | 50 | 4400 | 33 |
| SALARY PROCESSING | | | | |
| Salary processing | 4,000 over the counter / 3,000 IB | equivalent | 130 | equivalent |
| CERTIFICATE OF BALANCE | | | | |
| Balance of Account (Flat fee per certificate) | 39000 | equivalent | equivalent | equivalent |
| Auditors Confirmation (flat per certificate) | 30000 | equivalent | equivalent | equivalent |
| Reference Letters | 30000 | equivalent | equivalent | equivalent |

| TRADE FINANCE | |
|--|--|
| IMPORT LETTER OF CREDIT | |
| LC ISSUANCE/extension/increase amount | 1.3% Per Quarter |
| Normal Amendment | 130 USD |
| Release Commission/IC document processing | 20 USD |
| RETIREMENT | 0.30% minimum 100 maximum 200 |
| CANCELLATION | 260 USD |
| EXPORT LETTER OF CREDIT | |
| ADVISING | 200 USD |
| NEGOTIATION | 0.60% min 200 max 300 |
| DISCOUNTING | 0.80% |
| AVALIZATION | 0.80% |
| DOCUMENTS FOR COLLECTION | |
| Documents HANDLING FEE | 150 USD |
| COURIER | 150 USD |
| GUARANTEE | |
| Issuance fee | 1.30% |
| AMENDMENT/Reduce of amount | 130 USD |
| DISCREPANCY | 55 USD |
| EXAMINATION | |
| OTHERS | |
| SWIFT | 50 USD |
| Tracer | 50 USD |
| COURIER | 150 USD |
| MOBILE BANKING CHARGES | |
| Balance enquiry | free |
| Mini statement | 300 |
| Invite Friend | free |
| Cheque book | 300 |
| Stop cheque | 300 |
| Stop card | 300 |
| Change Pin | free |
| Full statement | 500 |
| BILL PAYMENTS | |
| JAMESCO(LUKU) | 1.1% of the transacted amount |
| DAWASCO | 1300 |
| DSTV | Free |
| STARTIMES | Free |
| ZUKU | Free |
| SMILE | Free |
| LIHURU | Free |
| AZAM | Free |
| SASATEL | Free |
| SEND MONEY TO E-WALLET | |
| Mpesa | |
| Airtel Money | 1000 to 100000 - 1000, 100001 to 200000 - 1500, 200001 to 400000 - 2000, 400001 to 600000 - 3000, 600001 to 800000 - 5500, 800001 to 1000000 - 7000, 1000001 to 2000000 - 10000, 2000001 to 3000000 - 15000. |
| Tigo Pesa | |
| Eazzy Pesa | |
| FUNDS TRANSFER | |
| Own accounts | Free |
| KCB accounts | 1000 |
| IB TRANSACTION CHARGES | |
| M Pesa | 5000-50000-1000, 50,001 to 100,000 - 1500, 100,001 to 200,000-2,500,200,001 to 400,000 - 3,000, 400,001 to 600,000 - 3,500, 600,001 to 800,000 - 4,000, 800,001 to 1,000,000 - 5,000, 1,000,001 to 1,500,000 - 7,500, 1,500,001 to 2,000,000 - 10,000, 2,000,001 to 2,500,000 - 12,500, 2,500,001 to 5,000,000 - 15,000. |
| Airtel Money | |
| Tigo Pesa | |
| INTERCOMPANY TRANSACTION CHARGES | |
| Inter-company cash withdrawals charges | 0 up to 60 USD charge 4 USD 60.01 up to 250 USD charge 7.50 USD 250.01 up to 1,250 USD charge 13 USD 1,250.01 up to 6,250 USD charge 26 USD Above 6,250 USD charge 1.20% of daily cumulative withdrawals |
| Inter-company cash deposit charges | 0 up to 250 USD charge 3USD Between 250.01-1250 USD charge 7USD Between 1250.01- 6250 USD charge 13 USD Above 6250 USD charge 0.60% of daily cumulative deposits |
| Intercompany standing orders across all companies | Intercompany standing order 13 USD |
| LOANS | |
| Processing/arrangement/appraisal fees | |
| Asset finance | 2.40% |
| Business loans: | 2.40% |
| Overdrafts: | 2.40% |
| | 2.40% |
| | 2.40% |
| Penalty on unpaid loan instalment: | 10% above approved rate |
| Early repayment: | NA |
| Valuation fees: | As per service provider rates |
| Legal fees: | As per service provider rates |
| Loan insurance fees: | 1% |
| Interest rates: | + or - Base Lending Rate |
| Personal loans: | 19% |
| Business loans: | * or - Base Lending Rate |
| | |
| | |
| *Base Lending Rate | 19% for TZS and 9% for USD |
| *All rates are subject to negotiation based on the product | |

NB:

- All staff account will be charged when transacting over the counter and charges excluded on all digital platform
- Community account will be charged on salary processing over the counter and charges excluded on internet banking

Please note: All taxes included

| | | |
|-------------------------------------|-----------|------------|
| Name/Tittle | Signature | Date |
| Lulu Shikonyi - Head of Operations | Signed | 05.04.2023 |
| Juma Abdul - Head of Retail Banking | Signed | 05.04.2023 |

KCB SAHL BANKING

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Marburg: Let's be thankful, not start beating our chests

HEALTH authorities are lavish in satisfaction and praising a number of medical institutions and installations for succeeding, so to speak, to fully eradicate the Marburg virus disease that was unfolding mid last month. There is no new case reported since three weeks ago, one patient has lately been discharged and two are being closely watched in hospital. A success story, but not just medical tale.

The Marburg virus disease has been contained, 21 days after its outbreak in Kagera Region with no new cases reported. Eight cases were reported, where five patients died, one discharged and two were being treated, so the health scare in the wake of field reports was being formally called off. It is clearly a big relief.

A total of 212 people were deemed to have been in contact with the patients and thus put in isolation, with 35 persons completing 21 days in isolation with no sign of infection, thus released. There was no doubt as the minister said, that it is a good portrayal to the ministry, the government and the country at large that the Marburg virus was timely controlled. The credit went to a range of agencies.

Dutifully as it were, the minister went through the candid advice given to the public at large and residents of the hitherto affected zone specifically. The key point was that the community was by now aware to report via 999 toll free number in cases of experiencing fever, vomiting, diarrhoea, blood discharge or body exhaustion. People had to avoid contact with patients, water discharge from patients, saliva, tears, blood, urine, faeces, bed

sheets or clothes without protective garments. Soap use and fruits wash, well cooked meals are all vital.

Evidently the minister could guarantee Tanzanians and the region at large that Bukoba is safe, thus people can pursue their social, economic and spiritual activities without fear. The Marburg eruption was being confined to history gradually, she affirmed, all of which was true, but left a dry taste in the mouth to try and believe that public agencies, and residents in the area, would simply share the credit. We need to be humble to admit the disease was not expanding.

Strictly speaking, the announcement on March 16 of seven cases and five deaths of what was then a strange disease showing Ebola-like symptoms could have been the starting point of a roller coaster under different circumstances. It is not because of our actions that the disease ended as it began with singularly those cases, and scarcely any additions thereafter. More than 200 people were in all sorts of contact with the first batch of cases, and not one of them contracted the disease. Knowing how at these infectious diseases behave, it is a virtual miracle.

It isn't just in Tanzania that such miracles take place, if one recalls a television item that a woman and infant buried under the earthquake rubble in Turkey have been found and rescued after 56 days. There is no arsenal of precautions that credibly prevents people from infection during a pandemic, Ebola, Marburg or which would enable them to remain well under rubble for 56 days. It is all a miracle for which we must do thanksgiving, even as we salute public agencies.

Sport, play are human rights that must be respected and enforced worldwide

THE United Nations Office on Sport for Development and Peace (UNOSDP) was introduced by Kofi Annan in 2001. Its mandate was to coordinate the efforts undertaken by the United Nations in promoting sport in a systematic and coherent way as a means to contribute to the achievement of development and peace.

In 2013, the United Nations General Assembly proclaimed 6 April as the International Day of Sport for Development and Peace, to celebrate the contribution of sports and physical activity to education, human development, healthy lifestyles and a peaceful world.

The second UN Special Adviser on Sport for Development and Peace was Wilfried Lemke from Bremen, Germany. He succeeded Adolf Ogi in March 2008. UNOSDP was situated at the UN Office at Geneva. There was also a liaison office at UN headquarters in New York.

The United Nations announced the closure of the Office on Sport for Development and Peace on 4 May 2017.

The UN Special Adviser on Sport for Development and Peace

Wilfried Lemke from Germany has been the Special Adviser on Sport for Development and Peace since March 2008. He was named by UN Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon. Through this nomination, Lemke also holds the position of an Under-Secretary-General. He reports directly to the Secretary-General.

In his position as a Special Adviser, he replaced Adolf Ogi from Switzerland. Ogi, former President of the Swiss confederation and politician, had served the UN as Special Adviser for close to seven years between 2001 and 2007.

The International Day of Sport for Development and Peace is an annual celebration of the power of sport to drive social change,

community development and to foster peace and understanding.

Created by the United Nations General Assembly in 23 August 2013, supported by the International Olympic Committee since 6 April 2014.

This date commemorates the inauguration, in 1896, of the first Olympic games of the modern era, in Athens, (Greece).

On 23 August 2013, the United Nations General Assembly in Resolution decided to proclaim on 6 April as the 'International Day of the Sport for the Development and the Peace'.

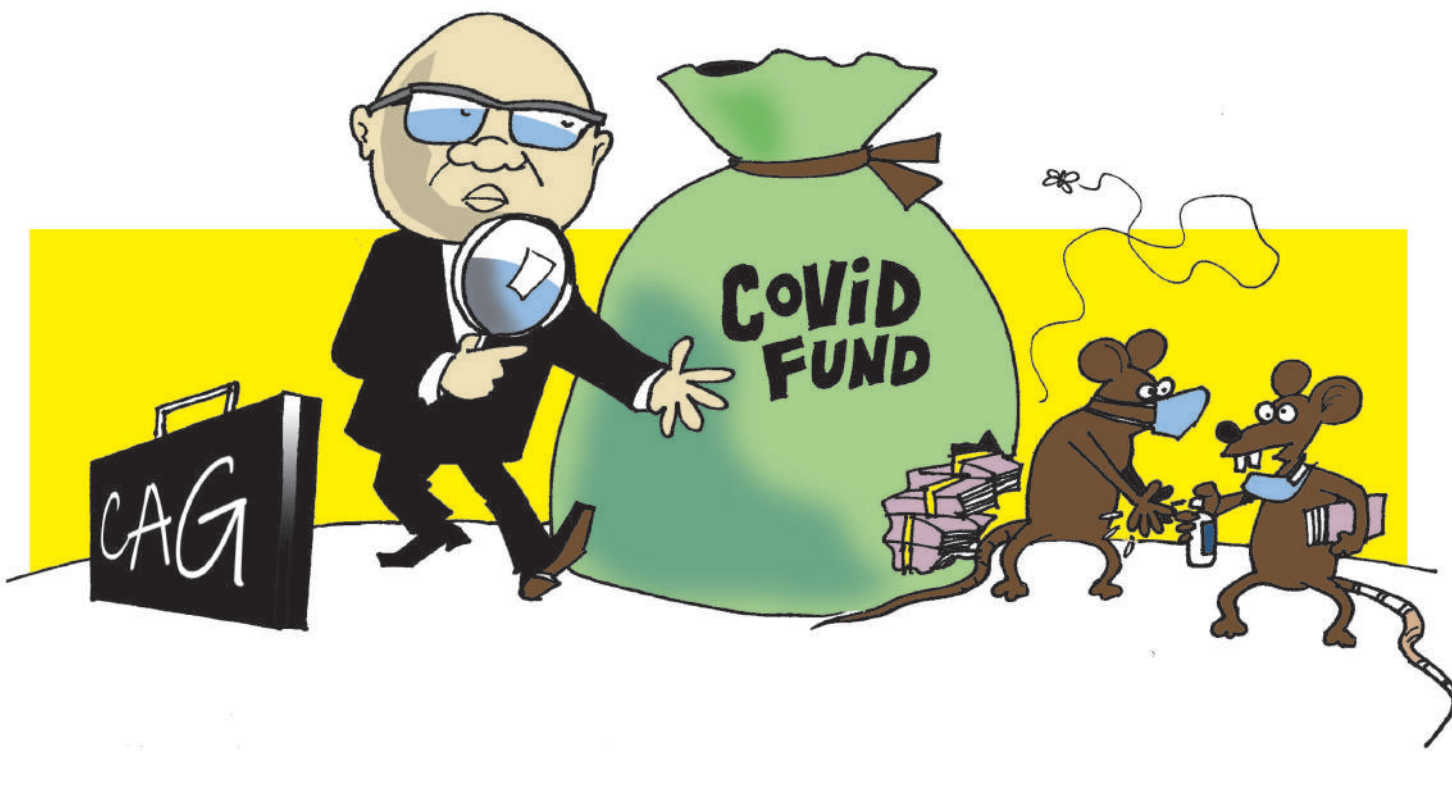
The United Nations, with this commemoration, invites states, the United Nations system and in particular the United Nations Office on Sport for Development and Peace, relevant international organisations, and international, regional and national sports organisations, civil society, including non-governmental organisations and the private sector, and all other relevant stakeholders to cooperate, observe and raise awareness of the 'International Day of Sport for Development and Peace'.

Peace and Sport, also known as a neutral and independent organisation based in the Principality of Monaco and under the patronage of Prince Albert II of Monaco.

After retiring from professional football in late 2018, Ivorian footballist Didier Drogba, became Vice President of the organisation.

The current winner of Peace and Sport's Champions for Peace Award is Argentine footballer Lionel Messi.

Since its creation, Peace and Sport has developed 12 field programmes in 13 countries. The organisation works with local project leaders (governments, NGOs, National Olympic Committees and sports federations) in areas affected by extreme poverty, the consequences of conflicts and an absence of social cohesion.



Trump rails against charges in post-arraignment speech

By Max Greenwood

FORMER United States President Donald Trump delivered a grievance-ridden speech on Tuesday hours after facing arraignment on criminal charges in New York.

In the speech, he cast himself as the victim of a political prosecution and railed against what he called a "lawless" justice system bent on ending his political career.

Speaking at Mar-a-Lago, his personal residence and private club in Palm Beach, Florida, Trump went on an extended tirade against Manhattan District Attorney Alvin Bragg, whose office indicted him last week in a case involving hush money payments to a porn star to cover up an alleged extramarital affair.

The former president maintained his innocence, saying that he never did anything illegal and that the charges against him should never have been brought. He also attacked the judge presiding over the case, Justice Juan Merchan, calling him a "Trump-hating judge."

"You want to get President Trump at any cost," Trump said, adding: "As it turns out, everyone who has looked at this case ... says there is no crime and it should never have been brought. Never have been brought."

It's an insult to our country, and the world is already laughing at us."

Trump's remarks before a friendly crowd that included allies such as Rep. Marjorie Taylor Greene (R-Ga.) came just after he returned to Florida from New York, where he pleaded not guilty to 34 felony counts - including falsifying business records and conspiracy in connection to multiple hush money payments.

Trump's indictment has been expected. Law enforcement officials in Manhattan offered him the opportunity last month to testify before the grand jury looking into the matter, signalling that charges were likely. That was followed by Trump wrongly predicting that he would be arrested.

But Trump made clear that he wasn't only focused on those charges. He also went after law enforcement officials in Georgia and Washington, D.C., investigating other potential crimes.

In particular, he attacked special counsel Jack Smith, who is investigating his efforts to subvert the 2020 presidential election, accusing Smith of "threatening" his allies with jail time in order to force them to cooperate with his inquiry.

"We have this Jack Smith lunatic threatening people every single day through his representatives,"

Trump said, adding: "They're threatening jail terms. But talk about Trump and you'll go free. That's the country in which we live in, however, right now."

Trump also defended his handling of classified documents he took with him upon leaving the White House in 2021, saying he took the documents "in good faith" and was being treated unfairly by the National Archives and Records Administration.

He also rehashed older grievances, mentioning the FBI's investigation into former Secretary of State Hillary Clinton's use of a private email server during her tenure as the nation's top diplomat and bringing up his two impeachments.

"From the beginning, the Democrats spied on my campaign," he said, adding: "Remember that? They attacked me with an onslaught of fraudulent inventions. Russia, Russia, Russia. Ukraine, Ukraine, Ukraine."

The remarks were relatively brief, by Trump's standards, lasting just under half an hour. Still, they telegraphed how the former president plans to make his various legal entanglements a central part of his bid for the 2024 Republican presidential nomination.

Since winning the White House

in 2016, Trump has sought to cast himself as the target of a so-called "deep state" intent on weeding out anyone whom it sees as a threat to its power. During his time in Washington, he faced impeachment twice.

Yet, while Republicans have rallied around him amid his indictment in New York, many have urged the party, both publicly and privately, to move on to a new standard bearer without Trump's political and legal baggage.

Florida Governor Ron DeSantis, who hasn't yet announced a presidential campaign, is widely seen as Trump's most serious primary challenger, though recent polls show him slipping as GOP voters rush to Trump's defence in the face of the indictment.

Still, Trump has put his legal troubles front-and-centre in the 2024 Republican primary. In his remarks on Thursday, he turned to a familiar line, warning that the United States "is going to hell" and needed him to save it.

"We are a nation in decline. And now these radical left lunatics want to interfere with our elections by using law enforcement. We can't let that happen," he said, adding: "I have no doubt nevertheless that we will make America great again."

Agencies

By Special Correspondent

UN drug report: A reason to unite against cartels in Nigeria

IT is a known fact that drug trafficking and abuse are at a level that calls for all of us to roll up our sleeves and join the ongoing effort to wrestle the scourge to the ground in Nigeria. A new report by the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC) corroborated this fact in its recent report that the "Nigerian market tops the list of cocaine smuggling regions in Africa."

That raises a critical question: "Is there no one checking drug barons for them to have gained ground in Nigeria with their illicit business?" This is where the National Drug Law Enforcement Agency, NDLEA, comes in, as the body charged with the arrest and prosecution of drug offenders.

From all indications, NDLEA has been up and doing. Nigerians still remember the largest cocaine seizure in the history of the

country which was pulled off last year in Ikorodu, Lagos, by the agency. Just a week before the governorship and state Assembly elections, operatives of NDLEA arrested 100 drug dealers of illicit substances, mostly marijuana and crystal methamphetamine, at Akala, Mushin area of Lagos State.

Discerning citizens can easily connect the dots that the mop-up operations prevented drug-fuelled violence during the polls.

Generally, statistics from NDLEA give a good picture of effective drug law enforcement. For instance, the agency in its report said it has in the past 24 months made 26,450 arrests, recorded 3,733 convictions and seized 5,730 tons of illicit substances. There is hardly any week that drug

offenders are not apprehended by officers of the agency.

Therefore, beyond any doubt, the country has an effective anti-narcotic agency that all Nigerians must be proud of. It is an understatement to say that NDLEA is doing a fantastic job at the moment. It is hoped that the agency will sustain the tempo.

Having said that, we have to also ask this blunt question: Why are there continuous arrests and seizures, despite the unflagging and fruitful efforts of NDLEA?

That tells us that there is a need for other components of society to join hands with NDLEA to safeguard our society from the scourge of illicit drugs.

Society has a part to play by volunteering information to

NDLEA on anyone suspected to be dealing in illicit substances.

The media needs to keep the illicit drug issue on the front burner to impress the citizens about the urgency and imperative of collaborating with NDLEA to stamp out this menace. Other relevant agencies will have to continue to work with NDLEA in partnership to make the country unbearable for drug barons and transnational criminal organisations.

Religious leaders, community leaders and family heads too also have to play their part by ensuring that their members stay away from illicit drugs.

As a society, if we can have this unity of purpose, we will be giving the NDLEA the needed fillip in its war against illicit drug merchants.

Some of us will miss the competitive best students, schools rating system

TANZANIA One, in short TO, has for decades been a legendary title in our academic circles. These academic heroes, who topped primary school leaving national examination results, form four and form six. Most TOs secured admission to top secondary schools and colleges in the country and abroad.

Being a TO meant immense respect as well as a challenge to work even harder in the next stage of academic journey. Having it on a CV brought one closer to that job. After all, it is an open secret that most (if not all) TOs were offered jobs by the government or private sector before graduating.

On the other side, we had best schools. Until 1990s, public schools used to be the best. If you were selected to join such prestigious secondary institutions, the entire division or district knew you. On your day to report, a village chairman would likely see you off.

Illboru, Tabora, Mzumbe, Kibaha, Mkwawa, Ihungo, Pugu, Ndanda, Weruweru, Kilakala, Loleza, Korogwe, Azania, Tambaza, you name it. But from 2000s onwards, privately owned schools staged a coup of sort and started dominating the coveted top 10 list. However, TOs and top schools were still being announced until last year.

There were some critics who saw this raw score evaluation system as bad. This compelled the National Examination Council of Tanzania (NECTA) not announce the best pupils and the best schools in the form four examination results of 2022/23.

By Correspondent Mutayoba Arbogast

THE history of Kagera Region is both glorious and painful. This place boasts a robust pre-colonial carbon steel industry and later outstanding record in banana, beans, coffee, tea and maize cultivation.

In 1949, Bukoba Native Co-operative Union (BNCU) was founded to centralize the administration of 49 earlier primary societies and associations of farmers established in the 1940s. In the 1950s, it's successor Bukoba Co-operative Union (BCU) mobilized itself to break price and trade monopoly and intermediaries to market farmers' coffee.

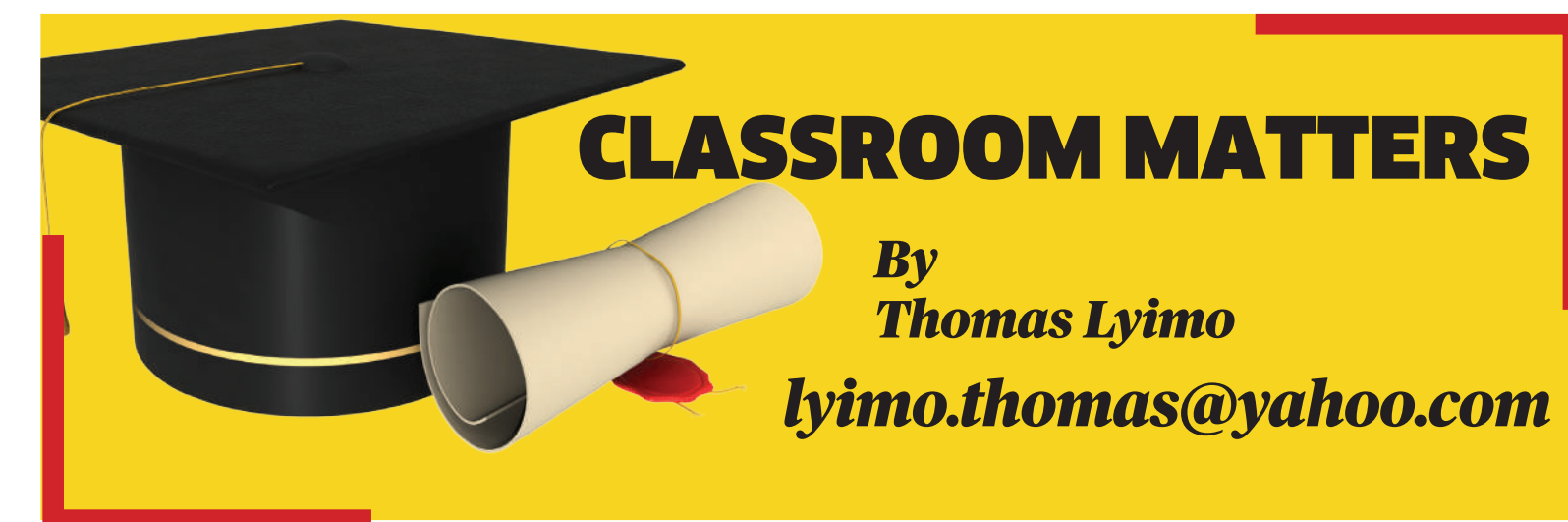
Among other things, BCU encouraged more farmers to cultivate coffee and ensured quality through strict grading after harvests which earned the union a lot of confidence among buyers hence more money which was used to pay for education of farmers' children.

As a result, Bukoba District in particular and Kagera Region in general became among the leading regions in producing much-needed human capital for our country. In that regard, Kagera is a region of many firsts. One of them was the celebrated late Prof Justinian Rweyemamu, the pioneer economics scholar.

But days of glory were cut short following various disasters which hit the region. In 1978, Uganda invaded Kagera salient. The country's then dictator leader Idi Amin declared the salient part of Ugandan territory.

This provocation and Tanzania's response turned Kagera into frontline battlefield. Apart from lives that were lost, fear stagnated productive economic activities and there was massive destruction of citizens' properties including houses, plantations and livestock before Tanzanian troops staged a successful counter attack and kicked out Amin's forces from Tanzania as the military general fled to exile.

Then followed the mother of all calamities called Aids. It was in 1983 that the first HIV/Aids case was reported in Kagera. Because it was novel, the disease was transmitted among unsuspecting victims like a bush fire. Aids deaths in Kagera in the late 1980s and 1990s left many orphans, posh houses turned into ruins and plantations became bushes.



CLASSROOM MATTERS

By **Thomas Lyimo**

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The announcement was greeted with shock and disbelief among the proponents of the abandoned system. NECTA defended the decision by explaining that the system was unfair because of differences in learning and teaching environment. For instance, teachers and pupils in well-equipped urban school were treated equally as their counterparts in less resources institutions in rural areas.

But regardless of different teaching and learning environments which can cause varied results, Tanzanians need to know the best performing students and schools to inspire others to work hard. The abandoned system encouraged the spirit of competition and hard work which is healthy.

We should not forget that in recent

years, some unknown ward-level secondary schools staged upsets and made unexpected appearance on the coveted top 10 list. Now, after the abandonment of the system, all pupils and schools feel equal and there is no need for competition and extra hard work.

If a person has done well, regardless of the environment, let us not hesitate to make them known. After all, the acknowledgement of one's academic prowess had a double impact: it encourages the person to work harder and others to work hard.

After the rejection of the old system, some learners may lose morale. There some students who naturally enjoy completion and work really hard if there is a reward of recognition as the best. If that motivation factor is removed, their talents

are naturally lost.

If we discourage talented pupils by telling them that no one is better, we may make them feel good but on the other hand they decrease the effort that come rating as few would like to be at the tail end of the rank.

Despite the defence given by NECTA, which was also cemented by the minister responsible for education, being a teacher who interacts with stakeholders, I believed that most of Tanzanians still appreciate the raw score mode of evaluation.

Motivation to do well

If a school is announced as the best, that particular institution will strive to maintain that status of excellence. In doing so, the speed and quality of learning is accelerated and hence improvement of

education. Psychologists and philosophers posit that the nature of human being is that of competition. If competition is not promoted, there is a possibility of slowing down the pace of development in a certain aspect of human life.

Lesson to others

If a school or a student has excelled in performance, a lot can be learned from them. It is well established that we learn from others. Those who have excelled must have applied certain techniques which others didn't have. Also, others may be interested to learn and apply best practices of the recognized learners or institutions.

General improvement of quality of education

With the best schools and candidates, the nation can learn some teaching and learning techniques which can help in improving the quality and standard of education. Excellence by some schools and candidates may convince the nation through its education ministry to make changes by introducing innovative ways that bear fruit.

The Ministry of Education should make sure that education standards are not diluted in any way because the standards are what predict the future of the nation. There should not be any attempt to please everyone as such practices normally lead to collective failure.



Then in 2016 the region was hit by a magnitude 5.9 earthquake whereby, according to International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies, approximately 7,500 homes and buildings were destroyed, thousands more were damaged, hence psycho-social impact and trauma.

There is this little reported story that Bukoba is prone to lightning strikes. Nearly every rainy season, families lose loved ones. Some wipe out livestock.

Then there is the latest entry—the Marburg Virus Disease which authorities are currently battling in Kagera Region. Health Minister Ummu Mwalimu this week announced good news that the disease was contained 21 days after its outbreak as there is no new case or death reported.

These calamities have in some way overshadowed the past glory and current potential of Kagera Region which is strategically located as it shares border with a number of neighbouring countries.

President Samia Hassan Suluhu renewed hopes of people of Kagera Region when she said that the potential of the region should be unlocked to make it an investment and tourism hub.

During a three-day tour of the region in June last year, President Samia said her government is determined to lift barriers that hinder the region from realizing its potential. She said many jobs can be created and poverty alleviated through heavy investments in agriculture and agribusiness, fishery as well as manufacturing.

Apparently, the President did not pay lip service to people of Kagera. For since her visit, some projects are already taking shape. One of the projects is cage fish farming research centre at Rubafu Ward in Bukoba District which is designed to introduce modern aquaculture and gener-

ate income on one hand and improve nutrition on the other.

Speaking to residents of Rubafu beach on Lake Victoria in January this year, Kagera Regional Commissioner Albert Chalamila said the project implemented at a cost of USD \$1 billion (over 2trn/-) is a result of President Samia's tour to USA where she met various traders and heads of 12 companies which agreed to invest in the initiative.

Also, an agreement to put up a fisheries institute has been reached under the sponsorship of the African Centre for Research, Agricultural Advancement, Teaching Excellence and Sustainability (CREATES) based at the Nelson Mandela African Institute of Technology (NM-AIST) in collaboration with the Office of Kagera Regional Commissioner, Ministry of Livestock and Fisheries, and Tanzania Agricultural Catalytic Fund (TACT).

Another development initiative that gives people hope of return to past glory under President Samia is that the recent government allocation of about \$8 million (over 18bn/-) for the establishment of University of Dar es salaam (UDSM) Kagera campus.

Retired President Jakaya Kikwete who is Chancellor of UDSM accompanied by the Vice Chancellor Prof. William Anangisye IN an official visit to see the progress of construction of the campus.

"The presence of this campus will significantly boost social and economic activities that are set to hugely benefit this region," said Kikwete.

RC Chalamila has been repeatedly urging residents of Kagera to appreciate President Samia's efforts to unlock the potential of the region by working hand in hand with the government and investors and by taking good care of the institutions being put up.

Kagera residents upbeat about Samia's projects to awaken the sleeping giant



Advertisement

TEMBO NICKEL, THE KABANGA NICKEL PROJECT

Requests the submission of Expressions of Interest from qualified parties wanting to participate in the provision of Environmental and Social Impact Assessment (ESIA) to International Standards

Tembo Nickel Corporation ("Tembo Nickel") is an operating company formed via the Framework Agreement (19 January 2021) between Kabanga Nickel Limited ("Kabanga Nickel") and the Government of Tanzania ("GoT") for the development of the Kabanga Nickel deposits in the Ngara District in the Northwest of Tanzania. Under the Framework Agreement terms, Tembo Nickel (owned 84% by Kabanga Nickel and 16% by GoT) has been formally established for the mining, processing, and refining of Class 1 Nickel with Cobalt and Copper co-products.

Kabanga is the largest development-ready Nickel Sulphide deposit in the world, unmatched in scale and grade, with at least 30 years life of mine and further exploration upside. Once in operation, the Kabanga Nickel Project will produce Class 1 battery-grade nickel, cobalt, and copper refined metals in Tanzania. The cradle-to-gate operation will use hydromet technology that is significantly more cost-efficient than smelting. The hydromet process will reduce the carbon footprint, minimize environmental impact, lower capital, and production costs, and contribute significantly to the economic growth of Tanzania.

Tembo Nickel Corporation, therefore, invites "Expressions of Interest" from reputable and experienced ESIA Consulting companies interested in pre-qualifying for inclusion in a tender process for the provision of the ALL Services detailed below:

| No. | Reference no. | Scope of Work (Description of Work) | Pre-Qualification Criteria |
|-----|------------------|--|---|
| 1 | TEMBO-2023-03-01 | SCOPE OF WORK (UPDATE OF 2x PROJECT ESIA TO INTERNATIONAL STANDARDS) <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. Undertake a gap analysis of current ESIA against the requirements of International Standards (IFC PS, Equator Principles version 4 (EP4) of 2020, etc.). b. Undertake Environmental & Social specialist studies to update the ESIA baseline. c. Update ESIA to meet international standards specifically IFC PS and EP4. d. Develop an Environmental and Social Management and Monitoring Plan (ESMMP) in line with International Standards for the Project. e. Develop a Rehabilitation and Mine Closure Plan in line with International Standards. f. Provide Environmental and Social Inputs into the Definitive Feasibility Study (DFS). g. Undertake Disclosure of Lender compliant ESIA to relevant stakeholders. | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> i. Experience with the Mining sector and experience in the delivery of large ESIA to International Environmental & Social Requirements (such as IFC PS, EP4, etc.). ii. Demonstrate experience in undertaking similar assignments in Tanzania and East Africa (to Lender's expectations) in the recent 5 years. iii. Provide details of relevant contracts completed in the last 5 years including value, duration, and Client contact details. iv. Provide biographies and experience of the key positions and experts for the proposed assignment. v. Confirm availability of key personnel and willingness to start immediately after authorization. vi. Must Comply with the Local Content Regulations vii. Confirm flexibility to complete the assignment within 9 months, from the date of authorization. |

The above Services are intended to be awarded through a competitive tendering process in which a restricted number of suitable qualified and experienced international contractors shall be invited to receive the tender documents. If your company would like to be considered for pre-qualification to receive the invitation to tender, please submit an "Expression of Interest" on your company's letterhead together with the following additional information and/or documentation:

- Comprehensive company profile.
- Company Registration documents i.e., Certificate of Incorporation, Business License, TIN, VRN, Tax Clearance Certificate, Register of Company Information, Approved Local Content Plan, etc.
- Details of similar services in Tanzania and East Africa, and detail of contracts for similar services completed in the last 5 years including value, duration, and Client contact details.
- Details of experience in the mining sector.
- Years of service and experience of key personnel to be assigned to the Project.
- Availability of key personnel to perform the specific work.

Kindly send your response by email to tenders@kabanganickel.com by the close of business on **22nd April 2023**. Any response received after this date shall not be considered. Please quote the reference number in the subject line of your email.

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

For and on behalf of Tembo Nickel, The Kabanga Nickel Project

Ending discrimination against women in family law vital for economic progress

By Hyshyama Hamin

DISCRIMINATORY family laws and policies that restrict women's access to educational opportunities, employment, inheritance, property ownership and equal pay, are making women disproportionately vulnerable to the impacts of the global economic downturn.

Not only is it unjust to deny women equal economic rights, but it is also significantly hampering socio-economic progress of nation states. Governments urgently need to reform discriminatory family laws that privilege men over women because countries cannot afford to sideline half their population.

Women shoulder a greater burden of unpaid labour

Many countries are currently mired in financial crisis, soaring inflation, and debilitating debt. The

backdrop to this is a global economic slowdown triggered by the COVID-19 pandemic, Russia's war on Ukraine, and extreme weather fuelled by climate change. Research shows that gender inequality at home is exacerbated by such economic slumps, with women more likely than men to be saddled with increases in unpaid domestic work like cooking, cleaning, and caring for family members.

According to the International Labour Organisation, up to 76% of unpaid care work is done by women and girls. The unequal division of informal labor requires women to forgo paid employment, work more hours, and can curtail their financial and career prospects.

Unpaid care work can account for anywhere between 10% and 39% of the Gross Domestic Product (GDP) and a potential tenth of the world's economic output. It contributes hugely to a society's economic well-

being, but is excluded from official GDP figures that measure the economic performance of countries. This is because many people, including some economists and policymakers, view unpaid domestic labor as women and girls "fulfilling their family duty."

Discriminatory gender stereotypes of this kind are embedded within patriarchal family structures and are both encoded in and perpetuated by sex-discriminatory family laws that limit women's ability to participate in the economic sphere.

Legally prohibiting women from equal education and economic involvement limits their earning potential, reduces their decision-making power, and widens the gender pay gap.

All this traps women in a cycle of poverty and forces many to remain financially dependent on male relatives, thus putting them at greater

risk of a range of human rights violations, including sexual and gender-based violence and exploitation.

Around half of countries have economic status laws that treat women unequally.

Equality Now's policy brief, Words & Deeds: Holding Governments Accountable to the Beijing +30 Review Process - Sex Discrimination in Economic Status Laws, highlights how around half of countries still have economic status laws that treat women unequally, making them more vulnerable to exploitation in real life and online.

Recent data from the World Bank's Women, Business and the Law 2023 report shockingly shows that only 14 out of 190 economies surveyed have achieved full legal equality, and a typical economy only grants women 75% of the same rights as men.

According to the same report, women face restrictions in marriage

and divorce matters in 89 economies. Lamentably, 43 economies do not grant equal inheritance rights to male and female surviving spouses and 41 economies still favor sons in the division of property.

One factor highly corresponds with these statistics - family laws that discriminate against women and girls. In Gender-Discriminatory Laws and Women's Economic Agency, Mala Htun, Francesca R. Jensenius, and Jami Nelson Nunez analyzed World Bank data. They found a strong correlation between restrictions on women's economic agency and gender-discriminatory legislation relating to family laws and personal status laws that regulate relationships between individuals, such as in marriage, divorce, child custody, and inheritance.

Religious and legal discrimination entwines

Sri Lanka is one of many coun-

tries with sex-discriminatory family laws. It has also recently been experiencing a severe economic crisis and public demands for political change.

Lawyer and activist Ermiza Tegal highlights how this upheaval tallies with an uptick in domestic violence and sexual abuse.

Tegal is calling for legal reform, citing mounting evidence of the "direct relationship between discriminatory family laws and women's physical and mental health, and vulnerability to exploitation and violence," with unjust legal provisions and practices driving women and children to destitution and excluding them from education and development.

Hyshyama Hamin is Campaign Manager, Global Campaign for Equality in Family Law, Equality Now



Re - Advertised Request for Proposals

RFP Title: Black Purchase Agreement Set Up for Supply of Start-Up Kits for OVC and Caregivers

Number: 2023-PACT/01/09

Date of Solicitation: April 6, 2023

Closing Date and Time: April 12, 2023, 11:00 am (Dar es Salaam, Tanzania)

Questions and Clarifications: Due by April 11, 2023

Introduction to Pact and ACHIEVE Project

Pact is an international nonprofit that works in nearly 40 countries building solutions for human development that are evidence-based, data-driven, and owned by the communities we serve. Founded in 1971, Pact works with partners to build resilience, improve accountability, and strengthen knowledge and skills for sustainable social impact. Visit us at www.pactworld.org.

The Adolescents and Children HIV Incidence Reduction, Empowerment, and Virus Elimination project, or ACHIEVE, is a five-year global effort to reach and sustain HIV epidemic control among pregnant and breastfeeding women, adolescents, infants, and children. The project is funded by the President's Emergency Plan for AIDS Relief (PEPFAR) through the United States Agency for International Development (USAID) and implemented by a Pact-led consortium of top global HIV/AIDS partners, including Palladium, No Means No Worldwide, and WI-HER.

Objective of the Assignment

The overall objective of this assignment is to solicit eligible and the most economically advantageous suppliers to be issued BPAs for the supply of one year (May 2023 to May 2024) for the procurement of start-up kits.

This Blanket Purchase Agreement's performance period for all item requirements is May 15, 2023, through May 30, 2024.

Items Specification and Requirement

| Item | Description of Item | Specifications | Quantity (subject to program requirements and donor funding.) |
|--|--|--|---|
| Vocational Start-up Kits for OVC and Business Start-up Kits for Caregivers | To be accessed in the TOR To be accessed in the TOR | Please refer to the ToR link below to access the specifications. | Various (details are accessible in the ToR) 748 kits |

The above estimations are subject to fund availability.

Interested vendors should download the full Terms of Reference (ToR) through <https://www.pactworld.org/country/tanzania/procurement>

All questions and requests for clarification should be directed to ProcurementTZ@pactworld.org with the subject line "Request for Clarification: Supply of Start-Up Kits" before COB April 11, 2023.

Eligibility

To be considered for the award, vendors must currently be legally operating in Tanzania, and the quotation must include all of the following information:

- Ability to meet or exceed the requirements/technical specifications.
- Ability to deliver the items/services throughout the BPA period
- Ability to commit to fixed rates for the full BPA period.
- Legally registered in Tanzania.

Evaluation Criteria

- Price
- Financial capability
- Experience
- Quality of items to be supplied (Shortlisted applicants will be required to submit samples).
- Delivery

Submission Instructions

Interested suppliers must submit the following information to Pact Tanzania:

1. Draft inception report detailing the methodology for supplying and distributing education subsidies kits, including tentative work plan, for review and approval by Pact.
2. Quote, valid for 12 months.
3. Current company profile
4. Copies of the registration certificate and address of their registered office, valid business license, VAT, TIN certificates, and Tax clearance certificate
5. Items specifications are fully addressed in the quotation.
6. Current Audited financial statement for two consecutive years
7. Delivery time must be specified.
8. Payment terms 100% after delivery
9. Evidence of supplying start up kits and at least two (2) names and addresses of clients served.

Note: Shortlisted vendors will be required to submit samples similar to or close to the sample provided by Pact Tanzania.

Vendors who wish to answer this RFP should send their bids in sealed envelopes to Pact Tanzania Head Office by April 12, 2023, at 11:00 am. All sealed envelopes need to be marked as: "Tender for Procurement of BPA Start-Up Kits"

Office Address:
The Tender Committee
Pact Tanzania
74 Uporoto Street, Victoria
P. O. Box 6348, Dar es Salaam, Tanzania

Pact will open all bids on **April 12, 2023, at 11.30 am** in the presence of Bidder's representatives who choose to attend.

Quotes must be in Tanzania shillings and include taxes separately:

- Proposals submitted through emails will not be considered.
- Quotations received after that time or at a different address may not be accepted.



PERSONAL SERVICES CONTRACTOR (PSC) VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT

REF NO : PC 23-07 Voucher Examiner

POSITION : Administrative Assistant - Voucher Examiner

SALARY : Compensation is negotiable within a pre-determined range, based on salary history and experience. Non-cash benefits include medical, retirement and others where applicable.

OPENING DATE : April 6, 2023

CLOSING DATE : April 21, 2023 (17:00pm Tanzania Time)

WORK HOURS : Full -Time / 40 hours/per week

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

Position Overview:

Under the direct supervision of the Director of Management and Operations (DMO), the Administrative Assistant - Voucher Examiner (AA-VE) is responsible for processing all payment documents in accordance with Overseas Financial Management Handbook (OFMH), Peace Corps Manual, Foreign Affairs Manual, and other relevant USG Operations Manual procedures.

Qualifications and Evaluations:

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

1. Education Requirements:

- University degree in accounting, finance, auditing, business administration or a related field.

2. Language:

- English Level IV (fluent) and Swahili Level IV (fluent) in speaking/reading/writing is required.
- Excellent verbal and written communication skills in both languages required.

3. Work Experience:

- Minimum of 2 years of relevant experience in voucher examining, accounts payables, accounting, auditing, or related budget and fiscal work.
- Minimum of at least one year of professional cashiering experience.
- Experience providing customer care and or reception services will be an added advantage.

4. Skills and Abilities:

- Knowledge of accounting principles and concepts, financial management and reporting procedures.
- Strong interpersonal/communication skills.
- Ability to prioritize tasks and work with minimum supervision.
- Experience working in cross-cultural environment.
- Knowledge of MS Office computer applications (Word, Excel, Power point, Outlook).

For Further Information:

The complete position description listing all of the duties, responsibilities, required qualifications, etc. may be obtained by going to the following website location:
<https://www.peacecorps.gov/tanzania/contracts/>

Applicability:

Contract offer is contingent on availability of funds,

reference checks, background check, medical examination, submission of proof of required vaccinations or other medical information.

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

Procedures for Employment Applicants:

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

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

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

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

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

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

How to Apply For This Position:

Individuals meeting the minimum qualifications should submit a cover letter with one-inch margins in Times New Roman font size 12, justifying your qualifications and proven track-record for the position.

Also submit a maximum two-page Resume (even if your experience exceeds two pages, summarizing your qualifications). **Voucher Examiner applicants** - send both items to the following email address:

tz-applicants@peacecorps.gov with the subject line: PC 23-07_Voucher Examiner_Last Name_First Name.

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

NATIONAL BANK OF COMMERCE LTD

PUBLICATION OF FINANCIAL STATEMENTS ISSUED PURSUANT TO REGULATIONS 7 AND 8 OF THE BANKING AND FINANCIAL INSTITUTIONS (DISCLOSURES) REGULATIONS, 2014.



www.nbc.co.tz

KEY PERFORMANCE HIGHLIGHTS



| EXTRACTS FROM AUDITED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION AS AT 31 DECEMBER 2022 | | (AMOUNT IN MILLION SHILLINGS) | | |
|--|--|-------------------------------|-------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| | | Position as at 31-Dec-22 | Position as at 31 Dec-21 - Restated | Position as at 31 Dec-20 - Restated |
| A ASSETS | | | | |
| 1 | Cash | 122,214 | 130,865 | 158,774 |
| 2 | Balances with Bank of Tanzania | 205,269 | 141,058 | 145,778 |
| 3 | Investment in Government securities | 443,520 | 362,472 | 421,839 |
| 4 | Balances with other banks and financial institutions | 43,343 | 43,445 | 72,526 |
| 5 | Cheques and items for clearing | 4,064 | 4,550 | 5,380 |
| 6 | Interbranch Float Items | - | - | - |
| 7 | Bills negotiated | - | - | - |
| 8 | Customer liabilities for acceptances | 64,034 | 53,545 | 71,648 |
| 9 | Interbank Loans Receivables | 47,801 | 18,111 | 42,835 |
| 10 | Investment in other securities | - | - | - |
| 11 | Loans, Advances & Overdrafts (Net of allowances for Probable Losses) | 1,766,075 | 1,387,372 | 1,102,978 |
| 12 | Other assets | 105,305 | 77,445 | 61,066 |
| 13 | Equity Investments | 2,028 | 2,028 | 2,028 |
| 14 | Underwriting accounts | - | - | - |
| 15 | Property, Plant and Equipment | 51,214 | 48,660 | 48,910 |
| 16 | TOTAL ASSETS | 2,854,866 | 2,269,549 | 2,133,761 |
| B LIABILITIES | | | | |
| 17 | Deposits from Other Banks and Financial Institutions | 18,663 | 9,549 | 13,090 |
| 18 | Customer deposits | 1,915,732 | 1,518,777 | 1,423,720 |
| 19 | Cash Letters of Credit | 45,660 | 73,721 | 75,755 |
| 20 | Special Deposits | - | - | - |
| 21 | Payment orders/transfers payables | 5 | 5 | 6 |
| 22 | Bankers' Cheques & Drafts Issued | - | 20 | 0 |
| 23 | Accrued Taxes and expenses payable | 42,352 | 32,013 | 31,607 |
| 24 | Acceptances Outstanding | 64,034 | 53,545 | 71,648 |
| 25 | Interbranch float items | 432 | 526 | 410 |
| 26 | Unearned income and other deferred charges | - | - | - |
| 27 | Other Liabilities | 41,556 | 37,869 | 47,993 |
| 28 | Borrowings | 379,734 | 240,420 | 207,381 |
| 29 | TOTAL LIABILITIES | 2,508,168 | 1,966,445 | 1,871,610 |
| 30 | NET ASSETS/(LIABILITIES) (16 minus 29) | 346,698 | 303,104 | 262,151 |
| C SHAREHOLDERS' FUNDS | | | | |
| 31 | Paid-Up Share Capital | 87,000 | 87,000 | 87,000 |
| 32 | Capital Reserves | - | - | - |
| 33 | Retained Earnings | 191,160 | 171,753 | 193,025 |
| 34 | Profit/(Loss) accounts | 57,278 | 40,021 | (23,291) |
| 35 | Other Capital Accounts | 11,260 | 4,330 | 5,417 |
| 36 | Minority Interest | - | - | - |
| 37 | TOTAL SHAREHOLDERS' FUNDS | 346,698 | 303,104 | 262,151 |
| 38 | Contingent Liabilities | 282,231 | 239,949 | 249,771 |
| 39 | Non Performing Loans & Advances | 63,322 | 59,117 | 44,025 |
| 40 | Allowance For Probable Losses | 36,488 | 42,307 | 41,722 |
| 41 | Other Non Performing Assets | - | - | - |
| D SELECTED FINANCIAL CONDITION INDICATORS | | | | |
| (i) | Shareholders Funds to Total Assets | 12.1% | 13.4% | 12.3% |
| (ii) | Non Performing Loans to Total Gross Loans | 3.5% | 4.1% | 3.8% |
| (iii) | Gross Loans and Advances to Total Deposits | 78.4% | 79.0% | 67.9% |
| (iv) | Loans and Advances to Total Assets | 63.3% | 63.3% | 53.9% |
| (v) | Earnings Assets to Total Assets | 80.9% | 80.1% | 77.3% |
| (vi) | Deposits Growth | 23.5% | 6.1% | 0.2% |
| (vii) | Assets Growth | 25.8% | 6.3% | 7.3% |

| STATEMENT OF PROFIT OR LOSS AND OTHER COMPREHENSIVE INCOME FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2022 | | (AMOUNT IN MILLION SHILLINGS) | |
|--|---|--------------------------------------|--|
| | | Current Year Ending 31-December-2022 | Previous Year (Restated) Ending 31-December-2021 |
| 1 | Interest Income | 215,988 | 184,936 |
| 2 | Interest Expense | (50,535) | (32,239) |
| 3 | Net Interest Income (1 minus 2) | 165,453 | 152,697 |
| 4 | Bad Debts Written Off | (10,173) | (16,578) |
| 5 | Impairment Losses on Loans and Advances | 3,074 | (3,679) |
| 6 | Non Interest Income: | 93,036 | 78,767 |
| 6.1 | Foreign Currency Dealings and Translations Gains/ (Loss) | 20,203 | 12,137 |
| 6.2 | Fees and Commissions | 52,908 | 47,221 |
| 6.3 | Dividend Income | - | 40 |
| 6.4 | Other Operating Income | 19,925 | 19,369 |
| 7 | Non Interest Expense | (170,321) | (151,151) |
| 7.1 | Salaries and Benefits | (82,842) | (79,546) |
| 7.2 | Fees and Commissions | - | - |
| 7.3 | Other Operating Expenses | (87,479) | (71,605) |
| 8 | Operating Income/(Loss) | 81,069 | 60,056 |
| 9 | Income Tax Provision | (23,791) | (20,035) |
| 10 | Net Income/(Loss) After Income Tax | 57,278 | 40,021 |
| 11 | Other Comprehensive Income | | |
| 11.1 | Net gain on Available for Sale Financial Asset (Net of Tax) | 1,316 | (1,087) |
| 12 | Total Comprehensive Income/Loss | 58,594 | 38,934 |
| 13 | Number Of Employees | 984 | 955 |
| 14 | Basic Earnings Per Share | 36,483 | 25,491 |
| 15 | Number of Branches | 47 | 47 |
| PERFORMANCE INDICATORS | | | |
| (i) | Return on Average Total Assets | 2.0% | 1.8% |
| (ii) | Return on Average Shareholders' Funds | 16.5% | 13.3% |
| (iii) | Non Interest Expense to Gross Income | 65.9% | 65.3% |
| (iv) | Net Interest Income to Average Earning Assets | 7.2% | 8.4% |

| STATEMENT OF CASH FLOW FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2022 | | (AMOUNT IN MILLION SHILLINGS) | |
|--|---|-------------------------------|-------------------------|
| | | Current Year 31-Dec-22 | Previous year 31-Dec-21 |
| I Cash flow from operating activities: | | | |
| | Net Income/(Loss) | 81,060 | 60,056 |
| | Adjustment for: | - | - |
| | -Depreciation/Amortization | 12,118 | 10,625 |
| | -Impairment charge/(release) | (3,074) | 3,679 |
| | -Net change in Loans and Advances | (381,761) | (306,628) |
| | -Gains/Loss on Sale of Assets | - | - |
| | -Net change in deposits | 378,037 | 89,664 |
| | -Net change in short term negotiable securities | - | - |
| | -Net change in other liabilities | 27,787 | (28,699) |
| | -Net change in other assets | (29,938) | 28,429 |
| | -Net change in SMR deposits | (64,314) | 8,272 |
| | -Tax Paid | (29,052) | (20,122) |
| | -Write offs | 10,173 | 3,652 |
| | Net cash provided/(used) by operating activities | 1,035 | (151,072) |
| II Cash flow from investing activities | | | |
| | Dividends received | - | 40 |
| | Purchase of fixed assets | (19,456) | (13,333) |
| | Proceeds on sale of fixed assets | - | - |
| | Sale/(Purchase) of Non-Dealing Securities | (79,168) | 58,086 |
| | Others (Equity) | - | - |
| | Net cash provided/(used) by investing activities | (98,624) | 44,793 |
| III Cash flow from financing activities | | | |
| | Repayment of long-term debt | (1,921) | (1,875) |
| | Proceeds from issuance of long-term debt | 38,911 | - |
| | Proceeds from Issuance of Shares Capital | - | - |
| | Payment of Cash Dividends | (15,000) | - |
| | Net change in other borrowings | 100,404 | 33,039 |
| | Others | (4,454) | (3,878) |
| | Net cash provided/(used) by financing activities | 117,940 | 27,286 |
| IV Cash and cash equivalents | | | |
| | Net increase (decrease) in cash and cash equivalents | 20,351 | (78,993) |
| | Cash and cash equivalent at the beginning of the quarter | 238,184 | 317,176 |
| | Cash and cash equivalent at the end of the quarter | 258,535 | 238,184 |

| CONDENSED STATEMENT OF CASH FLOW STATEMENT FOR THE QUARTER ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2022 | | (AMOUNT IN MILLION SHILLINGS) | | | | | | |
|---|--|-------------------------------|---------------|-------------------|--------------------|---------------------------|---------------------|-----------------|
| | | Share capital | Share premium | Retained earnings | Regulatory Reserve | General Provision Reserve | Others (Fair Value) | Total Equity |
| Current Year | | | | | | | | |
| | Balance as at the beginning of the year | 15,700 | 71,300 | 211,774 | - | - | 4,330 | 303,104 |
| | Profit for the year | - | - | 57,278 | - | - | - | 57,278 |
| | Other comprehensive income | - | - | - | - | - | 1,316 | 1,316 |
| | Transaction with owners | - | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| | Dividend Paid | - | - | (15,000) | - | - | - | (15,000) |
| | Regulatory Reserve | - | - | (5,615) | 5,615 | - | - | - |
| | General Provision Reserve | - | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| | Others | - | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| | Balance as at the end of current period | 15,700 | 71,300 | 248,437 | 5,615 | - | 5,646 | 346,698 |
| Previous Year | | | | | | | | |
| | Balance as at the beginning of the year | 15,700 | 71,300 | 169,734 | - | - | 5,417 | 262,151 |
| | Impact of correction of errors net of tax | - | - | 2,019 | - | - | - | 2,019 |
| | Profit for the year | - | - | 40,021 | - | - | - | 40,021 |
| | Other Comprehensive Income for the year | - | - | - | - | - | (1,087) | (1,087) |
| | Transaction with owners | - | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| | Dividend paid | - | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| | Regulatory Reserve | - | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| | General Provision Reserve | - | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| | Balance as at the end of previous period (restated) | 15,700 | 71,300 | 211,774 | - | - | 4,330 | 303,104 |

The above extracts are from the Financial Statements of the Bank for the year ended December 31, 2022 which have been prepared in accordance with International Financial Reporting Standards (IFRS). The Financial Statements were audited by KPMG Certified Public Accountants and received an unqualified audit report.

These financial statements were approved and authorised for issue by the Board of Directors and signed on its behalf by:

| | | |
|--|------------------|-------------|
| Name and Title | Signature | Date |
| Theobald Sabi (Executive Director) | Signed | 23/03/2023 |
| Dr. Elirehema Doriye (Board Chairman) | Signed | 23/03/2023 |

217297501

By Mariela Jara

PAULINA Locumbe, a 42-year-old peasant farmer who lives in the Andes highlands of southern Peru, learned as a child to harvest and dry crops, one of the ancestral practices with which she combats the food insecurity that affects millions in this Andean country.

"I have tarwi (*Lupinus mutabilis*), peas and dry beans stored for six years, we ate them during the pandemic and I will do the same now because since I have not planted due to the lack of rain, I will not have a harvest this year," she told IPS in her community, Urpay, located in the municipality of Huaró, in the department of Cuzco, at more than 3,100 meters above sea level.

She, like a large part of the more than two million family farmers in Peru, 30 percent of whom are women, has been hit by multiple crises that have reduced their crops and put their right to food at risk.

A study by the United Nations Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) published in January estimated that more than 93 million people in Latin America and the Caribbean suffered from severe food insecurity in 2021, a figure almost 30 million higher than in 2019.

Compared to Mesoamerica and the Caribbean, the situation was more alarming in South America, where the affected population climbed from 22 million in 2014 to more than 65 million in 2021.

In Peru, a country of 33 million people, food insecurity already affected nearly half of the population, according to the FAO alert issued in August 2022, far exceeding the eight million suffering from food insecurity before the COVID-19 pandemic, mainly due to the increase in poverty and the barriers to accessing a healthy diet.

Women from the Andes highlands areas of Peru, such as those who reside in different Quechua peasant communities in the department of Cuzco in the south of the country, are getting ahead thanks

Indigenous women's knowledge combats food insecurity in Peru



These containers hold food produced by women in the rural community of Choquepata, in the municipality of Oropesa, in the southern Peruvian department of Cuzco. CREDIT: Mariela Jara/IPS

to the knowledge handed down by their mothers and grandmothers.

Putting this knowledge into practice ensures their daily food in a context of constant threats to agricultural activity such as extreme natural events due to climate change -droughts and hailstorms in recent times - the rise

in the cost of living and the political crisis in the country which means the needs of farmers have been even more neglected than usual.

Active Citizens, Biodiversity, Civil Society, Development & Aid, Economy & Trade, Editors' Choice, Environment, Featured, Food and Agri-

culture, Gender, Green Economy, Headlines, Human Rights, Indigenous Rights, Latin America & the Caribbean, Poverty & SDGs, Regional Categories, Sustainable Development Goals, TerraViva United Nations, Women & Economy

These containers hold food produced by women in the rural community of Choquepata, in the municipality of Oropesa, in the southern Peruvian department of Cuzco. Ana María Zárate places salad with various vegetables on the right, and the traditional dish mote, made from white corn and broad beans, on the left. CREDIT: Mariela Jara/IPS - Paulina Locumbe, a 42-year-old peasant farmer who lives in the Andes highlands of southern Peru, learned as a child to harvest and dry crops, one of the ancestral practices with which she combats the food insecurity that affects millions in this Andean country

Paulina Locumbe, an agroecological farmer from the rural community of Urpay, in the municipality of Huaró, in the southern Peruvian department of Cuzco, shows her recent planting of vegetables in her greenhouse, which once harvested will go directly to the family table to enrich their diet. CREDIT: Mariela Jara/IPS

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Paulina Locumbe, an agroecological farmer from the rural community of Urpay, in the municipality of Huaró, in the southern Peruvian department of Cuzco, shows her recent planting of vegetables in her greenhouse, which once harvested will go directly to the family table to enrich their diet. CREDIT: Mariela Jara/IPS - Paulina Locumbe, a 42-year-old peasant farmer who lives in the Andes highlands of southern Peru, learned as a child to harvest and dry crops, one of the ancestral practices with which she combats the food insecurity that affects millions in this Andean country

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Producing enough for daily sustenance

Yolanda Haqqehua, a small farmer from the rural community of Muñapata, in the municipality of Urcos, answered IPS by phone early in the morning when she had just returned with the alfalfa she cut from her small farm to feed the 80 guinea pigs (*Cavia porcellus*) that she breeds, a species that has provided a nutritious source of protein since ancient times.

"I don't sell them, they are for our consumption," she explained about the use of this Andean rodent that was domesticated before the time of the Incas. "I cook them on birthdays and on a daily basis when we need meat, especially for my eight-year-old daughter. I also use the droppings to make the natural fertilizer that I use on my crops," she added.

Haqqehua, 36, the mother of Mayra Abigail, has seen how the price of oil, rice, and sugar have risen in the markets. Although this worries her, she has found solutions in her own environment by diversifying her production and naturally processing some foods.

"I grow a variety of vegetables in the greenhouse and in the field for our daily food. I have radishes, spinach, Chinese onion, chard, red lettuce, broad beans, peas, and the aromatic herbs parsley and coriander," she said.

She also grows potatoes and corn, which last year she was able to harvest in quantity, although she does not believe this will be repeated in 2023 due to the devastating effects of climate change in the Andes highlands in the first few months of the

year. "Fortunately, I got enough potatoes and so that they don't spoil, we made chuño and that's what we're eating now," she said.

Chuño is a potato that dries up with the frost, in the low temperatures below zero in the southern hemisphere winter month of June, and that, when stored properly, can be preserved for years.

"I keep it in tightly closed buckets. I also dry the corn and we eat it boiled or toasted. And the same thing with peas. It's like having a small reserve warehouse," she said.

Selecting the best ears of corn, carrying out the drying, storage and conservation process is the result of lifelong learning. "My parents did it that way and we are continuing what they taught us. With all this we help each other to achieve food security, because if not, we would not have anything to eat," she said.

Agroecology to strengthen Andean knowledge

Janet Nina Cusiyanpanqui, an agronomist born in the Cuzco province of Calca, is a 34-year-old bilingual Quechua indigenous woman who, after studying with a scholarship at Earth University in Costa Rica, returned to her land to share her new knowledge.

She currently provides technical assistance to the 100 members of the Agroecological School that the non-governmental feminist Flora Tristán Center for Peruvian Women runs in six rural communities in the Cuzco province of Quispicanchi: Huasao, Muñapata, Parapucjio, Sachac, Sensencalla and Urpay.

"Farmers faced a very hard 2022, it was a terrible year with water shortages, hailstorms, frosts and an increase in pests and diseases. These factors are going to reduce by 40 to 50 percent the crops they had planned for planting corn, potatoes, vegetables, and quinoa," she told IPS in the historic city of Cuzco.

She stressed that women are leading actors in the face of food insecurity. "They know how to process and preserve food, which is a key strategy in these moments of crisis. To this knowledge is added the management of agroecological techniques with which they produce crops in a diversified, healthy and chemical-free way," she said.

The expert stated that although they would have a smaller harvest, it would be varied, so they would depend less on the market. Added to this is their practice of exchanging products and ayni, a bartering-like ancestral tradition: "You give me a little of what I don't have and I pay you with something you lack, or with work."

Don't give up in the face of adversity

At the age of 53, Luzmila Rivera had never seen such a terrible hailstorm. In February, shortly before Carnival, a rain of pieces of ice larger than a marble fell on the high Andean communities of Cuzco, "ruining everything."

In the peasant community of Parapucjio where she lives, at more than 3,300 meters above sea level, she felt the pounding on her tin roof for 15 seemingly endless minutes, and the roof ended up full of holes. "Hail has fallen before, but not like this. The intensity knocked down the tarwi flowers and we are not going to have a harvest," she lamented.

Tarwi is an ancestral Andean cultivated legume, also known as chocho or lupine, with a high nutritional value, superior to soybeans. It is consumed fresh and is also dried and stored.

Rivera is confident that the potato planting carried out in the months of October and November will be successful in order to obtain a good harvest in April and May.

And like other small farmers in the Andes highlands of Cuzco, she also preserves crops to store. "I have my dry corn saved from last year, I always select the best ones for seeds and for consumption. I also store broad beans, after harvesting I air dry them and in a week they can be stored," she said.

IPS



COOKFUND
clean cooking solutions

Mradi wa Kuongeza Upatikanaji na Utumiaji wa Nishati Safi na Vifaa Bora vya Kupikia Nchini Tanzania

WITO WA PILI WA ANDIKO LA KUOMBA UFADHILI

Muhtasari

Programu ya CookFund, inayofadhiliwa na Umoja wa Ulaya (European Union), ni programu ya miaka mitatu (2022 - 2024) inayolenga kuharakisha upatikanaji wa nishati safi na vifaa bora vya kupikia Tanzania Bara, ikilenga mikoa mitano ambayo ni Dar es Salaam, Pwani, Morogoro, Dodoma na Mwanza. Programu hii inatekelezwa na Shirika la Umoja wa Mataifa la Maendeleo ya Mitaji (UNCDF) kwa kushirikiana na Shirika la Maendeleo ya Viwanda la Umoja wa Mataifa (UNIDO) na Wizara ya Nishati nchini Tanzania.

Programu hii inatoa msaada wa kifedha na kiufundi kwa madhumuni ya kuchangia juhudi za Tanzania katika mapambano dhidi ya mabadiliko ya hali ya hewa kwa kuongeza idadi ya watu wanaotumia nishati bora na endelevu za kupikia, na hatimaye kuboresha mazingira, ajira na fursa za kibiashara. CookFund inatoa msaada kutokana na matokeo yatakayofikiwa (performance based), kwa madhumuni ya kutatua changamoto za mitaji kwa wafanyabiashara na pia kutoa unafuu wa bei kwa watumiaji wa mwisho wa nishati zinazolengwa (gesi ya kupikia, majiko sanifu ya mkaa, majiko ya umeme ya mvuke, bioethanol na mkaa mbadala).

Wito wa Maandiko ya Kuomba Ufadhili

UNCDF inawakaribisha wafanyabiashara na makampuni yanayojishughulisha na mnyororo wa thamani wa nishati safi na vifaa/teknolojia bora za kupikia katika maeneo ya mijini ya mikoa ya mradi, kuandika na kuomba ufadhili wa kiufundi na kifedha kupitia wito huu wa pili katika Programu ya CookFund.

Maombi: Mwongozo, Vigezo na Fomu maalumu ya maombi, zinaweza kupakuliwa kutoka kwenye tovuti ya mradi, i.e. <https://www.uncdf.org/cookfund>.

Lugha: Maombi yote yawasilishwe kwa lugha ya Kiingereza.

Mwisho wa kuwasilisha maombi: Raundi ya pili ya maombi itakuwa wazi kuanzia tarehe 6 April 2023 mpaka tarehe 30 September 2023.

Warsha kabla ya uwasilishaji: UNCDF itaandaa warsha ya siku moja ili kutoa fursa kwa waombaji (watakaopenda) kupata maelezo zaidi juu ya mwongozo wa maombi na kutoa fursa kwa waombaji kuuliza maswali. Ikiwa unataka kushirikiki warsha hii, tafadhali tuma barua pepe kwa cookfund.tz@uncdf.org yenye kichwa cha habari "Warsha ya CookFund". Tafadhali onyesha mkoa unakofanyia kazi zako (yaani, Dar es Salaam, Morogoro, Pwani, Dodoma na Mwanza). Tarehe na ukumbi wa warsha vitahitibishwa kwa washiriki. Waombaji watatakiwa kubeba gharama zao wenyewe za kuhudhuria warsha hii.

Agalizo: Kuhudhuria katika warsha hii sio sehemu ya masharti/vigezo vya kutuma maombi ya ufadhili.

Kwa taarifa zaidi au maswali, tafadhali wasiliana na:
UNCDF Tanzania, Barua pepe: cookfund.tz@uncdf.org
Tel: +255 22 260 0911





Africa's central banks lead in embracing open banking

Abuja

Nigeria in March became the first African country to launch open banking on the continent, after publishing guidelines on how traditional lenders may connect to a global digital market poised to grow from US\$13.9 billion to US\$123.7 billion by 2031, according to Allied Market Research.

According to a circular published by the Central Bank of Nigeria, the regulations are backed by the country's data protection laws and are geared towards enhancing efficiency, competition and access to financial services.

"The adoption of Open Banking in Nigeria will foster the sharing of customer-permissioned data between banks and third-party firms to enable the building of customer-focused products and services," said Central Bank of Nigeria's Payments Systems Management Department Director Musa Jimoh in the circular.

The regulations follow significant growth in the take-up of open-banking services by some commercial banks, fintech companies and large audit firms, in the West African country.

Fintechs like Paystack, OnePine, Wallets Africa and TeamApt, the giant audit firms KPMG, PwC and EY, and Sterling Bank, are among early adopters of open-banking in Nigeria.

It has taken Nigeria more than five years to come up with the required regulations, after first expressing interest in developing an open banking system, in 2018.

More African central banks are set to follow, with a number already launching real-time rapid digital payment



platforms or backing cross-border e-payments.

The South African Reserve Bank (SARB) in March launched a real-time rapid payment platform dubbed, PayShap, to modernise its national payment industry.

As in Nigeria's case, PayShap is a product of a collaboration between the South African Commercial bank regulator, BankservAfrica, The Payments Association of South Africa and South African banks.

It is also rooted in SARB's rapid payments strategy to modernise the country's national payment services by 2025.

"The introduction of PayShap, driven by BankservAfrica and the Payments Association of South Africa (PASA), is an important step on this modernisation

journey, and will support innovation and enhance interoperability," said the SARB in a statement.

Absa, First National Bank, Standard Bank and Nedbank will pioneer the initial roll-out that is intended to facilitate real-time clearance of low-value transactions to a maximum value of US\$168 (R3,000), helping reduce reliance on cash in the country.

In March 2023, the Central of Egypt (CBE) entered into a Memorandum of Understanding with the Central Bank of Jordan to supervise electronic payment systems and financial technology services jointly.

The MoU strengthens their joint banking supervision that started in 2004, with the latest scope covering mobile phone payments, digital pay-

ments, digital banks and emerging areas of Fintech.

"The developed financial infrastructure reflects efforts made by CBE to promote the transformation to a less-cash society in light of the framework defined by National Payments Council chaired by President Abdel Fattah El-Sisi," according to a statement by CBE.

The two regulators said they would also strengthen partnerships in fintech by exchanging information and expertise related to a regulatory "sandbox" - a test bed for alternative financing and open banking operations.

Open banking is also on the cards at Kenya's Central Bank, following the launch of a five-year domestic payments digitisation plan in December 2020.

In a document entitled "Kenya National Payments System Vision and Strategy 2021 - 2025", the regulator expressed its commitment to embracing Open Banking and Applications Programming Interfaces (APIs) backed by the country's data protection regulations. Consequently, CBK said it would work to define standards for API development and mandate data portability.

"CBK hopes to address the diverse needs of the Kenyan people and its economy, and support our nation's ambition of becoming a digital, cash-lite and 24/7 economy, including enhancing our global leadership in digital and mobile money innovation," said CBK in the document.

Kenya's Central Bank cited plans to work with industry stakeholders, including fintechs, money remittance providers, payment processors, aggregators, SACCOs and Kenya Bankers Association.

Interbank loan rates hit 7.9pct on tight liquidity

NAIROBI

The rate at which banks are borrowing from each other on an emergency basis has climbed to a three-and-a-half-year high of 7.9 percent following a drop in liquidity in the money market on the end of tax remittances to the government.

Lenders do not borrow from the interbank market for onward lending to customers and rely on the window to meet regulatory daily cash requirements.

The movement of the rate, which was last at this level in October 2019, is, therefore, a good pointer to the liquidity situation in the banking system, a factor that ultimately filters down to determine how much the lenders have in hand to advance to customers.

"Liquidity in the money market decreased during the week ending March 30, as government receipts were higher than payments. Commercial banks' excess reserves stood at Sh8.9 billion in relation to the 4.25 percent cash reserves requirement (CRR)," the Central Bank of Kenya said in its latest weekly markets bulletin.

The reduced liquidity points to difficulties ahead in the government's borrowing plans from the domestic market for budgetary purposes.

It has caused a drop in subscription levels in the weekly Treasury Bill auctions, which were attracting ample demand just a few weeks ago.

In last week's auction, the three-tenor sales that were targeting Sh24 billion raised bids worth Sh8.3 billion, representing a performance of 34.4 percent.

A similar under subscription is anticipated in this month's Treasury bond, which is targeting Sh50 billion through a dual-auction sale, the first of which is a reopening of a 10-year paper first sold in 2018.

This first tranche is being auctioned on Wednesday, and is seeking Sh20 billion.

"We anticipate low subscription levels on the back of tight liquidity levels," analysts at investment bank Genhish Capital said in a note.

The remaining Sh30 billion is being sought through the reopening of three-year and 12-year securities first sold in 2022 and 2019 respectively.

By Correspondent Daniel Semberya

Banks told to provide cheaper loans to local mining suppliers

Local banks and financial institutions have been urged to establish windows for low interest loans to local mining suppliers to build their financial capacity to meet supplies needs.

Speaking over the weekend in Dar es Salaam during Policy Forum's breakfast, Executive Secretary of the Tanzania Chamber of Mines, Engineer Benjamin Mchwampaka said "It is very important to educate and support our local suppliers if we want them to supply quality and quantity to the mining companies."

The breakfast debate focused on "Local Content Requirements in the Mining Sector: Are there Any Benefits for Tanzanians?"

Professor Abel Kinyondo is an Associate Professor of Development Economics at the University of Dar es Salaam concurred with Mchwampaka by saying that part of the whole content is to have capacity building to the suppliers.

Prof. Kinyondo said that when talking about local content you need to analyse the two words: local and content.

He said that local includes: Geography, ownership; and issues around value addition.

Content includes: Employment/ are they decent jobs; procurement of services and goods; and skill development and technological transfer.

"It is unfortunate that you may find a supplier of procurement services

and goods to these mining companies is a Tanzanian, but what he/she supplies is imported from outside the country. There is no local content in that!"

Prof. Kinyondo has therefore advised the government to review the law of local content that was reformed and passed in 2017 to enable local suppliers benefit from local content in the mining sector.

"The major function of local content is to retain value in the economy," he noted.

Tunukiwa Kavana an economist from STAMICO also urged for the review of local content law so as to build skill development to the locals around the mines.

He further noted that the government cannot avoid the responsibility of capacity building to its people to enable them to work in the mining companies.

Paul Mikongoti Research and Policy Analysis from HakiRasilimali explaining the meaning of local content he said that governments of resource-rich nations are implementing broader policies to ensure diversification of the economy, linkage of the sector to the local economy and spillover effects to the local economy.

He said "one of the policies is the introduction of local content requirements, which ensures



Executive Secretary of the Tanzania Chamber of Mines, Engineer Benjamin Mchwampaka insists on a point on local content during Policy Forum's breakfast debate in Dar es Salaam over the weekend. Photo: Daniel Semberya.

the creation of linkages through: Creation of local employment opportunities; local participation in the mining sector; procurement of local goods and services; technology and skills transfer; and local beneficiation of mineral products.

With regards to the Mining Sector and the benefit to the economy, he said that there are limited economic benefits to the country in terms of employment opportunities, skills development, and spillover effects to the local economy.

Currently, the mining sector's contribution to GD is approximately 7 percent. Big part of the benefit goes to the invest-

ment companies.

He said that according to the latest research on local content in Tarime and Geita districts particularly Nyamongo (North Mara Gold Mine) and Geita (Geita Gold Mine) has found that most community respondents believe that gold mining companies are not doing enough to help communities participate in the gold value chain.

Mikongoti said that some of the reasons that made them research on local content were: To better identify the gaps between policy theory and real-life effects; to examine local content requirements, their implementation and moni-

toring.

To provide insight into the implementation and monitoring of local content in two selected regions of Geita and Nyamongo - North Mara which are in gold production.

And thus, provide insight into the challenges and opportunities of local content implementation, with recommendations on how the Govt can create an enabling environment to ensure the full participation of locals in the mining economy.

He mentioned the objectives of their research study among others as: To inform stakeholders of the key findings and recommend the best prac-

tices of local content implementation to advocate for an increased participation of citizens in and benefit from the mining sector.

And the specific Objectives being: To examine the local content requirements as provided by the law

To examine how local content requirements are implemented, monitored and reported in the two regions.

The finding also highlights the importance of community engagement and participation in designing and implementing local content policies.

This highlights the need for gold mining companies to do more to

engage with local communities and support their participation in the industry through meaningful partnerships and initiatives that support local economic development and job creation.

Community respondents were asked to express whether they think the government is doing enough to ensure compliance with the local content policy in Geita and Tarime.

Most respondents (23 out of 36) indicated that they do not think the government was doing enough, with nine respondents indicating that the government is doing enough and four responding that they do not know.

The research findings suggest a general perception among community respondents in Geita and Tarime that the government is not doing enough to ensure compliance with the local content policy in the region.

The finding also highlights the importance of community engagement and participation in designing and implementing local content policies.

The study recommends further research and analysis to determine the effectiveness of the local content policy in achieving its objectives.

This could involve a review of the policy itself and an examination of the processes and procedures in place for imple-

menting the policy.

The study recommends developing a comprehensive training programme for suppliers to increase their understanding of the local content policy and how it can be leveraged to gain a competitive advantage.

During their research study they have mentioned some of the challenges facing locals in engaging with mining companies in the supply chain as: Competitive nature of tendering; complex negotiation, delayed payments, lack of trust, limited education and capital, shortage of markets, substandard products, and temporary contracts.

In order to address the above mentioned challenges they have suggested the following to be done: Fair and transparent tendering process; establish clear payment terms and provide regular updates on payment schedules.

Local suppliers should be trained to improve their skills and knowledge.

On knowledge transfer to locals by mining companies: Respondents were asked whether extractive companies in their areas have a tendency to support the community on training.

36 responded to the question, 18 in Geita and 18 in Tarime. 17 respondents (8 in Tarime and 9 in Geita) responded negatively to the question, and 12 responded positively that extractive companies support communities on training, whereas 7 participants said they do not know whether the extractive companies provide training.

HOW TO PAY OFF YOUR DEBT(S) FASTER

By Kelvin Mkwawa

Debt has become a part of our life now. Everyone with even little debt has to manage their debt to make sure that it doesn't get out of control. If you have borrowed before or you are a borrower currently, you know very well that living with debt can be an expensive and stressful experience. Thus, it is important to keep track of your loans now and then to ensure all terms and conditions are the same and repayments are in order. In one of my past articles, I shared some tips on how to manage your debts: by listing all your debts including the name of the debtor(s), due date(s), amount of the debt(s), and repayment schedule of the debt(s) so you can decide which debt to pay off first, and also by paying your debt payments on time.

Just managing your debt is not enough if you want to be financially independent, but paying off your debt faster will make you financially independent. So why should you pay off your debt(s) faster than required? It might not seem important right now but paying off debts will strengthen your financial position by saving money that would've gone to

pay your monthly installments and interests charged on your debt(s).

Moreover, we know that happiness does not have a price and it has been proved by many prominent psychologists that paying off your debt can reduce stress which leads to living a happy life. Now that you know why you should pay off your debt(s) as soon as possible, you might be wondering how you can do that. In this article, I will share tips on how to pay off your debt(s) faster;

Make Bi-Weekly Payments - Loans are traditionally set up for monthly repayment. By submitting your loan payments twice per month (bi-weekly) instead of once per month you will accomplish one major thing; you will accumulate less interest because the payments will be applied more to your principal during the tenure of the loan hence reducing the debt amount. The important thing is to make sure that you discuss this with your lender before you start making bi-weekly payments because some lenders might penalize you for any extra payments or pay off your loan earlier than originally scheduled. Also, keep in mind that you may not notice the impact on your budget sooner, but you will notice the positive impact on your loan so don't get discouraged.



Kelvin Mkwawa,

Make Extra Payments Whenever You Can - Another way to pay off your loan faster if you don't have the cash flow to commit to bi-weekly payments is by making one extra payment whenever you can. Anytime when you have extra money unexpectedly, why not divert those extra funds into your loan payments? This could be driven by an annual bonus payment or additional income from a second source. You can channel

those extra funds towards paying down your loan to reduce the size and tenure of your loan. It is worth noting that sometimes making one-off payments will not save you any money, as the full amount of interest may still be applied though you will achieve paying off your loan quicker. Multiple payments are even more effective at reducing your overall loan costs.

Refinance Your Loan - There are plenty of reasons why refinancing a loan would be a smart move. You can refinance your loan by either getting a better deal from your current lender or switching your loan to a new lender. This is one of the effective ways to lower your payment and save interest hence paying off your loan faster. This process involves taking out a new loan and using the new proceeds to pay off your old loan. Before choosing this option, make sure that you get the best deal by shopping around to find the best lender to refinance your old loan. Remember to compare loan rates, loan lengths, and any applicable fees to ensure it is beneficial and affordable to you. You can refinance your loan to reduce your loan tenure hence reducing your monthly repayments which will result in paying your debt faster.

In summary, why should you pay off my debt faster than is required? Simple: Paying off your debt will put you in a strong financial position since the money that you have been paying towards your debt becomes available for you to use for other activities. Debts are good if used wisely so I recommend you look at all the options carefully before taking any debt to ensure you don't spend more than you need to on interest or take longer to pay off your debt than you perhaps need to. Furthermore, before deciding to pay off a loan, always remember to make sure you have enough money saved for emergencies. Three to six months of your monthly expenses should be ideal as your emergency fund. This would cover you and help you float in the event of losing your job or becoming ill or any number of other emergencies. Lastly, no matter what type of debt you have, it's important to know that there is always a way to pay off your debt. The tips that I shared for the last two weeks will help you pay off your debt faster and put you on a path to becoming financially independent.

Kelvin Mkwawa (MBA) is the seasoned banker based in Dar es Salaam. He can be reached through Email address: Kelvin.e.mkwawa@gmail.com

Why central banks become cautious after bank crisis

By Liam Gibson

The banking sector's woes highlight the delicate balance facing central banks as they seek to tame high inflation without putting unnecessary stress on financial institutions.

What is the challenge for central banks?

Policymakers are walking a narrowing tightrope, trying to lower inflation on one hand, while keeping credit flowing through the financial system on the other. Ideally, regulators can raise interest rates at just the right margin and pace to bring price levels down without triggering a banking crisis.

The issue for policymakers is that the main tool for suppressing inflation - high interest rates - can put added pressure on the banking system, which the entire economy relies on for credit flows, by reducing demand for loans. Increased turbulence in the banking sector makes a "soft landing" less likely and raises the risk of tipping the global economy into a recession.

Higher interest rates also make a recession more likely generally as they make it costlier for companies and households to borrow, encouraging firms to cut back on new projects and jobs and consumers to reduce spending.

In January, the World Bank reported that rapidly rising interest rates had brought the global economy to "a razor's edge", warning its worst-case scenario for 2023 was now its baseline. Last month's banking collapses caused Goldman Sachs to raise the probability of a US recession in the coming year from 25 percent to 35 percent.

Inflation levels vary between countries, but prices worldwide are rising faster than before the pandemic.

According to the International Monetary Fund, global inflation levels are forecast to dip to 6.6 percent this year - down from 8.8 percent in 2022 - and further drop to 4.3 percent next year.

Inflation in the US was 6 percent in February, and the US Federal Reserve, whose rate changes are closely followed by other central banks, aims to bring it to 2 percent. Yet analysts have interpreted Fed Chair Jerome Powell's recent softening tone as a sign the central bank is treading carefully.

"The Fed must now weigh up increasing rates, and risk more turmoil in both lending and the bank industry, against leaving them be or lowering them, which risks runaway inflation," Tim Uihlein, a wealth manager and behavioural economist, told Al Jazeera.

What are the risks facing banks?

Higher interest rates pose several unique challenges for a bank's business model.

For example, they make mortgage lending more complicated. Fixed-rate loans are immune to rate hikes, so banks can't tap them to offset rising funding costs. While they can charge more for



Bank of Tanzania, Dar es Salaam office

variable-rate loans, that increases the risk of a borrower defaulting, causing more losses.

As high inflation eats into savings, more people divert money out of banks to assets that can better offset rising living costs. Bank deposit rates in the US have dropped over 3 percent since monetary policy began tightening, with outflows accelerating during last month's shock. In February, over 70 billion euros (\$76.2bn) in savings left eurozone banks, the largest cash outflow on record.

Cash withdrawals on their own aren't a cause for panic, but when compounded by falling bond prices, they can be a serious problem.

"Banks take customer deposits, and turn around to invest or lend their money for a greater profit," Kevin Lao, a Florida-based financial analyst, told Al Jazeera.

"This exposes them to interest rate risk because as interest rates go up, the value of the fixed-income investments they purchased previously are now less valuable."

Banks use bonds as a safe place to park savers' cash. The yields then pay the depositors' interest and earn the bank a profit. Yet rising interest rates have slashed the value of bonds over the past year. This only remains a paper loss unless banks have to prematurely sell the bonds off to come up with cash amid a surge in withdrawals.

Such was the case with Silicon Valley Bank, which announced it was short billions in cash due to untimely bond selloffs. Spooked investors then triggered a run on the bank, hastening its collapse.

"This incident shows that money is tightening as individuals and businesses tap into deposits that banks intended to invest for a longer time horizon," Lao said.

More bank failures would raise the risks of financial contagion and the onset of a global recession.

What is being done to prevent a global crisis?

Institutions are taking precautions to stave off a potential credit crunch that could precipitate a worldwide crisis.

When last month's collapses occurred, regulators in the US, United Kingdom and Switzerland moved quickly to facilitate takeover deals and guarantee deposits. Meanwhile, leaders in Brussels emphasised the strength of the European Union's banking sector to reassure investors after Deutsche Bank's share price took a dive on fears the major German lender could be next to fall.

Last month the US Federal Reserve enabled daily currency swaps with central banks in Britain, Japan, Canada, Switzerland, and the eurozone. Effective until at least April, the accelerated swaps, which are usually transacted on a weekly basis, aim to ensure its peers have access to US dollars to keep their financial sectors running.

These and other measures aim to stabilise any systemic shocks that may occur over the coming months.

More generally, the financial sector is widely considered to be in a better position to withstand shocks than in 2007-08 due to tighter regulation introduced in the wake of the crisis.

Among other regulatory changes, financial institutions are subject to higher capital requirements and stress tests designed to assess an institution's ability to weather a serious economic downturn.

KCB Group now planning to enter Ethiopia market

NAIROBI

KCB Group Plc, Kenya's second-biggest bank by assets, is in talks to acquire stakes in lenders in Ethiopia as it revives plans to expand into Africa's second-most populous nation.

"It's not going to be a green field entry," KCB's Chief Executive Officer Paul Russo said in an interview in the capital, Nairobi. "We're talking to three potential targets," amid regulatory changes that he hopes may be concluded this year, he said.

KCB is relooking at Ethiopia after a three-year pause due to internal conflict that disrupted Prime Minister Abiy Ahmed's plan to spur private business.

The Ethiopian government may allow foreign investors to own as much as 30 percent of its existing commercial banks as part of efforts to boost its foreign currency reserves.

KCB already operates a representative office in Ethiopia where over 100 million people are served by 25 commercial banks.

The Nairobi-based bank has presence in six markets, including the Democratic Republic of Congo where it acquired TMB Bank.

KCB sees its subsidiaries contributing 25 percent of the group's revenue from about 17 percent currently by the end of this year, according to Russo.

The Kenyan bank opened an office in Addis Ababa three years ago but there were restrictions that bar foreign banks from making an investment.

Kenyan banks have in the past decade aggressively opened subsidiaries in South Sudan, Uganda, Tanzania, Rwanda, and Burundi to cut their reliance on the local market.

In November last year, Ethiopian PM announced plans to ease restrictions on foreign banks making investments in the country, opening the door for Kenyan lenders to set up operations in the populous nation.

At present Ethiopia has 18 commercial lenders, two of which are state-owned, according to the central bank.

Its population of 110 million people - the second-largest in Africa after Nigeria - offers immense business opportunities.

Less than 15 percent of Ethiopians have access to a bank account, highlighting the opportunity for foreign lenders.

BANKING&FINANCE



KCB Group headquarters in Nairobi

AfDB now appoints Marie-Laure Akin-Olugbade as Vice President

ABIDJAN

The African Development Bank has appointed Marie-Laure Akin-Olugbade (pictured), a Cameroonian national, Vice President for its Regional Development, Integration and Business Delivery complex. The appointment is effective from the 1st of April 2023.

Akin-Olugbade is a seasoned senior executive with close to 31 years of experience delivering technical, managerial and strategic knowledge and leadership in capital markets, treasury, asset management and product development at the African Development Bank.

Before her appointment, she was Acting Vice President for the complex, and Director General of the Bank's Business Development and Delivery Office for the West Africa Region.

Akin-Olugbade led the development and implementation of transformative strategies, programmes and transactions, positioning the African Development Bank as the "Solutions Bank." Working with the largest team of country managers in the institution, she was engaged on

the full complexity of its lending and non-lending operations in middle-income and low-income countries. These have included transition states, as well as innovative and complex cross border operations.

She oversaw the accelerated delivery of results on the \$9 billion West Africa portfolio, engaging with governments, the private sector, regional economic communities, and non-state actors, to achieve significant, life-transforming development impact.

The new Vice President joined the African Development Bank in the trading room of its Treasury Department in 1991 as a finance assistant, where she worked until 1993, when she became an investment officer.

She served in that role from 1993 to 1997, managing the Bank's assets in international capital markets. Subsequently, she became a principal financial analyst in the Financial Technical Services Division, where she was responsible for clients' financial solutions across the continent.

Akin-Olugbade was appointed Manager of the Bank's Financial Technical Services Division in 2008 and held that position through 2010.

In that role, she oversaw new product development, client financial solutions and risk management services. She also led the team that authored the African Fixed Income and Derivatives Guidebook published in 2010.

Akin-Olugbade is a graduate of the Université Paris-Dauphine in France, where she obtained a masters' degree in applied economics. She also holds a postgraduate diploma in management from the Université Panthéon-Sorbonne.

After close to 20 years, Akin-Olugbade moved to the African Development Bank's Operations complex and was appointed Country Manager for the Ghana Country Office, a position she held from 2010 to 2016.

There, she managed a \$1 billion portfolio of complex lending and non-lending operations, which produced impactful and sustainable results. Notably, she led the team that originated and financed the landmark Accra Pokuase Interchange, the first four-tier interchange in West Africa.

Commenting on her appointment, Akin-Olugbade said: "I am very grateful to the African Development

Bank President, Dr Akinwumi Adesina, for the confidence and trust bestowed on me by this appointment. I look forward to working under Dr Adesina's leadership, with the dedicated and talented team of directors general, directors, deputy directors, country managers, the Bank's operational complexes, the senior leadership team and our Board of Directors, to enhance the effectiveness, efficiency, and delivery of quality operations for all beneficiaries in our regional member countries."

Dr Akinwumi A. Adesina said: "I am pleased to appoint Mrs Marie-Laure Akin-Olugbade Vice-President for the Regional Development, Integration and Business Delivery complex of the Bank. She will provide strong and effective leadership to the complex. Marie-Laure is a seasoned and respected professional and business leader. She has extensive hands-on experience in banking and development. She will ensure that the Bank operates successfully across its regional member countries and will oversee the full implementation of all aspects of our regional directorates in furtherance of the Bank's development mandate."



China Central Bank

China's ongoing banking crackdown picks up pace

BEIJING

Chinese authorities have launched a probe into the former chairman and party chief of state-owned China Everbright Group, the latest sign that the country's crackdown on corruption in the financial sector is picking up pace.

Li Xiaopeng is suspected of "serious violations of discipline and law," the Central Commission for Discipline Inspection and the State Supervision Commission said in a one-sentence statement.

The announcement came after the anti-graft body said last week it will start a fresh round of checks at more than 30 state-owned companies. As part of the inspection, they will also "look back" at five financial firms that had been previously targeted, including China Everbright Group.

China's \$60 trillion finance industry is being rocked by a clampdown that has become its most extensive since beginning in late 2021. It comes amid a broader push to rein in risks in the sector as policy makers seek to restore growth, manage the economic fallout of frayed ties with the US and step up their charm offensive with foreign

business and private industry.

Authorities late last Friday warned top banking executives that the campaign is far from over, just as they were about to announce the probe of the most senior state banker in nearly two decades, Bloomberg News reported previously.

Officials from the China Banking and Insurance Regulatory Commission and the anti-graft watchdog called in top executives from at least six big state-owned banks to address the probe of Bank of China Ltd.'s former Chairman Liu Liang, according to people familiar with the matter, who asked not to be named as the information is private.

Founded in 1983 by China's finance ministry and Central Huijin Investment Ltd., China Everbright Group is a financial conglomerate that spans the banking and securities industries.

The latest probe, coupled with the warning, adds to evidence that President Xi Jinping's anti-graft campaign in the financial sector is gaining traction even after the claim of initial success last year. At least 20 financial executives have been probed or penalized since late February.



Dimon: Bank rules should change after SVB collapse

NEW YORK

The US and the banking industry should amend regulations following the collapse of Silicon Valley Bank and Signature Bank last month, saying that the financial system needs to be adjusted so that one bank's failure does not "cause undue panic and financial harm."

The comments, made in Dimon's letter to JPMorgan Chase shareholders Tuesday, were his first since the two banks failed.

Dimon, the chairman and chief executive of the nation's largest bank, is a veteran of the 2008 financial crisis, and one of the last senior executives remaining at a Wall Street firm since the industry nearly collapsed 15 years ago.

Dimon said in his letter there was plenty of blame to go around for Silicon Valley Bank's failure. The bank's management poorly handled the bank's interest rate risk by buying low interest government bonds and mortgages, leaving it too exposed to the Federal Reserve's rising interest rates, he said. Regulators like the Fed did not adequately understand the risks in SVB's balance sheet

soon enough to push the bank to adjust course before it was too late.

Lastly, Dimon partially blamed venture capitalists and the tech community, whose collective decision to pull their money out of SVB caused the bank to fail through a traditional bank run.

"The unknown risk was that SVB's over 35,000 corporate clients - and activity within them - were controlled by a small number of venture capital companies and moved their deposits in lockstep," Dimon wrote.

"This is not to absolve bank management - it's just to make clear that this wasn't the finest hour for many players," he added.

Dimon acknowledged in his letter what was seen anecdotally throughout this crisis: depositors flocked to the nation's biggest banks which are seen as "too big to fail" which arguably gives them an implicit government backstop in times of panic. But Dimon said the country benefits from the existence of smaller banks and community banks because they serve more local populations that their bigger rivals.



Emirates NBD arranges \$1bn inaugural sukuk

DUBAI

Emirates NBD has successfully priced a US\$1 billion Senior Unsecured Sustainable Sukuk for Al Rajhi Bank, the world's largest Islamic bank by assets and market capitalisation.

The five-year Sukuk which was priced at a reoffer yield of 4.774 percent generated strong demand, attracting orders of over US\$3.75 billion. The robust order book allowed Al Rajhi to tighten the pricing by 40 basis points to 5-year US Treasury + 110 basis points (bps) from an initial price guidance of 150 bps.

The Sukuk was strongly

anchored by Middle Eastern investors, who accounted for 49 percent of the allocation. The issue also witnessed strong demand from high quality international investors.

The Sukuk was issued under Al Rajhi's US\$4 billion Trust Certificates Programme, which was established in April 2022. The proceeds will be used to finance and refinance, in whole or in part, Eligible Sustainable Projects, as set out in the Bank's Sustainable Finance Framework.

The issue represents the first debt capital market transaction by a financial institution in

Central and Eastern Europe, Middle East and Africa following the recent volatility in the global banking sector.

Waleed Almogbel, Managing Director and CEO of Al Rajhi Bank, expressed gratitude for the support of local and international investors during the marketing process, citing the success of the Sukuk as a reflection of their confidence in the bank and the Kingdom's solid foundations.

Almogbel also emphasised the bank's commitment to sustainable financing and expressed enthusiasm for the upcoming annual Allocation and

Impact report, which will detail the environmental and social benefits created by the Sukuk transaction.

Mohammad Al Bastaki, CEO of Emirates NBD Capital, affirmed the bank's commitment to providing dynamic sustainable financing solutions to meet increasing demand from regional and global clients. The success of Al Rajhi Bank's debut Sukuk is a testament to the confidence of investors in the bank and the growing demand for sustainable financing solutions.

WORLD

TRUMP INDICTMENT:
US going to hell,
says ex-president

WASHINGTON

THE US is "going to hell", Donald Trump has said in a defiant address after pleading not guilty to falsifying business records to hide damaging information ahead of the 2016 election.

The former president was charged with 34 counts in a Manhattan court in New York on Tuesday.

These relate to a hush money payment to porn star Stormy Daniels, who says they had an adulterous affair.

Trump is the first US president in history to face a criminal trial.

"The only crime that I have committed is to fearlessly defend our nation from those who seek to destroy it," the 76-year-old told supporters gathered at his Mar-a-Lago

home in Florida after he appeared in court.

He said that the "fake case" was simply part of a Democratic conspiracy to interfere with next year's presidential election, in which he is running.

Earlier, he sat stony-faced and silent for the nearly hour-long proceedings before Judge Juan Merchan, speaking out loud only in response to the judge's questions and to enter his plea of not guilty. Mr Trump said nothing to reporters as he left court.

The case against the former president hinges on a hush-money payment of \$130,000 (£104,000) made before the 2016 presidential election.

While such a payment is not illegal, spending money to help a presidential campaign but not disclosing it violates fed-



Former US president Donald Trump appears in court at the Manhattan Criminal Court in New York on Tuesday. AFP

eral campaign finance law.

His former lawyer, Michael Cohen - who turned against his former boss - has said he made the payment at Mr Trump's direction.

Each of the charges carries a maximum of four years in prison, although a judge could sentence Trump to probation if he is convicted.

The odds of his being found guilty are so far unclear, but the charges have pulled the country into uncharted political territory.

Trump's trial could begin as early as January 2024, Judge Merchan said, meaning the Republican could be back in court just as primaries begin to select the party's nominee for the presidential election.

Prosecutors also pointed to other payments they say were made via an intermediary on behalf of Mr Trump to suppress potentially politically damaging stories.

They allege \$30,000 was paid to buy

the silence of a doorman at Trump Tower who claimed Trump had a lovechild. And \$150,000 was paid to Karen McDougal, a former Playboy model who said she had a sexual relationship with Trump.

Prosecutors said both payments were made by the National Enquirer, a US tabloid whose publisher is a long-time ally of Trump.

While a criminal conviction would not prevent Trump from either running for president or from reclaiming the Oval Office, the prolonged legal fight could prove a major distraction for the Republican front-runner and may add a new layer of turmoil to his party's primary.

Trump is the focus of three other investigations, related to efforts to overturn the 2020 election results, the attack on the Capitol as it was certifying Joe Biden's victory, and over the former president's handling of classified documents after leaving the White House.

China opposes US arrangement
for Tsai's 'transit' trip

BEIJING

CHINA firmly opposes the US arrangement for Tsai Ing-wen's "transit" trip to the United States and a meeting between her and US House Speaker Kevin McCarthy, the third highest-ranking official of the US government, a Foreign Ministry spokesperson said Tuesday.

Spokesperson Mao Ning made the remarks at a daily news briefing, noting that it seriously contravenes the one-China principle and provisions in the three China-US joint communiques and gravely undermines China's sovereignty and territorial integrity.

"We urge the United States to abide by the one-China principle and provisions in the three China-US joint communiques, not to allow Tsai Ing-wen's 'transit' trip to the United States, and not to arrange for any meeting or contact between Tsai and US political figures and officials," Mao said.

The Chinese side will closely monitor the situation as it develops and resolutely defend the country's sovereignty and territorial integrity, the spokesperson said.

Russia to do everything for its security after
Finland's accession to NATO, says Kremlin

MOSCOW

RUSSIA will do everything possible for its security due to a new threat that has emerged after Finland's accession to NATO, Kremlin Spokesman Dmitry Peskov said yesterday.

Finland's NATO membership "creates an additional threat to Russia," Peskov (pictured) stressed.

"This obliges us to take necessary measures to rebalance the security system," the Russian presidential spokesman said.

The Kremlin press secretary said that he could not name specific steps that Moscow intended to take. "Naturally, this will require certain time because this is not a one-off action, this is a process stretched out in time. But everything that is necessary for ensuring our security will be done," the Russian presidential spokesman assured.

Finland's NATO membership both creates an additional threat to Russia and fails to contribute to security in Europe, Peskov pointed out.

"This is, undoubtedly, an event that does not contribute to strengthening stability, security and predictability on the European continent," the Russian presidential spokesman said.

Finland and Sweden applied to join NATO on May 18, 2022, but Turkey immediately blocked their bids to get into the US-led bloc, demanding that the Nordic countries declare Kurdish organizations as terror groups and extradite individuals accused of terrorism or complicity in the 2016 failed coup attempt in the country.

In order to settle these issues, Turkey, Finland and Sweden signed a memorandum before a NATO summit in 2022, stipulating specific steps that these two Nordic countries should take as viewed by Turkey.

The Turkish parliament approved a bill on ratifying a protocol on Finland's NATO membership on March 30. Helsinki was officially admitted into the North Atlantic alliance as its 31st member on April 4.

UN chief calls for global mine action

UNITED NATIONS

UN Secretary-General Antonio Guterres on Tuesday called for global action on mines on the occasion of the International Day for Mine Awareness and Assistance in Mine Action, which falls on April 4.

For the millions of people living amid the chaos of armed conflicts, especially women and children, every step can put them in danger's path. Even after the fighting stops, conflicts often leave behind a terrifying legacy: Landmines and explosive ordnance that litter communities, Guterres said in a video message that was played at the UN Mine Action Symposium.

Peace brings no assurance of safety when roads and fields are mined, when unexploded ordnance threatens the return of displaced populations, and when children find and play with shiny objects that explode, he said.

The UN Mine Action Service gathers partners together to remove these deadly weapons, support national authorities, and ensure safe access to homes, schools, hospitals and farmers' fields. The service also supported the design of the Black Sea Grain Initiative and the safe export of grain and fertilizer from Ukrainian ports, the UN chief noted.

CPC equips itself with new theories for journey ahead

BEIJING

AN education campaign has been launched by the Communist Party of China (CPC) to enable its members to equip themselves with the Party's new theories, as the CPC leads the people to build a great modern socialist country and advance national rejuvenation.

During this study programme, which started in April, over 96 million CPC members will focus on the study and implementation of Xi Jinping Thought on Socialism with Chinese Characteristics for a New Era in a top-down fashion, with the Political Bureau of the CPC Central Committee setting a leading example by holding a group study session on March 30.

Xi Jinping, general secretary of the CPC Central Committee, expounded on why and how to carry out the campaign in his speech delivered at a working meeting on Monday.

During this critical juncture as China embarks on a new journey, Xi has led the entire Party to enhance cohesion with new theories that will provide strong theoretical guidance and political guarantee for undertaking the central task on journey ahead.

Great significance

Initiating a campaign centered around the Party's new theories is deemed of para-



President Xi Jinping delivers a speech on March 13, 2023 at the closing meeting of the first session of the 14th National People's Congress, which was attended by NPC deputies, at the Great Hall of the People in Beijing. (FENG YONGBIN / CHINA DAILY)

mount importance and urgency for the CPC.

Since the 18th CPC National Congress in 2012, Xi has repeatedly stressed the need to enhance political education and arm CPC members with the Party's new theories. Therefore, top priority has been given to theoretical study throughout the previous five themed education campaigns, which have laid a solid intellectual foundation to evoke a sense of solidarity and unity for the Party.

As the long-term governing party of a country with more than 1.4 billion people, the CPC must achieve unity

in thought, will and action with the Party's new theories, which will enable the CPC to strengthen its solidarity and better lead the Chinese people in forging ahead on the new journey.

At Monday's meeting, Xi urged efforts to build the Party into "one piece of adamant iron" that is invincible.

Profound understanding

Arming all Party members with the Party's new theories is a fundamental and strategic undertaking that has far-reaching implications for the greater vision.

Also on Monday, the first

two volumes of a new book series of selected works of Xi Jinping were published. These books are expected to serve as another authoritative resource for the Party and the country to study and apply Xi Jinping Thought on Socialism with Chinese Characteristics for a New Era.

Xi Jinping Thought on Socialism with Chinese Characteristics for a New Era covers various realms and respects, including reform, development, social stability, domestic affairs, foreign relations, national defense, and governance of the Party, the state, and the military, which consti-

tute a comprehensive scientific system.

It is essential to fully understand the general secretary's new ideas, thoughts, and strategies proposed for various fields in the context of the entire theoretical system and grasp them as a whole.

Implementation through practice

During the campaign, the study should come first while implementation must be the focus. The ultimate purpose of all requirements, tasks and major measures is to deal with issues that matter to the overall development of the Party and the country.

Xi has called on all Party members to focus on pursuing high-quality development which is the primary task of building a modern socialist country in all respects, improve their performances in practice with enhanced theoretical attainments, and solve problems in development through in-depth research.

Last month, the General Office of the CPC Central Committee issued a work plan for a Party-wide campaign, encouraging in-depth research and studies, which form an important element of the study campaign.

At Monday's meeting, Xi also asked all Party members to go to the community level and apply the Party's new theories in analyzing new situations and solving new problems. *Xinhua*

CHINA has been enjoying a good reputation for valuing sincerity, friendship and equality while developing relations with other developing countries.

Serbian President Aleksandar Vucic said that Serbia is a true friend of China, and the Serbian side respects China and admires China's great leadership. No matter what pressure or difficulty there may be, the steel-like friendship between the two countries will never change, nor will the friendly sentiment the Serbian side holds toward the Chinese people, he noted.

"Benin, though small in size, stands on the side of truth, equality and justice, and will continue to be a steadfast and reliable friend of China," said Beninese President Patrice Talon during a meeting with Chinese Foreign Minister Qin Gang.

China treats other developing countries with good faith

Crown Prince of Kuwait Sheikh Mishal Al-Ahmad Al-Jaber Al-Sabah also said that China is always a friend of Kuwait.

These remarks well indicate developing countries' firm will to develop relations with China.

In the past 10 years since Chinese President Xi Jinping put forward the principles of sincerity, real results, affinity and good faith, China and other developing countries have always treated each other with sincerity and constantly expanded new areas of co-operation and growth, bringing their cooperation onto new levels.

China has always provided selfless assistance in helping other developing countries develop and modernize. It

always respects the will of the people in other developing countries and assists them in developing their economies and improving people's livelihoods to the best of its ability based on their actual needs. It never interferes in the domestic affairs of other countries. China is the world's largest developing country, and developing countries are its natural allies in international affairs.

China sincerely supports greater representation and a louder voice of developing countries in international affairs, helps reinforce the South which is a weak link in the global governance system, and works to make the global governance system better reflect the aspirations and interests of the majority of countries in a more balanced way,

especially developing countries.

China always stands with other developing countries, speaking up for them at international fora.

It has endeavored to establish co-operation platforms at various events to deepen mutual understanding, enhance pragmatic cooperation and expand exchanges and mutual learning among developing countries, including the APEC Economic Leaders' Meeting in Beijing, the G20 Hangzhou Summit, the Shanghai Cooperation Organization Qingdao Summit, the Belt and Road Forum for International Cooperation, the Beijing Summit of the Forum on China-Africa Cooperation and the Communist Party of China in Dialogue with World Political Parties High-level

Meeting.

The "BRICS Plus" cooperation model proposed by China has set the pattern for carrying out South-South cooperation and seeking strength through unity for emerging markets and developing countries.

China sincerely shares its development experiences with other developing countries, which has injected impetus into their efforts to achieve prosperity.

China has promoted Chinese hybrid rice and Juncao technology, established agricultural technology demonstration centers and Luban workshops, carried out poverty reduction cooperation and set up a global development promotion center. It

has always been committed to helping other developing countries achieve common progress.

China has effectively promoted Chinese modernization, made constant progress in enriching and developing a new form of human advancement, and busted the myth that "modernization means Westernization," setting an important example for other developing countries in independently exploring a path to modernization based on their national realities.

The Chinese efforts have been widely lauded by the international community. It is believed that Chinese modernization has significant meaning for other developing countries as it indicates that modernization is not a single-choice question and there's no one-size-fits-all standard.

People's Daily

Russia's non-systemic opposition starts terrorist attacks, at war with people – Medvedev

MOSCOW

MEMBERS of Russia's silent opposition are now engaged in terrorism, executing their fellow countrymen, Russian Security Council Deputy Chairman Dmitry Medvedev said on Tuesday.

He made the statement as he was commenting on Telegram on the terrorist attack that took place in St. Petersburg on April 2.

The official also said that it is the forces that the West had recently regarded as the best people of the time and the opponents of the "authoritarian regime," the fearless knights of justice and fight against corruption that are engaged in terrorism.

"Here's the creme de la creme of our non-systemic opposition: It's waging war on its own people, it's engaged in explosions and assassinations," Medvedev said.

According to the official, "these scum not only wish for Russia to be defeated," but also "execute their countrymen."

Medvedev said members of the silent opposition murdered an unarmed reporter, wounded several dozens of innocent spectators at his event, opened fire on a car with children that were going to a village school, and blew up a car with a female reporter and a researcher.

"History has come full circle. This swine has taken its final place in the chronicles of our country," he said.

The Security Council official called attention to the fact that the perpetrators of the terrorist attacks say they were used.

"This is probably true," he said.

But, he said, the perpetrators of terrorist attacks will be duly punished.

"But, so far, the main scum who fed and financed the killers, who dictated their plans remain unpunished," he wrote on his Telegram channel. "Various FBK (recognized as an extremist organization in Russia) and MBK (recognized as a foreign agent – TASS), the Navalny, Volkov, Ponomarev and Khodorkovsky outfits have become petty terrorists and murderers" and "have pledged their allegiance to evil and terror, along with the murderers of their kindred Kiev Nazi regime."

Agencies



20 years on, Iraqis remain aggrieved over US invasion

BEIJING

TWENTY years on, Iraqis remain aggrieved over the U.S. invasion of their home country, which has left hundreds of thousands of people dead and almost 10 million displaced.

They still remember the scene in which former U.S. Secretary of State Colin Powell held a test tube filled with white powder, claiming it to be the evidence of Iraq's possession of "weapons of mass destruction" at a UN Security Council meeting on Feb. 5, 2003.

Instead of waiting for the results of the investigation by the United Nations and the International Atomic Energy Agency, the United States decided to act on its own, recalled Khurshid Mahmud Kasuri, who served as Pakistani Foreign Minister from 2002 to 2007, in an interview with Sputnik news agency.

The United States had already decided that whether it got the support of the United Nations Security Council or not, they were going to go in," said the diplomat who represented Islamabad at that UNSC meeting. "I remember Colin Powell telling me that the United States could not just go on waiting forever."

The United States launched a special military operation in Iraq on March 20, 2003, without authorization from the United Nations.

The ensuing eight years of bloody war claimed hundreds of thousands of lives and displacing millions of Iraqis. "I was almost 12 when the Americans came in, and we were terrified. You could get killed at any moment.

Our families were frankly terrified. It was a powerful fear ... The situation is getting worse every day," said Razzazq Hameed, a 30-year-old shopkeeper in Iraq. According to Statista, a global statistical database, from 2003 to 2021, about 209,000 Iraqi civilians died in wars and violent conflicts.

About 9.2 million Iraqis became refugees or were forced to leave their homeland. The war has increased rates of illness and disease in Iraq as approxi-



Iraqi protesters take part in a demonstration against the presence of U.S. troops in the country in Baghdad, capital of Iraq, Jan. 24, 2020. (Xinhua/Khalil Dawood)

mately half of the registered doctors fled the country in the years immediately following the 2003 invasion, according to a report by the Watson Institute for International and Public Affairs at Brown University.

For the United States, the issue of weapons of mass destruction is secondary to a deeper drive to overthrow then-Iraqi President Saddam Hussein, said a BBC report on March 13.

"We would have invaded Iraq if Saddam Hussein had a rubber band and a paperclip ... We would have said, 'oh, he will take your eye out,'" Luis Rueda, head of the Iraq Operations Group at the Central Intelligence Agency, was quoted as saying in the report.

On the 20th anniversary of the invasion, people swarmed onto social media and spat out their anger against the United States.

"I am saddened by the death of Colin Powell without being tried for his crimes in Iraq ... But I am sure that the court of God will be waiting for him," Iraqi journalist Muntazer al-Zaidi, who hurled one of his shoes at former U.S. President George W. Bush during a press conference in Baghdad in 2008, wrote on his Twitter account. "America's arguments and allegations about weapons of mass destruction were nothing but a cover for the

occupation of Iraq, the destruction of its infrastructure and foreign infrastructure," tweeted Zaid Al-Tikriti, who describes himself as a lawyer.

Mortada Al-Misani published a series of photographs on his Twitter account showing American soldiers transporting and destroying Iraqi cultural relics, with the caption saying, "the 20th anniversary of the American occupation of Iraq under the pretext of the existence of weapons of mass destruction and their danger to mankind."

With several American and British officials admitting that Iraq had neither chemical weapons nor weapons of mass destruction, one netizen asked on Twitter, "The war was futile and has left hundreds of thousands dead for no reason ... What does regret do?"

Xinhua

AU capacity building foundation praised for its contribution to Africa's development process

ADDIS ABABA

THE African Union (AU) has commended the African Capacity Building Foundation (ACBF) for its contribution to Africa's development process through human capital development.

The AU said in a statement issued late Monday that the ACBF, the AU's specialized agency for capacity development, has contributed to Africa's growth through institution building, knowledge sharing, and human capital development.

Marking the foundation's 32 years of establishment in 1991 to address Africa's severe capacity gaps, the AU said the ACBF has gained a robust track record which solidifies its position as the premier partner for capacity development on the continent.

It said the specialized agency, focusing on human capital development and institution building to address current and future development challenges, has so far trained more than 50,000 personnel in civil service, most of whom hold key positions in ministries of finance, planning and economic development as well as central banks across the continent.

According to the AU, the ACBF has supported more than 70 higher education institutions, including universities, across all sub-Saharan Africa regions, to reform curricula that address the economic requirements of their countries and equipped universities with libraries that enabled students to carry out research online.

The foundation has over the years grown its membership from 12 African countries to 40. It has also established a network of over 35 think-thanks that support evidence-based policy-making across Africa and produce critical policy research and analysis, which inform economic management and help establish benchmarks for success, the AU said.

The AU said the ACBF, as a thought leader in Africa, has generated over 500 knowledge products in the forms of research, studies, and publications covering over 200 development topics.

In line with its new five-year strategy from 2023 to 2027, the AU said the foundation will focus on human capacity development and institution building in four impact areas, namely, climate change and energy, economic governance, agribusiness and food security, and trade as engines of growth.

The AU said the agency, as part of its new strategy, will offer two signature products that support institutional building and human capacity development in Africa.

Xinhua

Zimbabwean govt investigates allegations of gold smuggling, money laundering

HARARE

THE Zimbabwean government said on Tuesday that it has directed its law enforcement agencies to investigate alleged cases of money laundering and gold smuggling, following an expose by an international media organization singling out some individuals said to be involved in the racket.

Al Jazeera has so far screened two out of four episodes under a series dubbed "Gold Mafia", in which some alleged players are secretly recorded, most of them claiming to have links with high offices in the land.

Minister of Information, Publicity and Broadcasting Services Monica Mutsvangwa said in a statement that the government has noted the documentary currently being serialized and will take action.

"Government takes the allegations raised in the documentary seriously, and has directed relevant organs to institute investigations into the issues raised therein," she said. "Any person found to have engaged in acts of corruption, fraud, or any form of crime, will face the full wrath of the law."

In the documentary, alleged actors say they smuggle the gold to Dubai, the United Arab Emirates, while illicit wealth was laundered in the country with assistance from high-profile people.

Mutsvangwa said the government was reaffirming its commitment to upholding international laws, including laws relating to financial transactions and the trade of gold and other precious minerals.

"Boastful behavior and name-dropping by some personalities featured in the documentary, seeking personal gain and glory, should never be taken as an enunciation of government policy," she said, adding that the government remains seized with the matter and the nation will be kept apprised of any new developments.

The documentary has raised a lot of interest among citizens who are now advocating for action to be taken against anyone found to have broken the law.

Xinhua

Chinese enterprise helps Nigeria build first modern deep seaport

NIGERIA'S first deep seaport was recently inaugurated in the southwestern state of Lagos. Funded, constructed and operated by the China Harbour Engineering Company Ltd. (CHEC), the Lekki deep seaport is one of the biggest in West Africa.

The Lekki deep seaport, which has a breakwater extending 2.5 kilometers into the Gulf of Guinea and five giant container gantry cranes, is located in the Lagos Free Trade Zone and jointly developed by the CHEC and Nigerian Ports Authority. The project was commenced in June 2020 and completed in October last year.

A 45-year concession has been awarded based on a build-own-operate-transfer (BOOT) contract. The port is able to handle 1.2 million twenty-foot equivalent units on a yearly basis.

Lagos State is an important hub of international trade in the Gulf of Guinea and West Africa. For a long time, foreign trade and economic development in the state had been impeded by underdeveloped port facilities, poor cargo distribution capability and high logistics cost.

Fortunately, these problems are expected to be solved following the completion of the Lekki deep seaport.

Managing director of Nigerian Ports Authority Mohammed Bello Koko noted that the deep seaport is the first automated port in Nigeria that allows rapid customs clearance and will significantly reduce the time of cargo handling.

Nigerian President Muhammadu Buhari said the deep seaport will open up new prospects for Nigeria's economic development, provide opportunities for the country's exports, especially agro-allied products in the international marketplace, and increase foreign exchange inflow.

The port will also create abundant job opportunities and thus help with poverty reduction. According to Alhaji Lai Mohammed, Minister of Nigeria's Federal Ministry of Information and Culture, it is estimated that the overall economic benefit will reach \$361 billion over the next 45 years.

At the inauguration ceremony



Photo shows the Lekki deep seaport in Nigeria. (Photo from the China Harbour Engineering Company Ltd.)

of the deep seaport, Babajide Sanwo-Olu, Governor of Lagos State said that the Lekki deep seaport, as the biggest in Nigeria, can accommodate the world's largest container vessels.

Previously at the completion ceremony of the project, the Governor praised the CHEC for finishing the deep seaport project on time, saying the port will create nearly 200,000 jobs for Nigeria directly and indirectly in the years to come. Unquestionably, the port will make Lagos a maritime logistics center in Central and West Africa, he added.

Itoke Community and Idotun Community are less than 3 kilometers away from the Lekki deep seaport. In the past decades, the land and houses of some residents were always flooded by sea waves in the rainy season.

To solve the problem, the CHEC, upon investigation, built two breakwaters totaling 539 meters and added an artificial beach covering nearly 800,000 square meters to the east of the port.

Shortly after the rainy season ended last year, the heads of the two communities visited the project site with fish and shrimps they caught to extend their gratitude. They said it was the safest rainy season they had in the past

decades, all the land and houses were intact. "Thank the Chinese enterprise for doing this for us," they noted.

This is an epitome of the Lekki deep seaport contributing to local livelihood development. According to an employee working at the port, the port has already created about 2,000 jobs for local communities during its construction and trained a batch of local professionals. Over 80 percent of technical and management jobs at the port are taken by local people. Through systematic training and instruction, most of the local workers have acquired professional and modern work skills.

Magbon-Segun Community sits next to the Lekki deep seaport. Many young people from the Community work at the port.

"We are proud to be a neighbor of the Lekki deep seaport," said Dawuda, head of the Community adding that the Community has completely changed thanks to the port. Today, the clean and beautiful beach there is attracting large number of tourists and the spare houses in the Community have all been rented. The operation of the deep seaport has advanced integrated development of the region. Free trade areas, an oil refinery and other projects are well

underway. The construction of a new international airport is also expected to be started this year.

Hassan Bello, Executive Secretary of Nigerian Shippers' Council, said the Lekki deep seaport is of vital significance for Nigeria in achieving economic prosperity and will completely change the image of Nigerian shipping industry. It will drive the country's growth and change the shipping and economic pattern of Nigeria and even the Central and West Africa at large.

Chinese Ambassador to Nigeria Cui Jianchun said the deep seaport is expected to become a new engine of economic development that will empower the whole country, and is of huge significance for the development of the Belt and Road Initiative in Africa.

People's Daily



Minister for Culture, Arts, and Sports, Pindi Chana.

Ministry takes pride in President Samia's sports promotion drive

By Correspondent Cheji Bakari, Tanga

MINISTER for Culture, Arts, and Sports Pindi Chana recently outlined achievements reached by her ministry during two years of leadership of President Samia Suluhu Hassan.

She listed her ministry's achievements during an interview with an Iringa-based radio station.

Pindi revealed that success was achieved in women's soccer, amputee football, athletics, National Inter-Primary Schools Games (Umitashumta), and National Inter-Secondary Schools Games (Umisseta).

She stated that since President Samia took the office, the sports sector has achieved tremendous success, with the national U-17 women's soccer side, Serengeti Girls, and national amputee football team 'Tembo Warriors' posting good results in international competitions.

Serengeti Girls secured progression to the 2022 U-17 Women's World Cup that was played in India from October 11-30 and, against all odds, went on to book a place in the global showdown's last eight's round.

Tembo Warriors also secured qualification for the 2022 Amputee Football World Cup that took place in Istanbul, Turkey from September 30-October 9.

Pindi further explained that Tanzania's athletes, Alphonse Simbu and Gabriel Geay, had an impressive outing in the 2022 Commonwealth

Games which took place in Birmingham, England.

The was, further, a successful revival of the Umisseta and Umitashumta games.

The minister stated: "We have also witnessed how President Samia offered a reward for every goal notched by Simba SC and Yanga in this season's CAF Champions League and CAF Confederation Cup, handing over 5m/- for every goal."

"President Samia also presented a cash prize to the senior national football team, Taifa Stars, when the team cruised to a win over Uganda in the 2023 African Cup of Nations (AFCON) Qualifiers' duel at Suez Canal Stadium in Ismailia, Egypt," she pointed out.

The minister moreover explained there have been achievements in culture and arts, which include the introduction of World Kiswahili Day, and the introduction of the first national culture concert.

She noted there was, as well as, the establishment of a culture and arts fund to enable domestic arts and culture fraternity members to get loans.

Pindi also thanked President Samia, Prime Minister Kassim Majaliwa, and Ministry of Culture, Arts, and Sports stakeholders for purchasing tickets for soccer fans to watch the 2023 AFCON Qualifiers' tie between Taifa Stars and Uganda which took place at Benjamin Mkapa Stadium in Dar es Salaam on March 28

Yanga tops group with player deficit, doubts remain on strategic objectives

By Correspondent John Kimbute

ENTIRELY out of place with tradition, Young Africans SC not only did well in continental tournaments by reaching the Group Stage of the second-tier competition.

More significantly, the side ended on top of the group, eclipsing US Monastir of Tunisia, and in a sense repeating an earlier feat of 'obtaining results' in an away match against Club Africain, which permitted their Group Stage inclusion in the first place.

The result was higher than most fans or pundits dared to expect.

At the end of the day, the Jangwani Street club, alias Yanga, was wondering how to approach the quarterfinal stage, since they are among the best-placed sides in the quarterfinal stage.

Still, when it comes to their original vision, attaining the Group Stage of the CAF Champions League, the club did not exactly attain this objective, but in reaching the quarterfinals of the second-tier competition, the atmosphere among the club is more satisfied with the current showing. That becomes an issue.

The point is the clear difference between the two stages of continental competition, which is important for club standing as a whole but not for the fans, is a sort of complicating factor.

The issue for the club is that it is learning that so long as they have good standing in the local premier league and go into continental competition, descending one ladder from the top tier to the second is a non-issue for the fans.

They wish to see the team in continental soccer, and much more so, winning ties.

In that case what was observable at the fan level in the city and countryside was a series of matches where either of the two sides was facing a North African team and then the other teams.



Tanzania's Yanga defender, Ibrahim Abdallah (L), challenges Democratic Republic of the Congo's TP Mazembe forward, Fily Traore, when the outfits took on each other in a 2022/23 CAF Confederation Cup Group D encounter that took place at Stade TP Mazembe in Lubumbashi last week. Yanga commanded a 1-0 win over TP Mazembe. PHOTO: COURTESY OF YANGA

This difference is well known, recognized, and admittedly respected, while being in the CAF Champions League or the CAF Confederation Cup is by and large a non-issue.

So much so that while Simba SC goes into the quarterfinals of the upper tournament, Yanga to the other quarterfinals, they are to the fans equal.

There is a psychological risk involved here, namely that to remain in the top-tier tournament is to run the risk of being ashamed, a more pronounced risk than if a club has descended to the lower-tier series of matches.

Thus the Msimbazi Street side was in a difficult position, having more tournament nightmares than their rivals across the street, as the clubs they were contending with were significantly of lower standing.

Yanga has a more joyous

atmosphere with the fans.

In that sense, the leadership at the Jangwani Street complex just like Msimbazi Street has a choice to make, as to the level of investments they need to do for their respective sides in the coming season.

The most important consideration for the fan base remains the ability to win over their archrivals, where Yanga has had a sort of advantage since GSM Group took the side out of the doldrums in the wake of the collapse of its earlier sponsorship network.

For reasons of its more cosmopolitan outlook in comparison with its rivals, Simba SC attained viable institutionalization.

Yanga had to follow that path so that substantial sponsorships funds could be directed to the club, as a disorderly leadership resembling a local government

official could not have stomached millions of regular payments for registration, salaries, etc.

The trouble is that making investment decisions is tied up with what the fans expect to remain solidly behind the leadership, filling the stadium when the side plays. As it appears, decision-making is a cliffhanger issue.

Trying to remain stable in the champions' league and even seeking assurance of being within striking distance of the semifinals implies investing to have teams that are comparable to the highest level hard hitters on the continent.

These are teams where virtually none of the current crop of players can get a playing slot despite that one or two breaks occasionally into the best player of the month CAF bracket.

But they face serious problems when they obtain recruitment as they struggle to be noticed at the highest level like at Al Ahly, FAR Rabat, Wydad Casablanca, Mamelodi Sundowns, or elsewhere, where the standard of play, and work rate levels, are superior.

This is where the strategic doubt comes about, more so for the Jangwani Street side than for their rivals at the end of the street, as they have slid out of the top tier tournament at the preliminary stage for two years consecutively 'under new management'.

To be sure they intended to make an impression at that level as well, but as it is not easy to do that, and fans appear to be satisfied with doing well in the second-tier run, the logical strategy seems to be to replace Feisal Salum and Bernard Morrison with equally capable players, not just any recruits, to be sure of doing as much as they did this season, as their opponents will also be getting prepared.

The issue is resilience at the current level of performance, not overhauling the side for miracles.

Simba SC tipped to excel in 2022/23 CAF Champions League last eight

By Correspondence Nassir Nchimbi

FORMER Simba SC defender Boniface Pawasa has said that the erstwhile side has a great chance to excel in the 2022/23 CAF Champions League quarterfinals after the experience of several seasons.

Simba SC ended the CAF Champions League Group Stage journey with nine points to finish second in Group C while Vipers SC from neighbouring Uganda finished bottom of the group having posted two points.

Morocco's Raja Club Athletic topped the group, having recorded 16 points, whereas Guinea's Horoya Athletic Club ended third with seven points.

With Simba SC having finished second in its group, the outfit will, in the last eight, meet either Mamelodi Sundowns of South Africa, Wydad Casablanca of Morocco, or Esperance de Tunis of Tunisia, which topped groups A, B, and D respectively in the premier continental competition's Group Stage.

Simba SC reached the quarterfinals of the continental club tournaments for the fourth time in the past five seasons.

The outfit achieved the feat once in the CAF Confederation Cup last season, and on three occasions in the CAF Champions League.

Simba SC led its group in one of the three seasons of the CAF Champions League and in the remaining, the outfit finished second including its participation in the CAF Confederation Cup.

The outfit, however, had never lost a tie at home, other than settling for a barren draw with Congolese outfit TP Mazembe in the 2018/19 CAF Champions League's last eight's stage.

Simba SC has had a better home record in CAF Champions League and the squad may seem to repeat its 1974 achievements when it reached the semi-finals of the previous version of the premier continental showdown, African Champion Clubs' Cup, and was knocked out by Mehalla el Kubra of Egypt.

"Simba SC has every reason to do well no matter which opponent the side meets. I think the away match against Raja Club Athletic gave them a big glimpse of what is ahead of them and take the positives ahead of quarterfinal matches," the former Simba

SC defender noted.

Pawasa noted: "Simba SC has the best leaders who know how to fight inside and outside of the pitch, but the biggest thing is that they should aim to first score many goals at home and then opt for defensive discipline away from home and because I believe that many African teams find it difficult to win away from home."

The former player added that Simba SC has not changed much since the last time the squad played in the quarterfinals.

With the club now having garnered experience in African football, Pawasa believes that if the club works hard it can go through to the semi-finals.

"The CAF Champions League needs more experience and Simba SC currently has that experience because it has players still serving it, as I see despite having competition Simba SC is one of the best teams in Africa with a great chance to do well this season," Pawasa noted.

Exciting quarterfinal fixtures are expected after the draw was conducted in Cairo, Egypt on Wednesday.



Former Simba SC defender, Boniface Pawasa.

Tuchel's Bayern Munich 'back down to earth' after Cup exit

BERLIN

CAPTAIN Thomas Mueller said Bayern Munich had "come back down to earth" after a 2-1 home loss against Freiburg on Tuesday saw them knocked out of the German Cup.

Bayern beat Dortmund 4-2 on Saturday to return to the top of the Bundesliga as Thomas Tuchel made his bow as coach after replacing the sacked Julian Nagelsmann, keeping the Bavarians on course for a treble.

But an injury-time penalty for a handball by Jamal Musiala, converted by Freiburg's Lucas Hoeler, saw the visitors grab their first ever victory at Bayern.

Bayern, 20-time German Cup winners, have now been eliminated before the semis for three straight years since their treble-winning season in 2019-20.

"(We're) sitting here now with broken shards of something, for this year it's over again in the German Cup," said a "disillusioned and brutally disappointed" Mueller who scored two goals against Dortmund.

"Now we've emotionally come back down to earth -- or a bit further down."

Bayern sacked Nagelsmann during the international break, despite the team having only lost three matches in all competitions this season.

Tuchel said his new team were lacking "that last bit of greed and hunger" to win.

"The expectation was of course to win and we were in the situation to win," said Tuchel, who won the 2016-17 German Cup while Dortmund coach.

On Saturday, Bayern face fourth-placed Freiburg again, this time away from home, in the league.

Bayern currently sit two points ahead of Borussia Dortmund, with eight Bundesliga matches remaining, with surprise challengers Union Berlin two points further back.

AFP

Messi 'likely' to leave PSG at end of season

PARIS

LIONEL Messi is "much more likely" to leave Paris Saint-Germain at the end of the season than sign a new deal, a source close to the club told AFP on Tuesday.

"The dynamics have completely changed with PSG less pushing to renew (his contract)," the source said, adding that there was "no deal, no exit yet. But exit is much more likely."

World Cup winner Messi, who will turn 36 in June, joined in 2021 on a two-year deal which expires at the end of this campaign.

On Sunday, the Argentine's name was jeered by some PSG fans as the teams were announced prior to the 1-0 home defeat against Lyon in Ligue 1.

Supporters of the Qatar-owned club are unhappy at the malaise around the team since they were eliminated from the Champions League in the last 16 by Bayern Munich last month.

PSG have lost eight times in 18 games in 2023, a run which has seen them go out of the French Cup prematurely although they remain six points clear at the top of the French table.

"The fans have changed things completely," the source said of the chances of Messi's deal being renewed and the supporters' reaction at the weekend.

Messi has scored 29 goals and set up 32 more in 67 appearances for PSG in all competitions.

Yet his form has dipped since he led Argentina to glory at the World Cup in Qatar at the end of last year.

Some fans see him as a symbol of all the club have done wrong in focusing on superstar signings while failing to build a genuinely competitive team.

Messi is currently costing PSG around 40 million euros (\$43.6 million) a year in wages at a time when the club have to keep in line with UEFA's Financial Fair Play rules, although there have been suggestions they could offer him a new deal on a reduced salary.

Barcelona have been openly courting Messi, hoping to persuade the Argentine to return to the Camp Nou two years after he left the club where he won four Champions League titles. He left Barcelona when the club could not afford to renew his contract.

"I would love it if he returned," Barca vice-president Rafael Yuste said last week as he admitted there had been "contact" with Messi.

He has also been linked with a possible move to Major League Soccer where Inter Miami are said to be interested in signing him.

If Messi departs, PSG would likely be doubly determined to keep hold of Kylian Mbappe for at least one more season, a year after persuading the France striker to sign a new deal and turn down overtures from Real Madrid.

As well as the uncertainty over Messi's future, there are doubts about coach Christophe Galtier, who was only appointed last July but has come under intense pressure following recent results.

AFP

Chelsea now held by Liverpool in first game after Potter's sacking

LONDON

CHelsea wasted a host of chances to beat Liverpool as the troubled Blues were held to a 0-0 draw on Tuesday in their first Premier League match since Graham Potter's sacking.

Potter was axed on Sunday after the former Brighton manager's disastrous reign climaxed with a wretched home defeat against Aston Villa.

Chelsea are seeking their third permanent manager of the campaign, with Potter hired in September following Thomas Tuchel's shock dismissal.

In the meantime, Bruno Saltor, a member of Potter's backroom staff, made his managerial debut as Chelsea interim boss.

Bruno managed to coax a lively performance from Chelsea, but -- as was so often the case under Potter -- they paid the price for a lack of cutting edge.

Chelsea remain 11th, leaving them with an uncertain future despite the massive investment in new signings made by Chelsea owner Todd Boehly since he took over last year.

"These have been emotional days and the players have been able to keep focused. It's a



Joao Felix of Chelsea battles for possession with Andrew Robertson of Liverpool. Getty

difficult season for them. To come back from what we have had in the last few days is incredible," Bruno said.

"I have asked the players to play with their hearts and I think we saw that on the pitch. We create chances and I think we deserved to win."

Liverpool hardly looked much better as a third successive league game without a win damaged their faint hopes of finishing in the top four.

Eighth-placed Liverpool are seven points behind fourth-placed Tottenham in the race to qualify for the Champions League.

"I saw a lot of great challenges, people flying into tackles and that's what we need," Liverpool boss Jurgen Klopp said.

"That's what we have to build on it. If things don't go your way you have to fight through this and make steps. Sometimes smaller ones, sometimes bigger ones. This was a smaller one."

In response to Liverpool's dismal 4-1 defeat at Manchester City on Saturday, Klopp dropped Mohamed Salah and Trent Alexander-Arnold as the Reds boss made six changes.

It was Chelsea who made the stronger start

of the two troubled teams and Mateo Kovacic's shot was blocked on the line by Ibrahima Konate.

Reece James saw his fierce finish disallowed for offside against Enzo Fernandez, while Wesley Fofana was narrowly off target with a headed chance.

Chelsea's Kai Havertz dragged a good chance wide from N'Golo Kante's pass.

- Leicester woe - Darwin Nunez and Joe Gomez forced good saves from Kepa Arrizabalaga as Liverpool finally threatened just before half-time.

Kovacic blazed a glo-

rious chance over soon after the interval, while Havertz's effort was disallowed for handball when the German's shot hit Liverpool keeper Alisson Becker and rebounded into the net off his arm.

Leicester's first game since Brendan Rodgers' departure on Sunday ended in a 2-1 defeat against Aston Villa at the King Power Stadium.

The Foxes, led by caretaker bosses Mike Stowell and Adam Sadler after Rodgers' exit by "mutual agreement", have now gone seven league games without a win and sit second bottom of the table.

Ollie Watkins put Villa ahead in the 24th minute and although Harvey Barnes equalised after 35 minutes, Leicester's Kiernan Dewsbury-Hall was sent off in the 70th minute for a second booking.

Bertrand Traore's 87th-minute curler, his first goal for Villa since 2021, piled on the misery for Leicester.

Leeds climbed out of the relegation zone with a 2-1 win against fellow strugglers Nottingham Forest at Elland Road.

Orel Mangala bagged his first goal in English football to fire Forest ahead.

But Jack Harrison equalised eight minutes later with a close-range finish after Keylor Navas spilled Marc Roca's shot.

Luis Sinisterra put Leeds in front in first-half stoppage time, cutting inside and curling his shot into the far corner.

Leeds are two points clear of the relegation zone, while Forest are outside the bottom three on goal difference.

Third-bottom Bournemouth remain in deep trouble after a 2-0 home defeat against Brighton.

Albion took the lead in the 28th minute through teenage forward Evan Ferguson's audacious backheel, with Julio Enciso's first goal for the club wrapping up the points in injury time.

AFP

Jurgen Klopp's Liverpool rebuild: How much more can he stomach?

BY THOM GIBBS

NOT long ago it seemed impossible that Jurgen Klopp would ever voluntarily leave Liverpool. While it is still an unlikely prospect, that forecast may need downgrading to 'improbable' after many more nights like this. Goodness, it was a slog.

There was a pre-match show with floodlights flashing in time to Song 2 by Blur, some fire-spewing machines on the pitch then the arrival of hundreds of millions of pounds of football talent.

What they served up was a night of premium slop. The logos and the theme tune told you it was the Premier League but the game was like Aussie A-League at 1.5x speed.

And yet Liverpool got what they came for, a rest for some of their jaded stars and a clean sheet. A back four of Joe Gomez, Joel Matip, Ibrahima Konate and Kostas Tsimikas was no one's idea of first choice.

It was, once it settled, at least more solid than against Manchester City. There are fewer yawning gaps behind your full-back when he gets forward less readily than Trent Alexander-Arnold.

But there were so many unforced errors, misplaced passes and concessions of possession that this did not feel like much of an uptick. Klopp seemed more monotone than usual when assessing



Jurgen Klopp

the game, "This was not the most spectacular 0-0 I ever saw," he said.

He spoke warily, as if at the foot of a hill he could swear he had climbed already. "Each development, each success starts with being difficult to beat. We have to be difficult to beat again."

Is there still a chance for top four? "I don't know. For that we must win pretty much all of the games and the other teams above us must lose a lot of games, that's not in our hands so I cannot say. But it's not important. If we are not fourth I want to be fifth, if we are not fifth I want to be sixth. For that we have to win football games. At the moment I don't even know where we are, eighth? Seventh? Ninth? I don't know, it's not interesting."

He was right the first time, Liverpool are eighth, two places above where they were when

performance at Chelsea was a better representation of what Liverpool have offered for most of the season, especially away from home. There are several problems with Klopp's side which Jude Bellingham might help to solve but while gifted, he is not a magician.

Does Klopp want to climb that hill again? Would you? Top-level management is an exhausting conveyor belt of an existence, a Yo! Sushi of ever-repeating tasks: 5am alarm, 5.10am gym, 6am protein shake, bit of training, thing for the sponsors, thing with the media, arm around Caoimhin Kelleher, figure out next week's corners, fall asleep in front of Wyscout again.

Ten games left of it this season and Klopp will reach a break. If he stays, and there is nothing to suggest he will not, he will be into his eighth season as Liver-

pool manager and finally quieten the seven-year itch theorists.

They have highlighted his breaking points at both Borussia Dortmund and Mainz at the many points of this season when things have gone awry. It would still be a shock for anyone else to be in the Anfield dugout at the start of 2023/24.

Still, at times at Stamford Bridge you wondered how much more he could take. In the first half after his team's latest error he sprang onto his tiptoes, raised both arms and shrieked towards the sky in frustration.

During the second half he seemed more contained, and this is wise for a team in disarray. His old feral snarl might do as much harm as good to a team misplacing this many passes. But maybe there is another reading. Is this what quiet quitting looks like?

THE TELEGRAPH

Gwiji by David Chikoko



SPORT

Chelsea now held by Liverpool in first game after Potter's sacking

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Fit-again Augustine Okrah returns to Simba SC first-team training



Simba SC midfielder, Augustine Okrah (L), negotiates his way past Mtwaba Sugar's right-back, Frank George, as the outfits took on each other in a 2022/23 NBC Premier League tie played in Dar es Salaam last year. Simba SC cruised to a 5-0 win.

during his layoff.

Okrah joined Simba SC at the start of this season after agreeing to a two-year contract from Bechem United.

He caught the eye of Simba SC after he scored 14 goals in the 2021/22 Ghana Premier League for Bechem United in 32 appearances.

He was the top scorer of the Ghana Premier League in the 2013-14 season with 16 goals during his first stint with Bechem.

He appeared to hit the ground running when he scored his first goal for Simba SC in their pre-season friendly against Egyptian side Ismaily SC which ended in a 1-1 draw.

He also scored on his league debut for Simba SC against Geita Gold FC in August.

Okrah also found the back of the net in his debut participation in a Premier League clash between Simba SC and age-old rival, Yanga.

The winger was beautifully played through by Zambia international, Clatous Chama, to put the Msimbazi Street outfit ahead in the 16th minute.

In the six months which have followed, he has contributed four goals and one assist in 16 appearances.

Apart from Simba SC, Okrah has had stints in Sudan playing for arch-rivals Al Merreikh and Al Hilal Omdurman. He has also played for Ghana's Asante Kotoko and Egypt's Smouha SC.

By Correspondent Michael Mwebe

SIMBA SC's Ghanaian winger Augustine Okrah has returned to full-scale training after recovering from an injury.

He returns ahead of Simba SC's Federation Cup quarter-finals game against Ihefu SC slated to take place at Uhuru Stadium in Dar es Salaam tomorrow.

The 29-year-old returned to training with the group at the Mo Simba Arena in Dar es Salaam on Tuesday morning after recovering from the setback, a club statement confirmed the development.

The Ghanaian attacking midfielder has been suffering from a fractured finger injury since the start of February and only returned to training after almost two months of absence.

Okra has not played for Simba SC since starting the club's 1-1 draw with Al Hilal

SC in an international friendly at Benjamin Mkapa Stadium in Dar es Salaam on February 5.

In that match, he was substituted in the 72nd minute after colliding with one of Al Hilal SC's defenders.

Due to the injury layoff,

he has missed all six Group Stage games of the 2022/23 CAF Champions League.

In his absence, Simba managed to qualify for the quarterfinals despite being in a tricky group that had Morocco giants Raja Club Athletic, seasoned partici-

pants Horoya Athletic Club, and Uganda's upstarts Vipers SC.

In total, Okra has missed nine competitive games including two 2022/23 NBC Premier League games and one Federation Cup outing that Simba SC has played

5 EATV THURSDAY
11:00 DADAZ LIVE
12:00 WEEKEND MOVIE (r)
13:30 Kall za Wana
14:00 Bongo Hits
14:30 Ujenzi (r)
15:00 Funguka
15:30 Ubongo Kids (r)
16:00 Zote Kuntu
16:30 #HSHTAG
17:00 SSELECT
17:55 Kurasa
18:00 eNewz
18:30 Bongo Hits
19:00 EATV SAA 1
20:00 DADAZ (r)
21:00 NIRVANA
21:30 TOP 10
22:00 Zote Kuntu
23:00 Kurasa (r)
23:05 EATV SAA 1

TO NIGHT @ 9:00

NIRVANA

NIRVANA is hip and edgy. It explores the latest trends in fashion, art, style and recreational activities. NIRVANA speaks to the trend makers, shapers and observers. Its a one stop shop for everything trendy.

eastafrika RADIO

06:00 Supa Breakfast
10:00 MAMAMIA
12:00 Kipenga Xtra
13:00 Planef Bongo
16:00 EA Drive
20:00 Kipenga
21:00 The Cruise

88.1FM DAR ES SALAAM

Midfielder confident of returning to Simba SC

By Correspondent Nassir Nchimbi

NIGERIAN midfielder Victor Akpan has expressed confidence in making a successful return to his club, Simba SC, once his loan move to Ihefu SC expires in June.

Akpan revealed that winning the trust of Ihefu SC head coach John Simkoko that is lately giving the former a chance to start in many matches in all competitions is strengthening him.

The defensive midfielder pointed out that he believes he will return to his best.

The former Coastal Union midfielder was signed by Simba SC for a two-year contract and he served the latter for half a season before being released on loan to Ihefu SC after struggling to prove his worth.

Akpan noted that injuries he sustained frequently were an obstacle for him and resulted in his inability to show his quality.

The midfielder disclosed since he joined Ihefu SC he has improved his fitness and confidence to get back to the good form that will satisfy Simba SC.

"I realize that I will fail to play for Simba SC... the injuries were holding me back but now I am doing very well, even if I return to the Msimbazi Street side today, everyone will see my quality," the midfielder noted.

The player moreover denied circulating reports that he has asked to return to his former team, Coastal Union.

Akpan said: "Actually, I am still a Simba SC player and my contract will, at the end of this season, have one year left."

The midfielder pointed out: "I am happy to play at Ihefu SC because I have come to keep myself up and ensure the team achieves its goals while I strive to achieve mine."

"The information about returning to Coastal Union has no truth, but at the end of the season it will be more clear, maybe I will either return to Simba SC or leave Tanzania," Akpan revealed.

Meanwhile, Ihefu SC midfielder Papy Tshishimbi may not return to the pitch in the remaining games this season as the footballer has undergone major knee surgery.

Ihefu SC's assistant coach Zubeir Katwila said it was unfortunate for the Congolese midfielder and the club because they still need his services.

"It is difficult for him to come back this season, that's why we thought it would be good for us to give him a lot of time to rest so that he can come back stronger next season, so we hope that from now on he will start light training," Katwila noted.

Fountain Gate opens CAF African Schools Championship campaign triumphantly

By Correspondent Michael Mwebe

TANZANIA's representatives, Fountain Gate Dodoma Secondary School's team, hammered hosts Edendale Technical High School's team 7-1 as the race to be crowned Africa's best schools football team officially got underway yesterday morning at the King Zwelithini in Durban, South Africa.

Winfrida Hubert scored five goals while Munila Simba and Mariam Siyane each added one to put Fountain Gate Dodoma Secondary School well on course to qualify for the semi-finals of the CAF African Schools Football Championship Continental Final.

A joyous Winfrida was humble in victory, saying that all the credit must go to the entire team, as goal scoring is not solely an individual effort.

"I feel very happy and excited about scoring so many goals in the opening match. It is a good start for me but I believe I need to share this success with all my teammates and coaches because scoring



Tanzania's Fountain Gate team player (L) seeks to keep South Africa's Edendale Technical High School team player in check during the African Schools Football Championship's tie that took place in South Africa yesterday. The Fountain Gate squad cruised to a 7-1 win. PHOTO: COURTESY OF TANZANIA FOOTBALL FEDERATION

goals is not an individual effort but a team effort," Winfrida noted after the game.

Asked about the overall

performance of the team and the impressive scoreline, the attacker said it was a tough match which was decided by

them converting the chances that they created.

She noted: "I think the performance was good, and the opponents gave us a good run which is good for the opening match. They are a really good team, with very good individual players."

"I think the difference was that we converted the chances we created and were more clinical in front of goal," she added.

The inaugural edition of the CAF African Schools Football Championship Continental Final involves the best teams from the six Confederation of African Football zones battling it out to be crowned overall champions.

It is a tournament that is a celebration of school football on the continent and a chance for young players aged 12-15 to create memories that will last a lifetime.

There are boys' and girls' competitions made up of seven teams apiece - six from each zone and an extra place for the hosts, the South African Football Association

(SAFA).

The teams are drawn into two pools, Group A and Group B. Fountain Gate Dodoma Secondary School is in Group A alongside Gambia's Scan Aid and hosts Edendale Technical School.

The teams will play each other in a round-robin format, with the top two sides in each pool advancing to the semifinals.

The top team in Group A will play the runner-up in Group B in the semifinals, and vice-versa.

The winners of those semis advance to the finals on Saturday, 08 April at the Sugar Ray Xulu Stadium in Clermont.

Donated by the Motsepe Foundation, the prize money for the boys' and girls' competitions is the same, with a total of \$4 million to be distributed in the 2023 competition.

The Winner in the boys and girls category receives \$300,000 with the runners-up getting \$200,000 while the school that finishes in third place walks home with \$100,000.

Flexibles by David Chikoko

