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### National Pg 2 NHC DG promises to initiate new projects



### National Pg 3 Kilimanjaro police nab 68 immigrants



### National Pg 4 Livestock strategy for transformation



## China, Tanzania renew vows of deepening ties

By Guardian Reporter

CHINA and Tanzania have agreed to further cement existing bilateral cooperation in various fields and align the Belt and Road Initiative with Tanzania's Development Vision 2025.

This observation was contained in a statement of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and East African Cooperation yesterday, noting that minister Liberata Mulamula and her Chinese counterpart Wang Yi agreed on this axis of action in a video link discussion.

Ambassador Mulamula and State Councilor Wang agreed to strengthen cooperation in fighting COVID-19 by boosting medical and health care supplies, and continue exploring funds mobilization for the Tanzania Zambia Railway Authority (TAZARA).

The intention is to ensure that the landmark project in China-Africa friendship makes new contributions to the economic and social development of the continent, the statement indicated, citing the minister as expressing high regard for China as its strong support for Tanzania's fight against the pandemic and strengthening medical services and health care generally.

Tanzania-China relations are in the same historical high state with positive results of practical cooperation in various fields, it said.

"Tanzania is committed to making Tanzania-China relations a benchmark for Africa-China ties. We will continue

**China-Tanzania friendship is deeply rooted in the hearts of the people and is unbreakable. When referring to Tanzania, the Chinese people will think of TAZARA. We should carry forward the TAZARA spirit and firmly support and help each other ...**

to firmly adhere to the one-China principle, firmly support China's legitimate position, support China in safeguarding its core interests, and oppose external interference in China's internal affairs," the statement underlined, hinting that Tanzania is ready to en-

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# Political rallies: Samia gives new instructions

By Guardian Reporter



Prof Rwekaza Mukandala, chairman of a national task force charged with coordinating the fine-tuning of a report on stakeholders' views on multiparty democracy in Tanzania, presents the report to President Samia Suluhu Hassan at State House in Dar es Salaam yesterday. The team was formed in the wake of a political stakeholders' meeting held in Dodoma city in mid-December last year at which appeals were made for more democratic space and reforms in the country. Photo: State House

## Govt: Avoid outrage over Mara River poison report

By Polycarp Machira, Dodoma

MEMBERS of the public need to take a clear look and avoid outrage over the report of a ministerial team formed to investigate causes of Mara river water turning black and killing fish.

Dr Selemani Jafo, the Minister of State in the Vice President's Office (Union and Environment), has issued this appeal while also directing the team to translate the report into the national language and make it public, in an effort to shield the

**This team has a mixture of experts from different departments as our aim is to get the real cause of the situation so that we can know what should be done**

government from the ongoing public uproar. Briefing journalists after receiving the report from the team

headed by Prof Samuel Manyele, he appealed directly to the public to remain patient as the government works on the report. He said the aim is to protect people's health, underlining that the report is not contentious with that of the Lake Victoria Basin Water Board.

The minister tasked permanent secretary Mary Maganga and ministerial experts to analyze the report and make it public, calling on

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PRESIDENT Samia Suluhu Hassan has issued a series of instructions to the task force appointed by the Registrar of Political Parties, Judge Francis Mutungi, before political parties can resume public meetings.

The president issued those instructions in extensive remarks when receiving the report of the task force which started its work towards the end of last year. It recommended, among other things, that the process of obtaining a new constitution should start after the 2025 general election.

The 25-member team involving representatives of political parties, academia, law enforcement agencies and religious institutions was chaired by Prof Rwekaza Mukandala, former vice chancellor at the University of Dar es Salaam.

Presenting a preliminary report on the performance of the force at the State House in Dar es Salaam yesterday, Prof Mukandala said conducting the exercise before 2025 will not be good timing as it would affect general election activities.

Task force members also proposed changes to electoral laws and regulations to eliminate deep disappointments occurring in previous elections, similarly urging a reviewing of the criteria for issuing grants to political parties with permanent registration.

Prof Mukandala said that reasons for this proposal include providing an opportunity to align political parties with the new vision for development in the coming years, giving direction to preparing for work on a new constitution.

Receiving the report, President Samia Suluhu Hassan instructed that members of the council bringing together various political parties work on the report's recommendations and submit proposals on the process for a new constitution so that it is propagated for the breadth of the citizenry to have a clear grasp of what it involves.

"I agree that it is a long-term issue but Tanzanians need to understand it," she said, directing that work is first conducted on reforms so far intimated "and then in the future let's see if we need to amend it further, or rewrite it anew," noting that with prior amendments, the rewriting would simply be to incorpo-

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## Dr Mwinyi roots for speed in water provision projects

By Guardian Reporter

ZANZIBAR President Dr Hussein Ali Mwinyi has declared that water is life, so the government must increase the speed of provision of water services to the people, in developing and creating new projects for safe and clean water. He made the remarks yesterday at a function to lay the foundation stone for an integrated safe and clean water

project at Kwarara Kidutani, Unguja West District B, in Unguja Urban West Region, an event that coincided with the World Water Week. Implementing the project was in line with the international event's aims, he said, noting that the project runs for two years, ensuring that in the next five years the water problem will be solved, he stated. Available statistics show that water availability stands at

**Today, here at Kwarara we open another page in regard to the development of the water sector by laying the foundation stone for the big integrated water project," he declared, noting further that it will strengthen water availability in various areas lacking the service for years.**

55 per cent on average this year, whereas the project will take up the figure to 76 per cent on average, he pointed out, urging the ministry and the Zanzibar Water Authority (ZAWA) to double their efforts in solving challenges facing water services. The protection of water infrastructures must be taken up by the public as a whole, as the availability of clean and safe water in both

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## China, Tanzania renew vows of deepening ties

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hance bilateral friendly cooperation between the two countries and continuously push bilateral relations to new heights.

The minister expressed gratitude for China's contribution to Africa's economic recovery and sustainable development, speaking highly of China's establishment of green lanes for African agricultural exports and zero-tariff treatment for African products.

The state councilor affirmed that China will be always a reliable partner for Africa's development and revitalization, affirming that as the pandemic is still spreading around the world, China will provide more vaccines and send a new group of medical teams to Zanzibar as soon as possible if Tanzania needs them.

"China-Tanzania friendship is deeply rooted in the hearts of the people and is unbreakable. When referring to Tanzania, the Chinese people will think of TAZARA. We should carry forward the TAZARA spirit and firmly support and help each other no matter what difficulties or disturbances we encounter. China-Tanzania and China-Africa friendship will always be full of vitality," the top state council policymaker indicated.

Elaborating, he said that China is willing to view its relations with Tanzania from a strategic and long-term perspective, guided by the important consensus reached between the two heads of state. It will continuously deepen the comprehensive cooperative partnership between the two countries and make greater contributions to the independent development of the African continent, he declared.

The two leaders "agreed to take the 60th anniversary of the establishment of China-Tanzania diplomatic ties in 2024 as an opportunity to summarize the valuable experience of bilateral exchanges and cooperation, enhance the design of celebration activities and inject strong impetus into the development of bilateral relations in the next 60 years."

The ministers agreed to strengthen cooperation under the framework of the Forum on China-Africa Cooperation, push for the implementation of the nine programs in Tanzania, and produce more concrete results, the ministry noted.

They also had an in-depth exchange of views on international issues and agreed that under the current complex and turbulent international situation, developing countries should strengthen solidarity and coordination.

Developing countries need to uphold multilateralism and jointly resist the tide of unilateralism, to safeguard the legitimate rights and interests of developing countries and uphold the purposes and principles of the UN Charter, the statement added.



National Assembly Speaker Dr Tulia Ackson (3rd-L) attends the 144th meeting of the Inter Parliamentary Union (IPU) in Bali, Indonesia, yesterday. It was during a presentation on the role of parliamentary mobilisation in response to climate change. Fifth left is Tanzania's Ambassador to Malaysia, Dr Ramadhani Dau. The IPU is the global organisation of national parliaments meant to empower parliaments and parliamentarians to promote peace, democracy and sustainable development. Photo courtesy of National Assembly.

## Political rallies: Samia gives new instructions

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rate those changes in the new constitution.

She also asked the stakeholders' council to prepare recommendations for the formation of an independent electoral commission, highlighting disputes as to what is an independent body, who composes it and why, and thus how it operates.

"On the independent electoral commission, go and prepare recommendations, show how it is going to be, its duties, learn from experience in other countries which have the same commission and see if they are operating well without conflicts," she pointed out.

The Head of State also wanted to

see strengthening of relations between political parties and the media so as to ensure that they work together all the time and not only during elections time.

"We have witnessed many political parties improving their relations with the media only during the last year of election, but in these four years, nothing is done. So in this area, it is better we change and start using the media to inform the public what we do," she asserted.

On the report's proposals about electoral corruption, President Samia emphasized on the need to examine factors that lead to 'open arms' relationships, why there is demand for bribes or distributing cash and how that attitude can be

controlled or eliminated.

She was skeptical that electoral corruption could be eliminated 100 per cent but expressed readiness to examine propositions for the provision of more education to the public on the issue, and enhance the participation of women as they have more to lose in situations of electoral conflicts and disturbances.

The president readily accepted an observation that the Prevention and Combating of Corruption Bureau (PCCB) was not fulfilling its duties well, while admitting that if one tells them as such, they will not be pleased, citing complaints in the police force over the same issue.

"When you tell them to improve

their work, they say you don't trust your own agencies," she told the gathering, asking for proposals on how PCCB conduct can be improved, by investigating shortcomings in the institution so as to improve its performance.

The task force was formed to bring about proposals as to how political parties can be facilitated to conduct regular meetings without the threat of disturbing the peace.

The registrar convened a two-day stakeholders' conference on how to restore multiparty democracy in the wake of the president's directive, forming a task force that was to work on procedural issues raised, which include reviewing the Political Parties

Act; forming an independent electoral commission, a new elections law and putting up a framework for the writing of a new constitution, including lifting the ban on rallies of political rallies, where the president demanded that the stakeholders bring up clear procedural rules for the government to examine before the ban is lifted.

President Samia expressed confidence in Judge Mutungi leading the work but asked stakeholders to say if the registrar looks tired, also directing a number of remarks to Deodatus Balile, chairperson of the Editors Forum, on propagating each of these recommendations for while public knowledge.



The newly appointed Tanzanian Ambassador to the United States, Elsie Kanza (C), with US Deputy Secretary of Commerce Don Graves (L) and one-time US ambassador to Tanzania, Charles Richard Stith, during a recent event to welcome the Tanzanian envoy to the US held at the offices of Capitol Hill lawyer Nelson Mullins. Photo: Guardian Correspondent

## Dr Mwinyi roots for speed in water provision projects

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islands is among top government priorities, the president underlined, linking this concern with the implementation of 2020/25 CCM Elections Manifesto. "Today, here at Kwarara we open another page in regard to the development of the water sector by laying the foundation stone for the big integrated water project," he declared, noting further that it will strengthen water

availability in various areas lacking the service for years. The project will benefit various fast growing areas where people have been building new settlements in Urban West Districts A and B in Unguja Urban West Region, including Unguu, Jumbi and Ubago areas, he said, pointing out that the Water Week slogan is "underground water resources is a lever against climate change." Climate change causes decline of water flow at available

water sources, he said, pointing at Mwananyanya and Mtopepo water source points as vivid examples, urging people to promptly pay their water bills, and ZAWA to speed up installing water meters. Shaibu Hassan Kaduara, the Water, Energy and Minerals minister, pledged that the ministry shall heed the president's call for energetic supervision of water projects to speed up reaching the set targets.

## Singida Municipal Council dishes out 266m/- in loans to vulnerable groups

By Guardian Correspondent,

Singida

SINGIDA Municipal Council has dishd out loans totaling 266.26m/- to various vulnerable groups including women, youth and people with disabilities in the period of July 2021 to March this year.

The Municipal Executive Director, Jeshi Lupembe

said during celebrations to mark World Women Day on March 8 this year, the Council dishd out 92m/- to 26 women and youth groups.

He said women in Singida Municipality know that their government recognises their efforts and contribution to the development beginning from family to national level through various produc-

tion sectors by individual women or their groups.

Meanwhile, Jeshi used the occasion and called upon Singida residents to abandon misleading customs including inheriting widows, patriarchy and some men abandoning their families and leave children's upkeep to their mothers.

He also cited challenges facing women including

lack of big business capital and markets for the goods they produce as well high prices for packaging materials.

For his part, Singida Municipal Mayor, Yagi Kyaratu reminded applicants of zero interest loan that they were loans nonetheless and should be repaid as laws stipulate so that the money is loaned to other groups in need.

## Govt: Avoid outrage over Mara River poison report

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people to read it and properly understand the content, while acknowledging that "there could be a line or two that are not easily understood but the experts will sure make the whole report is easy to understand."

Ten days ago the minister formed a team to probe the cause of Mara River waters turning blackish as fish exten-

sively died in the river.

The 11-person team of experts was unveiled yesterday by the minister in Musoma District, Mara Region, after the former had paid a one-day fact finding visit to the river.

During his visit, Dr Jafo admitted that the situation there was not good and called for urgent steps to be taken to put things under control.

He said the team, under its chairman

Prof Samuel Manyele, from the Chemistry Department at the University Dar es Salaam was given seven days to come up with findings. Other members were National Environment Management Council (NEMC) director general Samuel Gwamaka, Dr Charles Kasanzu from UDSM (Geology Department) and Daniel Nio, director for control with the Government Chief Chemist.

The team also comprised of Rena-

tus Shinu, heading the Lake Victoria Water Basin board, Baraka Sekadende - the Lake Zone director for the Tanzania Fisheries Research Institute, and a member from the President's Office.

Still others were Yusufu Kuwaya from the Mara RC's office and Faraja Ngergeza, assistant director for biodiversity in the VP's Office (Union and Environment).

Others listed were Dr Kessy Kuruya,

head of department for chemistry at UDSM and Dr Nedovuto Mollel from the Plant Health and Pests Management Authority.

The team, apart from investigating the cause, was asked to give long and short term proposals on what steps should be taken to reverse the situation.

"This team has a mixture of experts from different departments as our aim

is to get the real cause of the situation so that we can know what should be done," the minister had declared, underlining that one cannot dispense medicine to a patient without diagnosis of the disease troubling that patient.

The team was directed to examine other water sources including water wells and swamps located around the river to see if they had been contaminated and if so, to what extent.



By Guardian Correspondent, Morogoro

## 2 die, 17 injured in Morogoro accident

TWO people have died including the driver and his conductor, and 17 sustained injuries after the bus they were travelling in from Dar es Salaam to Morogoro crashed into a lorry at NaneNane along Dar es Salaam - Morogoro highway.

Duty nurse at Morogoro region referral hospital, Joyce Kiwale, speaking on behalf the hospital's doctor in

charge confirmed receiving 17 people with injuries at 5:00 am yesterday. Two of them died as they were receiving treatment.

Kiwale said among those injured, three people had been admitted while the rest were discharged after treatment.

Among those injured were Ali Athumani, Msafiri Msafiri and Juliana John.

Morogoro Regional Police Commander Fortunatus Muslim said the accident occurred at about 4:00 am yesterday involving Toyota Coaster bus Reg T916 BQT driven by Said

Abdallah (40), resident of Morogoro which crashed into a lorry Reg T703 DAT driven by Erick Kazumiri (39) resident of Moshi.

He said two people died as they were receiving treatment at Morogoro referral hospital including Saidi Abdallah, the bus driver and his con-

ductor, Rama Muya (28).

He named those injured and admitted as Godfrey Mussa (34) and Charles Niko (24), both residents of Dodoma and Yasin Nuru (28), a resident of Kihonda, Morogoro. He said the cause of the accident was lack of the driver's concentration.

"During my interrogation with those who were injured, all of them said the driver fell asleep from time to time because of fatigue," said RPC Muslim.

He called on drivers to be alert on the road and adhere to road traffic regulations and if they should abandon their vehicles and take a rest.

He added they will continue with a crackdown against drivers who do not abide by road traffic laws.

## Police holding 68 Ethiopian and Somali nationals for illegal entry

By Correspondent James Lanka, Mwanza

POLICE in Kilimanjaro Region in collaboration with the immigration department have arrested 68 illegal migrants from Ethiopia and Somalia who were hiding at different places in Mwanza and Siha districts.

Kilimanjaro acting Regional Police Commander (RPC), Yahaya Mdogo said some of the migrants were sheltered at Kiberenge village in Lembeni ward, Mwanza district while others were arrested when being transported in a vehicle at Ngarenairobi area, Siha district.

The incidences occurred between March 19th and 20 this year, he said. Mdogo said their arrest followed a tip-off from a Good Samaritan who spotted a group of strangers at the Lembeni area, in Mwanza district on March 19th, 2022 at around 16:00pm.

He said they then formed a special taskforce led by the police and immigration officers and other security organs and they successfully arrested the suspects.

The RPC noted that on March 20th 2022 police arrested eight illegal immigrants from Somalia boarding a vehicle—Nissan Caravan with registration number T 325 DLM at Ngarenairobi area, in Siha district.

"We were tipped off by a Good Samaritans that there are some strangers on transit using a Nissan Caravan. Our officers followed the vehicle and arrested eight Somali nationals," he said, calling upon the resident to continue collaborating with the force by sharing such useful information.

Mdogo said the driver had abandoned the vehicle in the Ngarenairobi area.

Mwanza District Commissioner, Abdallah Mwaipaya said the Ethiopian nationals were on transit to South Africa and lacked legal transport documents. He said the migrants are believed to have entered the country through illegal routes along the Tanzania/Kenya border.

"Preliminary investigations show that they were going to look for greener pastures in South Africa," he added.

Last month, the Immigration department in Shinyanga region arrested 15 Burundians for illegal entry and stay in the country.

During the operation conducted by the department in Kahama district, one Tanzanian was also arrested for facilitating their stay.

The regional immigration officer for Kahama Salumu Rashid said the department has been arresting more than 50 illegal immigrants, taking them to court and deporting others.

He said the department was aware that almost 80 per cent of hawkers at Kahama are illegal immigrants from Burundi saying they are mostly used by locals because they pay them little money compared to Tanzanians.



Shinyanga regional commissioner Sophia Mjema (C) cuts the ribbon at the weekend at a ceremony that saw Barrick, through its Bulyanhulu and Buzwagi gold mines, presenting two Covid-19 testing machines to Kahama municipal hospital. Looking on are Barrick workers. Photo: Guardian Correspondent



# Congratulations!

The Board, Management and Staff of KCB Bank Tanzania Limited congratulate the President of the United Republic of Tanzania, Her Excellency Samia Suluhu Hassan on her completion of a successful year of Presidential leadership.

We wish her all the best in the years to come.



#KAZIINDELEE





# 'Many cervical, breast cancer patients fear radio scanning'

By Guardian Reporter

THE President of Association of gynaecologists and obstetricians of Tanzania (AGOTA), Dr Matilda Ngarina says there are some challenges in regard to cancer patients, that whenever they hear they will have to undergo radio scanning, they look for an alternative medication including traditional herbs thereby threatening their health.

Dr Ngarina, a gynaecology specialist at Muhimbili National Hospital (MNH) made the remarks at the weekend at a training for empowering women on the importance of early examination for cervix and breast cancer organised by Massana Hospital.

She added due to lack of understanding, whenever some hear about radio scanning, they feel as the sun will burn on their faces and get burnt, saying that was not true.

She said another challenge they encounter when treating cervix and breast cancer patients is that many people have no understanding since the disease's areas are concealed, hence many of them fail to reach health centres in time.

"We receive patients with critical condition that the only way to help them is through radio scanning, they don't un-

derstand that earlier examination would have the disease treated," she said.

She added: "Cancer's first stage is curable without any problem, but many fear radio scanning, they fear cancer drugs hence they end up dying."

She said half of women admitted to both MNH and Ocean Road Cancer Institute (ORCI) wards are suffering from cervix cancer, which is a leading type of cancer among women, hence, she added, early scanning is important.

For his part Cancer specialist at ORCI, Dr Nanzoke Mvungi said cervix and breast cancer are the main diseases affecting women, hence he advised young girls not to engage in unsafe sex as a sure protection against the disease.

He said before they engage in sex, small girls of nine years of age should be vaccinated against the cancer as the virus that spreads cervix cancer can be controlled by the vaccine provided at ORCI.

For his part the Director of Cure at Massana Hospital, Dr Robert Josiah said they have provided the training after realizing that there were many women who are suffering from the two types of cancer, with many of them failing to get treatment due to lack of correct knowledge on the disease.



A politician and expert for human development issues Dr Mayrose Majinge, briefs journalists in Dar es Salaam on Thursday to congratulate President Samia Suluhu Hassan on her great achievements within one year. Photo: Romana Mallya



## CALL FOR EXPRESSION OF INTEREST – EOI CONSULTANCY FOR REDESIGNING AND UPDATING OF THE WEBSITES FOR THE WESTERN INDIAN OCEAN MANGROVE NETWORK (WIOMN)

### TERMS OF REFERENCE

#### 1. Background

The World Wide Fund for Nature (WWF) is an International Non-Governmental Organization that deals with conservation of nature through environmental management and conservation programmes. Its mission is to stop the degradation of the Planet's natural environment and to build the future in which humans live in harmony with nature. WWF Tanzania Country Office (WWF TCO) through Marine Programme is currently implementing a project titled "Save Our Mangroves Now (SOMN)" funded by the German BMZ and regionally implemented in Tanzania, Kenya, Mozambique, and Madagascar. WWF Tanzania through SOMN project is looking for consultant(s) to complete the development of the Western Indian Ocean Mangroves Network (WIOMN) websites.

The official WIOMN is one of work package 2 outputs of SOMN project. The project, among others, facilitated the institutionalization of WIOMN that acquired its legal registration status on 18th March 2021, establishing its Headquarter in Zanzibar. After official launch of the WIOMN, the Network seeks to further strengthen its secretariat. The Network is currently undergoing institutional capacity building and strengthening of its operational portfolio including setting up of the secretariat, development of operational administrative and financial procedures, manuals and tools, strategies, plans, information and communication tools.

The WIOMN envision to secure the mangrove ecosystems of the Western Indian Ocean (WIO) region through creation and application of best practices for sustainable conservation and management. To achieve this, WIOMN mission is to identify new and emergent fields of scientific and practice research in the conservation, including sustainable utilization of mangrove resources, assist in the making of informed policy and management decisions, stimulating high quality science, and lead collaborations at national, regional and international scientific research and conservation programmes. In order to deliver on these, development of robust information and communication tools is necessary to be able to effectively disseminate and share knowledge, experiences and best practices to bring change in conservation and management of mangroves of the WIO region. Through the initial support of the USAID Sustainable Wetlands and Adaptation Program (SWAMP) implemented by the US Forest Service, two sister websites ([www.wiomn.org](http://www.wiomn.org) and [www.wiomn.org](http://www.wiomn.org)) were developed by volunteers from the University of North Carolina (UNC) in the USA and are currently running albeit "under construction" using WordPress Content Management System with domains hosted by GoDaddy ([www.godaddy.com](http://www.godaddy.com)) under its basic plan. It is on this background that SOMN is picking up to support the process of completing the website development. Accordingly, expert services of a qualified individual or firm is sought to review the websites, redesign as may be necessary, and bring them to full functionalities.

#### 2. Objectives of the consultancy

The objective of the consultancy is to complete the development of the WIOMN websites.

#### 3. Tasks and performance indicators

- Review current WIOMN websites ([www.wiomn.org](http://www.wiomn.org) and [www.wiomn.org](http://www.wiomn.org)) and propose areas of architectural improvement (usability, clear and easy of navigation and visual attractiveness) in accordance with the Networks mandate, including on whether the two websites remain separated or merged into one.
- Review GoDaddy domain subscription packages and advise the best package to adequately support the recommended improvement and fulfil the prospective increase in usability of the websites including online membership registration and database, hosting of email plan (preferably Microsoft 365 Email Essentials), event calendar, blog and search functionality.
- Preparation of an inception report outlining the steps and methodology with clear timelines to be followed in redesigning and completion of the fully functioning.
- Liaise with the WIOMN Regional Secretary to organize an inception meeting with the Board of Trustees and Country Representatives to present the proposed improvement of the websites and the Inception Report.
- Perform the recommended redesigning of the websites as will be approved by the Board of Trustees, ensuring that all section and subsection webpages incorporate functionalities to guarantee that the latest information on particular section and sub-section is displayed (news, resources, publication/guidance, country stories,

events). The home page will preferably bear a graphic element giving an overview of the WIOMN vision, mission and values. As much as necessary, consultation with the original developer at UNC and a Communication Expert at US Forest Service International Program will be guided by the WIOMN Regional Secretary.

- Liaise with the WIOMN Regional Secretary and Country Representatives to collect, format and upload relevant information onto the websites.
- Prepare simplified user manual for updating, maintaining and troubleshooting basic problems to be used by the WIOMN Secretariat, including but not limited to ability to add banners or clickable images on web pages, modify the Logo header, and flexibility in adding text, uploaded files, external links, and pictures in all web pages.
- Train and support the Secretariat to be able to update, maintain and troubleshoot basic issues on the website independently

#### 4. Deliverables

- Responsive, fully developed and running WIOMN websites ([www.wiomn.org](http://www.wiomn.org) and [www.wiomn.org](http://www.wiomn.org)) that present a new visual look and functionalities that are enhanced to provide a better experience to users.
- User and training manual for the WIOMN Secretariat to perform content upload, system maintenance and administration.
- Activity report detailing all the proceedings conducted for the consultancy

#### 5. Duration of the Consultancy

The consultancy is assigned 60 working days spread over three months from date of contract signing.

#### 6. Qualifications, Skills and Experience

- A minimum of first degree in relevant field (computer science, information and communication technology management). Formal training on web development is added advantage.
- In case of a team/firm, a team leader will have at least 3 years of professional experience with proven skills, expertise and proficiency in website development and management, preferably with WordPress Content Management System.
- Hands-on expert knowledge in HTML, CSS and JavaScript and design tools such as Adobe Photoshop, Illustrator, Dreamweaver and similar applications is an added advantage.
- Evidence of having undertaken similar assignments.

#### 7. Management of the Consultant

- To ensure effective delivery of the outputs, the consultancy will be managed by WWF Tanzania Country Office through the Marine Programme Coordinator and Mangrove Project Executant. For technical issues, the consultant will liaise with the WIOMN Regional Secretary.
- Preferably, the consultant should be based in Zanzibar and/or be willing to relocate and/or travel regularly to Zanzibar during the consultancy period.
- The consultant will work on own computer(s), but may use WIOMN office space in the execution of the assignment.

#### 8. Mode of Application

- Interested applicant(s) should submit electronic copies of application to the procurement, email: [procurement@wwftz.org](mailto:procurement@wwftz.org). Please, address the application to: Secretary, Procurement Committee, World Wide Fund for Nature - Tanzania Country Office, Off Mwai Kibaki Road, Kiko Street Mikochei, P.O. Box 63117 Dar es Salaam, Tanzania.
- Application documents should include a cover letter, technical and financial proposals and CV(s). The technical proposal should clearly demonstrate skills and experience in designing and development of websites and the consultant's understanding of the Terms of Reference including suggestions (if any) for amendments to improve quality of deliverables.
- The detailed Terms of Reference is also accessible through [www.wwf.or.tz/jobsandopportunities/jobs](http://www.wwf.or.tz/jobsandopportunities/jobs)
- Evaluation of applications will base on WWF procurement guidelines. WWF Tanzania is not bound to accept any lowest or highest proposal submitted. All applications should reach us by Monday, 11th April, 2022. Only successful applicant shall be contacted.



**BARRICK**  
NORTH MARA

## REQUEST FOR QUOTATION Underground Rescue Fire Truck

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:

### Underground Fire Truck

#### Technical Requirements

- The underground specification: Minimum drive/access size 5mW x 5mH. Ramp gradient is 1:7 downhill. Minimum ramp radius is 25m
- Diesel engine, Chassis (Benz or MAN) 4x4
- 4000litter of Water /1500litters of Foam - Crew cab (driver + 5 crew)
- Spare parts catalogues, Operation manual and Warranty/Guarantee Information
- Submit Engine Data Sheet with performance data and braking systems specifically for underground mining machines
- Rescue equipment list below
  - 6 x DELIVERY HOSE PROFESSIONAL 38MM 30M
  - 5 x DELIVERY HOSE PROFESSIONAL 64/65MM 30M
  - 4 x SUCTION HOSE 140 MM 2 M
  - 2 x SUCTION HOSE WRENCH BSRT 3Z
  - 1 x CYLINDRICAL SUCTION STRAINER WITHOUT NON RETURN VALVE, BSRT 5 1/2" FEMALE, LIGHT ALLOY
  - 1 x WICKER BASKET 5 1/2"- 6"
  - 1 x DIVIDING BREECHING BALL TYPE VALVE BS 2 1/2" MALE - 2 X 2 1/2" FEM., LIGHT ALLOY
  - 1 x COLLECTING BREECHING BSRT 5 1/2" FEM.SWIVEL - 2 X 2 1/2" MALE INST., ANGLED TYPE
  - 2 x SELECT-FLOW NOZZLE"RB 100 NFPA" CPL. BS 2 1/2"MALE 50-100-150- 230 L/MIN
  - 1 x SELECT-FLOW NOZZLE "RB 101 NFPA"CPL. BS 2 1/2"MALE 115-230- 360-475 L/MIN
  - 2 x QUICK CLAMP ON FOAM TUBE FOR RB 99 EN, RB 99 NFPA, RB 100 EN , RB 100 NFPA
  - 1 x QUICK CLAMP ON FOAM TUBE FOR RB 101 NFPA AND PROJET MODEL I
  - 4 x TORCH ADALIT L-3000 LED EXPLOSION PROOF ATEX II 1G EX IA IIC GA, II 1D EX IA IIIC T85 DA
  - 4 x CHARGER FOR 1 TORCH 12/24 V FOR ADALIT L-3000/ L-2000 LB ATEX
  - 1 x FIRE-FIGHTER'S TOOLBOX - Certified as to DIN 14881. Light alloy box, with compartments
  - 1 x PIKE POLE WITH NUPLA-HANDLE 3000MM
  - 1 x FIREMAN'S AXE WITH NUPLA HANDLE, LENGTH 900MM
  - 1 x RESCUE TOOL HOOLIGAN WITH METAL CUTTING CLAW
  - 1 x SLEDGE HAMMER 500 MM LONG
  - 1 x BOLT CUTTER 750 MM LONG
  - 1 x STRETCHER TWICE-FOLDABLE
  - 2 x RESCUE LINE 30M WITH BAG
  - 1 x EXTENSION LADDER - 2 SECTIONS 8M - Certified as to EN 1147
  - 12 x FIRE-FIGHTING GLOVES SAFE GRIP 3 WITH CUFF COLOUR: DARK BLUE, CERTIFIED AS TO EN 659:2008
  - 1 x WEBER HYDRAULIC POWER UNIT E 70 W + SAH 20 SINGLE-COUPLING
  - 1 x WEBER SPREADER SP 50 BS SINGLE-COUPLING
  - 1x CHAIN SET FOR SP 35 L, SP 50, SP 53 BS
  - 1 x WEBER HYDRAULIC CUTTER RSX 200-107 SINGLE-COUPLING
  - 1 x WEBER RESCUE CYLINDER RZT 2-1500XL SINGLE-COUPLING
  - 1 x SILL SUPPORT
  - 1 x WEBER CONCRETE CRUSHER BC 250
  - 1 x WEBER POWER WEDGE SPK 250
  - 1 x SET OF MINI LIFTING BAGS 961 KN VETTER S.TEC 12BAR AIR CU LIGHTING
  - 1 x PORTABLE LED LIGHTING SYSTEM RLS2000 RECHARGABLE 12/24 V, UP TO 1.8 M
  - 1 x PLASTIC CABLE REEL XREEL 310, 30M CABLE 5X2.5, 1 SOCKET 400V, 3 SCHUKO SOCKETS 250 V, IP 54
  - 1 x PLASTIC CABLE REEL XREEL 310 30 M CABLE 3 x 2.5, 3 SCHUKO SOCKETS 250 V
  - 1 x SUBMERSIBLE PUMP NAUTILUS 4/1 MY 2017 COUPLING BS 336 2 1/2" FEMALE

**NB:** Make sure you include pictures of all equipment

#### Submission of Quotes

Please submit your quotes via email to [nm.proposal@barrick.com](mailto:nm.proposal@barrick.com). The reference "Underground Rescue Fire Truck" must be quoted in the subject line of the email.

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

#### Key Dates

• Last date to submit EOI

March 28, 2022

North Mara Gold Mine Limited



## Songea District villagers praise govt after getting piped water

By Correspondent Gideon Mwakanyosya, Songea

RESIDENTS of Ndongosi, Mpitimbi, Litoa and Nakhuga villages in Songea District, Ruvuma Region have expressed pleasure following completion of water projects in their areas as they were now getting safe and clean water.

Speaking at different times to commemorate Water Week, they praised President Samia Suluhu Hassan and the Water minister and other government officials in the region for their efforts in making sure the villagers do away with long time rampant water scarcity.

The chairperson for Water Consumers Community of Ndongosi Village, Christianus Msemwa said the village has a total of 9 homesteads and after completion of their project, 900 hundred villagers are now benefiting.

Joyce Ndomba, a Ndongosi villager told visiting reporters that for a long time they were facing water scarcity but now the problem has been solved.

For his part, the chairperson for Mpitimbi B Water Consumers Community George Komba said their water project has been completed and a 100,000-litre water reservoir has been constructed able to provide water to the village that has 13 homesteads, including Mpitimbi A Village with 16 homesteads, as well as to primary and secondary schools and district hospital.

For his part, the manager for Rural and Urban Water and Sanitation Agency (RUWASA) in Songea District, Eng Mathias Charles, told visiting reporters in his office that the availability of water in Songea District follows the completion of the water projects at 90 per cent.

He explained that in Songea District, 7 projects have been completed at a cost of more than 5.39bn/- while in Madaba District more than 5.9bn/- has been spent for the water projects.



Iringa Regional Police Commander Allan Bukumbi shows reporters one of the elephant tusks he said police impounded at Mpera Mengi village in Migoli ward, Iringa District, during a recent crackdown. Photo: Correspondent Friday Simbaya

By Correspondent Valentine Oforo, Dodoma

## CPB sets up maize milling plant in Dodoma

THE Cereals and other Produced Board (CPB) has installed a modern maize milling factory worth 2.5bn/- at Kizota area in Dodoma city with capacity to process at least 80,000 tonnes of maize per day.

CPB Director General, Dr Anselm Moshi said the factory procures maize from the farmers in different regions, including Songwe, Njombe, Songea, Tabora, Iringa and Dodoma.

In an interview with The Guardian, Dr Moshi said the installation of the plant will also stimulate morale among farmers in the central zone corridor to expand their farms and engage more in maize production.

"Setting up of this factory is in line with a number of the on-going initiatives by CPB to

expand food availability in the country. We have a number of plans to open more plants in the future," he said.

He stated that apart from ensuring food security, the initiatives being undertaken by the board focuses also to help creating fresh employment opportunities, as well as spur performance of food crops production among local farmers. He named other crops processing factories established by CPB as wheat processing plant in Arusha (with capacity to process 120 tonnes in a day), rice processing plant in Mwanza (8000 tonnes per day), and cashew butter plant in Dar es Salaam (96 tonnes in a day). On the same vein, Dr Moshi said that

the board was implementing a programme to expand its warehouse crop's storage capacity, from the current 112,000 to at least 500,000 tonnes by 2025. He detailed that plans are afoot to construct a major warehouse in Mwanza region, with a storage capacity at 8000 tonnes at a go, as well as a silos with 15,000 tonnes storage capacity.

"Apart from that, in Mwanza, we will install other silos with a total storage capacity of 25,000 tonnes, whereby at Isaka, a warehouse of 1,500 tonnes storage capacity will be placed," he explained.

CPB was established by the Cereals and other Produce Act no. 19 of 2009 (The Cereals and

Other Produce Act No. 19 of 2009). Unlike other crop boards that are responsible for managing crops CPB has been tasked with trading grain and other crops to enable the farmer to have a reliable market and a competitive price for his produce.

The board was initiated with the aim of addressing the responsibilities of the former National Milling Corporation (NMC) and the former Export Agricultural Board (GAPEX) in ensuring farmers have access to reliable markets for the crops they grow and also to bring about a balance in the grain and other crops sectors. Assets entrusted to the CPB include factories, warehouses, factory sheds and land.

# Iringa teenager arrested over abuse of children

By Correspondent Friday Simbaya, Iringa

POLICE in Iringa Region are holding a 14-year-old boy (name withheld) on suspicion of having unnatural sex with 19 other children.

Briefing reporters here yesterday, Iringa Regional Police Com-

mander, Allan Bukumbi said the boy is alleged to have used candy and biscuits as a way to lure his classmates in order to fulfill his sexual misconduct.

He said the child was arrested after Kihesa Kilolo Ward Executive Officer Elizabeth Lugenge reported

that three children from Igeleke Primary School had been sodomised.

He said after interrogations the children agreed and named five of their peers, noting that when the five were interrogated they named five others, making a total of 13 children plus another six who were

mentioned by the culprit.

RPC Bukumbi said that the suspect has been taking money from his grandmother to buy sweets and biscuits which he would give his victims to lure them into the dark acts.

According to him, all the 19 chil-

dren have undergone medical examination at Iringa Regional Hospital and Prelimo and preliminary reports show they have been sodomised.

He said: "Eight cases have been filed and investigations are complete so the boy will be taken to

court immediately, the boys were sodomised at different times and places."

Iringa MP Jesca Msambatavangu, on the other hand has said rape and homosexuality has become a threat in Iringa Municipality which now requires extra strength to fight it.

## WIZARA YA MAJI / SIKU YA MAJI DUNIANI

### MAMLAKA YA MAJI SAFI NA USAFI WA MAZINGIRA IRINGA (IRUWASA)

# AWAMU YA SITA, HUDUMA YA MAJI KWA WANANCHI YAZIDI KUIMARISHWA

## Wadau kuonyeshwa yaliyofanyika wakati wa Wiki ya Maji

Ni mwaka mmoja wa Serikali ya Awamu ya Sita, inayoongozwa na Mhe. Samia Suluhu Hassan Rais wa Jamhuri ya Muungano wa Tanzania, sanjari na maadhimisho ya Siku ya Maji Duniani ambayo hufanyika kila mwaka ifikapo tarehe 22 Machi. Hapa nchini, wahusika wakuu wa kuratibu Siku ya Maji ni Watendaji wa Wizara ya Maji, pamoja na taasisi zake.

Siku hii inatokana na Azimio Na. 47/193 la Umoja wa Mataifa (UN) kuwa kila tarehe 22 Machi ya kila mwaka, nchi wanachama ziadhimishe siku ya maji duniani kwa pamoja ikiwa ni kutambua umuhimu na thamani ya maji katika maisha ya binadamu na uchungu wa dunia kwa ujumla.

Pamoja na kazi nyingine, hapa nchini siku hii hutumika kwa Watendaji wa Wizara ya Maji pamoja na tasisi zake kuwahariri wadau mbalimbali wa sekta ya maji kuona hatua zilozokukulwa katika kuhakikisha wananchi wanapata huduma ya majisafi, salama na yenye kutosheleza.

Kaulimbiu inayobeba maadhimisho haya kwa mwaka 2022 ni "Maji chini ya ardh-Hazina isiyonekana kwa Maendeleo Endelevu", na mgeni rasmi katika Siku ya Maji Duniani, hapa nchini anatarajiwa kuwa Mhe. Samia Suluhu Hassan, Rais wa Jamhuri ya Muungano wa Tanzania.

Kama inavyoleweka, Wizara ya Maji ina majukumu ya kusimamia sekta ya maji kwa kuhakikisha maji yanakuwepo kwa ajili ya matumizi ya kiuchumi na kijamii pamoja na mazingira. Kwa muktadha huo, huduma kuu zinazotolewa katika sekta ya maji ni pamoja na usimamizi na uendelezaji wa rasimili za maji, ubora wa maji na usambazaji wa majisafi na usafi wa mazingira mjini na vijijini. Sanjari na Siku ya Maji Duniani, Serikali ya Awamu ya Sita inayoongozwa na Mhe. Samia Suluhu Hassan inatimiza mwaka mmoja, na yapo mengi yaliyofanyika katika Sekta ya Maji katika kuhakikisha wananchi wanapata huduma toshelevu ya majisafi na salama.

Waziri wa Maji Mhe. Jumaa Aweso (Mb) akiongea na vyombo vya habari jijini Arusha kuhusu mwaka mmoja wa Serikali ya Awamu ya Sita, amesema kazi zinafanyika ili kufikia malengo yaliyowekwa, ikiwamo; kuiimarisha huduma ya upatikanaji wa majisafi na salama kwa zaidi ya asilimia 95 katika maeneo ya mijini na asilimia 85 vijijini ifikapo mwaka 2025.

Kuhusu fedha za utekelezaji, Waziri Aweso amesema kipindi cha mwezi Machi 2021 hadi Januari, 2022 Serikali ya Awamu ya Sita imetoka jumla ya shilingi bilioni 934,394,150,575.12 sawa na asilimia 69 ya shilingi trilion 1,351,638,930,000.00 zilizoibinshwa kwa ajili ya utekelezaji wa miradi mbalimbali ya maji mjini na vijijini pamoja na usimamizi wa rasimili za maji nchini.

Amesema katika mwaka 2021/22 Wizara ya Maji imelenga kutekeleza jumla ya miradi 1,641 ambapo miradi 1,527 itatekelezwa na Wakala wa Maji na Usafi wa Mazingira vijijini (RUWASA) na miradi 114 itakuwa ni kwa ajili ya kuboresha huduma ya maji mjini.

Ameanisha miongoni mwa miradi mikubwa inay-

oendelea kutekelezwa na mingine ikiwa katika maandazi ya utekelezaji ni pamoja na:

Mradi mkubwa wa maji wa Arusha ambao unagharimiwa na Serikali kupitia mkopo wa masharti nafuu kutoka Benki ya Maendeleo ya Afrika. Jumla ya Shilingi bilioni 520 zinatarajiwa kutumika katika ujenzi wake na kwa sasa utekelezaji umefika asilimia 80 na unatarajiwa kukamilika ifikapo mwezi Juni 2022.

Katika hili, idadi ya miradi mikubwa ya maji 463 imekamilika ambapo, 412 ni miradi ya vijijini na 51 ni ya mjini. Baadhi yake ni:

Mkoa wa Dar es Salaam na Pwani, kuna jumla ya miradi minne iliyokamilika, ambayo ni:

- Mradi wa Maji wa Mkuranga: 175 gharama yake ikiwa shilingi bilioni 5.6; Mradi wa Maji wa Mboga-Chalinde: kwa gharama ya shilingi bilioni 18.5; mradi wa maji wa Kisarawe-Pugu-Gongolambo; wenyewe thamani ya shilingi bilioni 7.3; na mradi wa maji wa Bwawa-Mlandizi; kwa thamani ya shilingi bilioni 1.2.

Miradi mingine, thamani yake ikiwa katika mabano ni ifuatayo:

- Mradi wa Nyamtukuza (Nyangwale-Geita); (shilingi bilioni 12); Mradi wa upanuzi wa mtandao wa Maji Manispaa ya Bukoba; (shilingi 2.4)

- Mradi wa Maji Misungwi (Mwanza); (shilingi bilioni 12.86)

- Mradi wa Maji Magu (shilingi bilioni 16.97)

- Mradi wa Maji Lamadi (shilingi bilioni 12.83)

- Mradi wa Maji Ntomoko-Kondoa na Chemba (shilingi Bilioni 2.26)

- Mradi wa Uchimbaji visima vitatu na kuongeza uzalishaji maji Jiji la Dodoma, shilingi milioni 950 ambapo muda wa huduma umeongezwa kutoka wastani saa matano hadi saa 10.

- Mradi wa Ujenzi wa Tanki la lita milioni 25 Chamwino (shilingi Bilioni 1.2), na hivi sasa huduma inatolewa maeneo ya Chamwino Ikuu, Buigiri na Chinangali II jijini Dodoma.

- Mradi wa Maji Shirati (Mara), unaohudumia zaidi ya wakazi elfu 40, na Mradi wa Maji wa Jibondo (Mafia), unathamani ya bilioni mbili, na umeondoa changamoto ya maji iliyodumu kwa miaka mingi katika eneo hilo kisiwani Mafia, ambapo bomba zimepitishwa chini ya maji ya bahari kwa kilomita saba.

Miradi inayoendelea ni pamoja na

- Mradi wa maji wa Orkesument (Simanjoro); shilingi



Rais wa Jamhuri ya Muungano wa Tanzania Mhe. Samia Suluhu Hassan akizindua Mradi wa Majisafi na Usafi wa Mazingira wa Misungwi wenyewe thamani ya shilingi bilioni 13.77. Mradi huu unahudumia zaidi ya wananchi elfu 64.

gi bilioni 40; na utekelezaji wake umefika asilimia 97.

- Mradi wa maji wa Kyaka-Bunazi (Kagera); shilingi bilioni 15.74; (Mkandarasi 96%; Mamlaka ya Majisafi na Usafi wa Mazingira Mwanza (MWAUWASA) Force Account 80%); na Utekelezaji umefika asilimia 88.

- Mradi wa Maji Kemondo-Maruku (Bukoba); shilingi bilioni 15.8; (68% ambapo hatua ya awali, (Phase I) thamani yake ni shilingi bilioni 6.8); na itahudumia Vijiji 17 katika Kata sita, wakazi zaidi ya 117,000.

- Mradi wa maji wa Tinde-Shelui; thamani yake shilingi bilioni 24.47; hadi sasa umefika asilimia 30.

- Mradi wa maji wa Same - Mwangi (Kilimanjaro); thamani yake ikiwa takribani shilingi bilioni 262; na umefika asilimia 68.7.

- Mradi wa maji wa Mugango-Kiabakari-Butiama (Mara); wenyewe thamani ya shilingi bilioni 70.5; na utekelezaji umefika asilimia 42.

- Mradi wa Maji wa Rigamboni; wenyewe thamani ya

shilingi bilioni 23.3; umefika asilimia 90,

- Mradi wa kuboresha huduma unaoanzia Chuo Kikuu - Bagamoyo; wenyewe thamani ya shilingi Bilioni 65; mradi umefika asilimia 70.

- Mradi wa maji Isimani-Kilolo (Iringa); wenyewe thamani ya shilingi bilioni 9.2; umefika asilimia 65.

- Mradi wa Maji wa Matamba -Chinyika (Makete-Njombe); wenyewe thamani ya shilingi bilioni 21; umefika asilimia 99 na unatoa huduma.

- Mradi wa Maji wa Namanga (Arusha); unathamani ya shilingi bilioni 6.69; na umefika silimia 90.

- Mradi wa Maji wa Njiapanda (Vunjo-Moshi Vijijini); una thamani ya shilingi bilioni 2.3; na upo asilimia 34.7.

- Mradi wa Maji wa Darakuta-Maguugu (Babati-Manyara); una thamani ya shilingi bilioni 4 na umefika asilimia 95

- Mradi wa Maji wa Muze Group (Sumbawanga); una thamani ya shilingi bilioni 3.1 na umefika asilimia 80,

- Mradi wa Maji wa Kirando (Nkasi); una thamani ya shilingi bilioni 3.2 na upo asilimia 99,

- Mradi wa Maji wa Namanyere (Nkasi); una thamani ya shilingi bilioni 1.9 na umefika asilimia 95

- Mradi wa Chujio la Maji Mtwara Mjini; thamani yake ni shilingi bilioni 3.1 na utekelezaji umefika asilimia 97.

- Mradi wa Maji wa Katoro-Buseresere (Geita); una thamani ya shilingi bilioni 4.3 na umefika asilimia 85.

- Mradi wa maji wa Ihumwa - Njedengwa Jiji la Dodoma una thamani ya shilingi bilioni 2.7 na umefika asilimia 98.

- Pamoja na miradi hiyo, Waziri Aweso amesema, miradi mikubwa ya maji katika miji ya Morogoro na Shinyanga inatarajiwa kutekelezwa na Serikali kupitia mkopo wa masharti nafuu kutoka Shirika la Maendeleo la Ufaransa (AFD).

Amoongezwa kuwa kazi inaendelea katika kutekeleza idadi ya miradi 1,176 maeneo ya vijijini ambayo imelenga kuhudumia wananchi wapatao 2,800,392. Pia, Miradi ya maji katika miji 28 kupitia mkopo wa masharti nafuu kutoka Serikali ya India. Miradi hii itagharimu kiasi cha Dola za Kimarekani Milioni 460 sawa na takribani Shilingi 1,062,600,000,000.00

Aweso amoongezwa kuwa katika mkoa wa Simiyu utekelezaji wa ujenzi wa miradi mikubwa wa maji wa kukabiliana na athari ya Mabadiliko ya Tabianchi utaanza. Pamoja na manufaa mengine, miradi huotaboresha huduma ya upatikanaji wa maji katika miji ya Busega, Baradi na Itilima ikiwa ni awamu ya kwanza na baadaye utafika wilaya za Maswa na Meatu katika awamu ya pili. Jumla ya Euro milioni 171 sawa na wastani wa shilingi bilioni 444 zitatumika katika ujenzi wa miradi huu na zitagharimiwa kwa ushirikiano wa Serikali pamoja na msaada kutoka GCF na KiW.

Amoongezwa Serikali pia inatarajiwa kuanza ujenzi wa miradi mikubwa wa maji kwa ajili ya Jiji la Dodoma kwa kujenga bwawa kubwa la maji eneo la Farkwa katika Wilaya ya Chemba. Mradi huu unatarajiwa kuhudumia huduma za Dodoma mjini, Kondoa, Chemba, Bahi na Chamwino. Mradi huu pia utaanza kujengwa katika mwaka huu wa fedha kwa mkopo wa masharti nafuu kutoka Benki ya Maendeleo ya Afrika. Jumla ya Dola za Marekani (USD) milioni 453 zinatarajiwa kutumika katika ujenzi wa miradi huu ambapo kwa sasa Serikali inaendelea na mazungumzo na benki hii ambayo wameonekana nia ya kusaidia kiasi cha fedha za ujenzi wa miradi kwa mkopo wa masharti nafuu.

Aidha, Wizara ya Maji kupitia Mpango wa Maendeleo kwa Ustawi wa Taifa na Mapambano Dhidi ya UVIKO-H9 imepangwa jumla ya shilingi 139,354,573,798.37 ambazo zimeelekezwa kwenye maeneo ambayo yatawezesha upatikanaji wa huduma ya maji kwa wakati na iliyo endelevu. Hadi kufikia Februari 2022, jumla ya Shilingi 32,676,262,663.83 zimetolewa kutekeleza mpango huo sawa na asilimia 23 ya fedha zilizoengwa. Kati ya hizo Shilingi 12,069,435,621.79 ni kwa miradi ya maji mjini na Shilingi 20,607,827,042.04 ni kwa ajili ya utekelezaji wa miradi ya maji vijijini. Aidha mabombi ya shilingi 34,454,249,216.60 yamewasilishwa Hazina kwa ajili ya ununuzi wa mitambo ya uchimbaji visima, ujenzi wa mabwawa na vifaa vya uchunguzi wa maji chini ya ardh.

Waziri Aweso katika hili ameanisha hatua zilizoifika katika utekelezaji, ikiwamo

Utekelezaji wa miradi 172 yenye kulenga kuboresha huduma za maji katika maeneo ya vijijini ambao umefika wastani wa asilimia 40. Aidha, uzalishaji wa mabomba na pampu umefika asilimia 90, na kazi za kifunduli (civil works) umefika asilimia 20. Bomba zimeanza kusafirishwa toka viwandani kupeleka maeneo mbalimbali ya miradi.

Amesema maeneo ya mijini utekelezaji wa miradi 46 yenye kulenga kuboresha huduma za maji katika maeneo ya mijini upo katika hatua mbalimbali kati ya asilimia 10 na 90. Aidha, mikataba ya ununuzi wa seti 25 za mitambo ya kuchimba visima, ununuzi wa seti tano (5) za mitambo ya ujenzi wa mabwawa, na ununuzi wa seti 04 za vifaa vya uchunguzi wa maji chini ya ardh tari yari mikataba yake imesainiwa tarehe 8/2/2022.

Waziri Aweso ameweka bayana hatua kubwa imepigwa na mafanikio yaliyopatikana yameimarisha huduma ya majisafi na salama kwa wananchi ambapo upatikanaji wa huduma za maji umefika wastani wa asilimia 72.3 vijijini na asilimia 86 mjini. Hali ya upatikanaji yameanza ya Mfumo wa Pamoja wa Uandaaji Ankaru za Malipo ya Maji (Unified Billing System) ili kupunguza malalamiko ya ankaru za maji kwa wateja wa huduma za maji

Pia, TEHAMA nayo imepeva kipaumbele ambapo matumizi yameanza ya Mfumo wa Pamoja wa Uandaaji Ankaru za Malipo ya Maji (Unified Billing System) ili kupunguza malalamiko ya ankaru za maji kwa wateja wa huduma za maji





Tanzania Bureau of Standards assessment manager Joseph Makene updates journalists in Dar es Salaam yesterday on developments at the state-run agency. Photo: Correspondent Sabato Kasika

## EABC lauds Samia's efforts to reinforce regional integration

By Guardian Reporter

THE chairperson, board of directors, management and members of the East African Business Council (EABC), the apex body of the private sector in the EAC region, congratulate President Samia Suluhu Hassan for marking one year in office and member of the East African Community Heads of State Summit.

According to a statement issued by EABC Executive Director /Chief Executive Officer John Kalisa, the East African Business Council applauds President Samia for championing public-private dialogue, business reforms and improving trade and investment ties.

Under the Samia's strong leadership, the EAC region has witnessed the elimination of Non-Tariff Barriers, better-coordinated approach COVID-19 policies, ratification of the African Continental Free Trade Area Agreement (AfCFTA), World Trade Organization Trade Facilitation Agreement and the EAC Sanitary and Phytosanitary (SPS) Protocol by the United Republic of Tanzania.

According to the Bank of Tanza-

nia's 2020/2021 Annual Report, in 2020 Tanzania recorded a trade surplus of \$484.5 million to the East African Community. Tanzania exported goods worth \$811.2 million to the EAC region in 2020, up from \$678.5 million in the previous year, while imports from the bloc declined slightly from \$334.7 million to \$326.7 million.

"President Samia has also transformed the agricultural sector and empowered youth and women in business," he said, adding: "EABC is dedicated to partnering with the government of the United Republic of Tanzania to boost intra-EAC trade, industrialisation, investments and job creation under President Samia's great leadership."

Going forward, ratification of the EAC Agreement for the Avoidance of Double Taxation, abolishing work permit fee requirements for East Africans and joining One Network Area for Telecommunication and EAC Single Tourist Visa are among the priorities East African businesses are eager to see implemented by Tanzania in order to ease doing business and build forward better Tanzania's economic resilience and recovery.

## Makubi issues ultimatum to regional authorities to finish health projects

By Correspondent James Kandoya

PERMANENT Secretary, Ministry for Health Prof Abel Makubi has issued three months ultimatum to the region's authorities to complete all health projects implemented through Rapid Credit Facility from International Monetary Fund (IMF).

Prof Makubi made the directives yesterday in Songea district, Ruvuma region after inspecting the ongoing construction of the new referral hospital.

"I direct all regional authori-

ties across the country to ensure all projects implemented through Rapid Credit Facility from IMF are completed by June 30 this year. Failure to do that will be to go against the directives from high authority, and terms of contract," he said.

He urged leaders of the Ruvuma referral hospital to sit with the contractor, Regional Administrative Secretary (RAS) of office, consultancy and engineers from the ministry for Health to ensure the project was completed no later than June 30, this year.

"The management should meet the contractor to ensure the construction continues day and night so that it can be completed by June 30, this year and not otherwise," he insisted.

On November 12, last year, The International Monetary Fund (IMF) Executive Board approved \$372.4 million in emergency financial assistance under the Rapid Credit Facility (RCF) to Tanzania to address Covid-19 pandemic.

Tanzania continues to experience substantial challenges from the Covid-19 pandemic

and faces an ongoing urgent balance of payments needed as the authorities implement a comprehensive emergency response plan, including a vaccination campaign.

The fully concessional RCF emergency financing will facilitate the ongoing implementation of the authorities' pandemic relief plans.


The authorities remain committed to strengthening governance and transparency to ensure that the IMF financial resources are efficiently spent on addressing the crisis.

It continues to contend with the Covid-19 pandemic. Recent reporting of Covid-19 data in Tanzania indicates an increase in the number of cases amid a third wave of the virus, while travel services receipts and travel arrivals continue to remain below pre-pandemic levels.

Due to the impact of the pandemic and the collapse in tourism in the wake of travel restrictions, growth reportedly decelerated to 4.8 percent in 2020, and economic performance is expected to remain subdued in 2021.



**The management should meet the contractor to ensure the construction continues day and night so that it can be completed by June 30, this year and not otherwise**



**BANK OF AFRICA**  
BMCE GROUP

# VACANCY

**GENERAL MANAGER: CREDIT AND CONTROL**

Location: Head Office  
Reporting to Managing Director

**Summary of Responsibilities:**  
The role holder is responsible to provide strategic direction and oversight of the functions of Credit Analysis and Credit Control & Monitoring so as to coherently manage credit risk and protect shareholder value, while supporting sustainable credit business growth that builds customer value and supports the overall aims of the Bank.

**Scope of Duties:**

- Provide strategic leadership for all credit processes of the Bank and guide all related activities to build and protect a quality and profitable loan portfolio that supports the Bank's growth strategies, within sustainable risk parameters;
- In collaboration with all relevant stakeholders, design the credit risk management framework for the Bank to guide all its pre-and-post disbursement processes and decisions, and supervise its implementation to ensure that the risks associated with the Bank's credit activities, are effectively managed and mitigated;
- Manage the evolution of the Bank's credit policies, processes and procedures, and champion their consistent application in all matters of credit business. This includes integrating the Environmental and Social Risk management agenda of the bank with all credit practices, and ensuring compliance with all relevant laws and regulations that relate to the Bank's credit business;
- Collaborate with all relevant stakeholders in business and operations to consistently deliver on all service level standards to attain business efficiency, so as to create customer value, and enhance competitive advantage and business value for the Bank;
- Contribute to the Assets and Liabilities Management Committee of the Bank in managing the Bank's balance sheet, and support in analyzing micro and macro-economic parameters, and help determine the right pricing for credit business;
- Provide overall control of credit analysis procedures, while building and maintaining the necessary structures and tools for reliable identification and mitigation of credit risk, structuring of credit business and approval of procedures. Furthermore, responsibly sanction credit facilities within delegated approval limits where appropriate;
- Liaise with relevant stakeholders and provide overall guidance and maintenance of control structures to ensure all business that is booked by the Bank is comprehensively documented, perfected and is within the relevant legal framework of credit and banking, so as to be legally sound and executable

where such necessity may arise;

- Provide overall leadership in credit portfolio oversight, and collaborate with stakeholders to maintain structures and tools for cross-functional portfolio monitoring so as to enable proactive debt management and limit the forward-flow / ageing rate within acceptable range;
- Manage, motivate and develop the credit team through rigorous performance management, coaching, mentoring, learning and development interventions to create a team able to deliver the credit mission of the Bank.

**Knowledge & Experience**

- A minimum experience of 5 years' in Senior role in Credit and Control.
- Bachelor Degree in Finance, Accounting, Business Administration or any other related courses.
- Knowledge of banking operations (International and domestic)
- Management capabilities
- Advanced analytical and risk management acumen
- Advanced business acumen and financial skills
- Risk management techniques
- Strategic and conceptual skills

**Competences**

- Team building and conflict management
- Coaching and leadership
- Social skills
- Oral and written communication skills
- Creativity and innovation
- Ability to negotiate and convince


**Other Requirements;**  
All applicants should attach with your application letter, CV and Certificates.

**Submission:**  
All the applications have to be submitted not later than 28th March 2022 to;

**THE HUMAN RESOURCES DEPARTMENT**  
**BANK OF AFRICA - TANZANIA**  
**NDC DEVELOPMENT HOUSE**  
**OHIO / KIVUKONI STREET**  
**P.O Box 3054**  
**DAR ES SALAAM**  
**TANZANIA.**

or through email: [hr@boatanzania.com](mailto:hr@boatanzania.com)  
NOTE: We shall communicate to only successful candidates who will meet all the requirements above.

216765502



**TWIGA**  
Minerals Corporation Limited  
a partnership between Barrick Gold Corporation and the Government of Tanzania

# BARRICK

  
NORTH MARA

## REQUEST FOR TENDER

### Security (a) Gallagher Electric Fence System, (b) FLIR and Dallmeier Cameras, (c) Cisco Switch

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:

#### Supply and Installation of the Security (a) Gallagher Electric Fence System, (b) FLIR and Dallmeier Cameras, (c) Cisco Switch.

Pre-qualification Criteria			
Reference No.	Description	Pre-qualification Criteria	
1 NM33/2022/A	Supply and Installation for Security Gallagher Electric Fence System.	i. Security Systems Contractor registered with CRB. ii. Prior similar mining project experience iii. Good knowledge of Mine Health and Safety procedures iv. Certified partners for Gallagher and Dallmeier. v. Technical and Financial capability to execute project	
2 NM33/2022/B	Supply and Installation for Security FLIR and Dallmeier Cameras	i. Security Systems Contractor registered with CRB. ii. Prior similar mining project experience iii. Good knowledge of Mine Health and Safety procedures iv. Certified partners for Dallmeier. v. Technical and Financial capability to execute project	
3 NM33/2022/C	Supply and Installation for Security Cisco Switch	i. Security Systems Contractor registered with CRB. ii. Prior similar mining project experience iii. Good knowledge of Mine Health and Safety procedures iv. Certified partners for Cisco in Tanzania. v. Technical and Financial capability to execute project vi. At least one Cisco certified Technician(CCNA or CCNP).	

**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](mailto:nm.proposal@barrick.com)

Applicants must quote the tender description(s) and the respective reference no.(s) 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.

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

**Key Dates**

- Last date to submit EOI March 28, 2022

**North Mara Gold Mine Limited**



# 'Include NCDs treatment in universal health insurance'

By Guardian Reporter

THE government has been advised to include treatment for non-communicable diseases, (NCDs) in the universal health insurance programme to reduce challenges facing patients of such diseases in order to save their lives.

The World Health Organisation (WHO) estimates that more than 45 per cent of deaths in the world were from NCDs and during COVID-19 period NCDs patients were more affected.

The remarks were made recently by Tanzania Non-Communicable Diseases Alliance (TANCDAA) secretary, Prof Kaushik Ramaiya at the launch of the defensive strategy on universal health insurance held in Dar es Salaam.

Prof. Ramaiya said the National Health Insurance Fund (NHIF) provides various types of services in regard to other diseases even though treatment of some diseases are not included, hence denying patients full treatment at hospitals under NHIF cover.

"NCDs are costly to treat, through NHIF people have been buying insur-

ance for various diseases, but for some diseases, treatment including surgery is denied to NHIF card holders.

"I appeal to the government to look into this issue because WHO estimates show that from five to 10 years to come deaths from NCDs may increase by more than 55 per cent "If NCDs are not properly treated, patients could be infected with other diseases including kidney diseases, stroke and others," said Prof Ramaiya.

He also appealed to the government's coordination in the availability of NCDs in all dispensaries and health centres countrywide so that the community gets access to the treatment close to their areas.

Mbozi Member of Parliament in Songwe Region, George Mwenison-gole said the issue of universal health insurance should be the agenda for the nation in order to give hope for treatment to every Tanzanian whenever they become ill.

"Universal health insurance should not be discriminatory, but should be

one that provides insurance cover to all types of diseases, especially NCDs sufferers whose treatment is costly.

For her part, Gloria Tesha, a journalist appealed to the government to invest in education on NCDs, beginning at primary school level so that as children grow, they should have some adequate understanding on the diseases to help them take preventive measures against them.

"We journalists are ready to use our pens and raise our voices to educate the community on how they can protect themselves against the diseases.

"Stakeholder and the government must agree in the joint fight against NCDs by making them become the national agenda, from street, village, ward, district, region level and should be accorded priority," said Tesha.

For his part, TANCDAA project manager, Happy Nchimbi stressed that as the country prepares itself to have universal health insurance; the issue on the prevention of NCDs should be given top priority through allocation of an enabling budget.



Tanzania Ports Authority officer Dalila Shakiru (seated) briefs Works and Transport deputy minister Atupele Mwakibete (L) on operations at Kemondo port in Kagera Region yesterday. Photo courtesy of Works ministry

## Establish special units for children with Down syndrome in all public hospitals, govt advised

By Getrude Mbago

PARENTS of children with Down syndrome (Ds) have urged the government to come up with a special system to identify children who are born with the defect including establishing special units in public hospitals to serve the group.

They are appealing to the government among others, to create units to diagnose and monitor all newly born infants to find out if they have the characteristics of Down syndrome, then educate and provide close support to parents on how to take good care of the children for their proper development.

Down syndrome is a genetic disorder caused when abnormal cell division results in an extra full or partial copy of chromosomes. It is primarily recognized from its distinctive characteristics such as mental retardation, distinguishing facial features, and other traits.

Speaking at an event to commemorate the World Down Syndrome Day held in Dar es Salaam yesterday, Mony Pettit, one of the parents and founder of a locally-based Pearl of People with Down Syndrome Foundation, said that Down syndrome is one of the most common mental disorders known in many countries, and yet there have been little efforts to help them.

She said that most children with the defects have talents, if developed they can fully contribute to the development of the country.

The event brought together parents of children with Down syndrome from various parts in Dar es Salaam Region. World Down Syndrome Day is marked each year on March 21, beginning in 2006. The day is observed to create awareness about Down syndrome.

Health experts say that Down syndrome can affect a person's cognitive ability and physical growth, cause mild to moderate developmental issues, and present a higher risk of some health problems.

According to Pettit, often when a woman gives birth to a child with Down syndrome she is shunned by society. People believe witchcraft is involved and that the mother has been cursed.

She added that persons with Down syndrome can achieve optimal quality of life through parental care and support, medical guidance and community based support systems like inclusive education at all levels. This facilitates their participation in mainstream society and the fulfilment of their personal potential.

## Adhere to standards, brick manufacturers told

By Correspondent Felix Andrew

BRICK manufacturers in the country have been asked to check the quality of their products with the government certification agency in order to save the lives of people and avoid penalties.

Speaking during the media familiarisation tour at Tanzania Bureau of Standards office over the weekend in Dar es Salaam, the Head of Building and Construction laboratory at TBS, Eng Mahona William, said bricks fall under compulsory standards.

He said already TBS in collaboration with stakeholders has formulated the bricks standard which is TZS 283:2002, where all manufacturers have to abide by.

He said the bureau has started to collect samples of the bricks from a few regions and test for the quality urging stakeholders to enhance collaboration and make the exercise successful.

"I urge manufacturers to bring their bricks for quality check at our accredited laboratory to avoid legal actions which might be taken against defaulters," he said.

Mahona said they have received samples of the bricks from Morogoro and Dar es Salaam regions and the exercise would be extended to other areas countrywide. According to him, officials of TBS are in the field to sensitise bricks manufacturers on the importance of adherence to the standards.

Apart from bricks, he said the bureau has purchased modern equipment to test water pipes of various categories within a short period of time.

He said the equipment can take and test 40 samples at once and produce accurate results for a few days. "I urge water projects established by the government to come to us and make sure that they use the tested products since we have the ability to do so," he said.

Meanwhile, Tanzania has harmonized a total of 490 standards from East African countries since the exercise started a few years ago.

Speaking during the same tour, Yona Afrika is Standards Development Manager said TBS intends to harmonise a total of 650 standards which would be used into the East African countries to enable manufacturers sell or market their produce within the region.

"We have already harmonized 490 standards that are now used in Tanzania, manufacturers can now use them for the benefits of the East African member states," he said.

He urged Tanzanians to use quality approved products that would enable them to improve their health, environment and get real value of their money.

Explaining, he said the idea to establish a new standard comes from the stakeholders and TBS act as a custodian or organisers of the whole process.



## INVITATION FOR EXPRESSION OF INTEREST - PREQUALIFICATION OF CONTRACTORS FOR THE RENTAL OF CONCRETE TRUCKED MIXER TO GEITA GOLD MINING LIMITED (GGML), 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 rental services for Trucked Concrete Mixer 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
GGME01418	Rental of Concrete mixer (Transit mixer or truck mixer) 10m3 or larger, fixed unit to supply for hire for mixing and/or delivery of concrete for 12months. 4x6 or 6x6 required, with off highway driving 100% of the time. Owner driver, operator and maintenance required. Hourly rate and monthly fixed fee per unit. Require mine standard reflectors, roadworthy and PPE
	

### I.I! INFORMATION REQUIRED

PRE-QUALIFICATION REQUIREMENTS	20%
<b>COMMERCIAL</b>	
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%
<b>FINANCIAL POSITION &amp; TERMS OF TRADE</b>	<b>5%</b>
Audited & certified financial statements (2019-2020)	2.5%
At least 1 reference from the applicant's banker regarding supplier's credit position	2.5%
<b>SAFETY AND ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT SYSTEMS</b>	<b>5%</b>
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%
<b>OTHER POLICIES</b>	<b>5%</b>
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%
<b>PAST EXPERIENCE</b>	<b>5%</b>
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%
<b>TECHNICAL CRITERIA (GGME01408)</b>	<b>60%</b>
Capable of supplying Concrete mixer (Transit mixer or truck mixer) with 4x6 or 6x6 configuration trucks, with hours and bin sizes.	20%
Proof of qualified personnel (drivers) and proven operation for 24h, with transport for personnel in mining or large construction area capability or track record.	20%
Proof of technical capabilities to provide after sales support including Maintenance and other technical services	20%
<b>Total</b>	<b>100%</b>

Interested bidders must submit their expression Letters of Interest ("LOI") by quoting the SERVICE DESCRIPTION AND REFERENCE NUMBER (GGME01418) 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 must be received by the GGML Office via e-mail at [geita.eoi@anglogoldashanti.com](mailto:geita.eoi@anglogoldashanti.com) not later than 8.30AM 04TH April 2022 (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=



TUESDAY 22 MARCH 2022

Taking A New Look  
At The News  
ESTABLISHED IN 1995

## Let's warm up to UN motto that forests are too precious to lose

MARCH 21 (yesterday) was a remarkable international day for a whole series of issues, perhaps because it was already an international day quite early, and other commemoration subjects of interest were added.

One such subject is the International Day of Forests, where the ringing call is that forests are too precious to lose, as they provide the groundwork for the most essential of all social commodities: water.

A UN chronicler says when we drink a glass of water, write in a notebook, take medicine for a fever or build a house we do not always make the connection with forests. And these are just a few examples of the link.

From the commonplace or visible perspective before all our eyes, acute deforestation simply leads to desertification, as even deforested grasslands and farm areas need the presence of forests of viable patches of forest nearby, to be sustainable. Still large areas of forested areas have disappeared and those existing are under pressure from expanding population and traditional activities like ranching and plantations, especially in South America. In Africa forests are besieged by logging, and rising population pressures.

While most of this is everyday knowledge, what is as yet unclear or hard to agree upon is the remedy, or list of practicable remedies that governments can put to action and expect results.

Here again there is a trap, as activists generally focus on maintaining existing forests rather than creating forests on vast arid lands, for unclear reasons. One

plausible explanation is that in many existing forests there are indigenous populations whose survival in that state, not being pulled into urbanization, is a powerful magnetic cause.

It can thus be said that the world has a formidable if not paradoxical conservation issue at hand, as to whether the issue really is forests or indigenous peoples. If it were forests - and all of us know that trees are valuable and a resource that many governments around the world can't ignore - why don't activist organisations around the world, as well as international agencies, create funds or leveraging resources and bring countries on board to allocate vast zones for reforestation?

Would Namibia disagree if converting the Namib Desert to a green area was floated? Australia is mostly desert but activism focuses on oil, gas.

But the most surprising aspect of this lacuna, unrealistic attitude about existing forests and creating vast new forest acreage is the COP 26 - and now COP 27 preparations - outlook. Its entire focus is cutting down carbon emissions to an average of 1.5 degrees Celsius rise per year, a stupendous goal vowed to failure by all means.

The latest UN data indicates that the real projection at present is 2.4 degrees Celsius by 2030 or 2050; it makes no difference.

Adding vast swathes of forests and some especially efficient carbon dioxide absorbing plants would help, but anti-industrialism and anti-consumerism is fixed on coal, oil and gas. And with the Ukraine war, vast displacement is taking place and drilling takes a new level. Oops!

## Meteorological Day: Africa needs to mitigate climate change patterns

METEOROLOGY is a branch of the atmospheric sciences which include atmospheric chemistry and atmospheric physics, with a major focus on weather forecasting. World Meteorological Day was established in 1961 to commemorate the World Meteorological Organisation creation on 23 March 1950. This organisation announces a slogan for World Meteorology Day every year, and this day is celebrated in all member countries.

The World Meteorological Organisation, an organisation of the United Nations, was created on 23 March 1950 to replace the International Meteorological Organisation. It began operations in 1951 to coordinate member nation in the fields of meteorology, operational hydrology, and Earth sciences for the security of their population. The first World Meteorological Day was held on 23 March 1961.

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The study of meteorology dates back millennia, though significant progress in meteorology did not be-

gin until the 18th century. The 19th century saw modest progress in the field after weather observation networks were formed across broad regions. Prior attempts at prediction of weather depended on historical data. It was not until after the elucidation of the laws of physics and more particularly, the development of the computer, allowing for the automated solution of a great many equations that model the weather, in the latter half of the 20th century that significant breakthroughs in weather forecasting were achieved. An important branch of weather forecasting is marine weather forecasting as it relates to maritime and coastal safety, in which weather effects also include atmospheric interactions with large bodies of water.

Meteorological phenomena are observable weather events that are explained by the science of meteorology. Meteorological phenomena are described and quantified by the variables of Earth's atmosphere: temperature, air pressure, water vapour, mass flow, and the variations and interactions of these variables, and how they change over time. Different spatial scales are used to describe and predict weather on local, regional, and global levels.

Meteorology, climatology, atmospheric physics, and atmospheric chemistry are sub-disciplines of the atmospheric sciences. Meteorology and hydrology compose the interdisciplinary field of hydrometeorology. The interactions between Earth's atmosphere and its oceans are part of a coupled ocean-atmosphere system. Meteorology has application in many diverse fields such as the military, energy production, transport, agriculture, and construction.

### The Guardian Limited Key Contacts

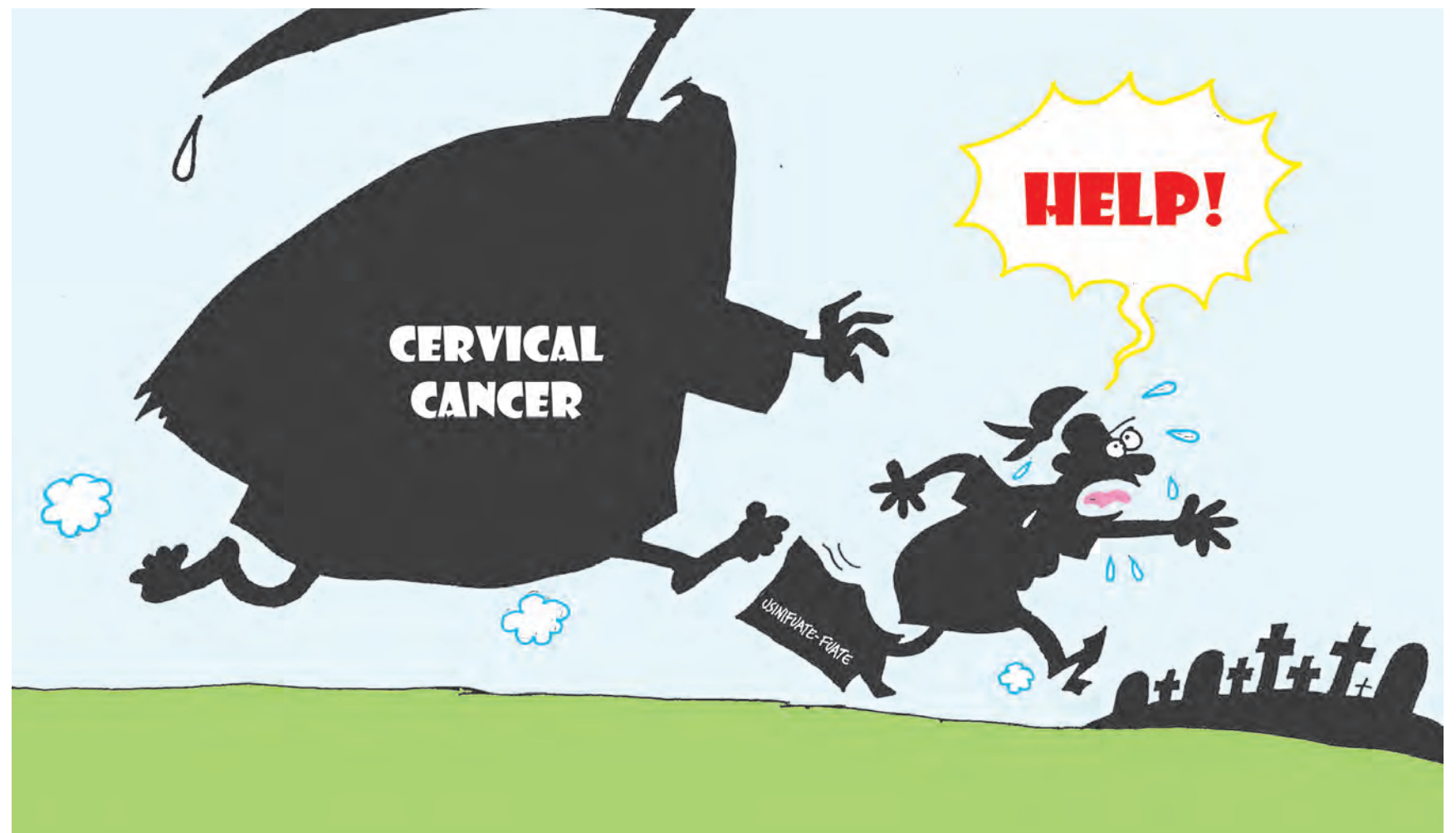
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# Africa confronts linguistic imperialism with Kiswahili

By Bird Story Agency

THE move by the African Union, the apex organisation for African states, to adopt Kiswahili as one of its official working languages, is not only culturally and political significant, but a shot in the arm in its global spread.

This comes just three months after the United Nations on November 23, 2021 designated July 7 as the World Kiswahili Language Day.

It becomes the first African language, which is spoken by more than 200 million people, to be honoured by UNESCO.

Kiswahili, mainly spoken in the East African, is a fusion of the dialect born of Bantu and Arabic languages, has earned its place of pride as one of the world's top 10 most spoken languages and Africa's most widely used native lingua. It enjoys official status national in Kenya, Tanzania and Uganda. It is also widely spoken in parts of DR Congo, Rwanda and Burundi.

Officially, it was being used in the East African Community (EAC) and the Southern African Development Community (SADC) regional blocs before AU's adoption.

Over the years, Kiswahili has spread south of the continent, to parts of Zambia, Malawi and Mozambique, while Burundi, Madagascar and the Comoros islands have also adopted it.

In June 2020, South Africa introduced Kiswahili as an optional subject in the hope that the language could become a tool to foster cohesion among Africans.

And it's in this light that the AU move to adopt Kiswahili is a milestone in mainstreaming it-

and eventual launch globally.

Proponents of a single language for Africa are hoping that the Africa Continental Free Trade Agreement (AfCTFA) will be the catalyst required to launch Kiswahili as Africa's language of trade and continent-wide communication.

"Aside from fostering shared identity, Kiswahili as a language is a very important tool in the geopolitics of things. It will unite Africa just as other languages like French, Spanish or English have united those who speak them," said Prof Macharia Munene, a history lecturer at the Nairobi-based United States International University Africa.

"Although it will take a few decades before Kiswahili gains a foothold in every African state, the recent developments are important catalysts."

According to him, language is intrinsic to the expression of culture, arguing that's why American culture is quite dominant in the world.

It is on that premise that he argues China is doing everything to promote mandarin, hoping it will use it to stamp its cultural influence in the world.

Kenya, Uganda and South Africa are some of the states where China

has made initiatives to popularise mandarin.

But China and France -- which also announced plans to make French the language of Africa -- encounter a continent increasingly conscious about its identity.

The diplomatic use of Kiswahili in Africa, and its subsequent introduction into schools' curricula across the continent is expected to help forge friendships, cultural and economic relationships.

According to Global Voices--an international multi-lingual organisation of writers, translators, academics and digital rights activists--currently, there are more than 7,100 languages spoken around the world, 28 per cent of which are spoken on the African continent.

Despite the existence of some 2,140 local languages in Africa, English, French and Arabic reign supreme.

English on the other hand dominates online spaces in the region. But this has shrunk to between 51-55 per cent as opposed to 80 per cent on online dominance two decades ago. Projections indicate that Kiswahili, which is now online, will become an increasingly important instrument of trade.

Renowned author Stanley

Gazamba asserts that the language has the potential to forge strong trading ties between the people of eastern, central and southern Africa and to promote cultural cohesion.

"If widely promoted in these regions, the language can single-handedly remove the artificial barriers and boundaries imposed by imperial powers," he wrote in The Elephant.

"There are an estimated 2,000 languages spoken on the continent. Colourful as this may appear, it also poses a challenge in marshalling all these diverse cultures into thinking and working towards a collective goal, which necessitates the creation and promotion of a lingua franca that can be used seamlessly across political and administrative borders, and which can ultimately allow the African people to speak in a single voice."

"Kiswahili has proved to be a useful tool in unlocking the potential of this sleeping giant in the regions south of the Sahara."

Kiswahili is taught in universities around the world, including in China, while in the USA, an estimated 100 universities offer Kiswahili courses, including Harvard University.



A teacher conducts a lesson at Victorious Primary School in Kampala, Uganda in May last year. Uganda's Education ministry says it has already distributed Kiswahili textbooks to schools and trained teachers.



# Women must be at the centre of Africa's transformative free trade area

UNITED NATIONS

**A**MBASSADOR Mathu Joyini began her role as the Permanent Representative of South Africa to the United Nations in January 2021, becoming the first South African woman to hold the position.

Representing the African States Group, she is the Chair of the Bureau for the 2022 Commission on the Status of Women (CSW). She has championed causes related to Africa's peace and security, human rights, women's empowerment, among others.

In this interview with Africa Renewal's Kingsley Ighobor, Amb. Joyini discusses her work and career path.

Excerpts from the interview:

**What has been your journey to this role?**

This place [United Nations] is a centre for global governance, and I think it provides an interesting space for any Permanent Representative to engage to promote their country's interest, and to promote cooperation between their country and others.

My journey has been an interesting one. It started when I worked in social welfare. And I always go back there because it made me understand the needs of human beings at an individual level, at the community level, and so forth.

Social work grounded me in understanding human needs around poverty, hunger, health—you deal with all these issues in that space. Now, when I look at the SDGs [Sustainable Development Goals], and what we're trying to achieve, I pay my respects to the social workers out there.

Also, I spent a lot of time in the private sector, which helped me to understand how business and society intersect; how a business makes profits but to what extent are they making profits and at the same time helping build their communities and societies?

Again, when you get here you realize there is a focus on economic development that is sustainable and responsible. You get to deal with issues around financing, sustainable financing, financing for development, and the need for the private sector to get involved in development.

Of course, there is my journey within the Department of International Relations and Cooperation [South Africa's foreign ministry], over 20 years in different positions at different levels, where I learned more about our country's foreign policy and international relations.

I always say that democratic South Africa has been good with its foreign policy—its focus and its consistency over the years.

**What are your top achievements so far here at the UN?**

I can give you some highlights. I will start



Mathu Joyini, Permanent Representative of South Africa to the United Nations, speaks at the 78th plenary meeting, on the voting and elections for non-permanent members of the UN Security Council. File photo

with human rights. As you know, in 2021 we commemorated the 20th anniversary of the Durban Declaration and Programme of Action, which is a landmark anti-discrimination framework. South Africa was given the responsibility of preparing for that commemoration and facilitating the development of a political declaration.

We were given that role together with Portugal, and I have to commend Ambassador Francisco António Duarte Lopes of Portugal because we managed to put on the table a political declaration that was successfully adopted on the margins of the UN General Assembly High Level Week in September 2021.

Secondly, on peace and security, South Africa and the Peacebuilding Support Office of the United Nations hosted a webinar and initiated a dialogue on how to get the private sector to contribute to peacebuilding. I must tell you it was an interesting webinar.

We looked at how we can make resources available for peacebuilding. We believe that the private sector that benefits from a stable and peaceful society needs to contribute to peacebuilding. And it happens that the private sector is ready to make such contributions. So, we hope to put in place a strategy for private sector engagement.

Thirdly, there are issues that we will always care about. These are not just 2022 issues, but issues that will always be South Africa's priorities because of our history. One such priority is our solidarity with the people of Palestine

and the people of Western Sahara. We also have the African Union's Agenda 2063, which aligns with the SDGs, and now includes the post-COVID-19 recovery agenda.

Fourthly, we are known for gender equality and women's empowerment. In 2022 and 2023 South Africa will be the Chair of the Committee on the Status of Women (CSW). We are chairing on behalf of the Africa Group, and we want to make sure that we drive the implementation of agreed conclusions.

**Talking about gender equality, you are one of only a handful female Permanent Representatives to the UN in New York. Why do you think that is so?**

Governments have the primary responsibility for promoting gender equality; they need to always be reminded to walk the talk. That is not always necessarily the case. When women take leadership positions in public spaces, they're likely to promote other women. I can say that in my case. But again, I represent my President who is strongly supportive of gender equality.

**Gender equality is a huge priority here at the UN headquarters. Is that the case in Africa?**

I think so. I know so. Many of the African Union's instruments focus on gender equality, on women's empowerment. In fact, the AU might be ahead of many other regional bodies in terms of thinking through issues related to gender equality. If you look at the num-

ber of AU protocols and instruments, you will find that gender equality is a priority for our leaders. But there's a lot to do in terms of implementation.

**This year's CSW is hybrid – both in-person and virtual events. What should African women expect from it?**

They should expect two baskets of outcomes. The first basket is the formal one, which is what CSW is there for. Every year, we look at how far we are implementing the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action, and then come up with recommendations to advance gender equality and women's empowerment. This year it will be in the context of climate change.

So, the CSW looks at the lived experiences of women. You and I know that the effects of climate change affect women disproportionately. And so, in the agreed conclusions, Member States will make recommendations to promote gender equality and women's empowerment in the context of climate change.

So African women should expect that their needs and their challenges are being addressed through agreed conclusions. We need to be aware that it's not just how damaging the impact of climate change is to women, it's also to what extent women are involved in mitigation and adaptation activities? Are they funded? Are they engaged?

The second basket is the CSW space, where civil society and the UN system, including the Member States, engage to address pertinent issues. It is fertile soil for learning from each other, for sharing experiences, and for creating knowledge.

So, our sisters and our mothers in Africa can expect to learn and exchange ideas; they will hear how Zimbabwean women, for example, are tackling their challenges, or what women in Pakistan and other parts of the world are doing.

**How much impact will the virtual events have on the outcomes?**

The women can learn not necessarily by coming here. The experience of the last CSW has shown that they learn very well on virtual platforms. In fact, most people will say that virtual platforms allow many women access.

Those who cannot afford to get on the plane to New York can

log on and exchange experiences with others. So, we will have to be sensitive in creating those platforms: how you design topics, the learning spaces, and the exchanges that happen.

**What are your views regarding how women can take advantage of the African Continental Free Trade Area (AfCFTA), which is probably Africa's biggest project currently?**

Absolutely, the AfCFTA is the biggest project. And it is a transformative one. Creating that market of 1.3 billion consumers, you can imagine what it will do for our manufacturing sector, for trading, for agriculture, and so forth. To the extent that the free trade agreement will transform the continent economically, women need to be part of it, if not at the center of it.

We often talk about the economic and financial inclusion of women. If you walk into any market right now in Africa, most informal traders would be women. We need to start thinking creatively about how to include them in a manner that advances their socioeconomic wellbeing.

When we [South Africa] chairing the AU, our President [Cyril Ramaphosa] really became the champion of women's financial and economic inclusion. Take procurement, for example. If I have two suppliers with equal capabilities, and one of them is a woman, I'm going to give the opportunity to the woman supplier.

So, we need to be deliberate within the free trade area in building capacity and creating opportunities for women. We need to put in place policies and programmes that support women-led small, medium and large enterprises.

I must mention the SheTrades that was initiated by the International Trade Centre and is helping connect African women entrepreneurs to the markets. Such programmes are helpful.

**Finally, what message would you like to send to Africans, particularly women?**

We are in a continent whose future is bright. Studies show that future economic growth will be in Africa. Before the COVID-19 pandemic, the top six of the 10 fastest-growing economies in the world were in Africa. It is about how we organize ourselves to recover from the pandemic. And that is currently being coordinated so well by the continent.

If you look at the various initiatives that have been put in place by the continent to coordinate our recovery and our preparedness for future pandemics, you become hopeful.

We have all the frameworks, all the policies, all the opportunities. What we now require is to roll up our sleeves and do the work. **IPS**

# NPC deputies bring better livelihood to rural residents

By Che Bin, Shi Yiqi

**T**O push forward all-round rural vitalization has been made a focus of China's work related to agriculture, rural areas, and rural residents after the country has secured a complete victory in its fight against poverty.

Therefore, all-round rural vitalization was a hotspot topic during this year's "two sessions," the annual meetings of China's top legislature and political advisory body. Many deputies have shared their ideas on how to better promote rural vitalization based on their first-hand work experience, as well as the results of their field surveys.

Zhang Yan, director and researcher of the soil research department of the Tieling Academy of Agricultural Sciences, northeast China's Liaoning province, is a deputy to the 13th National People's Congress (NPC). Over the past years, she has proposed over 20 motions and suggestions on farm produce quality safety, food security, conservative farming of black soil in northeast China and many other issues.

"To ensure the supply of important agricultural products, especially that of crops, is a primary task for rural vitalization," she said, adding that it's a pleasure for her to conduct field surveys and increase farmers' income through agricultural technologies.

Zhang often tells farmers the benefits of conservative farming and organic fertilizers. She said that to cover soil with straws can reduce water loss and soil erosion, and stubbles make better physicochemical properties of soil. Besides, shifting cultivation leads to higher fertility of soils, and to diversify crops in the fields would reduce the occurrence of plant diseases and insect pests.

Zhang has also launched pilot programs with her team in multiple villages, the results of which have encouraged more local farmers to return straws to farmlands and increase the use of microbial or organic fertilizers.

When she learned that there was a 175-mu



A man is feeding sheep at a sheep farm in Beikeng village, Liugongmiao township, Zhangshu, east China's Jiangxi province, Nov. 22, 2021. File photo

(11.67 hectares) low-yield field in a village in Tieling, she immediately went on a field trip and formulated a soil improvement plan. The plan

doubled the unit output of soybeans in the field, from 100kg per mu to 200kg. Farmers' income doubled, too.

Huangwo is a coastal village surrounded by mountains in Gaogongdao neighborhood, Li-

anyun district, Lianyungang, east China's Jiangsu province. Villages there used to make a living by fishing. However, the declining fishery resources led to a drop in villagers' income.

Zhang Lixiang, Party head of the village and also an NPC deputy, paired with those in the village who were not able to fish on the sea and built a 100-mu nori cultivation ground with a mortgage loan he applied. Today, around 90 percent of the villagers in Huangwo are engaged in the nori business, which generates annual output of 240 million yuan (nearly \$38 million).

The booming nori business has brought better livelihood to villagers. Zhang, devoting himself to rural vitalization, has helped the village pave a new path of sustainable and high-quality development.

After soliciting opinions from the villagers, he decided to lead them to develop rural tourism. With an investment of 15 million yuan, the village built a new square and roads, and started renovating sewage disposal facilities and residential buildings. Besides, it also had its power grid upgraded by local power supply department. What's more, the village, relying on its beautiful natural environment, has built new tourist attractions. According to statistics, the village received nearly 100,000 visits last year.

Marine ecological protection is another issue that Zhang has focused on for years as an NPC deputy. "Great marine ecology is a foundation for us to embrace high-quality development," he said.

**People's Daily**



# Country sheds light on green future for Africa

By Zhao Ruina

**I**N summer 2019, Li Xia arrived at a school in a small village in Ethiopia. Locals and students at Nayata High School gave her a warm welcome as she and her colleagues walked among the thatched-roof school buildings.

Li, the founder of Shenzhen Power-Solution Ind Co, which is based in Guangdong province and makes solar-powered lighting products, was not on a business trip the purpose of her visit was to reward students with solar-powered lamps for excellence in their studies.

Smiling students at the school proudly held the lamps high above their heads.

The village where the school is located has no access to electricity. Residents have long been living without power and some had no idea what a lamp looked like.

According to the World Bank, only about half of Ethiopia's population had access to electricity as of 2019.

Moreover, the lack of electricity is pervasive in sub-Saharan Africa, especially in rural areas, with the continent facing the biggest global shortfall in access to energy.

According to the International Energy Agency, nearly 800 million people worldwide live without electricity, about 75 percent of them in sub-Saharan Africa.

These people, usually earning incomes below the poverty line, either live in darkness after sunset or use the dim light of candles and kerosene lamps.

Media reports said that due to a lack of lighting, people have been killed by poisonous snakes in some regions and women have been sexually assaulted outdoors.

Li, who was born in northeastern China in the 1980s, dedicated herself to solar power efforts in Africa more than 10 years ago.

She said the continent has great potential to develop solar energy thanks to its geographical advantages, adding that there is a huge demand for such energy in Africa.

In recent years, policymakers, private investors and end-users have turned to off-grid solar products as an affordable and sustainable solution to accessing electricity.

In 2020, a report published by the World Bank Group and the Global Off-Grid Lighting Association said the off-grid solar sector had grown quickly in the past decade to become a \$1.75 billion annual market serving 420 million users. As a result, prolonged growth is forecast for this market.

A summary of the report, published by the World Bank, said off-grid solar solutions have played a pivotal role in extending energy access to millions of people in sub-Saharan Africa and South Asia.

Shenzhen Power-Solution Ind Co jumped on the bandwagon and set up its own factory in 2012 with just 10 employees.

As a small and medium-sized enterprise, or SME, it is far beyond the company's reach to construct large-scale solar power infrastructure. So, Li opted for off-grid solar power kits instead.

## Keen interest

A decade ago, solar energy was little known in Ethiopia, even among local businesspeople.

Faisal Ahmed Mohammed, one of Shenzhen Power-Solution Ind Co's distributors in Ethiopia, said he saw the company's solar products about 10 years ago at a business fair and was "very interested".

But at the time, he lacked confidence in the industry, so he only bought a small number of the company's products.

"Back then, nobody had solar energy in Ethiopia. So we introduced people to this market. Since then, they have become aware of solar energy, and demand has increased tremendously. Because of this, I imported



A staff member from LEMI Technology Development Co poses with students after donating solar power products in Nigeria last year. File photo

more products," Mohammed said.

One of the company's most popular products, Candles Killer, has won many prizes for design, including the Red Dot Award in 2018 an international competition for product and communication design, and also design concepts.

The Candles Killer features a pedestal, with a reading light on one side and a solar panel on the other. The lamp is attached to a plastic bottle by using an adjustable metal bracket, enabling it to be elevated and used as a desk light.

The product, which is made from biodegradable material, can also be placed on a wall and adjusted to different angles.

Li said, "For households in Africa, kerosene lamps are the primary lighting source, but they are expensive to run and also unsafe because kerosene is flammable as well as poisonous when inhaled or ingested.

"A kerosene lamp costs about \$1 to \$1.50 a month to run, but for \$5 people can buy a Candles Killer, which has a working life of at least three years. It's also cleaner and gives three times the amount of light as a kerosene lamp," Li said.

The World Bank estimates that breathing kerosene fumes is the equivalent of smoking two packs of cigarettes a day. Two-thirds of adult females with lung cancer in developing countries are nonsmokers.

In addition to the Candles Killer, the Shenzhen company has developed products such as a portable solar lantern that can charge mobile phones, as well as solar-powered home lighting systems.

As of last year, the company had provided solar lighting to more than 42 million people from some 6 million households, reducing carbon emissions by over 5 million metric tons.

## Steady sales

Shenzhen Power-Solution Ind Co is just one of the Chinese private enterprises working in the solar sector in Africa.

Beebeejump, another company based in Shenzhen, entered the solar energy industry in Nigeria in 2018. It also started by manufacturing basic lighting products, before expanding to sell solar power supply kits generating hundreds of kilowatts of electricity.

Chen Yeying, director of the company, who has vast experience in foreign trade, said: "Our products range from small lighting gadgets to energy storage systems. For example, by putting a solar panel on a roof, users can charge mobile phones and other devices with the help of solar radiation."

Beebeejump has seen steady sales growth. In 2019, its revenue exceeded 10 million yuan (\$1.58 million), while last year the figure topped 60 million yuan.

In the next two to three years, Chen expects the company to become the top solar brand in Nigeria's new energy industry. He is targeting three to five African markets within the next five years.

Chen said energy is the cornerstone for the development of a civilization, adding that he hopes to help narrow the energy gap in Africa.

The continent has the greatest solar energy potential in the world. The International Renewable Energy Agency estimates Africa's solar energy potential at 60 million terawatt hours, or TWh, per year, compared with 3 million TWh annually for Europe, for example.

"Off-grid electrification will play a vital role in extending electricity access to rural communities, improving economic resilience and also recovery from the pandemic. We hope to solve power supply issues for 3

million people in areas vulnerable to blackouts and reduce carbon dioxide emissions by 500,000 tons each year," Chen said.

Companies that solve social problems while achieving sustainable development in business are known as social enterprises.

Jiang Hui, secretary-general of the Alliance of Chinese Business in Africa for Social Responsibilities, said that as the scale of investment and cooperation between China and Africa continues to rise, social responsibilities become an increasingly important issue in economic and business cooperation.

"Chinese enterprises have helped accelerate the industrialization of Africa and contributed to local communities and economic development," Jiang said.

Li, from Shenzhen Power-Solution Ind Co, said small Chinese businesses operating in Africa are not only lighting up the lives of the most vulnerable, but are also contributing to a better environment.

"This is also in line with the concept of building a community with a shared future for mankind, which is embedded in the Belt and Road Initiative," she said.

When selling products in Africa, companies need to consider affordability.

Chinese companies, including Beebeejump and Shenzhen Power-Solution, have adopted a pay-as-you-go business model, allowing new customers who lack significant savings or easy access to loans to split the cost of a product at the point of sale into several small installments for repayment over months or even years.

LEMI Technology Development Co, which is based in Shenzhen and focuses on off-grid solar home systems and products in un electrified areas worldwide, has been looking at more creative ways to make its products available for Africans on low incomes.

## Growing market

Chen Jiequn, the company's founder, said: "We are figuring out more ways of trading, such as bartering. For example, Ethiopia is famous for its coffee. So people in that country could exchange coffee beans for solar power kits if they are short of money."

She has also witnessed the fast-growing solar energy market in Africa. "Africa is a huge market and it will advance even after the basic demand for electricity is met in the future," Chen Jiequn said.

"When people have lighting and a radio, they may next want a television. They want to entertain, educate themselves and their kids. They may also need some clippers to cut the kids' hair, and would love to have a fridge. This is something the energy world is really eager to do. It is the energy ladder.

"Initially for our company, the cheapest lighting products were the most popular, accounting for more than 80 percent of our sales. But in recent years, this has changed. Now, the cheapest products only account for 20 percent of sales, as demand for bigger power supply products grows."

Hui Honglin, a former consultant for Lighting Global, a World Bank Group initiative aimed at increasing access to off-grid solar energy for people living without electricity worldwide, said off-grid solar products are well suited to the current demand in Africa. They are also the continent's best example of localization for China's small-sized green products.

These environmentally friendly products not only light homes in sub-Saharan Africa but are also in line with the UN's Sustainable Development Goals of ending poverty and protecting the environment.

Over the past two decades, Chinese private enterprises have played an active role in the development of the green energy industry at home and abroad, Hui said, adding that within the framework of the Belt and Road Initiative, there is a promising future for the growth of solar energy in Africa.

However, it is not plain sailing for SMEs operating in the solar sector in Africa, where the biggest challenge is obtaining enough money.

Li said that unlike state-sponsored giant companies, SMEs have extremely limited capital and resources.

"For small companies, it's not easy to borrow from banks, because the banks think that what we are doing, especially in Africa, is risky," Li said.

However, she said green energy, including solar power, is certain to become a worldwide trend due to its sustainability. State-owned enterprises and private ones in China should join hands in the future to play to each other's strengths, Li added.

Chen, from Beebeejump, said Chinese companies in Africa need to understand local culture and living habits.

As an example, he cited ways to deal with local employees.

Initially, Beebeejump had more than 200 local employees in Nigeria and paid them at the same time as its staff members in China, meaning that payday fell on the 15th of the following month.

Chen Yeying said: "Then something weird happened. It wasn't long before many of the African employees stopped showing up for work, without taking leave or calling in sick. I couldn't figure out why, but finally we discovered the reason."

It turned out that the delayed payment date left the employees with no money to take a cab or other transportation to work.

"In addition, despite incomes usually being low, Africans are more likely to consume, instead of saving. They immediately spend their money after getting paid. So, we came up with a new way of paying them. We pay part of their salaries in advance every week to ensure they can come to work every day and have enough money for daily life," he said.

Agencies

# CAPITAL RADIO

# RATIBA YA VIPINDI JUMATATU - JUMAPILI

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

Tembelea mitandao ya kijamii ya CAPITAL RADIO



CAPITAL RADIO



# Dar city improvement project brings benefits to the citizenry

By Guardian Correspondent

DAR ES SALAAM is the largest city and financial hub of Tanzania. With a population of over five million people, Dar is the largest city in East Africa and the seventh-largest in Africa.

The city is projected to camp more than 10 million people by 2030, making it one of the five populous cities in Africa. Due to the large number of people whose exact number, for the time being, will be known during the coming census to be held in August this year, the city has faced many challenges including poor, narrow, and few roads.

Being one of the fastest-growing cities in the world, Dar es Salaam is characterized by increased traffic jams with some areas being affected by floods, particularly during the rainy season.

With this background, in the financial year 2012/13 the government launched the Dar es Salaam Metropolitan Development Project (DMDP).

The projects coordinator under the President's Office - Regional Administration and Local Government (PO-RALG), Humphrey Kanyenye, says the project which is funded by the World Bank aims at improving urban services and institutional capacity in the Dar es Salaam metropolitan area, and to facilitate potential emergency response.

He says the government decided to implement the project by looking at the uniqueness of the commercial city which grows rapidly.

Since it is estimated that by 2030, the city will have more than 10 million people, it is also believed that there will be various administrative challenges if some steps are not taken now, he says.

He says the rapid growth of Dar es Salaam is also contributing to the

existence of unplanned housing estimated between 70 and 80 percent.

"Due to the rapid growth of the city in line with climate change, the impact of floods is also expected to increase," he says adding that without proper service delivery plans, Dar es Salaam may reach a point of no return.

Kanyenye says the DMDP project, which officially started in 2016 with the first phase being completed in 2020, involves the construction of tarmac roads along with flood control and storm water drainage, installation of solar street lights, and building bridges.

According to him the project also involves the construction of modern markets which provides banking services and recreational areas, renovation of playgrounds, and construction of public toilets.

The coordinator says before the commencement of the project, various architectural designs were done and that the project is being carried out by focusing also on low-income communities and in unplanned areas, the aim being to connect all districts within the region and improve accessibility and other amenities.

"This project is worth \$300 million. Not only did we get the money for the project, but we also received \$5 million from Nordic Development Fund (NDF) for addressing challenges of climate change while the government of Tanzania contributes USD 25.3 million," he says, adding that the money has been disbursed to all Dar es Salaam municipalities in order to build 65.6 km of feeder roads, 31.8 km of trenches and 145.0 km of tarmac roads.

DMDP Project Coordinator in Kinondoni District Council Mkelewe Tungaraza, says construction of infrastructure is progressing well and that so far there are roads that have been completed such as



the roads around the Makumbusho Bus Stand and Shekilango road in Sinza.

"We want when in Dar es Salaam, someone may easily shift to another street in order to avoid traffic jams. Also, we shall fix lights on roads in order to increase security," Tungaraza says, noting that roads are built along with drainage ditches and bridges to prevent flooding.

The official names of areas where public toilets have been built in Kinondoni District as Tandale, Mburahati, and Mwananyamala.

Tememe District Urban and Rural Roads Agency (Tarura) Manager, Paul Mhere says the DMDP project in Tememe Municipality has been implemented in 16 out of 23 wards, which involves surveying of 800 plots that will be used as a model for town planning, construction of a tarmac road network (over 84km) and installation of street lights in seven wards.

Mhere says the project has also involved construction of four modern markets in Kilakala, Yombo, Vituka, Kijichi and Mbagala Kuu, stating that it has refurbished Makangarawe dispensary, construction of four bus stations in Kilakala, Kijichi, Yombo Vituka and Mbagala Kuu wards.

"We have also built storm water drainage and rainwa-

ter harvesting dams to reduce the impact of floods. We have also improved the governance system, revenue collection, and council development plans," he says, noting that there have also been compensation payments worth shillings billion 20 as well as improvements in the solid waste collection system.

Tarura Ilala District Manager, Silvester Chinengo says in Ilala District Council, what were implemented include the construction of Ndanda, Olympio, Kiungani, Omari Londo and Mbaruku streets (km 3.265).

There has also been the construction of an office and project laboratory building, the construction of 6.1 km long of the Msimbazi River Basin, and the construction of the Yombo River canal, 9.82 km.

Chinengo says the project has also involved the construction of tarmac roads (7.78 km), four collection solid waste facilities in Gongo la Mboto ward as well as the construction of 12.049 kilometers of roads.

Three markets, two solid waste bins, recreational areas, three public toilets, 3 km of storm water drainage, and drilling of two deep wells in Kiwalani ward.

The project has also involved the renovation of Bombom Market in Kiwalani ward, construction of Ulongoni B - Bangulo - Kinyerezi road (km 7.5), construction of the

Ulongoni B Bridge as well as the construction of Kinyerezi commuters' bus stand.

Kijichi Ward Executive Officer, Anaclet Hayuka, says the market which has been built in the ward will have all the necessary services as well as the offices for health officials which will enable them to conduct regular inspections. He thanks the government for facilitating the construction of the market.

A 34-year-old Jamila Okamu, a clothing retailer along the road leading to the Makumbusho Bus Stand says the construction of the road has improved their business and increased opportunities to other petty businessmen and women.

Initially, she says, they were experiencing dust due to poor road conditions and that customers with cars could not stop to buy goods at their stores.

# Sunflower farmers get relief: TARI comes up with new seeds

By Correspondent Gerald Kitabu

SUNFLOWER farmers in Kilosa district, Morogoro region have received news of research of new seeds which are at breeder seed stage with great joy.

The breeder seed namely TARI-ILO 2019 and TARI-NAL 2019 are being multiplied at TARI Ilonga and according to researchers, after multiplication, they will be taken to seed agencies to produce certified seeds for the next agricultural season.

The farmers from Kondoa and other villages in the district said the new breeder seeds if developed into certified seeds will increase yielding seeds and resist pests and diseases they are currently facing.

Cecilia Ndahami from Kondoa village, Kilosa district said that farming Sunflower has become difficult due to pests and diseases but with the new seeds, she expects to increase the farming acreage and productivity.

"We commend good work of researchers for coming up with the new improved seeds. This will attract many people who have stopped growing Sunflower," she said.

Paulina Peter also Sunflower farmer from Kilosa said the main challenge faced Sun flower farming is the presence of destructive rodents and monkeys.

"When the farmers plant, the rodents dig down and eat the seeds before they grow out. This has complicated the work of farming Sunflower," she said.

But this week, Tanzania agriculture research institute (TARI) gave the farmers good news. The research institute announced that in order to quench the farmers' thirst for the new improved Sun flower seeds, it is working out on the new improved Sunflower seeds which have high yielding potential, high oil content and resistant to pests and diseases.

Sunflower national coordinator at TARI Ilonga centre, Frank Reuben named the new seeds as TARI-ILO 2019 and TARI-NAL 2019 that takes only one hundred days to harvest.

He said the seeds will also increase production of edible oil in the country. He said it is a collaborative work of TARI Ilonga and TARI Naliendele respectively.

The improved seeds will be given to the seed agencies and seed companies under the public private partnership for production of certified seeds for the farmers.

"Sun flower farmers should now get ready for the new improved seed varieties. The seeds should be ready starting July this year. "These seeds are new and the aim of preparing these seeds is to take over the long serving seeds, the record," said Reuben.

"Here we have also decided to intercrop sun flower and oil palm for the purpose of teaching the farmers so that they can know that while we are waiting for three years to harvest the oil palm, the farmers can also utilize the same land to cultivate other crops that may enable them to recover the investment cost," he said.

Coordinator for research and innovation Meshark Makenge said the initiative will contribute to sustainable edible oil sufficiency in Tanzania. He said in Tanzania, the annual demand for edible oil is estimated to be 570,000 metric tonnes. Currently, the country production capacity for edible oil is only 205,000 metric tonnes; much of it originates from sunflower crop while other crops like groundnuts, sesame and palm oil have a minimal contribution. The remaining gap of 365,000 metric tonnes, in most cases, is corrected by imports from neighbouring countries.

To address the problem of edible oil shortage in the country, TARI Ilonga research and innovation is trying to come up with the improved seed varieties that will increase production and productivity.

TARI director general Dr. Geoffrey Mkamilo said that the government has issued money to conduct research and production of improved seeds.

"Here at TARI Ilonga, there will be 300 acres and other 100 acres at TARI Uyole in Mbeya, all aims at producing improved seeds," he said.

"If other factors will remain constant including weather conditions, we expect to produce more than 100 metric tones for the farmers of this country in the coming agricultural season. The Ministry of agriculture is always emphasizing on research and production of improved seeds," he said.

He urged researchers to work hard so that the Ministry's goal of producing sufficient improved seeds varieties of different crops can easily be achieved.

Meanwhile, TARI Ilonga has established a big number of Sorghum, finger millet, and other crop varieties which are being developed and are in different stages of evaluation.

Agriculture researcher Ismail Ngolinda said that all varieties are being tested to see if they have high yielding, tolerant to moderate drought and some other climatic challenges. The evaluation will also determine if they are resistant to pests and diseases.

TARI Ilonga has the mandate to conduct and coordinate crops research on cereals: low and medium altitude maize, sorghum and millets, grain legumes: cowpea, green gram, pigeon pea, soya bean, chickpea, and bambara nuts. Others are oilseed crops such as Sunflower and post-harvest technologies.



Agricultural research officer Frank Reuben showing breeder seeds at TARI Ilonga. Photo:Correspondent Gerald Kitabu



# South Africa needs a national education strategy to tackle the school dropout crisis

By Tamsin Metelerkamp

**E**VEN before the onset of the Covid-19 pandemic, South Africa was facing a crisis in the form of school dropout, with around four out of 10 learners who started school in grade one dropping out before reaching matric. The phenomenon has become normalised in many communities, the shrinking of classes between grades 8 and 12 an accepted reality.

This, said Rahima Essop, head of communications and advocacy for the Zero Dropout Campaign, is why it is important to make those learners who are disappearing from the schooling system visible. There is a need for discourse around the impact of dropout rates, not only on the student, their family and community, but on society as a whole.

"[Zero Dropout Campaign wants] to change perceptions about causes of learning dropout, so that we can collectively focus our attention on preempting and preventing dropout," said Essop. "We can do that by instituting what we call early warning systems, and also by strengthening our psychosocial support interventions at schools."

Essop was speaking at a panel on education, titled "Back to School: A challenging reality to vulnerable South Africans", at the Constitution Hill Human Rights Festival on Saturday, 19 March. The discussion brought together members of civil society in exploring the strategies and solutions that can be employed to ensure protections of learners' constitutionally guaranteed right to education.

Other speakers on the panel included Dr Andile Dube, education specialist for the United Nations Children's Fund; Atila Dag, co-founder and director general of the Universal Rights Association; Kgomotso Kgasi, head of Equal Education in Gauteng; Dr Nedson Pop-

hiwa, senior lecturer at Wits School of Governance; Gretchen Wilson-Prangley, founder and CEO of Play Africa; and Dr Kagiso "TK" Pooe, senior lecturer focusing on public policy themes at Wits School of Governance.

Dropout should be approached from a place of empathy and understanding, rather than a culture of blaming and shaming affected learners, said Essop.

"Dropout doesn't happen overnight. It follows a long process of disengagement in which a learner is pushed or pulled away from school because of factors at home, at school or in their communities," she explained.

In 2021, Essop, along with a number of education researchers and activist groups, wrote a letter to the Department of Basic Education calling for a national coordinated dropout prevention plan. This was after seeing the harmful impact of the Covid-19 pandemic and the learning losses affecting learners - particularly those in lower quintile schools.

The Wave 5 National Income Dynamics Study Coronavirus Rapid Mobile Survey, issued on 8 July 2021, gave "conservative assumptions" that 650,000 to 750,000 children aged 7 to 17 years old were not attending school by May of that year. Compared to "normal" times, this showed that the number of absent learners had increased by about 400,000 to 500,000, and attendance rates had declined from 98% to between 93.4 and 94.2%.

During the webinar, Dube spoke on how the Covid-19 pandemic had highlighted inequalities within the education system, with quintile one, two and three learners struggling to access learning from home, while quintile four and five learners were able to maintain their education through alternative methods such as online platforms, tutors or supportive structures within the home.



Matric exam chairs in an empty school hall on January 12, 2021 in Durban, South Africa. Often, the decision to drop out from school by a pupil comes at the end of a long process of disengagement. (Photo: Gallo Images/Darren Stewart)

For the majority of lower income children, a quality education is the only way for them to break out of the cycle of poverty, said Dube.

"We... know that performance and quality are not going to be attained unless we have environments [that are] conducive. By conducive, we mean infrastructure, we mean care and support, we mean mental health, receiving good nutrition, we mean being protected, we mean safety in the schooling system," she continued.

### Improving school culture

Improving school culture is a large part of

preventing dropout. There is a need to create welcoming, stimulating and safe environments for all learners, where they feel they can be curious, said Essop.

"The ideal school space is one where learners have access to not only meals, but also psychosocial support, as well as sexual and reproductive health services. Ideal spaces are free from bullies and physical violence," she explained.

Some learners come from homes where they are exposed to neglect or abuse. In these instances, similar treatment in schools - either through formal action or bullying - can trigger them. This creates a school culture in which learners, and particularly boys, anticipate harm and feel physically unsafe at school, said Essop.

The "right type" of data collection about learners can be instrumental in triggering appropriate support systems to prevent dropout. "That's what we mean when we talk about early warning systems, and we build these early warning systems in schools, but we also need to capacitate schools in having [these] systems that can... alert educators that a learner is struggling, academically or emotionally."

Kgasi pointed out that there is also a need to provide the "basics" in many schools, such as textbooks and infrastructure. With most schools severely under-resourced, and most learners attending low fee-paying schools, there is an inherent dependence on government for the quality of education.

"I do think that government needs to come to the party... to try and bridge that gap," said Kgasi.

However, communities should also play a role in supporting the education system, according to Pooe. Where school-age children are on the street during school hours, community members should take a proactive approach in questioning why they are not in class. This, he argued, is not something the education department can address.

"Dropout impacts everyone and everyone can be part of the solution," said Essop. "There are practical things that we all [can]

do every day, and there are things that need to happen at the national level."

Among the suggestions Essop made for instituting such everyday practical measures were having suggestion boxes at schools - thus encouraging learners to be active participants in their education - and inviting parents to volunteer at schools in a way that fosters engagement.

### Data collection for change

In order to create change within the education system, there needs to be a systemic way of monitoring and evaluating that change, said Pophiwa. Through the collection of data, resources can be used more efficiently and time can be saved on those campaigns that do not suit particular contexts.

Pophiwa made the example of communities in which there is a high rate of school non-attendance among girls, due to fathers who do not believe it is important for girls to matriculate. Under these circumstances, introducing buses to transport children to school is not going to improve the attendance rate among girls, as they will not board the buses due to their fathers' beliefs.

Establishing the demographics of students is vital, confirmed Pooe. If there is no understanding of what a certain population looks like and what "makes them tick", no amount of resources provided is going to help them, he said.

"It's about [the national and provincial education departments] listening to the learners and not just implementing plans that... the experts say, 'This is going to work,'" said Kgasi, in response to Maverick Citizen's question on how to create multilevel educational reform. "So, it's about talking to the learners and hearing what they have to say, what they want to see first."

Through Equal Education's engagements with learners in communities, Kgasi has found that young people are eager to learn about democratic processes and their rights. She describes them as "energised" and "excited", seeking ways to create change themselves.

"It's beautiful, the kids want this education, they're hungry for this education," she said.

"For me, it's also quite sad that they have to be in this position where they have to fight for a thing that is provided for in the Constitution, as an immediately realisable right. That the urgency isn't felt in the same ways by the structures that are responsible for this part of [the] work." MC

THE GUARDIAN SIMPLE WORD FIT // THE GUARDIAN CROSSWORD --00 249 00--

In this Puzzle you have no clues, only a list of words that all fit into the grid. The Guardian have given you a head start

**WORD-FIT**

3 letters RAT, EAT, BYE  
 4 letters MERE, MENU, OSLO, OMAN, REIN, HATE, MEED, ORES, BULL, AMPERE, RACHIS, DINER, NOBLE  
 5 letters BUCKET, PLENARY, SOMALIA, TEASED  
 6 letters BROWSER, BULGARE, OMADHAUN  
 7 letters EMINENCE, DYNAMITE  
 8 letters CALAMITY,

**CROSSWORD**

**CLUES: Across**  
 1 to reprimand  
 5 sex that fertilizes the ovum  
 6 unkind, cruel  
 9 Overpopulated country in Africa  
 13 Animal of Australia  
 14 to stay  
 16 coloured tropical freshwater fish  
 17 barrier constructed to hold back water  
 19 stopped, ceased  
 20 small flat cake  
 22 highest point  
 19 used as an expression of pain  
 21 antelopes

**Down:**  
 1 Italy's Capital  
 2 bed cover  
 3 infidel  
 4 human beings  
 7 Niger's capital  
 8 chain around a prisoner's ankle as a restraint  
 10 insect which sucks  
 11 an Indian actor  
 12 barbary sheep  
 15 friendly and sociable with fellow members not outsiders  
 17 dues  
 18 a walking stick  
 19 used as an expression of pain  
 21 large tailless primate

**SOLUTIONS**

WORD-FIT: RIVER, ENTER, MOUSE, DEER, ALAN, LEO, INTERACTING, LIMAMA, ERVES, KARATE, ASINEEDY, LEAVES, RSES, LYES, DOMESTICATE, SPAIN, TRIBES, KADGASIN, MODERN, SOWER, BREAK, DENUN, DENY, PLUNGE, OLE, OSLO, OSCAPPELLS, MUSCATERA

CROSSWORD: 1. REPRIMAND, 2. BEDCOVER, 3. INFIDEL, 4. HUMANS, 5. OVUM, 6. CRUEL, 7. NIGER, 8. SHACKLES, 9. ETHIOPIA, 10. TICKET, 11. AKHIL AKHAY, 12. BARBARY SHEEP, 13. KANGAROO, 14. STAY, 15. SOCIABLE, 16. SALMON, 17. DAM, 18. TIPS, 19. GRIEF, 20. CRACKER, 21. GIBBON, 22. PEAK

By Magezi. 0755429240 telxmagazi@gmail.com

**RADIO One** **RATIBA YA VIPINDI** **JUMATATU - JUMAPILI**

MONDAY TIME PROGRAMME	TUESDAY TIME PROGRAMME	WEDNESDAY TIME PROGRAMME	THURSDAY TIME PROGRAMME	FRIDAY TIME PROGRAMME	SATURDAY TIME PROGRAMME	SUNDAY TIME PROGRAMME
05:00 AM HALI YA HEWA / KUMEPAMBAZUKA I 06:00 AM AMKA NA BBC 06:30 AM NIPASHE 06:50 AM MATANGAZO 07:00 AM NEWS BULLETIN 07:10 AM MATANGAZO 07:15 AM TAARIFA ZA BARABARANI 07:25 AM UDONDOZI WA MAGAZETI 07:40 AM KUMEPAMBAZUKA II 08:00 AM HABARI NYEPESI 08:10 AM HABARI ZA BIASHARA 09:00 AM MATANGAZO 09:20 AM BRAND TALK 10:00 AM NEWS BRIEF 10:03 AM DEATH ANNOUNCEMENTS 10:10 AM YALIVOMO YAMO 13:00 HRS NEWS BULLETIN 13:30 HRS DJ SHOW 16:00 HRS NEWS BRIEF 16:03 HRS DEATH ANNOUNCEMENTS 16:30 HRS HOJA YA LEO 18:30 HRS DIRA YA DUNIA BBC 20:10 HRS RADIO ONE DOCTOR 21:00 HRS NEWS BRIEF 21:05 HRS AFRO TIZI 23:00 HRS NEWS BRIEF 23:03 HRS AFRO TIZI 01:00-05:00HRS MUZIKI (MCHANGANYIKO)	05:00 AM HALI YA HEWA / KUMEPAMBAZUKA I 06:00 AM AMKA NA BBC 06:30 AM NIPASHE 06:50 AM MATANGAZO 07:00 AM NEWS BULLETIN 07:10 AM MATANGAZO 07:15 AM TAARIFA ZA BARABARANI 07:25 AM UDONDOZI WA MAGAZETI 07:40 AM KUMEPAMBAZUKA II 08:00 AM HABARI NYEPESI 08:10 AM HABARI ZA BIASHARA 09:00 AM MATANGAZO 09:20 AM BRAND TALK 10:00 AM NEWS BRIEF 10:03 AM DEATH ANNOUNCEMENTS 10:10 AM YALIVOMO YAMO 13:00 HRS NEWS BULLETIN 13:30 HRS DJ SHOW 16:00 HRS NEWS BRIEF 16:03 HRS DEATH ANNOUNCEMENTS 16:30 HRS HOJA YA LEO 18:30 HRS DIRA YA DUNIA BBC 20:10 HRS RADIO ONE DOCTOR 21:00 HRS NEWS BRIEF 21:05 HRS AFRO TIZI 23:00 HRS NEWS BRIEF 23:03 HRS AFRO TIZI 01:00-05:00HRS MUZIKI (MCHANGANYIKO)	05:00 AM HALI YA HEWA / KUMEPAMBAZUKA I 06:00 AM AMKA NA BBC 06:30 AM NIPASHE 06:50 AM MATANGAZO 07:00 AM NEWS BULLETIN 07:10 AM MATANGAZO 07:15 AM TAARIFA ZA BARABARANI 07:25 AM UDONDOZI WA MAGAZETI 07:40 AM KUMEPAMBAZUKA II 08:00 AM HABARI NYEPESI 08:10 AM HABARI ZA BIASHARA 09:00 AM MATANGAZO 09:20 AM BRAND TALK 10:00 AM NEWS BRIEF 10:03 AM DEATH ANNOUNCEMENTS 10:10 AM YALIVOMO YAMO 13:00 HRS NEWS BULLETIN 13:30 HRS DJ SHOW 16:00 HRS NEWS BRIEF 16:03 HRS DEATH ANNOUNCEMENTS 16:30 HRS HOJA YA LEO 18:30 HRS DIRA YA DUNIA BBC 20:10 HRS RADIO ONE DOCTOR 21:00 HRS NEWS BRIEF 21:05 HRS AFRO TIZI 23:00 HRS NEWS BRIEF 23:03 HRS AFRO TIZI 01:00-05:00HRS MUZIKI (MCHANGANYIKO)	05:00 AM HALI YA HEWA / KUMEPAMBAZUKA I 06:00 AM AMKA NA BBC 06:30 AM NIPASHE 06:50 AM MATANGAZO 07:00 AM NEWS BULLETIN 07:10 AM MATANGAZO 07:15 AM TAARIFA ZA BARABARANI 07:25 AM UDONDOZI WA MAGAZETI 07:40 AM KUMEPAMBAZUKA II 08:00 AM HABARI NYEPESI 08:10 AM HABARI ZA BIASHARA 09:00 AM MATANGAZO 09:20 AM BRAND TALK 10:00 AM NEWS BRIEF 10:03 AM DEATH ANNOUNCEMENTS 10:10 AM YALIVOMO YAMO 13:00 HRS NEWS BULLETIN 13:30 HRS DJ SHOW 16:00 HRS NEWS BRIEF 16:03 HRS DEATH ANNOUNCEMENTS 16:30 HRS HOJA YA LEO 18:30 HRS DIRA YA DUNIA BBC 20:10 HRS RADIO ONE DOCTOR 21:00 HRS NEWS BRIEF 21:05 HRS AFRO TIZI 23:00 HRS NEWS BRIEF 23:03 HRS AFRO TIZI 01:00-05:00HRS MUZIKI (MCHANGANYIKO)	05:00 AM HALI YA HEWA / KUMEPAMBAZUKA I 06:00 AM AMKA NA BBC 06:30 AM NIPASHE 06:50 AM MATANGAZO 07:00 AM NEWS BULLETIN 07:10 AM MATANGAZO 07:15 AM TAARIFA ZA BARABARANI 07:25 AM UDONDOZI WA MAGAZETI 07:40 AM KUMEPAMBAZUKA II 08:00 AM HABARI NYEPESI 08:10 AM HABARI ZA BIASHARA 09:00 AM MATANGAZO 09:20 AM BRAND TALK 10:00 AM NEWS BRIEF 10:03 AM DEATH ANNOUNCEMENTS 10:10 AM YALIVOMO YAMO 13:00 HRS NEWS BULLETIN 13:30 HRS DJ SHOW 16:00 HRS NEWS BRIEF 16:03 HRS DEATH ANNOUNCEMENTS 16:30 HRS HOJA YA LEO 18:30 HRS DIRA YA DUNIA BBC 20:10 HRS RADIO ONE DOCTOR 21:00 HRS NEWS BRIEF 21:05 HRS AFRO TIZI 23:00 HRS NEWS BRIEF 23:03 HRS AFRO TIZI 01:00-05:00HRS MUZIKI (MCHANGANYIKO)	05:00 AM HALI YA HEWA / KUMEPAMBAZUKA I 06:00 AM AMKA NA BBC 06:30 AM NIPASHE 06:50 AM MATANGAZO 07:00 AM NEWS BULLETIN 07:10 AM MATANGAZO 07:15 AM TAARIFA ZA BARABARANI 07:25 AM UDONDOZI WA MAGAZETI 07:40 AM KUMEPAMBAZUKA II 08:00 AM HABARI NYEPESI 08:10 AM HABARI ZA BIASHARA 09:00 AM MATANGAZO 09:20 AM BRAND TALK 10:00 AM NEWS BRIEF 10:03 AM DEATH ANNOUNCEMENTS 10:10 AM YALIVOMO YAMO 13:00 HRS NEWS BULLETIN 13:30 HRS DJ SHOW 16:00 HRS NEWS BRIEF 16:03 HRS DEATH ANNOUNCEMENTS 16:30 HRS HOJA YA LEO 18:30 HRS DIRA YA DUNIA BBC 20:10 HRS RADIO ONE DOCTOR 21:00 HRS NEWS BRIEF 21:05 HRS AFRO TIZI 23:00 HRS NEWS BRIEF 23:03 HRS AFRO TIZI 01:00-05:00HRS MUZIKI (MCHANGANYIKO)	05:00 AM HALI YA HEWA / KUMEPAMBAZUKA I 06:00 AM AMKA NA BBC 06:30 AM NIPASHE 06:50 AM MATANGAZO 07:00 AM NEWS BULLETIN 07:10 AM MATANGAZO 07:15 AM TAARIFA ZA BARABARANI 07:25 AM UDONDOZI WA MAGAZETI 07:40 AM KUMEPAMBAZUKA II 08:00 AM HABARI NYEPESI 08:10 AM HABARI ZA BIASHARA 09:00 AM MATANGAZO 09:20 AM BRAND TALK 10:00 AM NEWS BRIEF 10:03 AM DEATH ANNOUNCEMENTS 10:10 AM YALIVOMO YAMO 13:00 HRS NEWS BULLETIN 13:30 HRS DJ SHOW 16:00 HRS NEWS BRIEF 16:03 HRS DEATH ANNOUNCEMENTS 16:30 HRS HOJA YA LEO 18:30 HRS DIRA YA DUNIA BBC 20:10 HRS RADIO ONE DOCTOR 21:00 HRS NEWS BRIEF 21:05 HRS AFRO TIZI 23:00 HRS NEWS BRIEF 23:03 HRS AFRO TIZI 01:00-05:00HRS MUZIKI (MCHANGANYIKO)

**Tembelea mitandao ya kijamii ya Radio One** **Radio One**





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Cattle pose a challenge on oil palm development in Kigoma

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By Francis Kajubi, Kiteto

## How drought pushed Kiteto District pastoralists into unexpected poverty

At least 50 per cent of pastoralists from Makame village of Kiteto district in Manyara region are struggling with poverty nightmares, after livestock business stability had been affected by the 2021 prolonged drought.

The drought that had severely hit the village between September 2021 and earlier January this year affected livestock health thus pulling down livestock selling prices at the village and district markets, as a result, pastoralists pockets are running empty, Smart Money can report.

Basic needs poverty slightly declined to 25.7 per cent in 2020 from 26.4 per cent in 2018 according to the National Bureau of Statistics but pastoralists say that the poverty rate might depict a different picture in their pockets following the drought impact.

"Drought has really dragged most of us into unexpected poverty. Thousands of our cattle had died while selling a few on loss. A bull that was sold at 600,000/- in April 2021 was sold at 50,000/- in November of the same year," said Isaya Tutala, Makame Village Chairperson.

According to him, a He-goat sold at 100,000/- in April last year was bought at 20,000/- in November 2021 mostly by bulk buyers from

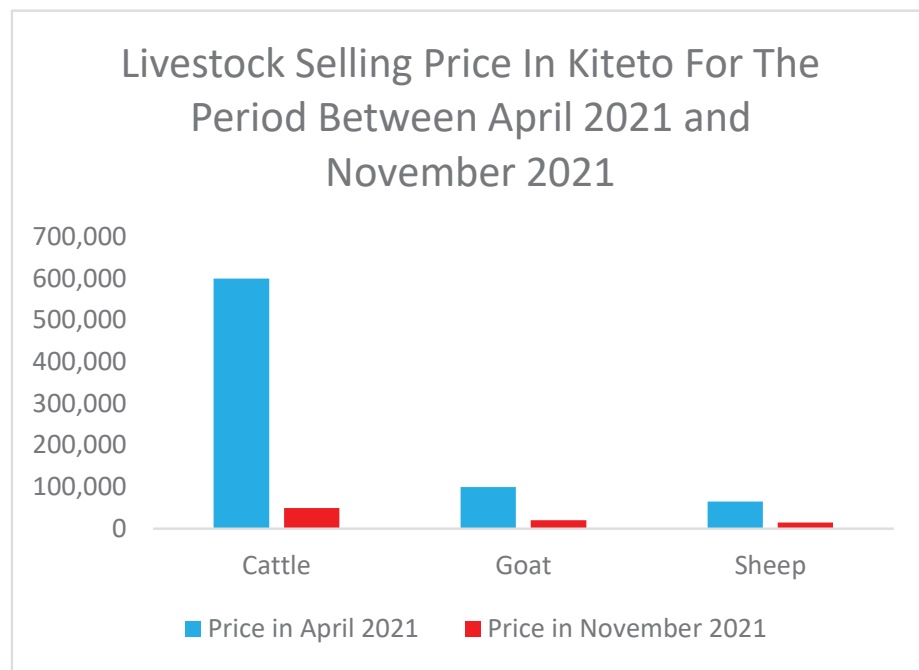
Kondoa district in Dodoma region who supply the cattle and goats to Dar es Salaam city Pugu market. A sheep was sold at 15,000/- from the previous 65,000/- of the same periods.

He said in the village, at least 4,000 cattle, an estimate of 2,000 goats and 1,700 sheep died from the drought implications.

"I had kept 70 cattle of which 40 died from drought, I sold five of them at between 50,000/- and 60,000/- and have remained with only 25," asserted Tutala.

Isaya Ole-Kilae, Makame Ward Councilor, told Smart Money that drought has forced pastoralists to feed their cattle with dry maize, an attempt that prompted hunger threats to humans in his authority territory.

"There was no livestock feed at all. One had to sell two bulls to secure a 100kg of maize sack worth 95,000/- to feed 25 cattle a day. One cattle feeds an average of four kilos a day. This is not enough for the cattle's health. Purchasing price for a 100kg sack of maize had piled up to 95,000/- in November 2021 from 45,000/- in April 2021," said Ole-Kilae.



Graph on livestock prices variation between April and November 2021.

According to him, after rains had started in February this year, the purchasing price for the 100kg sack of maize has slowed down to between 78,000 and 83,000/-. He said a goat and a sheep each had to feed one kilogram of maize a day.

"As of earlier March this year, a cattle sold at 50,000/- in November last year can be marketed at a price of

between 150,000/- and 200,000/-. I personally lost not less than 200 cattle from 750 I used to keep. Hundreds of calves had died because their mothers' lucked feeds thus affected milk production," said Ole-Kilae.

A he-goat sold at 20,000/- last November is now sold at 15,000/- and a sheep sold at 15,000/- now buyers can get it at 30,000/-.

He clarified that as of November 2021, a cattle that used to produce three liters of milk back in April 2021, had hardly produced one liter. There is not much difference noticed in milk production as of early this month compared to last November.

Ole-Kilae pleaded to the government to consider long term climate change

adaptation measures in its policies that can offer recovering funds to pastoralists who have been affected by either drought or floods.

Payana Lengima (50) Ndi-kiya Hamlet Chairperson who had 200 cattle is now left with only 30 cattle after 170 had died from drought.

On his part, Noah Sendela (53), Makame village resident who used to keep 10 cattle had lost all of them.

"They all died in the prolonged drought season. I was given the cattle as part of my granddaughter's bride price" he blamed.

According to Tanzania Census data for Population and Housing 2012 by the National Bureau of Statistics (NBS), Manyara region has a population size of 1,425,131. Kiteto District Council has a population of 244, 669 according to the Census.

The Census data show that 42.7 percent of households use unprotected sources of drinking water, piped water (36.8 percent), and other protected sources (20 percent). The data show that 50.1 percent of Manyara region's population build their houses' walls using poles and mud.

28.5 percent use backed bricks, 13.7 percent use Sun dried bricks while 3.6 percent use grass and 2.8 percent use cement bricks. The remaining minor percentage of the population own households use other materials such as stones, timber, Iron sheets and tents.

On households by ownership of assets, 74.8 percent of the population own houses, Hand-hoe (74.1 percent), Land/Farm (70.4 percent), Mobile phone (63.9 percent), Radio (61.6 percent), Bicycle (39.9), Television (15.6 percent) and Motorcycle (5 percent).

The Census data show that 86.8 percent of the region's households in rural areas are involved in livestock keeping and poultry farming while in urban Manyara it is 13.2 percent of the households. Almost 68.5 percent of the households use firewood as a main source of energy for cooking.

Those who use charcoal make 25.7 percent, 2.4 percent use Kerosene, 1.7 percent use electricity, Gas/Industrial (0.9 percent), Biogas (0.04 percent) while the rest minor percentage

use Coal, Animal residuals, Solar energy and Generator.

However, 58.2 percent of the region's households use Kerosene as the main source of energy for lighting. Torch/Rechargeable lamps (14.5 percent), Electricity (21.3 percent), Acetylene lamp (2.7 percent), Firewood (2 percent), Solar energy (1.4 percent), Candles (1.3 percent) while Generator and Biogas used by 0.3 percent of the households.

The Agriculture, Livestock and Fisheries Census for the Agricultural Year 2019/20 by the National Bureau of Statistics (NBS) shows that Tanzania had 33,928,391 Cattle as of August 2020 from 21,400,889 in 2007/08. It has 24,568, 396 Goats that rose from 15,178,315 Goats in 200/08. During the corresponding periods, Tanzania had kept 8,516,990 Sheep from 5,734,158.

In the agricultural year 2019/20, a total of 3.13 billion liters of cow's milk was produced in the country, of which 3.11 billion liters (99.4 percent) were produced by smallholder farmers and 17.8 million liters (0.6 percent) from large farms.

In terms of goat milk production, a total of 25.7 million liters were produced in the country, of which 25.6 million liters came from smallholder farmers and 12,515 liters from large farms.

Continues on Page 14



## 'Agriculture can be game changer for AfCFTA'

By Special Correspondent

WITH the Covid-19-induced recession subsiding as vaccination rates increase, there is great hope for the African Continental Free Trade Area (AfCFTA) to show that it could live up to its hype.

Some progress has been made in the area of trade in manufactured goods, but agricultural trade remains below 20 per cent, the lowest in any region, compared to more than 60 per cent for Europe and Asia.

Africa relies on the export of agricultural produce such as cocoa, coffee, cotton, tobacco and spices to the nations of the world to earn significant foreign exchange.

But the continent imports

important food items, such as cereals, vegetable oil, dairy products and meat, in large quantities.

Total trade among African nations was only two per cent in 2015-2017, compared to 67 per cent in trade among European countries, 61 per cent among Asian countries and 47 per cent among countries in the Americas, according to the UN trade agency, UNCTAD.

The AfCFTA intends to reverse this trend. It has, therefore, created the world's largest free trade area, representing a 1.2 billion consumer market, and wants states to remove tariffs and non-tariffs in order to enhance shipments and services among nations and boost economic growth.

For us, the route towards

free trade raises some serious challenges and issues that need to be addressed by African countries, especially for the agricultural sector, which remains a key sector for employment and overall economic development.

Countries and companies face major hurdles, such as addressing incompatible rules of origin and food safety and labelling requirements, and must overcome poor infrastructure, such as telecommunications and road networks, and the need for quality market information.

To overcome these challenges, countries, including Ghana, need to strengthen their national food production capacities and linkages to regional markets in order to

boost regional trade.

The Daily Graphic suggests that African governments must also craft policies and programmes that will make the private sector inject new investments, add value to commodities, compete with imports and create jobs.

Enabling a robust private sector is an important early step because small-to-medium enterprises are vital partners in the structural transformation of agriculture and food systems in Africa.

Governments need to build buyer-supplier networks, connecting small and medium producers, including Ghana, need to strengthen their national food production capacities and linkages to regional markets in order to

We must work to build and integrate trade and market information systems at all levels of the agricultural value chain to ensure inclusive agri-food systems.

Again, for the AfCFTA to reach its full potential by exploiting the full range of the agri-food value chain, including agro-processing, governments and development partners need to step up efforts to scale up intra-African trade by providing policy and capacity-building support for the private sector, programme development, knowledge management and data collection and analysis.

The AfCFTA has shown positive signs that give hope for a future when African trade rises as the global game-changer it is promised to be.

## KCB adds 1,013 members after purchase of Rwandan lender

NAIROBI

KCB Group added 1,013 employees to its payroll last year following its acquisition of a controlling 62.06 percent stake in Banque Populaire du Rwanda Plc (BPR).

The transaction, which made BPR a subsidiary of KCB, raised the workforce of the Kenyan banking multinational to 8,538 in the year ended December. KCB's staff count stood at 7,525 in the previous year.

The institution is now the biggest employer among Kenyan lenders by staff count.

The increase in the number of employees saw the bank's staff costs rise 21 percent to Sh24.7 billion in the review period compared to Sh20.4 billion a year earlier. The jump in payroll expenses inflated the bank's overall costs.

"Costs went up by 11.9 percent to Sh47.8 billion from Sh42.8 billion on account of an increase in staff and organisational costs, consolidation of BPR, and inflationary adjustments across the group," KCB said in a statement.

The rise in costs was counterbalanced by higher income, a move that saw the bank report a record net income of Sh34 billion. Its cost-to-income ratio, a measure of efficiency, improved to 44 percent from 45 percent in 2020.

KCB acquired BPR as part of its growth and diversification strategy. The 62.06 percent

stake was bought from London-based Atlas Mara Limited at a cost of \$35.85 million (4.1 billion) including deferred compensation.

KCB intends to fully acquire BPR with an outstanding offer to the institution's minority shareholders. BPR made a profit before tax of Sh476 million last year, contributing to the parent company's overall earnings.

KCB says it will soon merge BPR with its other subsidiary in that market - KCB Bank Rwanda - in a move that will enhance efficiencies and build scale.

Bank mergers typically result in the review and rationalisation of branch networks and head office operations, among others.

KCB is among the country's big banks that are expanding aggressively in the regional market, seeking diversification and growth in neighbouring countries where the uptake of banking services is lower compared to Kenya.

The home-grown lenders, however, still derive most of their earnings from the local market but their foreign subsidiaries' contribution to consolidated earnings has been on the rise.

KCB says it is currently eyeing the Democratic Republic of Congo market after ending its pursuit of BancABC Tanzania, which is owned by Atlas Mara. The parties called off the Tanzanian deal after facing unspecified regulatory hurdles.





A herd of cattle on a livestock market. Drought has affected their health thus pulling down their selling prices.

## How drought pushed Kiteto District pastoralists into unexpected poverty

Continued from Page 13

Mbaraka Batenga, Kiteto District Commissioner said that as of February this year, the district has registered a total population of 500,000 Cattle, 480,000 Goats and 370,000 Sheep.

"My office has already identified specific areas for growing alternative grasses for grazing. These areas are Olangapa, Napalai, Aole and Kimbo found in different wards of the district. Discussions are ongoing between my office and the district Councilors Council to engage the private sector in programmes that will equip communities on good and sustainable land use practices," said Batenga.

According to him, the district pastoralists have lost an estimated 25,000 cattle during the period of between September 2021 and early January this year.

"Such severe drought also occurred in 2017. We had through 2021 scrambled for water against wild animals from the Makame WMA. Villagers' maize farms were invaded by Buffaloes and Elephants searching for something to eat," said Maria Lucas (30) Makame village resident.

According to her, searching water for household had forced women to walk up to 40 kilometers going and back to fetch the utility in far villages.

"We had to spend not less than eight hours going long distances for water. It really affected our health and strength" adds Maria.

Deputy Minister of Live-

stock and Fisheries, Abdallah Ulega told this paper that the government has already provided 130 billion/- since mid-January 2022 for construction of new water infrastructure and rehabilitation of old dams in Kiteto as one of its initiatives towards climate change effects mitigation.

He admitted that the 2021 prolonged drought has resulted in a big loss to pastoralists due to cattle deaths. For now, pastoralists plead to the government to allow them to use pastures in the buffer zone areas but the minister advises them to adopt sustainable ways of using pasture instead of decimating one area and moving to another.

"My advice to pastoralists across the country is that they should start planting warm-season grasses and consider saving some of that hay in case of drought. As we speak over 30,000 cattle are at risk of dying from drought;

However, I have instructed the Vikuge Pasture Seed Farm Institute in Kibaha district, Pwani region to extend its Juncao grass production technology countrywide by training pastoralists to ensure livestock feeds availability at these times when many parts of the world are hit by climate change effects leading to severe drought," he clarified.

Professor Lin Zhanxi of China's Fujian Agriculture and Forestry University pioneered the technology in the 1980s, and it has since been shared with over 100 countries worldwide

including Tanzania.

Jeremiah Wambura, National Chairman of Pastoralists said "Not only Kiteto pastoralists who suffered the drought fate, about 62,585 livestock have died in the neighboring district of Simanjiro".

According to the weather report released by Tanzania Meteorological Authority (TMA) on March 3, 2022, Tanzania saw the highest temperatures last year. The report on the status of climate in the country for last year, shows that the average temperature was higher than the long-term average for all months.

"In 2021, there was above average temperature of 0.5 degrees Celsius, which is above the long-term mean temperatures recorded between 1981 and 2010," reads the report.

The report notes that the year saw the country experience extreme weather events, mainly prolonged dry spells, strong winds and high temperatures, which significantly threatened livelihoods.

"The country was generally dry over most of the bimodal areas, especially during the October to December 2021 rainy season owing to insufficient rainfall observed over many parts of the country," it reads.

"A large number of the highest daily maximum temperatures exceeding 35 degrees Celsius occurred in November 2021 across different parts of the country," the report said.

The TMA report states that drought started in October 2021 with

November being the driest month in the year as it ranks it as the driest such month since 1970. In terms of annual rainfall records, 2021 emerged the fourth driest on record since 1970 after 2003 (first driest), 2012 (second driest) and 2005 (third driest).

In particular, November and December were the warmest months of the year, with November breaking the record in historical observational perspective and December the third warmest on record since 1970. However, TMA has not yet declared the drought to be over.

ABOUT MAKAME VILLAGE

IT takes three hours for one to ply by a van from Kiteto Town District Council in Northern Tanzania to Makame located 110 kilometers away.

Stretching almost 331,171 acres of open woodland, shrub land, Makame is one of the 27 divisions that form Manyara region.

Makame is a division which is formed by five wards namely Irkuishbor, Katikati, Makame, Ndedo and Ngabolo. The whole division comprises 19 villages. Makame ward which also comprises of Makame village is the largest, covering 137,000 acres.

Rain had stopped since early April 2021 thus put the semi-arid area into a severe drought that left ponds going dry. On top of it, the vegetation went dry leading to scarcity of grasses for grazing by livestock.

## Toyota dealer to invest Sh572m in new facilities

NAIROBI

TOYOTA dealer CFAO Motors Kenya Limited plans to invest \$5 million (Sh572 million) in setting up a new showroom in Kisumu and a body shop in Nairobi.

The company says the works on the Kisumu branch, which will feature a new showroom, parts and service centre, will start on April 1. The construction is expected to be completed in one year.

The facility that will be located next to Mega City Mall along the busy Nairobi-Kisumu highway road will sit on a four-acre piece of land. The facility, which is expected to employ 70 workers directly, will serve the company's customers in western Kenya including surrounding areas of Muhoroni, Siaya, Maseno as well as Kakamega.

"We are setting up a state-of-the-art branch in Kisumu so that we can offer better service to our



A Toyota Kenya showroom in Nairobi.

clients around the Western Kenya region," said Arvinder Reel, the managing director of CFAO Motors Kenya Limited in an interview last week.

"We actually have a branch in Kisumu but on rented space. We are therefore planning to vacate the space into our own premise once works on the project is complete."

He said that part of the investment will also go into establishing a new vehicle body shop in Nairobi. The facility will undertake repair of vehicles and is expected to be up and running in The firm already runs a body shop in Nairobi although it does not meet international standards.

"Making that investment in an

election year tells you that we have the confidence in our business going forward," said CFAO Motors Kenya chairman Dennis Awori.

The dealer is the biggest seller of new cars in the country, dealing in a variety of its namesake models including Land Cruiser, Fortuner and Rav 4.

Besides its namesake passenger car, vans and utility models, Toyota also sells Hino trucks.

The firm is among the formal dealers that recorded higher sales last year as the industry recovered from the depths plumbed in 2020 as a result of the fallout from the Covid-19 pandemic.

New motor vehicle dealers sold 14,250 units last year, marking a six-year high and a 29.8 per cent rise from 10,977 units sold in 2020, according to data from the Kenya Motor Vehicle Industry Association (KMI).

## Adhere to laws, Ezyepesa agents in Pemba advised

By Smart Money Correspondent

EZYEPESA agents in Pemba have been urged to make sure they adhere to laws when providing mobile financial services to avoid unnecessary problems as well as improve the quality of services to customers.

Zanzibar Telecoms Limited (Zantel)'s Mobile Financial Services Risk Manager, Bernadeta Israel made the call here recently when presenting a paper on money laundering and fraud to Ezyepesa agents in Pemba during the Ezyepesa Forum that aimed at upskilling them on various issues on mobile money laws.

She said many money laundering cases have been happening among mobile money service providers thus the need to make sure they abide by the laws and

regulations to minimize risks.

"Nowadays, some customers receive fraudulent messages telling them to send money to a certain new number, which they do not know, that is a criminal act indication hence needs to be reported to Zantel via the Customer Service call Centre number 100 or send a free message to report to 15040," she said.

She insisted that it is important for customers to show their identity including their National ID prior to getting service to reduce potential risks.

Speaking of revenues, she pointed out that some of the agents have been cheating customers by charging extra money during the transaction process, which is illegal.

Zantel Ezyepesa Officer, Eunice Alelyo said the com-

pany's long-term goal is to improve service delivery by improving infrastructures that will boost economic activities and ultimately speed up the company's support in national development.

"Lipa kwa Simu service is one of the new and easiest ways to make payments. These services offer more freedom to merchants and reduce the risks as they no longer need to walk with cash," she said.

Zantel Head of Mobile Financial Services, Moses Alphonse said the aim of the workshop is to remind each other on the procedures and regulations when providing Ezyepesa services.

The agents, however, requested Zantel to rethink its services to favor the needs and economic status of the customers including Voice, SMS, and Internet packages.



Zantel's Head of Mobile Financial Services, Moses Alphonse, speaks at the Pemba event. Photo: Guardian correspondent

## 'Farmers who use certified seeds get substantially greater yields'

By Smart Money Reporter

FARMS that are planted with certified cassava stems sourced from cassava seed entrepreneurs produce on average nearly 40 percent more than fields planted with farmer-saved seeds (uncertified), according to a recent research conducted by cassava seed system team.

The team consists of experts from International Institute of Tropical Agriculture (IITA), Tanzania Agriculture Research Institute (TARI) and other partners in Tanzania.

The study found that farmers who used certified seeds got substantially greater yields than farmers who used recycled seeds (uncertified). It showed that a farmer can get an additional of seven tonnes per hectare only by using the certified cassava stems. Rudolph Shirima, a Plant Virologist at IITA Tanzania who is part of the research team said: "In the Eastern Zone, farmers who had planted certified seed got 34 percent greater yields than those who had planted recycled seed of the same variety."

In the Lake Zone, the difference was even greater, and yields of the Mkombozi from certified seed were 42 percent more than those who had used recycled seed of the same variety."

He said the research team measured cassava yields in the fields of 36 farmers in the Eastern Zone (growing variety Kiroba) and 36 farmers in the Lake Zone (growing variety Mkombozi). In each zone, half of the farmers had used recycled

seed (uncertified) and half had used certified seed for comparison.

Moreover, Shirima explained that these yield increases translate to profit gains per hectare of 1,030,600/- (US\$445) for Kiroba and 678,600/- (US\$293) for Mkombozi.

He said these studies reveal the importance of quality planting material, the value of planting material certification, and the necessity for farmers to purchase certified cassava planting material to avoid yield losses and the associated threats to food insecurity.

"As healthy cassava planting material flows through the steadily expanding modernized seed system in Tanzania, millions of smallholder farmers stand to benefit from improved yields and new income generation opportunities.

This will have a vital positive impact on food security, and underlines how Tanzania is taking great strides in transforming its agricultural economy through the development of the cassava sub-sector," he noted.

Cassava is one of the crops that are powering the engine of agricultural development in Tanzania. In the latest breakthrough, 'certified seed' (certified planting material) produced by smallholder seed producers has been shown to deliver huge yield benefits to farmers, helping them to produce more food as well as increase their incomes.

In Tanzania, cassava is consumed daily in different forms, including roasted,

fried, and boiled roots, and porridge prepared from flour. Also, its nutritious leaves are highly popular as a vegetable.

The crop grows well in almost all parts of the country but is badly affected by two viral diseases: cassava brown streak disease (CBSD) and cassava mosaic disease (CMD), which are spread through infected planting material and by a tiny insect vector-the whitefly.

These diseases cause large reductions in yield and can spoil the roots.

To curb the effects of these diseases, the International Institute of Tropical Agriculture (IITA) in collaboration with Menonite Economic Development Associates (MEDA), the Tanzania Agricultural Research Institute (TARI) and the Tanzania Official Seed Certification Institute (TOSCI) work closely with the Ministry of Agriculture to develop improved disease-resistant varieties and reinforce the development of an economically sustainable seed system.

A key aim is to help farmers get high quality disease-free planting material of the best new varieties.

Cassava seed system development work in Tanzania was supported from 2017-2021 through the Project 'Building and Economically Sustainable Seed System for Cassava in Tanzania' (BEST) and is currently being supported by the 'Building a Sustainable Integrated Cassava Seed System-II' (BASICS-II) Project, both funded through the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation.



# World Water Day: Brewers to assist rural residents to access clean and safe water

By Francis Kajubi

AS the world Marks World Water day today, statistics show that over 2 billion people around the world are living without access to clean and safe water.

Water and sanitation are key aspects of human development. For people with low income, access to water and sanitation is a pre-requisite to achieving a minimum standard of health and to undertake productive activities.

Access to clean and safe water remain a serious problem in many parts of the world and especially in developing countries.

According to data by the Ministry of Water and Irrigation, as of March 2021, access to water in rural areas has reached 72.3 percent from 70.1 percent in 2020. In urban areas, the access has increased to 86 percent from 84 percent in 2020.

In recent years the government and development partners are working hard

to end what has been labelled in some quarters as 'Water Crisis' in order to ensure that clean and safe water is available to all.

Indeed, some organizations and companies, among them Serengeti Breweries Limited (SBL) for instance, have been providing the missing link in commissioning water projects that are now supplying clean and safe water to millions of Tanzanians.

Since 2010, SBL has invested over 1.5 billion/- on 20 boreholes around the country as part of its life-saving Water of Life (WoL) initiative for people in remote villages who must walk kilometers to ponds and perennial rivers to fetch water.

The brewer has worked with other organizations on the majority of these programs through Water of Life (WoL) to ensure that Tanzanians realize access to safe and clean water in some of the most destitute areas.

According to SBL Corporate Relations Director



Serengeti District Commissioner Nurdin Babu (first left) opens water to symbolize official launch of one of the projects funded by Serengeti Breweries Limited in Mochochwe village in Serengeti District, Mara region.

John Wanyancha, the beer-maker sees water as important to the country's future success, a reason why it has always been willing to work with the government and other partners to improve the country's access to safe and clean water.

"SBL has a policy commitment to the well-being of communities in the

country, with Water of Life being one of our four prioritized areas that the company has designated in its mission to give social assistance to increase Tanzanians' social welfare." He said.

Wanyancha asserted that SBL has comparable Water of Life initiatives with one million beneficiaries in the Iringa, Kilimanjaro, Mwanza, Tanga,

Ruvuma, Dar Es Salaam, Coast, and Dodoma areas.

"We had to walk over 6 kilometers to obtain dirty water," said Bhoke Nyamisi, a beneficiary of SBL's water projects from Mochochwe village in Dodoma adding,

"On our way to the ponds had encountered wild animals such as hye-

nas and elephants. We were typically afraid to send our children to school since they frequently arrived late or did not arrive at all - but now that the borehole is complete, we hope we may live a happy life".

In the Manyara region, Jeremiah Mathiya, the Gidagamowd Village Executive Officer (VEO), attested that "The lives of our residents have now changed for the better; our people are healthier now that they are assured of clean and safe water, and most of their time that was spent on searching for water is now spent on economically productive activities."

Before this initiative, women had to trek for more than 15 kilometers to Vindadi Ward to fetch water that villagers though to be clean enough to drink because water from seasonal ponds was too dirty for us to drink," said Mariam Desiri of Gidagamowd hamlet in the vilplage.

Over two million residents have benefited from the Water of Life initiative

to date. The beer manufacturer is ready to assist more citizens in contributing to the government's efforts to provide clean and safe water in the country.

Jumaa Aweso, Minister of Water and Irrigation said that the ministry targets at improving water accessibility in rural areas to 85 percent by the year 2025.

On the other hand, SBL has been working to assist both smallholder and large farmers in improving crop output by purchasing over 15,000 tons of grains such as sorghum, maize, and barley every year from over 400 farmers around the country.

Therefore, achieving this goal will have a knock-on effect on other contemporary and life-threatening issues, such as sanitation, nutrition, health, women's empowerment, and childhood survival, education all of which will have a positive impact on agricultural productivity, labor, and human capital, ultimately accelerating the country's economic growth.

## Vodacom celebrates World Water Day to put a smile on the face of customers

By Smart Money Reporter

THE leading telecommunication company in the local market Vodacom Tanzania Plc is celebrating the National Water Week which is part of the World Water Day with a diverse of success stories from its customers.

Under the theme: "Groundwater, Invisible treasure for sustainable development" Tanzania is celebrating the day with water access in urban areas to have reached 86 percent while in rural areas it stands at 72.3 percent.

Speaking during the commemoration event held yesterday in Dar es Salaam, Vodacom Tanzania M-Pesa Director, Epimack Mbeteni said, "As we all know, the government is determined to ensure that Tanzania becomes digital especially on matters of government utility and bills payments" he said.

According to him, the success goes in line with our purpose to empower our communities to digitalize, to ensure people are able to communicate digi-

tally and are able to give and receive various services digitally.

"Vodacom believes that through M-Pesa, users will be able to make payments that will build on the sustainability of water services. Through M-Pesa, our users will be able to pay for many other government services," he said.

He asserted that M-Pesa enables over 16 million users in the country to pay for their water bills digitally to some 23 water authorities in all regions. These payments that go through M-Pesa amount to 36 billion/- annually.

This is a service, he said, that saves time and reduces inconvenience and so gives time to users and the authorities to engage in other activities. In this way, Vodacom Tanzania assists the country to meet its SDG 6 commitments which requires the government to ensure availability of clean water and sanitation services.

The intent with the observation of this day is to join other countries in the world to evaluate the implementation,

successes, and challenges and also to identify strategies in a bid to improve delivery of clean water as well as environmental conservation and responsive governance of water resources in the country.

For years now Vodacom Tanzania Plc through its CSR arm, The Vodacom Tanzania Foundation (VTF) has been involved in environmental conservation and water source's protection.

This technology company has been at the forefront collaborating with the government to fulfil its SDG 13 commitment that cover's climate action. For example, VTF was a partner in the "Greening Dodoma project" by contributing over 300 million/- and planting over 96,000 trees in various locations in Dodoma City.

Apart from this project, Vodacom Tanzania Foundation has also run different programs on environmental conservation in other regions of Tanzania.

## TBS boss pushes up for more quality medical and pharmaceutical supplies

By Smart Money Reporter

THE Tanzania Bureau of Standards (TBS) has called on Tanzanians to work together to promote the medical and pharmaceutical industry based on quality to win the fight against various diseases.

TBS Director General, Dr Yusuf Ngenya made the call over the weekend when opening a seminar for pharmaceutical industry and medical equipment stakeholders towards celebrating the African Day of Standardisation, which is marked on March 21, each year. TBS is a member of the African Organisation for Standardisation (ARSO).

Dr Ngenya said that this year's theme is "The role of standards in promoting the pharmaceutical and medical equipment industry in Africa" and the idea is to achieve self-reliance and resilience in the fight against Covid-19 and other epidemics in the future.

"This reminds Tanzanians that as a nation to accelerate the management of the medical and pharmaceutical industry in order to combat Covid-19 infection as well as other future epidemics."

"Let us remember that Covid-19 has hit and damaged the country, Africa and the world at large," Dr Ngenya said, adding that the standards are documents that are prepared based on a transparent system, with the participation of various stakeholders.

"So once they have been finalized and approved by the relevant authorities, the standards set out important definitions and principles to consider in product production, service delivery in various communities and performance in various industries including pharmaceuticals and medical devices."

Dr Ngenya said the requirements of the standards focus on facilitating the provision of quality products and services to the community, thus protecting health, safety and the environment and ultimately contributing to the sustainable national economy.

TBS officer responsible for standards, Yona Afrika said that in celebration of Africa Standards Day 2022, the organization has organized various activities including organizing workshops involving stakeholders in various economic sectors and heads of institutions to educate them on standards and management systems such

as ISO 9001, ISO 14001 and others to enabling their Institutions to provide services that meet international standards.

"We've also organized education seminars for officials of the President's Office, Regional Administration and Local Government Tanzania (PORALG) on standards," he said, adding that TBS launched an essay writing competition for higher education students in November, last year, where the winners will be announced on the culmination of the Africa Standards Day celebrations to be held on March 31, this year in Arusha.

According to Afrika, the first winner at the continental level will participate in the opportunity to participate in the ARSO conference in Cameroon in June, 2022.

He said all processes are well organized so that various institutional stakeholders in the country have the opportunity to participate. The seminar was attended by stakeholders from various health institutions including the Ministry of Health, Tanzania Medicines and Medical Devices Authority (TMDA), Medical Stores Department (MSD) and private companies.

## Cattle pose a challenge on oil palm development in Kigoma

By Correspondent Gerald Kitabu

AN influx of pastoralists in Nguruka corridor in Uvinza District, Kigoma Region has caused a number of problems that affects cultivation of oil palm and other crops, farmers have revealed.

A survey of this paper in Nguruka corridor has shown that the area is now a destination to thousands of pastoralists who have now invaded farmers' fields.

The recent development of the oil palm cultivation in the area has resulted in increased output of fibrous wastes derived from harvesting oil palm and replanting of the new improved seedlings of oil palm that are used as animal feeds for pastoralists.

Speaking during TARI's visit of oil palm farmers' groups, the farmers complained that since the invasion, their crops have been destroyed. In fact, they say they are getting a huge loss.

They claimed that no serious legal action has been taken to protect their farm fields, adding, at times the pastoralists threaten to attack them, a situation they alleged could be syndicate involving some village and district leaders who are being bribed by pastoralists.

Patrick Chemagu, a resident of Lugongoni B village, Itebula ward said more than 300 oil palm trees on his farm have been eaten and destroyed by

cattle.

"I reported this to authorities but no action has been taken. This discourages many farmers from continuing with oil palm farming," he lamented.

He said the government's good intention to improve production of the crop in Nguruka may not be reached if the pastoralists are left to continue grazing on the farms.

Itebula Hamlet Chairperson Matatizo Milago admitted the problem saying measures are being taken to control the situation.

Kigoma Regional Agricultural Adviser, Joseph Lubuye said in recent years Nguruka corridor has attracted many pastoralists. He said without finding a solution to the conflicts, it will be difficult to manage and develop the crop.

Uvinza District Commissioner, Halafi Msabaha said the district has been overwhelmed by cattle. The pastoralists are not only invading oil palm crops but other crops like maize.

He accused some village leaders of soliciting bribes from pastoralists to protect them. He said Uvinza and neighbouring districts of Tanganyika, Kaluu and Kasulu have agreed to convene a joint meeting to discuss the problem.

"Pastoralists have also invaded our forest reserves. They are settled and conducting agricultural activities. This is a challenge but we are working out

plans to address it," he said.

"They are all our people. They have an equal contribution to our economy. We held meetings last week with the village leaders and directed them to stop selling land plots. I would like to ask all farmers facing land conflicts to report to my office for appropriate measures," he added.

Earlier, Uvinza District Director, Zainab Mbunda commended TARI saying Uvinza farmers are now aware of the improved seedlings of oil palm tenera variety and they are ready to grow the crop.

She said the district is supporting availability and accessibility of the new Tenera variety seeds and seedlings to reach a wider community. She said when it happens the district has no seedlings, farmers are advised to go and get them at Kwitanga Prison service and Bulimbora National service.

"Our goal is to make sure that we have one million improved seedlings of oil palm. This is our target as the district. We want all farmers to have access to improved seedlings," she said.

She said Uvinza has favourable climate conditions which has attracted many farmers and pastoralists from outside.

"I understand that both economic activities have several opportunities to our people and the district as a whole. They are supposed to live peacefully. We have aside areas for the pastoralists and we have been creating awareness and educating them to adhere to the district directives such as to settle their cattle in areas far from the farmers fields," she said.

Acting Kigoma Regional Administrative Secretary, Ntome Mwalyambi said the region is working on the conflicts by conducting land use plans.

"We understand that all economic sectors of agriculture and livestock are important and all are competing for the little resources. We have been receiving the complaints and we are working out to address the problem," he said.

TARI Director General Dr. Geoffrey Mkamilo advised that there is a need for proper management of the improved seedlings of oil Palm by both farmers and relevant authorities to ensure they are safe.



Hanafi Msabaha, Uvinza District Commissioner.



## WORLD

## Russia rebukes NATO over arming Ukraine

MOSCOW

THE United States and NATO must stop supplying weapons and sending mercenaries to Ukraine, a senior Russian official said on Saturday.

"Weapons and ammunition are supplied by NATO countries. Mercenaries who fill the ranks of (Ukraine's) nationalist battalions are recruited in the countries of the North Atlantic Alliance with the consent of their leadership," Vyacheslav Volodin, chairman of Russia's lower house of parliament, or the Duma, posted on Telegram.

"So when (US President Joe) Biden and his NATO colleagues call for peace, they must first start with themselves. It is their fault that the settlement of the situation in Ukraine, its demilitarization and denazification are being delayed."

If Western countries want peace, they should channel funds not to military supplies, but humanitarian assistance to the Ukrainian people, he said.

His comments come as a Ukrainian official confirmed that the country will receive more weapons from the US.

Ukraine will receive a new shipment of US weapons within days, including Javelin and

Stinger missiles, Ukraine's National Security and Defense Council Secretary Oleksiy Danilov said in a televised interview on Saturday.

"The (weapons) will be on the territory of our country in the nearest future. We are talking about days."

NATO countries have delivered plane loads of weapons shipments to bolster Ukraine's military in recent days.

According to a Reuters report, the US has informally raised with Turkey the unlikely possibility of sending its Russian-made S-400 missile defense systems to Ukraine to help it fight, citing three sources familiar with the matter.

The Turkish authorities have not commented on any US suggestion or proposal relating to the transfer to Ukraine of the S-400 systems, which have been a point of longstanding contention between the two NATO allies.

Turkish foreign ministry officials were not immediately available for comment.

Australia expanded its sanctions against Russia on Sunday by banning all exports of alumina and bauxite and pledged more weapons assistance for Ukraine.

The export ban aims to impact aluminum



Ukrainians gather in a basement, used as a bomb shelter, in Lviv on Saturday. (AP)

production in Russia, which relies on Australia for 20 percent of its alumina.

## 'Unacceptable nature'

On Saturday Russia's President Vladimir Putin, in a phone conversation with Luxembourg's Prime Minister Xavier Bettel, referred to "the unacceptable nature of the military-biological activities of the United States in Ukraine", the Kremlin said in a statement.

Such activities pose a huge danger to both Russia and Europe as a whole, he was quoted as saying.

The two leaders discussed Russia's "military operation" in Ukraine, and Putin talked of missile attacks by Ukrainian security forces on cities in Donbass, the statement said.

Bettel said "no one stands to gain from these clashes; not Russia, not Europe and certainly not Ukraine", according to a statement on the official website of the Luxembourg government.

Bettel briefed Putin on contacts with

leaders of Ukraine and other countries, and Putin outlined his assessments of Russian-Ukrainian peace talks, the statement said.

On Thursday, the Russian Foreign Ministry asked the US to provide all information on the activities of US-linked biological laboratories in Ukraine.

Amid continuing shelling, Ukraine's Deputy Prime Minister Iryna Vereshchuk said on Sunday that seven humanitarian corridors would open on Sunday to enable civilians to leave front line areas.

Ukraine has evacuated 190,000 people from such areas since the conflict began on Feb 24, Vereshchuk said on Saturday, though Ukraine and Russia blame each other for hobbling the process.

Satellite images on Friday from Maxar Technologies showed a long line of cars leaving the southeastern city of Mariupol as people tried to evacuate. Ukraine's President Volodymyr Zelensky said more than 9,000 people had been able to leave the city the previous day.

## EU scrambles to shake off dependence on Russian energy amid Ukraine conflict

BRUSSELS

OIL prices in Europe have been surging since the start of the conflict in Ukraine amid fears that the European Union (EU) may ban the energy imports from Russia, a sign that the proposed embargo will inevitably backfire on its own economy.

This has made the EU more eager to shake off its reliance on Russian energy by proposing new plans to diversify energy supplies and make itself independent from Russian energy.

EU member countries are split over the ban on Russian energy as their dependence on energy imports from Russia varies. On the whole, the EU is heavily reliant on Russian energy, which takes up a significant proportion of the EU's annual imports.

According to the Eurostat, the statistical office of the EU, Russia accounted for more than 40 percent of natural gas and 30 percent of crude oil imported by the EU in 2019.

At an EU leaders' summit in France earlier, Latvia, Poland and Lithuania called for a ban on Russian energy imports, but were bluntly rejected by Germany and some other countries that simply cannot cut off the energy imports from Russia.

"Europe's supply of energy for heating, mobility, electricity and industry currently



Photo taken on March 18, 2022 shows diesel and gasoline prices displayed on a board at a gas station in Frankfurt, Germany. (Photo by Armando Babani/Xinhua)

cannot be secured in any other way," German Chancellor Olaf Scholz said in defending his rejection. Germany's Federal Minister for Economic Affairs and Climate Action Robert Habeck warned of the repercussions of a ban on Russian energy, noting it will cause severe damage to the economy and the society.

In response to rising energy prices in Europe and the current uncertainty in supply,

the EU unveiled on March 8 a plan called REPowerEU aimed at diversifying gas supplies and cutting down on energy imports from Russia.

According to the plan, the EU seeks to make itself independent from Russian fossil fuels well before 2030.

By diversifying gas supplies, speeding up the roll-out of renewable gases and replacing gas in heating and power genera-

tion, the EU tries to reduce its demand for Russian gas by two-thirds before the end of 2022.

European Commission President Ursula von der Leyen later proposed in a message on social media that the EU should phase out Russian fossil fuels by 2027. "We need to act now to mitigate the impact of rising energy prices, diversify our gas supply for next winter and accelerate the clean energy transition," she said.

The energy tussle has already weighed on the European economy by pushing the inflation higher. The euro area recorded a 5.9-percent annual inflation in February, a new all-time high.

According to the Eurostat, the main contributor of the surging inflation was energy price, which climbed a staggering 31.7 percent in February.

As a ceasefire remains elusive in Ukraine, economists predicted that the inflation could go further up in the future.

The European Central Bank already lowered its projection for the economic growth in 2022 to 3.7 percent in the euro area. In a research note, Goldman's Chief European Economist Sven Jari Stehn forecast with his team members that the euro area GDP growth will be slashed by 2.2 percentage points in 2022 if the energy flows from Russia to Europe are cut off completely.

## UN launches project to support internally displaced people in Somalia

MOGADISHU

THE United Nations and its partners on Sunday launched a four-year project to provide durable solutions for people displaced by conflict and climate change in Somalia.

The multi-million project named "Saameynta (impact in Somali)" will achieve durable solutions for more than 75,000 internally displaced persons (IDPs) and vulnerable host communities in Somalia, the UN said in a joint statement issued here in the capital of Somalia.

Adam Abdelmoula, UN Resident and Humanitarian Coordinator for Somalia, said finding durable solutions to protracted displacement in Somalia is desperately needed to enhance the livelihood situation of IDPs and their host communities.

"These IDPs are unlikely to return to their place of origin in the near future since their lands are now arid and unsuitable for farming or pastoralism," Abdelmoula said.

Under the intervention, the UN and its partners will work together with the government to imple-

ment the National Durable Solutions Strategy.

According to the UN, the project also seeks to decrease dependency on humanitarian aid, reduce poverty for thousands of impoverished individuals and promote IDPs integration in cities.

"Humanitarian assistance alone cannot address chronic issues such as mass displacement and recurrent droughts and floods.

That is why durable solutions are a priority for the UN," said Abdelmoula. He said Saameynta's sole approach aims to leverage the values generated by planned

urbanization and investment in order to provide affordable housing, employment opportunities and community assets such as infrastructure, irrigation facilities, markets and other locally identified priorities for communities affected by displacement.

Saameynta will also increase the self-reliance and access to sustainable basic services, including water, shelter, and health services for IDPs residing in the cities of Baidoa, Bossaso and Beletweyne.

According to the UN, there are an estimated 2.9 million IDPs in Somalia due to decades of conflict

and extreme weather events such as droughts and floods. Of these, 2.2 million require urgent humanitarian assistance.

The project will also ensure the full participation of displaced women and girls living in overcrowded sites who continue to face a heightened risk of violence and harassment. Saameynta comes at a crucial time as the displacement situation in the country has been further exacerbated by drought, closure of refugee camps in neighbouring countries and the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic. **Xinhua**

## Spain officially endorses Morocco's autonomy plan for Western Sahara

RABAT

SPANISH Prime Minister Pedro Sanchez has conveyed Spain's official endorsement for Morocco's Autonomy Plan as "the most serious and credible basis" to resolve the dispute over Western Sahara.

Sanchez made the announcement in a message addressed to King Mohammed VI on Friday.

In the message, Sanchez recognized the importance of the Sahara issue for Morocco.

To this end, he stressed that "Spain considers the Moroccan autonomy initiative presented in 2007, as the most serious, realistic, and credible basis for resolving the dispute. Sanchez further described the extensive Moroccan efforts to work within the UN's framework to find a peaceful solution to the decades-old conflict.

Sanchez commented on Spanish-Moroccan relations, saying that the "two countries are inextricably linked by affections, history, geography, interests and a shared friendship," adding that he is "convinced that the destinies of the two peoples are also."

"Our goal is to build a new relationship," Sanchez wrote, adding this would be based on "transparency and permanent communication, mutual respect and the agreements signed by both parties and refraining from any unilateral action, living up to the importance of everything we share."

The Spanish President wrote that his country "will act with the absolute transparency that corresponds to a great friend and ally," likely in relation to mutual trust stemming from the diplomatic rift between the two countries in 2021. "I assure you that Spain will always fulfill its commitments and its word," he wrote in his letter to Morocco's monarch.

The statement from the Spanish government came after a flaring rift between Morocco and Spain. In April 2021, Spain stirred an unprecedented diplomatic relation with Spain after hosting the Polisario Front leader, Brahim Ghali.

Ghali traveled to Spain for hospitalization in secrecy. However, Morocco's intelligence identified his presence in Spain.

Morocco responded to Spain's decision to shelter Ghali without prior notification to Rabat, describing the move as against the partnership and friendship between the two countries.

In response to the breach of trust, Morocco recalled its Ambassador to Spain Karima Benaïch, who still did not return to her post until May 2021.

The crisis started showing signs of easing when the Spanish government sacked Arancha Gonzalez Laya, the former Minister of Foreign Affairs in an attempt to reconcile and restore normalcy to relations with Morocco.

The Spanish government has been also touting its partnership with Morocco, saying that there is fluid contact with the Moroccan government. Celebrating improvement of ties between the two countries, Spain has since vowed to continue to strengthen relations with Morocco and renew its bilateral partnership.

Spain's announcement is another milestone in the three-decade old Sahara dossier, and a blow to Polisario separatists and their supporters.

Earlier this week, the US again indicated that its position on Western Sahara has become official US policy in its latest spending bill.

Biden's administration made the position clear in the latest spending bill which US President Joe Biden signed on Tuesday.

Funds directed to Morocco are briefly mentioned under titles III and IV of the spending bill, with the note: "this Act shall be made available for assistance for Morocco."

The funds appropriated under title III used to be reserved for US funding to "Western Sahara," Morocco's southern provinces.

However, this year's bill only mentions Morocco, a move that constitutes another confirmation of the US administration's position in favor of Morocco's territorial integrity and sovereignty over Western Sahara.



## CPPCC representative lights up hope for patients suffering from rare diseases

"EVERY life is precious and every patient needs meticulous caring," said nurse Du Liqun from Nanning, southwest China's Guangxi Zhuang autonomous region, after learning a medicine that treats spinal muscular atrophy (SMA) entered the country's new medical insurance catalogue in December last year.

Chinese national health insurance negotiator helped cut down the bidding price of the medicine from around 700,000 yuan

(\$110,847) per dose to 33,000 yuan.

Du, who works as the head nurse at the HIV department of the Fourth Hospital of Nanning, is a member of the National Committee of the Chinese People's Political Consultative Conference (CPPCC). How to better ensure the right to life and health of patients suffering from rare diseases has been a focus of her work over the past years.

"Sparse clinical cases and lack

of experiences of treatment result in high frequency of misdiagnoses, missed diagnoses and expensive medication of rare disease patients," Du introduced, and that's why she drafted a proposal on further enhancing medical security for rare disease patients based on her visits to primary-level medical workers, as well as patients and their families.

Surveys found that the society still doesn't have inadequate understanding of rare diseases, Du

told People's Daily, explaining that relevant screenings can reduce the occurrence of rare diseases and their long-term impacts on people's health, as around 80 percent of rare diseases are inherited.

She said prevention measures shall be taken as a primary approach to controlling rare diseases, which should be performed in such links as premarital check-up, antenatal care and neonatal screening.

"To include more medicines

which treat rare diseases in the national insurance catalogue and to lower treatment expenses are also vital for the promotion of rare disease control." That's what Du wrote on her notebook after visiting a large number of patients suffering from rare diseases.

"I met a six-year-old child suffering from a rare disease earlier this year, whose mother told me that the price of a medicine for treating the disease has dropped

from 700,000 yuan per shot to 33,000 yuan. She said it brought hope to her family, and also smiles on the face of her child," Du noted.

Du learned that there were only two patients taking this medicine at the Maternity and Child Health Care of Guangxi Zhuang Autonomous Region, and the number rose to more than 20 after the price reduction. There are more patients registering for it, she said.

To improve the multi-level medical security system for rare

disease patients will help relieve the patients' economic burden and improve their life quality, Du said.

At this year's annual session of the CPPCC, Du has actively shared her research and thinking. "In recent years, relevant parties have gradually raised their attention on major and frequent diseases, and I hope there will be more caring for patients suffering from rare diseases," she said.

People's Daily



## Iran laud nationals for defeating US 'maximum pressure'

TEHRAN

IRAN'S Supreme Leader Ayatollah Ali Khamenei and President Ebrahim Raisi on Sunday praised Iranians for their resistance against US sanctions, saying the people managed to defeat Washington's "maximum pressure" campaign.

They made the remarks in their congratulatory addresses to the Iranian nation on the occasion of the Nowruz celebrations, marking the beginning of the new year in Iran.

Khamenei noted that "the abject failure" of the Americans' "maximum pressure" was among the Iranian people's sweet and biggest achievements in the previous year, describing it as a victory achieved in the light of their resistance, the leader's website wrote.

He added the numerous events that unfolded across the world during the past year proved the correctness of the path being trodden by the Iranian nation in the face of global arrogance.

Khamenei regretted that people's unfavorable livelihood, high prices and inflation were among the most bitter issues in the year ended on March 20, adding the country's economic problems can, and must, be resolved.

As a tradition of the new year, Khamenei designated the new Iranian calendar year of 1401 as the year of "Production: Knowledge-Based and Job-Creating."

In similar remarks, Raisi said the failure of the US "maximum pressure" campaign has been the country's biggest achievement over the past few years, which was made thanks to the Iranian people's resistance, according to the Iranian presidency's website.

The president added his administration also promised not to tie the economy's fate to the 2015 nuclear deal, formally known as the Joint Comprehensive Plan of Action, and worked to lift and neutralize the US sanctions.

Iran signed the JCPOA with world powers in 2015. However, former US President Donald Trump pulled Washington out of the agreement in May 2018 and reimposed unilateral sanctions on Tehran.

Since April 2021, eight rounds of talks have been held in Vienna between Iran and the remaining

## Egypt bids to mitigate increasing prices ahead of Ramadan

CAIRO

THE Egyptian government has introduced a package of measures trying to ease the rapidly growing prices in local markets, which are driven up by a combination of the global supply chain interruption during the Russian-Ukraine conflict and the elevated demand for food ahead of Ramadan, Muslims' fasting month.

Egypt's Prime Minister Mostafa Madbouly said last week that some foodstuff, such as wheat and poultry products, in Egypt has witnessed a drastic surge in prices on the heels of the Russia-Ukraine conflict.

The government has worked to secure the reserve of basic food products for six months "with reasonable prices," the prime minister noted.

Madbouly added that the government will also expand the distribution of the street stalls for selling subsidized essentials, tighten the supervision on markets, and promote campaigns for raising awareness about rationalizing consumption.

"The rise of prices in Egypt is part of an inflation wave that is hitting the world," Mohamed Mostafa, an economic expert, told Xinhua.

The Egyptian government estimated that 35 percent of Egypt's inflation rate is related to external factors, according to the official statistics.

As the world's biggest importer of wheat, Egypt imports 80



A boy buys bread at a market in Cairo, Egypt, on March 9, 2022. File photo

percent of its wheat from Russia and Ukraine. The country is facing pressure from the surge of wheat prices in the international market.

Mostafa said that the Egyptian government has been trying to contain the current inflation wave, including market monitoring, setting up exhibitions to sell essential goods at lower prices, and securing the stocks of the commodities.

On Sunday, the government announced that a total of 189,000 tonnes of wheat from Russia, Ukraine, and Romania will reach the shore of Egypt within days, adding it is also working to look for other

sources. On Saturday, Minister of Trade and Industry Nevine Gamea announced a three-month export ban on green wheat, cooking oil, corn, flour, lentil, and beans to secure citizens' need for basic necessities and increase the supplies to prevent further surges in prices.

Egyptian President Abdel-Fattah al-Sisi also instructed on Sunday to offer farmers additional incentives, to encourage them to deliver the largest possible amount of wheat during the agricultural season that starts amid April.

Moreover, the inflation of

foodstuff is exacerbated by the rising demand ahead of the month of Ramadan. Egypt's Public Prosecution last week ordered to arrest 12 merchants over charges of hoarding commodities to take advantage of global inflation and the Ramadan shopping season - which starts in early April - to make a good margin.

The Federation of Egyptian Chambers of Commerce announced that it has worked with the government to set up exhibitions, dubbed "Welcome Ramadan" across the country starting from March 15 with discounts on all foodstuff.

Xinhua

## Study reveals mechanism behind reproductive synchrony in locusts

BEIJING

CHINESE researchers have found that pheromones may play a role in reproductive synchrony among migratory locusts.

Reproductive synchrony occurs in many group-living animals. For migratory locusts, it is critical for maintaining locust swarms and the population density of the next generation.

However, the underlying mechanism remains largely unexplored. Researchers from the Institute of Zoology under the Chinese Academy of Sciences and other institutes found that female locusts living in swarms showed more synchronous sexual maturation and egg-laying than females without companions or with olfactory deficiency.

They also found that female locusts have maturation synchrony only when male adult locusts are in the swarm.

A volatile aggregation pheromone called 4-vinylanisole emitted by male adults played a key role in inducing female sexual maturation synchrony.

Meanwhile, the pheromone only affected young female locusts three to four days after emerging as an adult from the pupa, while older females who were five to six days old as the adults had no response to the pheromone.

In further studies, the researchers identified that pheromone 4-vinylanisole could significantly elicit juvenile hormone, a critical endocrinal hormone regulator of insect development and physiology, triggering sexual maturation in younger locusts.

The level of juvenile hormone did not show much change in older female locusts. The findings have been published in the journal eLife. The researchers said their findings highlight a "catch-up" strategy.

Female locusts living in swarm synchronize their maturation and egg-laying by the time-dependent endocrinal response to the pheromone 4-vinylanisole. The study will be helpful in the understanding of swarming behavior among locusts.

Xinhua

## Yemen Houthis attack Saudi energy facilities, refinery output hit

RIYADH

YEMEN'S Iran-aligned Houthi group fired missiles and drones at Saudi energy and water desalination facilities, causing a temporary drop in output at a refinery but no casualties, the Saudi energy ministry and state media said on Sunday.

Drone strikes hit a petroleum products distribution terminal in the southern Jizan region, a natural gas plant and the Yasref refinery in the Red Sea port of Yanbu, the ministry said in a statement.

"The assault on Yasref facilities has led to a temporary reduction in the refinery's production, which will be compensated for from the inventory," it said, referring to Yanbu Aramco Sinopec Refining Company, a joint venture between Saudi Aramco and China Petrochemical Corporation (Sinopec).

Aramco CEO Amin Nasser told a call about the firm's earnings there was no impact from the attacks on its supply to customers.

The Saudi-led military coalition that has been battling the Houthis in Yemen for seven years said the assaults on Saturday night and Sunday morning had also targeted a water desalination plant in Al-Shaqeeq, a power station in Dhahran al Janub and a gas facility in Khamis Mushait.

Later on Sunday, another Aramco distribution plant was attacked in the Red Sea city of Jeddah, leading to a fire in one of the tanks, according to the Saudi-led coalition. The fire was controlled and did not result in any casualties, it said.



A general view shows the Jizan region of southwest Saudi Arabia near the Yemeni border on Jan 26, 2021. AFP

Houthi military spokesperson Yahya Sarea said the group had fired ballistic and winged missiles as well as drones at Aramco facilities in the capital Riyadh, Yanbu and "other areas," followed by attacks on "vital targets" in other Saudi regions.

### POSSIBLE TRUCE

It said the attacks and debris from intercepted projectiles caused material damage but no loss of life.

The coalition said initial investigations showed the group used Iranian-made cruise missiles on the desalination plant and Aramco's Jizan distribution center. It said Saudi air defenses intercepted a ballistic missile and nine drones. State media posted images and videos of projectile debris, damaged cars and structures, and firefighters dousing flames.

US National security adviser Jake Sullivan said that

the United States condemned the attacks.

Saudi Arabia has struggled to extricate itself from the war in Yemen which has killed tens of thousands and left millions of people there facing starvation. Houthi attacks on Saudi Arabia have also endangered the kingdom's airports, oil facilities and caused some civilian deaths.

United Nations special envoy Hans Grundberg is discussing a possible truce during the Muslim holy month of Ramadan which starts in April, his office said on Sunday. It was unclear if both sides had agreed on the UN plans.

Agencies

## French election race: Melenchon runs 3rd, vows tame capitalism

PARIS

FRENCH far-left presidential candidate Jean-Luc Melenchon, who may yet challenge for a place in the April election's crucial runoff, on Sunday promised to lower the age of retirement, hike the minimum wage and freeze food and fuel prices.

Melenchon, who denounces the free-market economy and instead advocates state intervention in the economy to spread wealth and guarantee what he calls a dignified life for all workers, told a campaign rally in Paris he would tax the wealthy hard. "The free market, as you see, is chaos. Another world is possible," Melenchon told thousands of supporters in the French capital's Place de la Republique.

Melenchon, now polling around 13 percent in voter support surveys compared with 9-10 percent in January, has risen to third place in the election race behind the incumbent President Emmanuel Macron and far-right Marine Le Pen.

The 70-year-old's campaign received a boost this month when left-winger and feminist icon Christiane Taubira exited the race. With the traditional centre-left Parti Socialiste (Socialist Party) verging on irrelevance and the Greens struggling to gal-



French far-left candidate for the upcoming presidential election Jean-Luc Melenchon delivers a speech at a march in Paris on Sunday. AP

vanise a wide support base, Melenchon appealed to undecided voters and those who might abstain to back him.

"The Socialists are a spent force. The only one who can help us, who can save us, is Melenchon," said restaurant kitchen worker Rita Alves.

In his campaign manifesto, Melenchon, a strong orator running for president for the third time, pledges to put controls on the movement of capital, guarantees jobs for the long-term unemployed and a minimum wage of 1,400 euros (\$1,548) net per month.

He says he would also lower the re-

irement age to 60 from 62, unlike Macron who says it must be raised to 65 to balance the pension bill.

"The time has come for a collective decision, to put people first, and whose service the economy must be, and not the other way around," Melenchon told the crowd.

Melenchon says he would also withdraw France from NATO and block future European Union free trade agreements.

Polls forecast Macron would defeat both Le Pen and Melenchon in the April 24 second round-vote.

## China maintains world's largest manufacturing hub for 12 consecutive years

CHINA has maintained the world's largest manufacturing hub for 12 straight years, said the Ministry of Industry and Information Technology (MIIT).

The country's value-added output of the manufacturing sector in 2021 reached 31.4 trillion yuan (about \$4.97 trillion), accounting for 27.4 percent of its GDP.

China's value-added industrial output grew to 37.3 trillion yuan last year from 20.9 trillion yuan in 2012. In particular, the value-added output of the manufacturing sector surged from 16.98 trillion yuan to 31.4 trillion yuan. It obviously indicates the improved international competitiveness of China's manufacturing sector.

China is the only country in the world that has all the industrial

categories listed in the UN industrial classification, and is the world's largest producer of over 220 types of industrial products.

Last year, the added value of industries above designated size increased by 9.6 percent over the previous year, with an average growth of 6.1 percent in the two years.

The innovation capability of China's manufacturing sector has been significantly enhanced. The photovoltaic, wind power and ship making industries are seeing increasing international influence.

The production of containers surged by 110.6 percent, and that of chips also jumped by 33.3 percent. Besides, the country has also made phased achievements in the new display, machine tool and new material sectors.

The structural optimization of the

manufacturing sector is accelerating. The output of the high-tech manufacturing industry went up 18.2 percent year on year, while that of equipment manufacturing increased 12.9 percent. They have contributed 28.6 percent and 45 percent to the growth of industries above designated size, respectively.

The energy consumption per unit of value-added output of industries above designated size decreased by 5.6 percent from a year ago.

Digital transformation of the manufacturing sector has speeded up. China has built the world's largest fiber-optic and mobile communication networks. It is home to over 1.425 million 5G base stations and 520 million connected 5G terminals.

The numerical control rate of key processes in Chinese enterprises

reached 55.3 percent and the penetration rate of digital R&D and design tools came in at 74.7 percent.

MIIT Minister Xiao Yaqing recently introduced the status quo and prospects of China's manufacturing sector centering on the government work report at a press conference.

He said China is the only country in the world that has all the industries classified into 31 divisions, 207 groups, and 666 classes, and it has offered firm support for the country's industrial and economic development. The MIIT will expand its investment in the manufacturing sector and keep a stable ratio of the sector in the country's industry, he added.

Xiao believes that China needs to support the development of small- and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs) so as to pursue further progress of its

industrial clusters, as the development of SMEs is fundamental to the development of the manufacturing sector.

The manufacturing sector consists of numerous SMEs and features an ecology in which large, medium and small enterprises are inter-dependent and mutually reinforcing, he said, adding that China must make efforts to further protect and nurture the ecology.

Xiao said China will further expand the group of "little giants," or leading small and medium enterprises that specialize in niche sectors, and pave new paths of development for these enterprises at national level. This year, the country plans to nurture over 3,000 national-level and 50,000 provincial-level "little giants," Xiao noted.

He said leading small and medium enterprises that specialize in niche sectors have set an example for the de-

velopment of SMEs, hoping that their development can bring further inspirations to other SMEs.

People's Daily



**Last year, the added value of industries above designated size increased by 9.6 percent over the previous year, with an average growth of 6.1 percent in the two years**



The Guardian

## SPORT



Mohamed Hussein

## How did Hussein manage to prove doubters wrong?

By Correspondent Nassir Nchimbi

SPEAKING of left fullbacks has become very popular in Tanzania for the past five years.

I am talking about Simba SC left fullback, Mohamed Hussein, that is as well a performer for Tanzania's senior national football team.

He has always been a delight to the fans when they watch him launch up an attack and drop back to defend on the left side of Simba SC.

Hussein is one of the few players a domestic football supporter will not hate even if he is not turning out for the follower's side.

A soccer supporter might hate Hussein just one day! The day the fullback plays against an outfit such as an enthusiast loves.

There are not many defenders in the country like Hussein. I do not know if we should say more defenders or more players?

Either way, he is a fascinating performer. The biggest problem for Tanzanians is wanting to speed issues up.

People do not have such a tendency just in football but in normal life. People like to do a lot of things quickly.

People want to be served quickly in stores, hospitals, and other areas that need order. People do not want to queue to enter the stadiums.

People believe the queue is delaying them. In short, people do not believe going slowly is a part of life. That notion has affected local players.

Sometimes a Tanzanian forward might be free and is ought to execute a simple pass, the attacker will instead shoot the ball with great power off target as the ball rolls into the crowd.

The footballer might have done that just because the fans want him to score, and he needs to score for his team.

Sometimes a defender will have to clear the ball forward for fear of losing possession.

Many Tanzania football fanatics do not believe the ball comes forward quickly by starting play from the back.

This is so because people are not accustomed to a quiet life.

As all Tanzanians move faster with life, Hussein is on the pitch moving slowly and calculated.

He always does not do what the fans in the podium feel ought to be done, he likes to do what he believes is right.

In an area where fans may think the correct decision is to cross, he may decide to either dribble or pass safely.

A footballer should not seek to impress followers, the performer should do what such a footballer believes is as good, the same way Hussein does.

Simba SC Zambian midfielder Clatous Chama is another quiet player akin to Hussein.

They do not do what the fans believe

is right especially when they attack.

There are times when the midfielder executes trivial skills like nutmegging and a dribble.

When the performer looks to put the ball on the opposing club's back of the net the footballer tends to do what he believes is right.

Discipline is the biggest challenge for most of Tanzania's top players. When many players arrive at Simba and Yanga and turn into the two sides' fans' favourites they ignore the disciplined approach.

They know they will get the support of fans and officials. There are only a few players who can sustain fame and continue to be disciplined.

In the eight years I have known Hussein at Simba, I have never heard him commit acts of misconduct.

I have never heard of him either escaping from the camp or opt-out of attending a gym session.

He is a civilized player off the field as he is on the pitch.

I remember one season he was on Simba's bench after the emergence of Ghanaian left fullback Asante Kwasi.

One season back Hussein was the best left-back in the country but suffered an injury in the Federation Cup final in Dodoma, it took him a while to return to action.

Kwasi served the left fullback well and Hussein was forgotten. After one season Hussein returned to take his place and put Kwasi on the bench.

A year earlier Simba had nothing more to do than part mutually with Kwasi. Supporters learn that there are domestic players who can take the position on the starting lineup ahead of foreign players.

But what hinders the national team from achieving success is not the large number of foreign players who come to play in the Premier League but there are many good players domestically.

If Tanzania would have good local players, foreign players could be not brought into the country.

Why Simba hardly thinks of roping in a foreign left fullback, an area where Hussein operates.

Among Hussein's many attractions is how he managed to make a living through his name. On social media, he has one million followers.

He is the only Premier League player in the country with that number of supporters.

Through his Instagram page, he makes adverts that earn him an income, supplementing the monthly salary he is paid by Simba.

Through his name, he has his own Youtube channel doing well. He still uses his name to sell popular M-15 T-shirts brands. How could Hussein do all this?

## Local swimming receives a shot in the arm

By Correspondent Lloyd Elipokea

IN the past couple of years, local swimmers have flattered to deceive at various international tournaments.

Granted, our swimmers have delivered the goods at some African Swimming Federation (CANA) Zone Three Championships from time to time.

However, once our swimmers have found themselves on grand sporting stages like the Olympics and the Commonwealth Games that tellingly is when they are found wanting and they ultimately come up short.

In light of this then, the recent visit of FINA president Husain Al Musallam to Tanzania in order to discuss various challenges confronting domestic swimming is both a timely and heartening move.

For those not in the know, FINA is the governing body of world swimming so the visit of the FINA President to our country was definitely not just a run-of-the-mill visit but one that was heavily significant.

While the FINA president was in the country, he pledged his support to the Tanzania Swimming Association (TSA)'s efforts to overcome a host of hindrances impeding the sport, including the lack of a modern swimming pool here in the country.

One also hopes that FINA will be willing to extend technical support to our local swimming coaches so that one day they will be able to make the grade required of



Swimmers compete in last year's National Swimming Club Championship, which took place at the Dar es Salaam Gymkhana Club. PHOTO: CORRESPONDENT

all international coaches.

Let us now move on to a piece of notable news where the national hockey club competition is set to get up and running on March 25, this year in Tanga.

Indeed, the tournament this year is bound to be a high stakes affair as the winner will be our country's flag bearers at the Africa Hockey Club Championship in Malawi during the last days of this year.

Naturally, it goes without saying that it is hoped that the national hockey club competition turns out to be a spectacularly entertaining and exhilarating display of vintage hockey at its very best.

Nevertheless away from the field of play, a few lingering concerns loom large.

The fact that in recent years, we only get to hear of hockey when the National Hockey Championship is due to take place should set the alarm bells ringing.

One hopes then, that the Tanzania Hockey Association (THA), can devise some sort of a plan which would ensure that every annual sporting calendar is packed with hockey events, which would bolster the standard of hockey clubs as well.

Lastly, after experiencing the heady highs of Simba SC's victory against RS Berkane a week ago, ar-

dent Tanzania football buffs were brought down to earth with a heavy thud following the Msimbazi Street outfit's embarrassing 3-0 loss at the hands of Ivorian behemoths ASEC Mimosas on the latter's home soil.

The defeat proves once again the mercurial nature of premier continental club football where one can taste sweet success and then experience gnashing agony within the space of a week.

The good news thought is that if Simba SC play to their strengths, they should still prove capable of sealing a place in the next phase of the CAF Confederation Cup, barring any more disastrous slip-ups, of course.

## Reality still poses barriers to club transformation

By Correspondent Nassir Nchimbi

TRANSFORMATION is the most sung song at the moment at Yanga. That is true, the club has decided to abandon the old ways and choose a new life. It is a matter of great commendation.

If a soccer supporter looks at how the exercise is run especially on Instagram he will think it is as if the process is about to be completed.

This is the lie that Yanga followers are living at the moment.

They feel that their process is far better than that of Simba SC.

It is ridiculous. The sad truth is that the process of change at Yanga is just the beginning stage.

If it is a step they have taken, then it is very little.

That is, the process has not yet reached even a quarter of that of Simba SC. Do you know why?

In change, there is a division of times. There is a beginning, the middle, and the end.

The beginning is easy, it is a place where many take action quickly.

It is in changing the club's constitution to allow the process to begin.

This area has already been completed by Yanga. It is an area that Simba too completed very quickly.

The second area is to verify and register new members. This is the area where Yanga is currently focusing on.

Yanga has taken a long time in this area, whereas Simba passed the procedure quickly.

Do you know why Yanga is stuck in the membership process? It is so because they have set many barriers.

First and foremost, they have reduced the benefits for the outfit's members.

Consider this today not every member has the right to attend the general assembly. That is, a football supporter becomes a member of Yanga so that he can attend the club's branch meetings. It is very funny.



Yanga Election Committee Chairman, Malangwe Mchungahela (L) presents a certificate of recognition to one of the club branches' leaders. Standing (C) is Yanga's Chief Executive Officer, Senzo Mazingisa.

Branch meetings are often just like coffee spot drinks. The branches have no power within the club.

The main strength for the member is to get the right to attend the general assembly, but Yanga has denied its members such power.

Second, they have increased the membership fees significantly. Before the change, members were each paying 1,000/- a month an amount members can pay for one month, three months, or more.

Surprisingly, Yanga has now increased the fee to 2,000/-. What is even more amazing is that the member has to pay a full year's fee.

There are still card costs, so a member has to pay 29,000/-. How many Tanzanians can pay the fee in one lump sum? They are very few.

Many Tanzanians still live a normal and challenging life every day.

They still pay for tickets in every

match. Then after that, an outfit tells a follower to pay 29,000/- to become a member.

This is why the process of registering members at Yanga has deteriorated. Despite the stipulation that for a branch to be recognized it must have at least 100 members, the trend is still not attractive.

Except this cannot be said in public. Simba tried to set a membership fee of 20,000/- and the whole exercise failed.

They stopped quietly. To this day they have never said where the process ended.

Another painful fact of the transformation at Yanga is the last resort to value the club as well as keep investors. The unfortunate thing is that Yanga has put more difficulty in this area.

First, it has set the conditions for having four investors. That is, the investors will share 49 percent on

the other side. This is very difficult.

When Simba announced a bid to find an investor, Mohamed Dewji appeared.

Before the proclamation of the act, the words were very numerous. Simba said many rich people want to invest in the club. Where did the investors go? No one knows to this day.

Now Yanga is also living the same lie. The outfit believes that many rich people want to invest in it.

It is only a matter of time before football followers see its reality.

This area of investment is the hardest. First, the difficulty is to appreciate Yanga's value. How will it measure its value?

The second is to find investors. At least Dewji had shown interest in investing in Simba before the process started. Who has shown interest in investing in Yanga so far?



## Xavi: Barca 'can't rule out' title after Clasico win

MADRID

XAVI Hernandez is refusing to rule out a late run for the title and Gerard Pique proclaimed Barcelona are back after they hammered Real Madrid 4-0 in Sunday's Clasico at the Santiago Bernabeu.

A Pierre-Emerick Aubameyang double and further goals from Ronald Araujo and Ferran Torres ended Barca's six-game winless run against Madrid, dating back to 2019, and cut the gap on Carlo Ancelotti's side to 12 points with a game in hand and 10 matches still to play.

Just minutes after full-time, defender Pique posted "We are back" on social media as Barca stretched their unbeaten streak in LaLiga to 13 games.

"Maybe we can say we're back," coach Xavi said in his post-game news conference when asked if he agreed with Pique's message.

"This is the path to follow. This is the way we want to play. It was a complete performance. We were much better than Madrid. We played almost as the home team at their ground.

"We could easily have scored five or six. We changed the negative dynamic of losing the last few Clasicos. It's a day to enjoy, not only as a Barca manager, but also a fan."

Barca were ninth in LaLiga when Xavi took over in November but have since risen to third. They are now just three points behind Sevilla in second, who they face after the March international break, but hauling in Madrid has proven tougher.

"I don't know if we can win the title, we can't rule out anything," Xavi added when asked if his side can now aspire to win the league this season. "Maybe we're a bit late, but this is a very big win for us.

"We've won tonight -- and we also have the better head-to-head record [against Madrid, which decides the title if both teams finish level on points] -- but it is going to be very difficult.

"Madrid have only lost three league games. They have to lose three more. We must keep working hard. The first objective is to qualify for the Champions League."

Midfielder Sergio Busquets added: "If we have just a small chance to make a run for the title, we will fight until the end. It's very difficult, but in football anything can happen. We are Barca."

(Agencies)

## Ancelotti on El Clasico humbling: 'It was my fault'

MADRID

MANAGER Carlo Ancelotti took responsibility for Real Madrid's 4-0 El Clasico thrashing by Barcelona on Sunday, saying the defeat was "my fault."

Pierre-Emerick Aubameyang scored twice and Ronald Araujo and Ferran Torres were also on the scoresheet as Barca recorded their biggest Clasico win at the Bernabeu since 2015.

Aubameyang, Torres and Ousmane Dembele -- who provided two assists -- all spurned second-half chances to increase the margin of Barca's victory.

The result left Madrid, who hadn't lost in LaLiga since Jan. 2, nine points clear at the top of the table, with Barca 12 points behind in third place.

"It isn't difficult to explain. They played better than us," Ancelotti told Movistar. "We wanted to control the ball more, to press them high, but it didn't work... It's my fault."

He added: "We weren't recognisable. Everything went badly. We have to forget it and look forward, we have a big lead [in the table]. I said [to the players] that it was the coach's fault."

With top scorer Karim Benzema absent with a calf injury, Ancelotti picked Luka Modric in an unfamiliar forward role, while Nacho Fernandez struggled as a left-back replacement for Ferland Mendy.

"It was one of our worst games of the season," Nacho said. "Maybe we relaxed with our lead in the table, and it wasn't a game to do that, quite the opposite. It always hurts to lose a Clasico but we've had a great season until now."

Added Ancelotti: "The plan with Modric was to try to play the ball out from the back and find space between the lines with Rodrygo, [Federico] Valverde and Vinicius. It didn't work. It isn't a problem for me to take responsibility. Sometimes you get it right and sometimes you don't. I failed."

Goalkeeper Thibaut Courtois said the display was "unacceptable."

"We wanted to start with intensity, but they found spaces. We weren't compact," he told Movistar. "We have to talk about the tactics internally. It didn't work, what we did from the start of the game, or in the second half... They had chances. The result could have been much worse."

Ancelotti called for "balance" in an assessment of the team's performance, denying that such a heavy defeat would affect the players' morale long-term.

Real Madrid will face Celta Vigo in LaLiga after the international break, before the first leg of their Champions League quarterfinal with Chelsea on April 6.

(Agencies)

# Barcelona stuns Madrid 4-0 at Bernabéu to end losing streak

MADRID

BARCELONA's losing run against Real Madrid finally ended Sunday as the Catalan club enjoyed a stunning 4-0 win at the Santiago Bernabéu Stadium and showed its title hopes in the Spanish league may not be over yet.

Barcelona kept its recent momentum going under coach Xavi Hernández in the last "clásico" of the season. The win ended Barcelona's five-match losing streak to its rival and maintained an outside chance of fighting for the title after a difficult start to its first season without Lionel Messi.

The victory was its first against Madrid since 2019 and came in style -- like a few others Barcelona enjoyed with Messi in his prime.

It was Pierre-Emerick Aubameyang who thrived this time, scoring twice to continue his great streak since being signed in the final minutes of the winter transfer window. Ronald Araujo and Ferran Torres added a goal each to give Barcelona its seventh win in the last eight matches in all competitions.

"Of course we didn't expect this scoreline, but we did everything we intended to do from the start," Barcelona captain Sergio Busquets said. "Everything went our way and we could have scored even more goals."

The result moved Barcelona within 12 points of league leader Madrid with nine rounds to go, and it could further cut the gap to nine points if it wins its game in hand against Rayo Vallecano.

"If we have a minimum chance, we will keep fighting," Busquets said. "We know it's going to be hard, but in soccer anything can happen."

Barcelona is level on points with fourth-place Atlético Madrid and is three points behind second-place Sevilla, which was held 0-0 at home against Real Sociedad earlier Sunday for its third straight draw in the league.

Madrid, which badly missed the injured Karim Benzema, was unbeaten in its last eight games in the league, with six wins. It had beaten its Catalan rival 2-1 at Camp Nou in their first league



Barcelona's Pierre-Emerick Aubameyang, right, scores his side's fourth goal in front Real Madrid's goalkeeper Thibaut Courtois during a Spanish La Liga soccer match between Real Madrid and FC Barcelona at the Santiago Bernabeu stadium in Madrid, Spain, Sunday, March 20, 2022. (AP Photo)

game last year.

"The result says it all," Madrid defender Nacho Fernández said. "We played badly and they played well. Nothing worked for us. It was our first bad match this season. Maybe we were too relaxed because of our advantage in the standings."

It was Madrid's first home loss in 24 league games, since losing to Levante in January 2021.

Barcelona has been revitalized by Xavi and its attack has been red hot, outscoring opponents 24-5 in its last eight matches, with Aubameyang and Torres combining for 15 goals since arriving at the club this year.

Aubameyang has now scored nine goals in his 11 appearances since arriving from Arsenal.

He opened the scoring with a close-range header after a cross by Ousmane Dembélé in the 29th minute, and sealed the victory with a nice flick over goalkeeper Thibaut Courtois in a breakaway in the 51st.

Araujo had added to the lead with a header off a corner kick in the 38th before Torres scored the third in the 47th after a clever flick-pass by Aubameyang as the Madrid defense collapsed yet again.

Barcelona had several other significant scoring opportunities throughout the match, with Aubameyang, Torres and Dembélé among those missing good chances.

Benzema, the league's top scorer with 22 goals, couldn't play be-

cause of a left-leg injury sustained in the league match against Mallorca, when he scored for the eighth time in five games in all competitions. The French striker had netted a hat trick in Madrid's thrilling comeback win against Paris Saint-Germain last week in the Champions League at the Bernabéu.

Madrid coach Carlo Ancelotti did not replace Benzema with another striker, instead using Luka Modric in a false-nine position at the top of the attacking line along with Vinicius Junior and Rodrygo. Madrid barely threatened, though, and Ancelotti had to change tactics in the second half by putting Mariano Díaz up front, which also didn't help much.

Barcelona has also secured a

place in the quarterfinals of the Europa League. It hosts Sevilla in the league after the international break, while Madrid visits mid-table Celta Vigo.

OTHER RESULTS

Fifth-place Real Betis missed a chance to gain some ground after being held to a 0-0 draw at Celta. Manuel Pellegrini's team stayed four points behind Barcelona and Atlético, and two points ahead of Real Sociedad in a tight fight for the Champions League places.

Villarreal stayed three points behind Betis after a 1-0 loss at Cádiz, which is just outside the relegation zone. Mallorca stayed a point behind Cádiz after losing 1-0 at Espanyol for its sixth consecutive defeat.

AP

## Barca's destruction of Real Madrid in El Clasico shows progress under Xavi

By Gabriele Marcotti, Senior Writer, ESPN FC

BARCELONA earned a first win over Real Madrid since 2019, dismantling the LaLiga leaders 4-0 at the Estadio Santiago Bernabeu, with goals from Pierre-Emerick Aubameyang (two), Ronald Araujo and Ferran Torres. Here are three thoughts on El Clasico:

### 1. Xavi has turned Barcelona around

Xavi's first game in charge at Barcelona was exactly four months ago, and in that time they've risen from ninth to third in LaLiga, but simply measuring that progress in numbers is understating the impact he has had.

He took over a group broken in spirit and turned it into the confident unit we saw Sunday at the Bernabeu. It's not so much that he preaches traditional Barca values of possession, creativity and the collective above the individual -- plenty have done that before -- it's that he lives by it, while allowing himself space to make the sort of tweaks demanded by the modern game.

Like playing a pure defender at right-back to contain the speedy Vinicius Junior rather than making the emotional choice of trotting

out Dani Alves. Or playing wingers like Torres and Ousmane Dembele, who interpret the game -- and the position -- in radically different ways. Or rebuilding the confidence of a centre-forward like Aubameyang -- who was suspended or unproductive since the summer at his old club, Arsenal -- and turning him into an incredibly effective attacking threat.

All of this came amid resignations from club CEOs, doubts about whether the club will remain solvent and, most recently, news that the financial restrictions next season are likely to be as tight as they were this season, if not more. Never mind Barca, the man should run for public office.

### 2. Ancelotti thinks outside the box, and pays the price

With resident icon Karim Benzema unavailable, Real Madrid boss Carlo Ancelotti had two broad options: He could keep his 4-3-3 setup and bring in another forward -- whether a specialist striker like Mariano Diaz or Luka Jovic or an adapted one like Marco Asensio -- or he could rip up his blueprint and throw Barca a curveball, conjuring up an entirely new scheme.

He opted for the latter, ending up with an unusu-

al diamond shape that kept his wingers (Rodrygo and Vinicius) wide and left Luka Modric and sometimes Toni Kroos as his de facto front men through the middle. It was bold and it was original, and it was a disaster.

It made it far too easy for Barca to play through the first pressing line, handing total control in the final third to Xavi's crew, playing directly into their hands. With a nine-point lead at the top of LaLiga and a Champions League quarterfinal against Chelsea in two and a half weeks, you can afford to experiment a lit-

tle, but this backfired badly. And nobody will want to see this approach again.

### 3. Dembele decision as confounding as ever

For all of Barcelona's dominance, it was Dembele who delivered the cutting edge. He set up the first goal, with a classic fake-inside-go-outside move on Nacho that left the defender rooted to the spot as he raced to the byline and delivered a pinpoint cross for Aubameyang. Araujo's header for the second came from one of the Frenchman's trademark laser-guided deliveries from a corner.

He even had a hand in the build-up to the third.

When he's like this, he's close to unplayable. He's one of the most two-footed players out there, with speed and quality galore. Of course, we also saw the downside, especially after he started flagging after the break: giving the ball away, not tracking effectively and getting an earful from Xavi before getting substituted. But sometimes, with superstars, you need to live with the flip side.

Dembele becomes a free agent on June 30. Negotiations are no further forward. Barca have a new financial reality they need

to deal with; Dembele may feel he's worth more, and if he can deliver a first half every week like the one we saw against Madrid, he's worth it.

He's 24 and, when Ansu Fati returns from injury, could be one half of a devastating pair of wingers for the next decade or so. On the flip side, he has never made more than 22 league starts in a season, owing to a string of injuries, and you want to think long and hard before you make him the club's highest-paid player. There's a huge call to be made here, and Barca can ill afford to get it wrong.

Gwiji by David Chikoko





# SPORT

**Barcelona stuns Madrid 4-0 at Bernabéu to end losing streak**

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Nida Dar

## Nida Dar helps Pakistan end 18-match CWC losing streak

HAMILTON

PAKISTAN aced the trial by spin on a Seddon Park surface where run-making was not easy to end their record 18-match losing streak in the Women's World Cup.

Playing her first match in the competition, left-hand batter Muneeba Ali scored 37 off 43 balls and helped chase down 90, with seven balls and eight wickets to spare, in a 20-overs-per-side game.

The win got Pakistan their first points while jolting West Indies' chances of making the semi-finals. The last team Pakistan had beaten in a World Cup was also West Indies, back in 2009.

Muneeba played out a maiden off Hayley Matthews in the first over of the chase, but soon got a measure of her, hitting the offspinner for back-to-back fours in the third over.

She also worked the offspin of Anisa Mohammed behind square on the leg side and ran well between the wickets to help Pakistan get off to a positive start.

Afy Fletcher, who troubled Bangladesh in the previous game, struck immediately to dismiss Sidra Ameen, who went for a wild slog to be bowled.

But Muneeba found the ropes in three out of the next five overs to keep Pakistan in front at the halfway stage.

Her partnership with captain Bismah Maroof also stood out for the numerous tap-and-runs to rotate the strike, something Pakistan was guilty of in their previous outings.

But Shakera Selman's introduction saw Muneeba slice a short ball to a backward point. This, after she saw a catch go down as well as survive a run-out chance - both off the same delivery, a ball before her dismissal.

Maroof then found an ally in young Omaira Sohai, who survived some nervy moments to help Pakistan see through the chase with minimum drama, an anomaly given the number of close finishes this tournament has seen.

It was the magic of Nida Dar, who picked up her career-best ODI figures earlier, that helped Pakistan keep West Indies to 89 for 7 after a delay of over five hours due to rain and wet outfield.

Deandra Dottin hit a flurry of fours in the first three overs, including three in an over off Diana Baig, after Pakistan opted to bowl. But from the other end, left-arm spinner Anam Amin, who came into the XI for Ghulam Fatima, kept it tight by bowling a maiden in the final over of the four-over powerplay.

That brought about a wicket for Pakistan as Hayley Matthews top-edged one to backward point off Fatima Sana in a bid to break free. Captain Maroof kept the pressure on by bowling Amin's four overs at one go and bringing on another left-arm spinner in Nashra Sandhu soon after.

AGENCIES

# Yanga's coach sets eyes on Azam FC in international break



Yanga's Tunisian head coach, Nasreddine Nabi. PHOTO: COURTESY OF YANGA

By Correspondent Nassir Nchimbi

**D**ESPITE the NBC Premier League having been briefly suspended to pave the way for FIFA calendar for international friendly ties, Yanga head coach Nasreddine Nabi has continued to weave his squad to prepare for the league tie against Azam FC which will take place at Dar es Salaam's Azam Complex April 6.

Yanga, the league leader, beat Kinondoni Municipal Council (KMC) FC 2-0 in the previous match at Benjamin Mkapa Stadium in the city in round 18 of the NBC Premier League.

The league leader will later return to the field in the next two weeks to square off with Azam FC.

The ice cream makers are the last team to beat Yanga in the league as they won 1-0.

Zimbabwean striker Prince Dube's long-range shot which

went past Yanga keeper, Faruk Shikhalo, who is this season turning out for KMC FC, handed Azam FC the victory over Yanga in their last season's match played on April 25 last year.

The Tunisian tactician is contemplating the upcoming match as he admits he should now be more prepared as he meets a team that has built up

morale as a result of an away victory in a league tie against Namungo FC.

Nabi is contemplating the upcoming match as he admits the three points that Azam FC won against Namungo FC.

The Tunisian concedes he should now be more prepared as he faces a team that has built up morale as a result of the away win.

The gaffer disclosed: "Azam FC is a great team, they have a good young coach who knows football, and his tactics have been very strong since his arrival."

"They have been really solid and played more organized football in a long run."

"In their last game, they allowed a very early minutes goal but after 90 minutes

they equalized and scored the winning goal, which shows how hungry they're as a team in general."

"Yanga will stay focused as we have tough matches that will determine the best results until the end of the season."

"Azam FC is one of those teams that we rate high which brings us at the center of concentration."

Nabi said he has a good chance of weaving his side before meeting them, noting that it is a time when many players that were nursing injuries will be back so he will have no excuses.

"Azam FC is a good team with many experienced players, I have been following most of their games, I did not watch the tie against Namungo."

"I will get a chance to assess them to know their strengths and weaknesses before we meet," he said.

"There was a big change, the first round we met, and now, they must have added something so I will sit with the technical bench to re-read them by watching their two or three games to see how to deal with them."

The Premier League is now on a short break as the Taifa Stars will play two international friendly matches as per the FIFA calendar for friendly matches.

Taifa Stars will take on Sudan and the Central African Republic in matches to be played between March 23-29 in Dar es Salaam.

## Introductory course for Paralympic swimmers concludes in Dar es Salaam

By Correspondent Joseph Mchekadona

TANZANIA's government has said one of its main commitments is to see that the country has many qualified swimming coaches who can train people with disabilities.

National Sports Council (NSC) official Apansia Lema said at the closing of a two-day introductory course to swimming for persons with disabilities in Dar es Salaam last weekend.

The course which attracted 30 participants took place at Nordic School at Masaki. It was organized by Tanzania Paralympic Swimming Association (TPSA) in conjunction with Chardon Hope Foundation.

She said the government aims to have an inclusive society where any person can take part in sporting activities.

Apansia asked the course organizers to reach out to many regions of the country, saying the country has many talented young people with disabilities but they lack coaches who can unearth their talents.

"The government is ready and committed to seeing that all people regardless of their social standing are involved in sporting activities, sports play an important role in rehabilitation and also therapy," she said.

Tanzania Paralympic Swimming Association (TPSA) secretary-general Ramadhan Namkoveka thanked all who took part in the course and asked them to make use of the knowledge gained.



Paralympic swimmer, Amos Boniface, features in last year's National Swimming Club Championship, which took place in Dar es Salaam. PHOTO: CORRESPONDENT

The TPSA official said the course helped in building more knowledge on developmental disabilities and others and practical sessions on implementing Aquatic therapy interventions.

The course instructors were occupational therapist, Fred Musyoka from Kenya, and Tanzanian Godfrey Kimathy.

Chief Executive Officer (CEO) of Chardon Hope Foundation Elianasoe Kitily said they are ready to organize many

courses for coaches.

Kitily pointed out that they aim to see many parents and guardians of children with disabilities have more knowledge of swimming and other sporting activities

The course was sponsored by Tarmal Industries Ltd, Chowpartty, Precision Air, Oysterbay Pharmacy, MEDIGENS Company Limited, Flames, Collasium, and Asilimia Company.

TPSA was registered in 2021 and it has

intensified its mission and vision of seeing that the country has many qualified people who can unearth swimming talents among people with disabilities.

Last year the association in conjunction with Tanzania Paralympic Committee organized a course that attracted 14 coaches.

Three of them came from Zanzibar and it was organized to equip the coaches with knowledge on identifying, nurturing, and training athletes.

## Flexibles by David Chikoko

