



'Abandon IMF, WB advice, raise salaries' ^{By Guardian Reporter}

THE government needs to have in place strategies regarding yearly salary increases for public servants in disregard of conditions on loans from the International Monetary Fund (IMF) and the World Bank.

Ruth Mlemba, executive director of the Community Development For All (CODEFA) volunteer group that is part of Just Tax Policy Forum' made this appeal in remarks to journalists yesterday, where the forum unveiled results of a study of salary conditions over the past four decades.

She said conditions from both IMF and WB must be disregarded in order to motivate public servants and enhance performance, so the government must review policies to boost the public sector, social services and workers' interests.

The study related to WB and IMF policies and the situation of public servants in 15 countries around the world, including Tanzania.

The director narrated that upwards of 40 years ago Tanzania joined the plan for economic transformation that aimed to reduce the size and salary costs of the public sector, boost internal revenue

CTI lauds Budget, lists revision areas



By Henry Mwangonde

THE Confederation of Tanzania Industries (CTI) has hailed the government for taking various reforms in the tax structure, fees, levies and amendment of laws and regulations to improve the business environment.

Hussein Sufian, the CTI vice chairman, said at a press briefing yesterday that CIT has also listed a number of tax measures which need to be reconsidered in implementing the 2023/24 national budget, asserting that the measures could negatively impact industrial development.

Measures which CTI wants to be reconsidered include adjustment at the rate of 10percent excise duty rate on nonpetroleum products and 20percent on beer and tobacco products, along with introducing excise duty at the rate of 20/- per kilogramme of imported and domestically manufactured cements.

"The tax measures taken by the government will enable domestic industries to reduce the cost of production, improve consumer welfare, promote the use of local materials, enhance competitiveness and economic growth," he stated, affirming that there are other measures which need to be reconsidered.

collection and develop the private sector.

If possible, the debts should be written off or their repayment time prolonged to improve social services delivery

The plan coordinated by both agencies led to cost reduction policies, where on the whole Tanzania has been adversely affected due to laying off many employees in the public sector, she stated.

"The public sector did not employ new workers and those remained had to work on small salaries that did not meet workers' basic needs, she further affirmed, underlining that the cost stringent policies brought negative results in social services delivery like health and education.

The study showed that education and health sectors employ the majority of public servants by up to a half of all employees, comprising a large percentage of women, she said.

The government is supposed to increase the number of public servants in order to face challenges arising from the Covid-19 pandemic and climate change, she stated, urging the two global agencies to evaluate their policies to gauge their achievements, and how to avoid negative effects as obtained in the

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Anisima Muzusangabo (R), a 17-year-old Form Two student, elaborates on her Away from Home 'Umoja ni Nguvu' (literally, Unity is Strength) painting to the UNHCR representative in Tanzania, Mahoua Parums (2nd-L), during the latter's visit to the Nyarugusu refugee camp in Kigoma Region yesterday. Photo: Correspondent Adela Madyane

BoT reissues ban on forex use in domestic payments

By Guardian Reporter

SELLERS and service providers quoting their prices in foreign currencies have been ordered to revert to the Tanzanian currency.

The Bank of Tanzania (BoT) early yesterday reissued the prohibition noting that it targets rent for land, housing and office space, education establishment fees as often quoted in such currencies.

Other charges relate to medical services, equipment and reagents, transport, logistics and port services, electronic equipment and telecommunication services, the notice indicated.

"There has been an increased tendency of providers of services, as well as sellers of goods and services, specifically international schools or the real estate

The bank's participation in the interbank foreign exchange market will be on both sides of the market, selling and/or purchasing, depending upon the prevailing circumstances

market, in quoting their prices in foreign currencies, mainly US dollars," the notice affirmed.

The notice was a reminder of previous prohibition notices issued in August 2007 and December 2017, upon observing ongoing violation of the directives, it said, reminding the public that the government's directive was still valid.

However, prices to be paid by tourists or non-resident customers may be quoted and paid in foreign currency, including services such as accommodation, travel, airport and visa, transit trade and cargo handling, it specified.

"Tourists and non-residents who pay in foreign currencies must provide their identification documents such as passport and certificate of incorporation for

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MPs: TRA can award bulk buyers demanding receipts

By Getrude Mbago, Dodoma

A NUMBER of parliamentarians feel that those who ask for receipts after making large purchases should be occasionally rewarded by the Tanzania Revenue Authority (TRA).

Simon Songe (Busega) (pictured) told MPs in discussing the budget yesterday that for example if a person has conducts purchases of 3m/- and is provided with a receipt, "at the end of the month TRA should reward him/her with 50,000/-."

"This will greatly promote tax payment



volunteerism and encourage Tanzanians to demand receipts when making purchases," he said, urging TRA to come up with innovative measures of such rewards.

The MPs said that a number of traders still evade taxes as they are not issuing electronic fiscal device (EFD) receipts, with revenues being lost by consumers failing to claim receipts.

"They are many, so without coming up with innovative measures, the government will continue leaving a lot of funds in the hands of dishonest traders," the MP asserted.

"I advise TRA to come up with a special system of providing tokens and gifts to people who make purchases and claim receipts, as this will encourage people to TURN TO PAGE 2 Other measures which manufacturers want reconsidered include granting stay of



CTI also demanded the reconsideration of introduction of income tax of 10percent on income accrued due to verified emission reduction (VER)

application of the EAC CET rate of 50percent and apply a duty rate of 35percent on imported printed fabrics, and similarly reduce the valuation of cotton light fabrics (khanga) and printed fabrics (vitenge) from 80 US cents to 40 US cents plus \$36 cents for polyester fabrics and printed fabrics per meter.

CTI also wants granting stay of application of the EAC CET rate of 10percent and apply a duty rate of 25 percent for one year on imported cotton yarn with a specific exception the CTI leader cited.

The manufacturers wish enforcing the provision to set up primary data servers, including physical servers within the country, virtual or any other server which stores data that is created or collected by a taxable or liable person in the ordinary course of business, he said.

CTI also demanded the reconsideration of introduction of income tax of 10percent on income accrued due to verified emission reduction (VER).

The manufacturers were also impressed with zero rating of VAT on textile products manufactured using domestically produced cotton for a period of one year.

Another is an amendment on the local government finance fees schedule for billboards, posters and hoarding in order to reduce rates from 10,000/- to 106/- and 7000/- per square foot for non-illuminated and from 13,000/- to 10,000/- per square foot for illuminated billboards, the statement added.

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Foreign Affairs and East African Cooperation ministry permanent secretary Dr Samwel Shelukindo (R) has an audience with Canada's High Commissioner to Tanzania, Kyle Nunas, in Dar es Salam yesterday. Photo courtesy of Foreign Affairs ministry

MPs: TRA can award bulk buyers demanding receipts

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claim receipts," he stated.

This can be achieved by having EFD receipt machines register citizens' mobile phone numbers and telephone networks "so that whenever they make purchases and claim receipts, the information goes to the TRA for their rewards," he sought to explain.

"Imposing fines on buyers who do not demand legal receipts will not bring any positive change but proving small rewards will greatly work and increase revenue collection," he said.

He consumer goods purchasers to be patriotic and develop a culture of demanding legal receipts for

to get its required revenues for the they breach existing legislation. country's development.

Luhaga Mpina (Kisesa) expressed fears on the government's instructions that traders need to operate freely without worrying of their business being closed if they are evading tax.

"We have heard the government's directive to its institutions to stop closing businesses for any reason," he affirmed, saying this will have a huge impact as it will open door for illegal trading.

"It will put the country and even the health of Tanzanians at risk," he said, noting that the National Environment Management Council (NEMC) will not implement its duties each purchase for the government well in supervising factories when it intends to expand to 300m/-

The government has been losing billions of shillings each year in uncollected tax revenues due to shortfalls in taxation systems, he emphasized.

"For example we been informed here that up to April over 7trn/- was being held up in unresolved tax appeals," he said, declaring that this is a vast amount of funds that the government should have collected. "But what it is doing is to put more burdens on Tanzanians through multiple taxes," he specified.

Deo Sanga (Makambako) urged the government to raise Value Added Tax (VAT) registration threshold from the 200m/- that

so as to decrease the number of taxpayers and promote voluntary tax compliance.

Bona Kamoli (Segerea) urged the government to review tax laws and bring to the House draft amendments where the laws are seen to affect trade and business development.

The government needs to improve tax collection and management systems to curb loopholes that occur in revenue collection.

Lucy Mayenga (Special Seats) urged the government to change the manner of delivering the Finance Bill in the last minutes, saying this is negative as it does not provide sufficient room for MPs to debate it and make positive changes.



'Abandon IMF, WB advice, raise salaries'

FROM PAGE 1 past 40 years.

The government, the IMF and WB need to be more transparent to set out loan conditions attached, and take up discussions on the vast debt burdens on poor countries such as Tanzania, she elaborated.

If possible, the debts should be written off or their repayment time prolonged to improve social services delivery, she further noted. Israel Ilunde, a colleague in the added.

Tax Policy Forum group, for his part said WB and IMF policies affected many public servants especially in the education and health sectors.

The policies have contributed to small salary increases in the public sector from 9.83trn/- in FY 2022/23 to 10.882trn/- in FY 2023/24.

Similarly, salaries in the electricity sub-sector rose mildly from 9.83trn/-for fiscal 2022/23 to 10.882trn/- set for fiscal 2023/24, he

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companies for proper capturing and classification of statistics," the notice intimated, carrying the governor's signature.

The exchange rate applicable for making payment should be displayed and should not exceed the prevailing market exchange rate, it said, pointing out that the only institutions registered to determine exchange rates are commercial banks and bureaux de change.

Any local resident should use Tanzanian shillings, not being obliged to make payment to another local resident for any good or service in foreign currency, the governor emphasized.

"Section 26 of the Bank of Tanzania Act 2006 stipulates that the Tanzanian shilling is the only legal tender in the country and any act of refusing payment in Tanzanian shillings amounts to violation of the law," the notice intoned.

The notice has been reissued at a time when the country is facing a shortage of foreign currencies in the market due to increased demands for imports.

It has resulted the central bank having to sell an average of \$2m circumstances," it added.

on a daily basis to the interbank foreign exchange market to ease the pressure.

Studies show that financial systems with excessive use of foreign currencies in domestic payments are prone to wild fluctuations in pricing in tandem with vacillating exchange rates.

In its monetary policy framework for fiscal 2023/2024 published last week, the central bank said the exchange rate will still be determined by market forces, in line with prevailing economic policies.

A flexible exchange rate policy helps to preserve foreign reserves to cushion the economy from unprecedented balance of payments shocks impinging on the economy.

BoT will closely monitor market developments and intervene to smooth out volatilities in liquidity and in the exchange rate, when they are inconsistent with economic fundamentals, the policy statement had affirmed.

"The bank's participation in the interbank foreign exchange market will be on both sides of the market, selling and/or purchasing, depending upon the prevailing

Govt registers 11,000 refugees from DRC By Correspondent James Kandoya

TANZANIA has registered 11,000 refugees from Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC) alone in the period of three month since March, this

She highlighted the need to go and look for missed cases to know their status as a way forward to maintain the country's peace and security.

"Local researchers have a big role



Prime Minister Kassim Majaliwa speaks at the commemoration of the 40th anniversary of Sakila International Evangelism Bible School in Arumeru District, Arusha Region, yesterday. Photo: PMC

MPs called on to focus debate on fuel levy, cement prices and power tariffs

have

By Correspondent Mary Kadoke

STAKEHOLDERS

underscored the need for the National Assembly to look at issues such as fuel levy, cement and electricity prices when debating the 2023/2024 national budget.

Their comment followed a recent announced intention by the government to charge an extra 100/on petrol and diesel to generate funds for financing implementation of strategic projects.

Speaking at a panel discussion organised by the Tanzania Private Sector Foundation (TPSF) on Monday in Dar es Salaam, the foundation's tax manager, Hussein Kimweri said reliable and affordable energy is a key issue that need to be worked on.

"There must be reliable and affordable electricity services to enhance production in the industrial sector because it is among the areas that contribute in providing employment to many youth," he said.

Jackson Manase, a resident from Dar es Salaam said the government should look at alternatives ways to reduce tax on fuel prices. He said the increase in prices of petroleum products may affect economic activities.

"We recommend the government to remove the 100/-extra charge on petrol and diesel as proposed in the tabled national budget for the coming fiscal year to avoid inflating prices of essential items as well as transport cost," he said.

Ernst &Young (EY) tax expert, Beatrice Melkiory said the 100/extra charge on diesel and petrol will definitely become a challenge in the near future resulting in the increase of commodity prices.

"This initiative will create problems. It will obviously become a topic of discussion, high price being the main factor. Any initiative taken to increase the price of fuel will never have a positive response from the people," she said.

She however noted that the 20 per cent tax addition on cement will also raise a public discussion since cement is an essential product in construction.

Stambuli Myovela, a tax consultant said the government recommendation will impose difficulties on having permanent settlements.

Magu Member of Parliament, Bonaventura Kiswaga said the government's initiative to provide subsidy on fertilisers had encouraged many people to engage in agriculture.

'369 public institutions now use gas instead of wood fuel'

By Guardian Correspondent, Morogoro

A TOTAL of 369 government institutions have supported the government directive that calls for stopping using firewood and charcoal, instead they adopt the use of gas, the clean and safe energy.

The government, through the Vice President's Office (VPO) - Union and Environment had instructed all government institutions to stop using wood fuel to rescue the environment.

Speaking during the training for reporters from Morogoro Region held here on the environment protection campaign and the use of clean energy, Moses Massawe, sales manager from Taifa Gas Tanzania Ltd said its aim is to stop wanton tree cutting.

Massawe said Taifa Gas Tanzania Ltd supports government efforts on the issue of environmental conservation, hence it has in place a strategy in educating the public on the effects from the use of firewood and charcoal.

He said in the circumstances, 369 public institutions have been ioined in the network of users of gas for cooking, including eight from Morogoro Region.

He added that in fighting the

challenges, from July to December this year, Taifa Gas Limited will have in place a strategy to reach out to 460 public institutions, thereby making a total of 829 institutions.

For his part, the Principal of College, Morogoro Teachers Augustine Sahil, whose college has stopped using fire wood and charcoal for gas, said since they started using gas, they have been able to save 15m/- per year in costs.

"As for now we cook our food using gas which takes a short time than wood fuel whereby now we spend 3m/- per month, as opposed of 4.5m/- to 4.8m/- per month in the past, thereby saving about 15m/- a year," he added.

Taifa Gas Ltd. corporate affairs manager, Angela Bhoke said out nation continues with its fight against climatechange, henceas stakeholders they have the responsibility to assist the government to make sure the country can control wanton tree cutting for environmental protection.

She added that Morogoro Region is named as among regions more affected by tree cutting and also the region with many rivers that are water sources depended by people from other regions including Coast and Dar es Salaam.

year.

Nsato Marijani, Assistant Director of Settlement and Camp Management, Commission of Police (Office of Refugee Services -Ministry of Home Affairs) said this yesterday in Dar es Salaam when speaking at a dialogue to mark the International Day of Refugees.

He said although Tanzania is safe but the peace instability in the neighbouring countries is still a big challenge, the situation threatens the country's peace.

Marijani said Tanzania is now noticing a shortfall in funds for refugees from the United Nations agency responsible for the UNHCR, as a result the country is overwhelmed by numbers of duties. "We've done a lot to ensure welfare of refugees including their rights. However, political instability in neighbouring countries is still

challenge leading to increase in number of refugees and asylum seekers in the country," he said

According to him, 700 out of 1000 refugees remain in the country and all remaining have political ambitions which need to be checked.

He said that on average government records between 11 -30 refugees daily adding that sometimes it hoots up to 100 refugees, noting that currently, Tanzania has refugees from DRC, Kenya, Rwanda, Burundi and Somalia.

"I call on the United Nations to join our efforts relating to the protection of refugees residing in the country," he said.

Dr. Opportuna Kweka, Research Chair on Forced Displacement said that mixed irregular refugees is one of growing problems in the country threatening the country's security. Dr Kweka called on security organs to ensure trace and find all those missing cases and ensure they are either integrated, repatriated or resettled.

to design and advise the government to solve the problems using our local styles and techniques, "she said.

Tanzania currently hosts over 248,000 refugees and asylumseekers, mainly from Burundi and the Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC), and most reside in the Nduta and Nyarugusu refugee camps in the country's Kigoma region.

Since September 2017, some 142.000 Burundian refugees have voluntarily returned to Burundi.

UNHCR Commissioner Filippo Grandi, commended Tanzania and its people for their longstanding history of welcoming and hosting refugees, as well as efforts in advancing protection and solutions for refugees in the country, in line with the Global Compact on Refugees

Grandi also witnessed how funding shortfalls are directly impacting humanitarian efforts on the ground. As of August 2022, UNHCR had received only 27 per cent of the resources needed in Tanzania for this year.

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MPs decry low, uneven prices of various crops

By Getrude Mbago, Dodoma

MEMBERS of Parliament have decried the low and uneven prices of crops, saying the matter greatly affects farmers' progress and calling on the government to immediately establish 'price stabilisation fund' to address the challenge.

According to them, many countries are doing this to compensate farmers through a stabilization Fund with reasonable prices of their crops when prices fall.

Debating the tabled state of the nation's economy and national development plan as well as national budget estimates for the 2023/24 financial year, the farmers will continue counting

measures will not be taken to address the same.

Mashimba Ndaki, Maswa West MP said that despite huge reforms done in the agriculture sector, the majority of Tanzanian farmers are still counting losses every year due to uneven prices of their produce.

According to him, establishing the fund will be able to raise money to help and compensate farmers who incur huge losses in their farming activities due to the poor market of their produce.

He noted that farmers are the main drivers of industrialisation and raw materials but today all food and commercial crops are falling due to poor and uneven prices in the market.

"It is so discouraging seeing lawmakers said that Tanzanian a number of reforms in the agriculture sector which also losses every year, if robust include providing subsidized

farming including inputs fertilisers, but we have forgotten how to put systems well so as to ensure that our farmers benefit from the sector, majority of them have been counting losses every year due to poor prices of their produce," Ndaki explained.

He cited an example of prices of cashew nuts which have been falling and rising thus causing impacts to farmers who spend a lot of funds during cultivation.

"In 2021 a farmer sold one kilogramme of cashewnut between 3400- and 3600/- but in 2022, farmers sold cashew at 1400/and 1800/-, this so discouraging, the has been in various crops including maize, sunflower, cotton and many others, the government should intervene this and come up with strong measures to support the farmers," he said.

Seleman Zedi, Bukene MP advised the government to invest in purchasing more food stock of 700,000 tonnes every year so as to help stabilize prices during acute shortage.

Iasson Rweikiza, Bukoba commended the rural government for coming up with the 'Building a Better Tomorrow (BBT)' programme to support youth in agriculture.

The lawmaker however capital intensive system that will be implemented in the programme saying that this is going to affect the implementation as the funds may end up into the wrong hands of dishonest people. "We should go capital

intensive by putting youth in camps, equipping them with enough equipment them funds," he said.

Minister for Finance and Planning, Dr Mwigulu Nchemba however responded, saying that the government isn't planning to reduce the tax but will receive advice from the lawmakers if they want the tax to be increased.

Kenani, Nkasi Aida (Chadema) expressed distress on why the government has failed to invest in Lake Tanganyika leaving its huge potential yet to be exploited.

"Lake Tanganyika borders three countries of Rwanda, Burundi and Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC) but sadly, Tanzania doesn't see this huge potential, there is no commitment in improving infrastructures," she said.

Aida said that constructing strong water transport infrastructure and services will stimulate economic activities including trade.

She also urged the government to sit down and review tax and levies laws as they are giving huge burdens to poor Tanzanians.

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"Tanzanians shouldn't be carrying the burden of transaction levies, we are doing a very big sin to our poor Tanzanians who face great challenges by being taxed both in bank and mobile phones transactions, this is unfair and the government needs to think on this," she said.

The lawmaker further urged the government to ensure that the 5bn/that is expected to allocate Constitution making to send it immediately in the next fiscal year.

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- e. Investment The plot is best suitable to develop warehouse or industrial building or ICD and can be a business hub for transit cargos

Interested parties may kindly contact Mr. Roggers William through his mobile number +255-716-924057



Zanzibar Water, Energy and Minerals minister Shaibu Hassan Kaduara (C) cuts the ribbon to launch a Maysol Company electrical goods shop at Gulioni in Unguja at the weekend. He is with Mysol managing director Godfrey Mugambi (L) and West Urban regional commissioner Idrissa Kitwana Mustafa. Photo: Guardian

EXCITING JOB OPPORTUNITIES IN AN AID FOR TRADE ORGANISATION IN AFRICA





Job Title: Senior Well Intervention Engineer Reports to: SS7 Project Delivery Manager

Short Term Contract

PanAfrican Energy Tanzania (PAET) is the leading integrated energy company in Tanzania, developing and supplying natural gas for the power, manufacturing and transportation sectors in the country.

A wholly owned subsidiary of Orca Energy Group Inc, PAET has been in the Tanzanian market since 2001 where it has been operating the Songo Songo natural gas field. PAET has a commitment to the development and efficient use of Tanzania's natural gas resources to help alleviate Tanzania's energy shortages.

PAET is currently hiring a Senior Well Intervention Engineer ("Senior Engineer") on a short term contract who will assist with the SS-7 well intervention & PLT logging program in the Songo Songo gas field.

Position Summary

Reporting to the SS7 Project Delivery Manager, the Senior Engineer will design and plan the well intervention and production logging program including technical support to the procurement of all material and services. All work to be in compliance with Tanzanian statutory requirements, corporate policies, standards and procedures. A strong focus on Health, Safety and Environmental performance is essential in all activities and behaviours. The Senior Engineer will mentor less experienced members of the operations team.

Roles and Responsibilities

- Develop step-by-step procedures to achieve specified well objectives safely and efficiently and in compliance with local statutory requirements and corporate policies, standards and procedures.
- Manage expenditures and performance relative to AFE's.
- Prepare scopes of work and appropriate specifications for procurement of equipment and • services.
- Provide technical leadership for assigned contracts.
- Monitor field costs and analyse variances. •
- Monitor and measure performance against expectations. Analyse variances and act as a focal • point for lessons learned.
- Publish an of end of well report, lessons learned and complete well file.

Skills / Qualifications

- At least 20 years of engineering experience in workover/interventions which ideally includes remote operations in Africa and East Africa assignments. Tanzania experience will be beneficial.
- · Working knowledge of downhole tools and equipment: coiled tubing clean-outs, coiled tubing drilling, PLT logging, perforating, well testing, cementing retainers, bridge plugs and packers.
- Proficient with relevant computer software, Bachelor's degree in mechanical engineering, Petroleum Engineering or similar, IWCF or similar Well Control Certification.

If you believe you have the required qualifications, send your application to HR Department or email it to HR@panafricanenergy.com. This should reach the below address not later than 3rd July 2023.

Human Resources Manager, PanAfrican Energy Tanzania Limited, Oyster Plaza, 5th Floor, Haile Selassie Street, PO Box 80139, Dar es Salaam.

TradeMark Africa (TMA), formerly TradeMark East Africa), is an Aid-for-Trade organisation that was established in 2010, with the aim of growing prosperity through increased trade. TMA operates on a not-for-profit basis and is funded by: Belgium, the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation, Canada, Denmark, the European Union, Finland, France, Ireland, the Netherlands, Norway, the United Kingdom and the United States of America. TMA works closely with regional intergovernmental organisations, including the African Union (AU), the African Continental Free Trade Area (AfCFTA) Secretariat, the East Africa Community (EAC), the Intergovernmental Authority on Development (IGAD), the Common Market for East and Southern Africa (COMESA), the Southern Africa Customs Union (SACU), national Governments, the private sector and civil society organisations. TMA's headquarters are in Nairobi, Kenya. Operations and offices are in: EAC Secretariat - Arusha, Burundi, the Democratic Republic of Congo, Djibouti, Ethiopia, Ghana, Malawi, Mozambique, Rwanda, Somaliland, South Sudan, Tanzania, Uganda and Zambia.

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contributions within seven days

On a different note, the deputy

minister observed that the funds

workers are to get promotion in

accordance with their ability and

accountability in serving members.

submit to the funds retirement

reports of their workers at least six

months before retirement date to

avoid any delays in getting pension

acknowledged that PSSSF and the

local government authorities are

finalizing agreement on payment of

members' deduction debts, calling

on the process to be completed by

He urged members of the public

to freely call their respective

funds through free call number

0800110040 for PSSSF between

08;30 am and 08;00 pm while

NSSF member can do the same

through 0800116773 from 08;30

deputy minister also

He also called on employers to

from today".

rights.

The

30th June, 2023.

am and 05;00 pm.

Guardian



EXPRESSION OF INTEREST (EOI) AND PRE-QUALIFICATION OF SUPPLIERS

Ref: No IITA-TZ/03/2023

The International Institute of Tropical Agriculture (IITA) is a not-for-profit institution that generates agricultural innovations to meet Africa's most pressing challenges of hunger, malnutrition, poverty, and natural resources degradation. Working with various partners across sub-Saharan Africa. We improve Livelihoods, enhance food and nutrition security, increase employment, and preserve natural resource integrity. IITA is a member of CGIAR, a global agriculture research partnership for a food-secure future

Please visit http://www.iita.org for more information.

IITA-Tanzania, East Africa Regional Hub Headquarters invites sealed applications from eligible candidates, firms, and enterprises for the purpose of pre-qualifying suppliers of goods, works, and services for the period 2023-2026. Detailed pre-qualification requirements of supplies, services, and works have been posted on the website. Tender documents with the requirements should be obtained from IITA officers on Mwenge Coca-Cola Road, plot #25.

LIST OF REQUIRED GOODS, SERVICES AND WORKS

CATEGORY A- GOODS

CODES	DESCRIPTION
IITA/TZ-A0123	Supply and Delivery of General Office Stationery Items
IITA/TZ-A0223	Supply of Energy (Diesel/Petrol)
IITA/TZ-A0323	Supply of Computer Accessories and Hardware (Vendors must provide proof of registration with Original Manufacturer (OEM) for this category
IITA/TZ-A0423	Supply and Delivery of Scientific and Laboratory Chemicals
IITA/TZ-A0523	Supply of Scientific and Laboratory Equipment and Consumables
IITA/TZ-A0623	Supply and Delivery of General Electronic and Electrical Items
IITA/TZ-A0723	Supply and Delivery of Office Furniture, General Office Equipment and Furnishings
IITA/TZ-A0823	Supply of Agricultural (Farm/Field supplies) Equipment
IITA/TZ-A0923	Supply of Agro-Allied Chemical and Products (Agrovet) Herbicides, Fertilizers etc
IITA/TZ-A1023:	Supply of Tyres, Tubes and Batteries
IITA/TZ-A1123:	Supply of Vehicle Spares and Service Parts
IITA/TZ-A1223:	Supply of Dispenser Bottles for Mineral Drinking Water

CATEGORY B- SERVICES

CODES	DESCRIPTION
IITA/TZ-B0123	Provision of Designs, Printing, and Promotional Materials Services
IITA/TZ-B0223	Provision of Photocopier/Printer/Scanner Machines Repairs and
	Maintenance services
IITA/TZ-B0323	Provision of Event Management and Outdoor Catering Services
IITA/TZ-B0423	Provision of Janitorial Cleaning Services for buildings
IITA/TZ-B0523	Provision of Ground and Landscaping services
IITA/TZ-B0623	Provision of Clearing and Forwarding Services
IIITA/TZ-B0723	Provision of Security Services
IITA/TZ-B0823	Provision of Air Ticket & Reservation Services (IATA registered firms)
IITA/TZ-B0923	Provision of repair and maintenance of computers, Networking and Telephone
	Equipment (PABX)
IITA/TZ-B1023	Provision of CCTV services
IITA/TZ-B1123	Provision of Internet Services
IITA/TZ-B1223	Provision of Insurance Services
IITA/TZ-B1323	Provision of Refrigeration and Air conditioning services
IITA/TZ-B1423	Provision of Motor vehicle Repair and Maintenance Services
IITA/TZ-B1523	Provision of Fire Detection and Fighting Services
IITA/TZ-B1623	Provision of Waste Management and Disposal Services
IITA/TZ-B1723	Provision of Accommodation and conference facilities
UTA /TZ D1007	Devision of Marilian Landella althe Management Complete

Govt to PSSSF, NSSF: Name employers not remitting workers' contributions

By Polycarp Machira, Dodoma

THE government has directed both the Public Service Social Security Fund (PSSSF) and National Social Security Fund (NSSF) to submit lists of employers who fail to submit employee's contributions to the fund within seven days.

It also called on the fund's directors to ensure that the employers in every region in the country submit the outstanding deductions every month.

The Deputy minister of State, Prime Minister's Office Labour, Youth and Employment, Patrobas Katambi issued the directive here yesterday, noting that there are employers who defy the law and do not submit employee's pension fund deductions on time.

He also expressed concern that some employers fail to pay workers their salary as required by the law, causing personal suffering, less productivity and denying the government timely rightful revenues.

"It is a violation of law, human defaulters in submitting members" rights and the constitution for any employer to fail to pay workers their salaries and other benefits on time, and worse is non-submission of pension fund deductions" said the deputy minister.

Katambi who was addressing a press conference on some of the challenges faced by retirees while seeking their retirement benefits from the funds, said it the government's position that they should get their rights at least 60 days after submitting all the documents.

He called on the funds' regional managers to listen to members and retirees and also provide the rightful education on member's information.

They should also ensure there are no members complain in their regions and employers submit the membership deductions every month.

He said, "I call upon every fund's regional manager to submit to the ministry list of serious



Twaha Kibalula (R), manager of Dar es Salaam-based Kurasini Children's Home, pictured in the city on Friday receiving 20 double-decker beds and 40 mattresses from KOICA country director Manshik Shin. Looking on (L) is Dr Deman Yusuf, KOICA Alumni Tanzania president and Institute of Social Work (Dar es Salaam) lecturer. It was all in commemoration of International Day of the African Child (June 16). Photo: Guardian Corre

Govt clarifies food exports 'ban' reports

By Getrude Mbago, Dodoma

The legislator wanted the facing shortage but at this time when government to stop prohibiting farmers are harvesting and want to

IITA/TZ- IITA/TZ- IITA/TZ-	B1923 Provis	sion of Medical and Health Management Services sion of fumigation, Pest control, and sanitary services sion of Electrical Maintenance works
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Compan (EOI) wit	AND CONDITIONS FOR PRE - ies/persons with interest to h the following NDATORY REQUIREMENTS	QUALIFICATION participate in the exercise are requested to submit their Expression of Interest
(a) (b) (c) (d) (e) (f) (g) (h) (i) (j)	Phone number and email a Name and title of the cont Company background and Verifiable evidence of exp evidence of previous supp Certificate of Incorporation Business Licence Letter of creditworthines credit firm Audited financial stateme	act person I profile of the Board of Directors perience and reputation in the supply of relevant products and services with Ilies, works and services
(2) PRE	FERRED CREDIT LIMIT TO T	THE INSTITUTE IN TERMS OF VALUE

Please signify your credit limit to the Institute in terms of monetary value Vendors must provide a credit limit of their choice and make a formal statement in their application on a separate page.

METHOD OF SUBMISSION OF APPLICATION

EOI are to be submitted In properly marked "IITA Supplier/Contractor Pre-qualification 2023" Sealed envelope and addressed to:

The Regional Administrator International Institute of Tropical Agriculture P.O. Box 34441 Dar-es-Salaam

Please note above method of submission is for both potential vendors for fresh applications and existing vendors for revalidation's sake.

DEADLINE FOR SUBMISSION: Thursday, July 13, 2023 (13:30hrs)

This request for Expression of Interest (EOI) does not constitute a solicitation, therefore IITA reserves the right to change or cancel the requirements at any time during the EOI and/or solicitation process. Your response to this EOI does not automatically guarantee that such a firm will be considered for receipt of the solicitation when issued. Only vendors deemed qualified upon completion of an Objective evaluation of their submission of EOI, will receive acknowledgement of being included in supplier database of the Institute.

THE government has said it has not banned the exportation of food crops including maize but emphasised that traders should ensure that they have special permit to proceed with the businesses.

Agriculture minister, Hussein Bashe made the clarification in the National Assembly vesterday when responding to a claim by Josephat Kandege, Kalambo legislator that the government had banned export of food crops.

This occurred during the debate of the tabled state of the nation's economy and national development plan as well as national budget estimates for the 2023/24 financial vear.

farmers from selling their food products outside the country as this causes prices of the crops to fall down and thus affecting income of the farmers.

"For example, before the ban, a 100kg of maize was sold at 70,000/but currently after the ban, the produce's price has dropped to 40,000/-. This is unfair to our farmers who are spending a lot of funds to cultivate the crops," Kandege said.

He wanted the government to stop banning export of the produce at the time when it doesn't have capacity to procure them.

"Banning export of food produce should apply when the country is

sell their produce at fair price, the government is not purchasing the crops and then banning farmers to seek other markets, this is unfair," the lawmaker lamented.

However, according to minister Bashe, many traders are not adhering to the required procedures before shipping the crops outside the country, something which brings disturbances. "Any trader who wishes to transport crops outside the country should seek a permit from the Ministry, first he/ she needs to register to the ministry, have a licence and taxpayer identification number (TIN) and a permit so as to export the produce smoothly," he said.

Expert pushes for clean energy use to reduce greenhouse gas emission

Correspondent

Mwendapole

ENVIRONMENTAL expert has suggested the effective use of clean energy as one of the key ways to reduce greenhouse gas emission. Prof Eliakim Zahabu, managing director of National Carbon Monitoring Centre (NCMC) made the suggestion on Monday when speaking during a seminar with editors from various media outlets.

Joseph

The meeting was organised by the Vice President's Office (Union Affairs and Environment) in order to provide education about climate change and the management process of carbon business to editors of various media houses.

He said that renewable energy sources are the least expensive options in boosting electricity access, reducing air pollution and cutting carbon dioxide emissions worldwide.

developed countries are also allowed to invest in projects to reduce the temperature by doing carbon business in developing countries

Prof Zahabu gave examples of the types of carbon projects that include alternative energy such as using gas instead of wood or charcoal, the use of hydro or solar or wind power, increasing the efficiency of energy use and the use of sustainable energy.

He mentioned others as waste management projects, land and forest use projects, planting new forests to restore natural vegetation.

Speaking about the income from the carbon business, Prof Zahabu said that Tanzania paid 6bn/- in the carbon business until the end of 2021.

He mentioned the challenge of carbon business as a long process and high costs of preparing carbon business projects, shortage and

In addition, he said that lack of experts to prepare projects in developing countries.

He also cited that another challenge is the lack of awareness in the carbon business and strategies to build awareness should be sustainable at all levels.

Prof Zahabu said the carbon trade is growing after the Paris agreement and the presence of guidelines and rules for carbon trade in the country, will help attract investment in the carbon trade.

He said the lack of awareness in the carbon trade is still a big challenge and sustainable strategies to build awareness should be sustainable at all levels

He said Tanzania has a great opportunity to benefit from carbon business economically and environmental protection adding that if carbon business is done properly, it can produce 1trn/- per vear.



National Assembly Speaker Dr Tulia Ackson (L) presents a copy of the Parliament Office Staff Council charter to the council's chairperson, Nenelwa Mwihambi, at the council's launch late last week. Photo courtesy of National

Janabi: Quality medicare vastly eases need for referrals to foreign hospitals

Correspondent By

Mwendapole

HEFTY investment in the health sector has made the government reduced the number patients going abroad for treatment by 95 percent this year, specialist has said.

Joseph

Prof Mohamed Janabi, executive director of Muhimbili National Hospital (MNH) said at the weekend in Dar es Salaam when speaking with Namibian parliamentarians who came to learn how Tanzania has made progress in the health sector.

He said that from 2005 until now, Tanzania has invested a lot in the health sector, a situation that has attracted various countries to come and learn and even bring their patient for treatment.

He said Tanzania used to send many patients abroad at high cost, including heart, head and kidney

He said that this situation will said Professor Janabi enable those countries to build the capacity of their doctors and thus get rid of the dependency of sending their patients abroad where they spend a lot of money.

He said that if doctors gain knowledge and become experts in medicine, they will be able to help their country and provide training to other African countries that still do not have enough experts.

"We have told them that the cost of taking a patient to South Africa and bringing him here to Tanzania is a big relief, whether he wants a kidney transplant, or has a large tumor in his head or heart, back pain we can do it here," he said.

"With the placement that has been done by the government, as the Chairman of the National Medical Tourism Committee, examination plant (carto-3) have we will increase the number of been purchased at the Jakaya medical tourists, income and Kikwete Heart Institute (JKCI) at a we will help our fellow Africans cost of 5.6Bn/.

According to the Minister of Health, Ummy Mwalimu, within the two years of President Samia Suluhu Hassan's leadership, Intensive Care Unit (ICU) beds have increased from 258 to 1,000 in the country, with the equipment costing 60Bn/.

period, the During that government has achieved an increase in diagnostic equipment in the national hospital, regions and councils by providing them with 62 digital X-ray machines, CT Scan (32), MRI (7) and (7) Echocardiography machines (ECHO).

According to the statistics provided by Ministry, a heart diagnosis and treatment plant (Cath Lab) and a heart electrical

CMSA hails investment in local capital markets

By Polycarp Machira, Dodoma

THE Capital Markets and Securities Authority (CMSA) has applauded investment in local capital markets reaching 35trln/-, as Tanzania ranked fifth in Africa.

CMSA' s chief executive officer, Nicodemus Mkama, made the remarks here yesterday, noting that Tanzania is above South Africa, Egypt, Mauritius and Nigera in capital investments.

He was speaking during the opening of a one day seminar that brought together members of business community, aimed at empowering small and medium size company.

The CEO noted that from the realized investment is a clear sign that the capital markets are important in developing national economy and several companies use the markets to get capital.

"The capital markets in Tanzania have recorded tremendous growth and success making the country above other notable economies like South Africa, Egypt, Mauratius and Nigeria" he said.

He called upon individual business people and companies to make good use of the capital markets in the country just like other companies do.

He said the authority has resorted to using seminars, radio programmes, among other public awareness sessions to reach



We need theoretical training on how to go about these investments

Guardian

possible investors.

On the other hand, the chief officer expressed gratitude on the increasing number of women who attend such seminars and trainings organized by the authority.

"This is the onset of the nation wide training and it is pleasing to see that about 95 of participants are women" he said, adding that more women should follow suit.

Bhoke Manyori, a Woman entrepreneur from Rukwa Region on her part noted that most small and medium enterprises are faced with the challenge on decision on the right business channels.

"We need theoretical training on how to go about these investments", she said, adding that she is always training youths on clothes design but the knowledge is not sufficient.

Her counterpart, Komba Jumbe also noted that they are still faced with challenge on understanding how the capital markets operate and the needed capital to invest.

"We are good business people but even the society do not believe in us until they see what we do" she said.



TENDER NOTICE

- 1. The Tanzania Geothermal Development Company Limited (TGDC) intends to use funds from the Government of Tanzania budget for the financial year 2018/2019 and a grant from the Geothermal Risk Mitigation Facility for Eastern Africa (GRMF) towards the cost of Ngozi Geothermal Drilling Program and apply part of the proceeds of these funds and grant to cover eligible payments under the contracts for; Provision of Drilling Services, Provision of Well Testing Services and Supply of Drilling Consumables for Three (3) Slim Wells at Ngozi Geothermal Drilling Program in Mbeya Region.
- 2. The Tanzania Geothermal Development Company Limited (TGDC) now invites tenders eligible Bidders for the following tenders;

Tender No.	Tender Description	Procurement Method	Tender Security Amount (TZS)	Closing Date
PA/131/2022- 2023/HQ/W/03	Provision of Drilling Services for Three (3) Slim Wells at Ngozi Geothermal Drilling Program in Mbeya Region.	International Competitive Tendering	117,000,000.00	24.07.2023
PA/131/2022- 2023/HQ/W/05	Provision of Well Testing Services for Three (3) Slim Wells at Ngozi Geothermal Drilling Program in Mbeya Region.	International Competitive Tendering	7,000,000.00	24.07.2023
PA/131/2022- 2023/HQ/G/46	Supply of Drilling Consumables for Three (3) Slim Wells at Ngozi Geothermal Drilling Program in Mbeya Region.	International Competitive Tendering	90,000,000.00	24.07.2023

patients, but large investment in the health sector has eliminated that situation.

"We didn't have an African country to learn from, we started on our own but we have managed to stop sending patients abroad, we have told our colleagues from African countries who bring their patients to bring them with their doctors and nurses so that when we do surgery they can see and learn," said Prof Janabi

to acquire knowledge and thus eliminate the need to send their patients abroad." said Professor Ianabi

"At the moment, if we see a patient who has to go abroad for treatment, we call the foreign doctor to come in Tanzania and treat the patient here and he collaborate with our doctors so that they can acquire that knowledge and when he is here in the country, he can treat many patients at a very low cost,"

The government also managed bought a machine for diagnosing and treating blood vessel diseases (Mini Angio Suite) at Muhimbili National Hospital at a cost of 2.2Bn/-. The statistics also show that

within the two-year period of six phase, the government has succeeded to sponsor 457 skilled professionals through the Samia Suluhu Super Specialized Scholarship at a cost of 8Bn/.

Anthropogenic factors threaten Itigi thickets

By Correspondent Valentine Oforo.

Dodoma

CHARLES Kidua, Singida regional natural resources officer has challenged the Tanzania Forestry Service (TFS) to seriously embark into an ambitious strategy to rescue the Singida-based Itigi thickets, which is under threat of being wiped out due to the anthropogenic factors.

The thickets are threatened by human activities such as apiculture, cashewnuts' cultivation and other unfriendly farming practices.

Kidua said in an interview that TFS had been implementing a strategy for the effective conservation of the thickets, but later on, it halted the key exercise.

He observed, the unique thicket, comprising more than 63,000 hectares, was providing an economic blessing to the majority of residents in the two regions of Singida and Tabora regions through beekeeping activities, among others.

"There's a poor awareness over the socioeconomic importance of the thickets to the poor tune that the area is experiencing improper land use programme, deforestation, and even the clearing of the thicket to pave the way to agriculture land,

particularly that of cashews," he unveiled.

He noted that other unfriendly actions include tree cutting for fuel wood, construction, and livestock grazing.

As a result, he informed that key water sources within the thickets have already dried out completely, making it worse for the survival of the numerous wild animals that are habitating in the endowed ecosystem.

"The thickets are useful for helping the country to combat against the on-going challenge of climate change and land degradation, but also, the area is a major corridor for elephants from the Buhesi and Rungwa forests to Serengeti and Tarangire national parks," he stated.

Despite such significance, he said it was disconcerting to see at least 20 percent of the thicket's ecology is under threat of extinction.

Currently, he said more than 52 beekeepers from the adjacent villages are running their activities in the thickets, though faced by numerous setbacks, including lack of modern beehives. Kidua said at least 20 hectares within the thicket have been earmarked for the beekeeping activities.

Among the trees that make the thickets include 'Pseudoprosopsis

fischeri; and 'Combretum celastroides', the rarely found trees that produce flowers throughout the year thus providing good bees feeding grounds for nectar and pollen.

During the period of five years, from 2017 to 2022, the number of the beekeepers in Singida region increased from 5,675 to 12,133, generating a total of of 890m/- from producing and marketing at least 89 tons of honey and its products, as well as 20 tons of beeswax.

The Itigi-Sumbu thickets is an ecoregion consisting of two small areas of thick shrubland in Tanzania, Zambia and the adjacent Democratic Republic of the Congo, in East Africa. The floral community of dense deciduous brush is unique, with many endemic species, and almost no transition zone between it and the surrounding dry miombo woodlands.

The distinctive nature of this small region is partly due to its setting on dry alluvial soil over a hard duricrust, while the surrounding areas are rocky hills and plateaus.

The thickets are found in the flatland between Lake Mweru Wantipa and Lake Tanganyika in Zambia (between 950 and 1,200 m (3,120 and 3,940 ft) above sea level), and near the town of Itigi in the Itigi District of Tanzania.

- 3. Interested eligible Tenderers may obtain further information from and inspect the tendering document through TANePS at www.taneps.go.tz and TGDC website. A complete set of Tendering Document(s) in English may be obtained or downloaded from TANePS at www.taneps.go.tz and TGDC website.
- 4. Tenderers are required to pay the tender participation fees of TZS. **100,000.00** for each tender to be able to participate in this tendering process.
- 5. All Tenders must be accompanied by a **Tender security** indicated in each tender document in Tanzania Shillings or freely convertible currencies.
- 6. All Tenders must be properly filled in, sealed in plain envelopes, clearly marked with Tender No and Tender Description and submitted to the address below at or before 10:30 AM on 24th July, 2023. Tenders will be opened at or before 11:30 AM on 24th July, 2023 in the presence of the tenderers or their representatives who choose to attend at Tanzania Geothermal Development Company Limited (TGDC) Ursino Estate, Mwai Kibaki Road, House number 25, Plot number 13, Dar es Salaam, Tanzania in TGDC Board Room.
- 7. Late tenders, the portion of tenders, tenders not received, tenders not opened and not read out online during tender opening shall not be accepted for evaluation irrespective of the circumstances.

General Manager

Tanzania Geothermal Development Company Limited (TGDC) Ursino Estate, Mwai Kibaki Road, House number 25, Plot number 13, P.O. Box 14801, Dar es Salaam, Tanzania

NATIONAL.NEWS

Use newly introduced better beans seed, farmers advised

By Correspondent Felix Andrew,

Songwe

BEANS farmers in the southern highlands regions have been urged to use newly introduced seed which can be planted at any environment and yield more produce.

Innocent Bunga, extension officer of Ikuo General Enterprises made the advice recently when speaking during the tour organised by Agricultural Markets Development Trust (AMDT) in Momba District, Songwe Region.

He stated that 'mwaspeli' and 'njano uyole' beans seed yields enough produce as compared to the local ones.

Bunga said the seeds has been certified by relevant bodies plays a crucial role for the economic development of farmers, noting that in the past one acre produced between 3 and 4 buckets of beans but the newly introduced seed can produce up to 50 buckets

He said Ikuo general enterprises has already entered into agreement with some farmers to produce seeds and later would be distributed to local farmers.

Bunga thanked the two Non government organisations namely SNV and AMDT for management and financing Ikuo respectively.

He urged the government to recruit more extension officers and introduce advanced farming technology for farmers.

Furaha Kibona, one of the farmers in Ndalambo village, Momba District asked the government to reduce tax charged on farming inputs so as to enable more farmers access the service.

She said most farmers fail to conduct farming more effectively because of the high costs surrounding the sector.

She urged more youth to join in farming activities so as to improve their income and economic development of the country.

AMDT is investing over 4bn/ to facilitate various interventions meant to transform sunflower and pulse subsectors in the country.

According to AMDT Chief Executive Officer, Charles Ogutu, the amount will be issued as grants to nine partner organizations and government institutions who will co facilitate the implementation of agricultural development projects un 11 regions of Tanzania.

The investment will focus on intervention that feed into government priorities in the agricultural sector as defined in the agenda 10/30 and the agricultural sector development programs (ASDP11)

Among the key focus areas, the investment will facilitate for farmers the enhancement availability and access to improved seeds, access to finance in the two crop sectors, business development services and good agricultural practices including post harvest management.

The project will also improve access to rural advisory services and value addition in sunflower and pulses. The project will cover Manyara, Singida Dodoma Lindi, Mtwara, Songwe, Ruvuma, Njombe and Rukwa regions.

Currently project agreement allows implementation up to year 2023. Hower it is expected that well performing partnerships will be extended until 2024.

> ...most farmers fail to conduct farming more effectively because of the high costs surrounding the sector

Dar High Court judge commends officials for reducing cases backlog



26 school girls expelled due to pregnancy resume lessons

By Guardian Correspondent, Musoma

TWENTY-SIX school girls in Tarime District, Mara Region who were expelled from school because to pregnancies have returned to school to continue with their lessons while eight others were rescued from Kenya where they were used for domestic work while some as beggars in the streets.

Antoni Nyange, Tarime District

told this paper on Monday the their children against gender based district has been able to return 26 pupils to school who were now continuing with their lessons.

"Eight other with physical disabilities who were rescued from neighbouring Kenya to where they were trafficked for domestic work and as street beggars have been returned to their homes in Bariadi District," he said.

He called upon parents and Community Development Officer guardians to make sure they protect

violence and child abuse, the acts that now rampant in the area.

He said the children with physical disabilities were found in Kenya in collaboration with Kenya government officials and added that parents have the responsibility to oversee their children's development in schools.

For her part, Rebecca Zakayo, project officer from Africa Inland Church (AICT), Mara and Ukerewe

Diocese said there is a dire need for the community to know the development brought in by the digital world and teach their children to avoid all adverse effects through the use digital devices.

She added that her organisation is engaged in a project to teach children to know how to read and write aimed at enhancing the quality of inclusive education in which they also provide aids to children with various physical disabilities in the community.

Itiriyo Ward Councillor, Shadrack Marwa said there the need for the community to abandon outdated beliefs and instead it should utilise the time to educate their children in disregard of gender status.





By Guardian Reporter

A senior judge of the High Court of Tanzania, Dar es Salaam Zone, Salma Maghimbi, has lauded the cooperation among court officials in the Zone that had made possible the reduction of the backlog of cases from 595 cases as in December 2022 to 162 as of June 15 this year.

Speaking recently when opening the two-day training seminar for the Dar es Salaam Zone Magistrates. Hon. Maghimbi said that if they continue putting more efforts and cooperation in their work, the Zone will make history for not having small backlog of court cases.

"I also commend other officials including magistrates at various levels who were at the fore front in the dispensation of justice and display of accountability for the benefit of the people," she added.

According to her, by December 2022 the Zone closed the year with a total of 2,460 pending cases and beginning January this year up to June 15 a total of 1,053 new cases were filed and by the same date a total of 1,760 cases were heard and 1,554 remained.

Hon Maghimbi said the Zone continues to take various measures aimed at reducing cases backlog including conducting special sessions involving judges within and outside the Zone.

In regard to subordinate courts - including primary, District and Resident Magistrates Courts within the Dar es Salaam Zone, Judge Maghimbi praised the work being done by them while stressing on court officers thereof to increase the speed in dispensing the cases.

"We should examine ourselves in regard to the dispensation of justice by adhering to the criteria cited in Article 107 A (2) of the 1977 Tanzania Constitution, that is abiding by the dictates of the laws when hearing

and meting out judgement in disregard to the people's status in community," she added.

Hon Maghimbi said the origin of the training seminar is the Five Year Judiciary Strategic Plan (202021 - 2024/25 that stresses in empowering judicial officials at all court levels to enable them perform their duties professionally and diligently.

She said topic regarding Arbitration Procedures in the country will be provided according to the 2019 Law on Arbitration, and that of Judicial Officers ethics and the implementation of awards according to the Criminal Procedure Act will also be provided by the Magistrates.

She impressed upon Judicial Officers to use the training as opportunity for discussions and exchange of experience in their work performance.



l also commend other officials including magistrates at various levels who were at the fore front in the dispensation of justice and display of accountability for the benefit of the people

Dr Nkundwe Mwasaga, Director General of the Tanzania Information and Communication Technologies Commission, pictured at an event held in Dar es Salaam yesterday thanking Mohamed Punjani Charitable Trust Tanzania and Khoja Leadership Foundation for conducting on-the-job vocational training for youths aged 15 and 34. Photo: Correspondent Miraji Msala

25 engineers in China for capacity building training

By Guardian Reporter

TWENTY-FIVE Tanzania engineers have tleft for China for capacity building training under the coordination of Chinese construction firm Group Six International Limited.

The engineers are set to receive capacity building training on proper implementation of projects and heightening safety at workplaces being part of 300 Tanzania experts reaching 2025.

At least 200 professionals have travelled to the Asian country since 2018 in the execution of the five years programme.

Group Six International Limited financial director, Wu Wein said in an interview that the programme is

"This is due to existing relations between Tanzania and China. The purpose is to equip them with knowledge and skills that will enable them to increase efficiency in implementation of roads, bridges, housing projects," said Wu.

Wu said his company is collaborating with Chongqing Vocational Institute of Engineering of China in execution of the programme intended at addressing the rapid changes of technology.

The company's deputy director, Yi Xiabo said the 25 experts would make a total of 85 professionals have travelled to the Asian country, noting that in 2018 and 2019 a total of 60 pros went for training.

funded by the Chinese government. the training virtually in 2020, 2021 and 2022 making the number of the programme beneficiaries 285. The first phase of the programme is expected to end in 2025," he said.

He said during the training, the experts will receive the knowledge and skills about technology revolution, new building materials and occupational safety.

"They will receive theoretical and practical training as well as witnessing how the new technology works in implementation of projects. This will enable them to minimize accidents and health hazards during implementation of projects," said Yi.

International Airport (JNIA) "About 200 other experts received shortly before take-off, one of of large projects," she said.

the beneficiaries from the Dar es Salaam Institute of Technology (DIT), Dr Shija Kazumba said the training will have positive impacts to the country.

"Apart from theoretical and practical training, we will be able to learn how China has managed to make significant strides technologically and in supervision of large projects," he said.

Anna Soya, building architect from the National Housing Corporation (NHC) said training would enable them to learn how China has built competence in implementation of large projects.

"We will be able to replicate Speaking at the Julius Nyerere these achievements back home and increase our efficiency in execution

NATIONAL.NEWS

Guardian



A tourist (playing the guitar) with visiting US-based Above and Beyond Cancer organisation entertains children through music at the KCMC regional hospital in Moshi municipality at the weekend, chiefly seeking to raise public awareness on cancer. The group toured the facility before embarking on a seven-day climb of Mount Kilimanjaro through the Machame gate to provide cancer education and collect funds to support the campaign through the KiliTwende Adventures, Tanzanian tour firm. It includes ten cancer survivors – from Tanzania, Kenya and the US. Photo: Correspondent James Lanka

Science experts underline need for more innovation in medicinal plant cultivation

By Correspondent Mary Kadoke

EXPERTS have called upon the need for more innovation into medicinal plant agriculture for the country to tap into opportunities which have not been grabbed in the sector.

The call was made recently in Dar es Salaam during the wind-up session of the 8th annual national Science, Technology and Innovation Conference and Exhibition (STICE) organised by Tanzania Commission for Science and Technology (COSTECH).

Prof Hamis Malebo, United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO)

research has shown that there has been little emphasis on medicinal plant agriculture in the country despite the plants being available.

plant agriculture to have the economic base of traditional medication for sustainable development. Countries like Canada have invested in the area and are benefiting from it currently. Therefore, Tanzania investing in the area will definitely benefit the health and economic sector," he said.

He also added on the cooperation needed between the natural healing knowledge only benefits researchers.

Dr Amos Nungu, COSTECH director general said the "It is time we invest in medicinal commission was focused into connecting innovators with experts stressing that in most times, not every innovation requires money.

Dr Nicholous Otieno, an archaeologist from Muhimbili University of Health and Allied Sciences (MUHAS), noted that it's time the public should overcome negative perceptions on traditional "Despite medicine. healing, traditional healers have challenges. They are mostly moved with what is healers and researchers to initially done despite the technical

National Committee Chairman, said wave out the notion that native advancement. It is time we have a unique mechanism so as to move forward," he said.

According to him, the challenging part has been the community indigenous science perception as witchcraft suggesting exploration upon the field that will leave unanswered questions in people's minds.

Dr Mayasa Ally, an official from the Zanzibar Health Research Institute (ZAHRI) said basing on the effects caused by chemical medicines its time the government and stakeholders add value on traditional healing so as to have the economic base of traditional medication.



GBV, violation of children's rights linked to 'problematic' parenting

By Correspondent James Lanka, Moshi

THE increase in gender-based violence (GBV) as well as violation of children's rights in Kilimanjaro Region has been linked to 'problematic' parenting as most of the parents have moved to urban centres in search of greener pastures, leaving their children to elders who cannot take care of them.

Speaking recently at the climax of the International Day of the African Child which is observed every June 16, Head of the Police Gender Desk in Kilimanjaro, Asia Matauka said that in most cases the cruelty acts against children are committed by their close relatives, hence the need to further educate the community on the importance of protecting children and awareness on their rights.

The event was organized by authorities in Moshi municipality in collaboration with more than 25 non-governmental organizations (NGOs). It aimed at creating awareness on children's rights and educating them on how they can protect themselves against GBV.

During the week, a series of activities were conducted to create awareness on child protection and their rights including sports the Bananza that was held at Gabriella Children's Rehabilitation Centre (GCRC). The 2023 theme of the International Day of the African Child is 'The Rights of the Child in the Digital Environment'.

Executive Director, Gabriella Children's Rehabilitation Centre (GCRC) Brenda Shuma raised concerns on conducts by some parents in African communities who hide their children with disabilities at home, particularly those suffering from brain disorder. Shuma said most parents were unaware that the condition can be treated by special treatment, including rehabilitation. She said autism as a developmental disability that starts appearing in children at the age of three can be treated and enables children to live a relatively normal life.

"We need to give such children the skills that will make them productive, thus enabling them to enjoy their lives. They can also be trained on crafts, gardening, livestock keeping and cookery to improve their competitiveness in the market," she said, noting they have been working with various groups of people with disabilities in providing entrepreneurship training to children.

The Child Act No. 6 of 2011 aims to strengthen protection, care, and rights of children. It is against the law to commit acts of violence against children and that is why, it provides for the protection of children in all aspects, taking into account the age of not less than 18 years, as stated under section 19(1) (b) of the Child Act.

The Day of the African Child is celebrated every year on the 16th of June to honour memories of students who were massacred in Soweto, South Africa, in 1976 for protesting against education injustice and inequality in the apartheid regime.

More than 100 children were killed by police officers of the colonial administration of South Africa at that time. It was designated as the Day of the African Child in 1991 by the African Union and every year events are organized to promote children's rights.



We need to give such children the skills that will make them productive, thus enabling them to enjoy their lives. They can also be trained on crafts, gardening, livestock keeping and cookery to improve their competitiveness in the market

Anna Sombe (in white head-cloth), a Kampala University (Dar es Salaam campus) students government official, pictured on Monday taking part in training on the making of alternative charcoal by using paper boxes. The venue was the Community Voice Centre in the city's Kipunguni suburb. Photo:

UNCDF introduces 'Anzia Jikoni': Climate mitigation starts in the Kitchen campaign

By Guardian Reporter

Fund (UNCDF), the main implementer and fund manager of the Euro 17 million European Union (EU)-funded CookFund programme, has unveiled an awareness campaign called 'Anzia Jikoni' - Climate Mitigation Starts in the Kitchen.

Imanuel Muro, senior finance specialist and CookFund Programme manager, UNCDF Tanzania revealed recently when speaking during a workshop for

media professionals.

THE UN Capital Development the workshop was aimed at companies and enterprises to sharing knowledge on the transformative potential of clean cooking technologies in addressing health, environmental, and social challenges. The workshop highlighted the need for public, equipping journalists and media development partners and private sector collaboration for the sustainable growth of the clean collectively contribute to mitigating cooking market.

complement and leverage

development finance supports Organised by the UN Agency, to enhance the capabilities of develop the clean cooking solutions market, and with Anzia Jikoni, we will be able to accelerate adoption by the end user."

UNCDF believes that by houses with the necessary knowledge and resources, we can climate change and achieving the Muro said: " EU funding Sustainable Development Goals."

The data-driven narrative around our expertise in sustainable cooking is demonstrated by 85%

of the population using biomass, raising the alarm that climate change mitigation starts in the kitchen.

Muro added: "As journalists, you play a crucial role in communicating the importance of behavior change in cooking to a broader audience for generational impact."

The €17 million CookFund programme falls under the broader 'Integrated Approach to Sustainable Clean Cooking Solutions Program in Tanzania,' and the 11th European Development Fund (EDF) supports the government's ambitious plans to increase access to clean energy and clean cooking solutions in urban areas. The program aims for 80% usage of clean cooking solutions by 2033.

TARI, stakeholders collaborate to find ways to ease soil acidity

By Guardian Correspondent, Mbeva

THE Uyole Centre of Tanzania Agricultural Research Institute (TARI-Uyole) in Mbeya has begun working together with various stakeholders against the challenge from high content acid in farms, the situation that is contributing to low crops yields in southern Highlands regions.

According to the report on research done by the Institute, more than 14 per cent of the land fit for farming in the region has been affected by having high acid content.

This was revealed here on Monday by Frederick Mlowe, soil researcher from TARI-Uyole at the farming stakeholders meeting saw the submission of the report on the discovery of lime in the soils and how to control it.

Stakeholders in attendance included TARI researchers, experts from the Office of Mbeya Regional Commissioner and those from Mbeya Cement factory which produces the lime.

"The research shows that one acre of maize is supposed to produce more than three tonnes of the crop, but this level is not attained in these regions because the crops fail to suck well the fertiliser, hence much of it is lost," Mlowe said.

He added that the only way to reduce the acid is to use lime which sucks the acid due to its having the calcium content that lower the acid deep in the soil.

Representative from TARI-Director, Dr Juliana Uvole Mwakasendo said after identifying the soil situation, they have begun mobilising people to use lime to reduce the acid in the soil.

Dr Mwakasendo said the lime

technology is essential is used appropriately as it will help to reduce the acid and increase crops yields.

"We shall soon start distributing the lime to farmers, we believe that our farmers will use it by following guidelines from experts," she added.

For his part, the Director of Mbeva Cement Company, Khaled Ghareob said they will make sure they produce sufficient lime for distribution to farmers for use in their farms to reduce acid content in the soil.

He said apart from conducting business, they also engage themselves in helping the community including farmers who are part of the community in their economic production activities.

Jaffari Haniu, Rungwe District Commissioner who at the meeting represented Mbeya Regional Commissioner, stressed upon farmers to use the technology for more benefits.



The research shows that one acre of maize is supposed to produce more than three tonnes of the crop, but this level is not attained in these regions because the crops fail to suck well the fertiliser, hence much of it is lost

Guard www.ippmedic.com WEDNESDAY 21 JUNE 2023 Taking A New Look At The News **ESTABLISHED IN 1995**

Excise duty on petroleum oils helps to rebuild subsidy buffer

at the parliamentary level and more outside the legislature as to the wisdom or rationality of various tax measures in the Budget estimates. Some experts are worried that the proposal to introduce excise duty of 80/- per litre on petroleum oils has the potential to be burdensome, so it needs to be reconsidered. It is easy when one looks at the issue in isolation, that is, the likely impact of raising taxes on petroleum products, virtually by any margin.

The difference is when one starts looking round for alternatives, that is, where should the tax amount be levied so that overall expected balances are retained, in projection at least as other factors intervene later. It is equally true as a tax expert noted at a professional panel on tax proposals in the Budget that current prices are already high before a new tax measure is added. Yes, but that can be said for nearly everything, as presumably nothing is left out in thinking on tax.

It is scarcely a new idea to say that adding other costs too petroleum will be a burden to businesses and final consumers, on precisely the same premise, that costs need to be added somewhere via taxes. The idea is that taxes produce income that enables the government to spread out benefits of growth, as well as strategic or tactical tilts in economic management, where greater ease is needed to conduct economic activity, and where some little hardship is warranted. The rise in the petroleum excise duty is a case of 'little hardships' the Budget adds

A habitual formula in discussing tax initiatives is that whatever level

EBATE is being pursuit of tax incentive or disincentive is involved, it matters, and that is why it is a policy instrument. Taxes don't just raise revenue but also modulate how people seek out commodities, in which case it is calibrated to be manageable for usual habits to be maintained. Only when a tax alteration can be accommodated by targeted consumers without visible pain is it rational taxation as otherwise it becomes the proverbial 'slaying the goose that lays the golden eggs,' a negative tax initiative.

> There are various ways in which tax initiatives affect consumption, which in the final analysis depends on consumer categories. For public policy parameters, only when the broadest consumer category is visibly impacted in such a manner that optimal collection of such levy is put at issue, or disturbs social balances by sowing panic or anger, does the matter require urgent revision. When the level of inability to stomach or accommodate the shift in rates is low, it is left as it is.

> Mid last year the government started offering substantial subsidies petroleum in procurement to limit potential rise in prices, a situation that ebbed away and now some important oil market players are trying to bring it back. One can say that the change in petroleum oils tax is an attempt to make use of current low prices at wholesale level or global market crudes provides a tax haven for at least a while -or what really comes back to the same thing - enables the government to build back the stock of potential subsidy fund as it may be needed at any moment. It may not be a statutory provision but a tactical need.

EDITORIALS.OPINION

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World Refugee Day: Let's celebrate solutions to refugee energy crisis

By Nashwa Naushad and Amer

Alkayed

ONNECTING displaced people with clean, affordable energy is an urgent humanitarian challenge. In refugee camps, the share of residents without electricity and safe cooking methods can be as high as 90per cent.

Powering up communities supports displaced people to stay safe and healthy, earn a living, learn, and stay in touch with loved ones. But there are many barriers to progress - including a lack of public and private investment, and this gap be closed? A key step is supporting and replicating homegrown energy initiatives, and the entrepreneurs and community organisations driving ground-up change. They know the solutions needed, and the funding and business models that can make them a reality.

Backing this work is muchneeded action towards a more inclusive, participatory, sustainable humanitarian system. Whether powering clinics, streetlights, water pumps or market stalls, energy is at the centre of a strong community.

Ensuring that energy systems are locally owned - or run handin-hand with local people - is a

In East Africa, Save the Environment Ethiopia has launched twelve clean energy co-operatives in partnership with UNHCR, local authorities and funder IKEA Foundation. Local people are given training in engineering and business skills. This supports a range of livelihoods, from farming to gum and incense making.

Supporting entrepreneurship is particularly important because of the barriers to work facing refugees and displaced people. That's why Nigeria's Care for Social Welfare International is helping displaced people make the most of 350 hectares of land allocated to them in Cross River State.

and process farm goods using a solar dryer. It also promotes the women's products by organising football matches and other community events.

These varied initiatives from across Africa show how communities can drive forward energy access. But international organisations have a vital role to play. Their involvement can catalyse and de-risk markets in humanitarian settings, creating an environment that allows homegrown initiatives to thrive. They can create impact as partners, funders or customers of grassroots efforts.

This includes championing the success and insights of communities,

should boost small farmers

Strategic food system plan

AST vear the World Food Programme (WFP) launched a strategic food system plan aimed at supporting small scale farmers from farms in the value chain to market acquisition for their produce.

The five years programme will see them also teaming up with banks for financial support and input suppliers to reach over 400 farmers in their target scheme.

The programme of food system from the farm to production support the farmers to change their ways of production and link them with ready markets and in turn motivate and raise their livelihoods.

We told that the programme 35bn/would also worth incorporate horticultural farming to raise nutritious food in the fight against stunting growth. Indeed it is not only about food security, but growing nutritious food is a necessity in the health of people.

The plan would also go along the Ministry of Agriculture- Building a Better Tomorrow (BBT)'s initiative facilitated by MASTERCARD Foundation, focusing on youth to raise their livelihood through irrigation and financial support.

We have several drought stricken regions, where the youth form the majority in the population are capable of revolutionising agriculture

According to the new strategic planit has eight goals to meet namely in school feeding programme, nutrition, climate smart, environmental protection, feeding refugees, disaster management in the Prime Minister's Office as well as working closely with the government so that communities' lives are improved. To ensure the farmers cultivate the crops training them on the best farming practices and link them with financial is crucial so that they are provided with low interest loans.

At present through the Climate Smart Agriculture (CSA) programme funded by the Irish government it is expected to see farmers increase production in order for them to earn more and enlarge their income.

The Tanzania Bureau of Standard (TBS) has called upon stakeholders in the food sector to adhere to quality and safety rules to ensure the availability of safe food in the country.

Dr Athuman Ngenya TBS director general made the call recently in Dar es Salaam when opening a seminar involving stakeholders in the food system value chain.

The stakeholders met to discuss the role of national, regional and international safety standards on ensuring that safe food reaches the consumer.

The seminar was organised as part of the cerebration to mark the World Food Safety Day which is commemorated on every June7.

Dr Ngenya said safe food is a necessity for all adding that for one to have good health, there is need to eat quality food saying the effects of consuming non-quality food is expensive.

"Unqualified food has been linked to various health complications including stunting in children and the increase in Non-Communicable Diseases (NCDs)," he said.

He said according to the World Health Organisation, one in every 10 people are affected for consuming food which is unsafe and 420 people die for the same.

He said the effects of consuming unsafe food is heavy in developing countries with most victims being children under the age of five.

"The standards are there to lead producers to produce safe food which is suitable for local and foreign consumers," he said.

officials' reluctance to sanction infrastructure that 'settles displaced people.

Every day across the Global South businesses and non-profits are using mini-grids and rooftop solar to bring clean energy to more and more communities - while safer cook stoves tackle deforestation and air pollution.

But too often, barriers stop the spread of these services and products to displaced people. We risk a widening energy poverty gap, further adding to the challenges faced by some of the world's most marginalised communities.

On World Refugee Day (20 June 2023), it's time to ask - how can

foundation for resilience. And, crucially, it helps bring dignity back to communities, something many other interventions cannot manage.

Examples of truly homegrown innovation include USAFI Green a refugee-led enterprise in Kenya's Kakuma Refugee Camp, employing local people to manufacture cookstoves (2,000 a month) and clean-burning briquettes to fuel them. 95 per cent of its staff are under 35, meaning a big impact tackling youth unemployment. Contracts to supply briquettes to the FAO have supported USAFI Green's growth, underlining the importance of partnerships between local and global organisations.

At the heart of the scheme is a solar-powered borehole shared by 1,200 farmers, which irrigates fields and has allowed 50 households to take up fish pond farming. CASWI's support goes further, helping farmers process and sell their produce - a holistic approach that maximises the scheme's impact.

Meanwhile, Cameroon's Hope for a Better Future is empowering women from the internally displaced and host communities to run 'solar solution centres' in the country's Northwest Region. The NGO's start-up kits, accompanied by technical and business training, help the women supply and repair solar lamps and clean cookstoves,

and advocating for them. Steps to fight official restrictions on the rights to work and land, and the general social marginalisation of displaced people, will support important structural change.

For millions of people, clean energy can be a foundation for a better life. But it can also be a foundation for new ways of thinking and acting in the humanitarian system, sparking progress around the world.

Naushad Nashwa is Programme Officer at Ashden and Amer Alkayed is Co-founder and Chairperson of Global **Refugee-Led Network.**

We must work together to rein in 'toxic and destructive' hate speech

By UN News

TTH hate spreading lightning fast on social media and "mega spreaders" using divisive rhetoric to inspire thousands, the United Nations is calling for concerted global efforts to combat hate speech.

speech reinforces Hate discrimination and stigma and is most often aimed at women, refugees and migrants, and minorities. If left unchecked, it can even harm peace and development, as it lays the ground for conflicts and tensions, wide scale human rights violations.

To turn back the rising tide of hate, the United Nations is marking the International Day for Countering Hate Speech by calling on everyone to work together to build a more respectful and civil

world, and for effective action criticize officials - violate rights and to end this toxic and destructive phenomenon.

Responses must protect free speech

UN Secretary-General António Guterres also warns that misguided and ambiguous responses to hate speech - including blanket bans and internet shutdowns - may also violate human rights by restricting freedom of speech and expression. Similarly, the top UN human rights official, Volker Türk, says that the spread of hate speechrelated laws being misused against journalists and human rights defenders is almost as viral as the spread of hate speech itself.

In his message on the Day, he stresses that broad laws - that license States to censor speech they find uncomfortable and to threaten or detain those who question Government policy or

endanger essential public debate.

"Rather than criminalizing protected speech, we need States and companies to take urgent steps to address incitement to hatred and violence," Mr. Türk says.

'Amplify voices that cut through the hate'

But we are far from powerless in the face of hate speech, says Mr. Guterres, stressing that "we can and must raise awareness about its dangers, and work to prevent and end it in all its forms.'

He cites the United Nations Strategy and Plan of Action on Hate Speech as the Organization's comprehensive framework for tackling the causes and impacts of hate speech, and notes that the world body's offices and teams around the world are confronting hate speech by implementing local action plans, based on this strategy.

"The United Nations is consulting governments. technology companies and others on a voluntary Code of Conduct for information integrity on digital platforms, aimed at reducing the spread of mis- and disinformation and hate speech, while protecting freedom of expression," he adds.

Mr. Türk, the UN High Commissioner for Human Rights, calls for a range of actions - from education initiatives and investing in digital literacy programmes to listening to those most effective by hate speech and holding companies to their human rights obligations.

"More also needs to be done to address mega-spreaders - those officials and influencers whose voices have profound impact and whose examples inspire thousands of others," Mr. Türk said. "We must build networks and amplify voices that can cut through the hate."

FEATURES

Leila Sheikh: Tribute to star that shone brightly and inspired many

By Pili Mtambalike

HE profound outpouring of grief and tributes following the death of media guru Leila Sheikh (pictured) goes far to reveal how highly she was regarded by members of the media fraternity, human rights activists and others from all walks of life who were touched by her work.

She called herself a 'star' and shone brightly during her sojourn here on earth. Leila was a force to reckon with when she was onto something be it in journalism or in advocating for women and children's human rights. She was always bubbling with ideas, projects and strategies which more often than not she would ensure would come to fruition come rain, come shine.

I met Leila in the early 1980's when we were young journalists trying to make a mark in our chosen career of journalism. She was at the Daily News and I was working at the Tanzania News Agency (Shihata). It was also at a time that a handful of media women were brainstorming on forming a media association in which we could pull together our energies, skills, knowledge and the power of the media to advocate for transformation in our society and enhance the rights of women in our country. It is there that our lives touched again and became fast friends and comrades in arms.

As women's rights defenders, we cut our teeth during the time of the Third World Conference on Women that took place in1985 in Nairobi, Kenya. The Nairobi Conference was the culmination of the decade for women and it assessed the progress and failure in implementing the goals established by the World Plan of Action from the 1975 inaugural conference on women that was held in Mexico.

As journalists, some of the members of the group of aspirant women human rights advocates had covered the Nairobi Conference and shared with us the nitty gritty of the discrepancies of human rights of women and girls in our societies as elaborated at the conference. Issues such as violence against women and the girl child, poor access to education and lack of access to economic resources among others were quite prevalent in Tanzania.

We had begun reporting on these issues as individual journalists but we were not making headway. We thought: what if we came together as women journalists and put the force of our unity towards highlighting those issues in our media? After all, was it not our imperative as journalists to inform and educate our audiences?

In 1987, we were eventually successful to register the Tanzania Media Women's Association (TAMWA) and as a tribute to our efforts, over 30 years later it's still going strong with new blood taking up the baton in the fight for women and children's rights.

Back then we were idealists, as young people always are and had so many ideas and plans we thought were quite good and innovative and through our work in the media we could easily influence decision makers to make the necessary policy and legal changes which would better the lives of women in the country. We would educate the people about these problematic issues in our society and let them desire and demand for the end of these inequalities. We were to find out quite soon that it was not as easy as a walk in the park. For many of us it would be a part and parcel of our mission in life and it was so with Leila. She dedicated her life's energy and efforts as a human rights defender and touched the lives of many through her zeal and dedication. She used her pen mercilessly to propound the importance of ensuring that as a democracy we have to ensure that women and girls were given equal access to education and training, to opportunities and resources and to address their spe- counsellors, journalists to



cial needs in areas such as health, access to leadership and decision-making positions.

Violence against women was happening all around us but few saw it

as an anomaly and even when we started reporting about it our editors would more often than not veto publication as they deemed them matters private and should remain so. Sauti ya Siti, the flagstone publication of TAMWA, was launched in 1989 and Leila became its first editor. Sauti ya Siti became a voice for the voiceless women and reported on the various struggles of women and also carried success stories, policy issues and analyses. What could not be published in the mainstream media where we worked found a place in Sauti ya Siti. Leila was also the writer in resi-

TAMWA publications. Leila became the first coordinator of the Women's Crisis Centre which

dence and editor of other

provide free services to the women victims of violence. Indeed, the Crisis Center in Magomeni thrived under Leila's leadership and became not only a refuge but a beacon of hope for women who had passed through a rough time that it was possible to live their lives without violence.

Men who were called to the Crisis Centre to account for beating up their wives or neglecting to support their families trembled when they came to the centre

As years passed and members saw a felt need to institutionalize TAMWA, the choice of Director fell upon Leila once again. With great zeal and dedication, Leila helped transform TAMWA into a fully-fledged organization. She had a Midas touch in fundraising and was able to raise millions of shillings to fund the organization's strategic plans dedicated to enhance the human rights of women and children.

Leila took to social media like the proverbial duck to water. She was a dedicated blogger and also administered a number of WhatsApp groups, Facebook platforms and was active on Twitter. When she started her blog Leila's Café, she pondered on what the blog would be about.

"Leila's Café, I decided should focus on issues that matter, issues that would make a difference, which would impart information and also be a platform to do advocacy for Social Justice. Hence, the debut of Leila's Cafe is dedicated to Social Justice", she wrote on her blog.

Many who heard about her death on June 13, said that she had been active online commenting and posting on her various social media platforms on that fateful day. She saw social media as a powerful tool of communication and used it effectively in her work.

Leila, like a well-formed gem of the first water, had

chairman in Shinyanga to join hands with TAMWA in condemning the killings of old women on unjust accusations of witchcraft.

For many years, TAMWA lobbied on laws to protect women from violence. The outcome of that work are the gender desks that have been established in nearly all police stations. As a result of working with the police force she was in first name terms with many of the commanders. In the course of years of lobbying, Leila coordinated the lobby for the Sexual Offenses Special Provisions Act, (SOSPA) 1998.

We had little money for this activity and when the Bill went to Parliament TAMWA members and its partners camped near the National Parliament for days until the bill was passed. She had roped in the Red Cross Society to provide us with tents and staff to set them up for us at the College of Business Education (CBE) grounds near the Parliament buildings in Dodoma. I do not even recall how we got the permission to use the CBE grounds. Leila would have recalled on point.

As coordinator, Leila was responsible for getting in inputs from lawyers and other NGO's to work with TAMWA on the proposed bill. Although the Act was dubbed as the 'Sheria ya TAMWA' it was indeed an effort of many people and organizations that provided their valuable time and expertise free.

Leila also mentored many young journalists as one of the objectives of TAMWA was for experienced journalists to be role models and mentors for upcoming ones. They will surely remember her for dedication for research and detail when writing journalistic pieces.

She did everything with great vigour. One could actually feel the energy pouring from her skin. No task was small or big for her. They all got the same attention and dedication. Her life was packed with activities, with plans and with strategies on social justice.

Late last year, she brought a number of us together on a WhatsApp group she had opened to brainstorm on forming an organization that would produce audio visuals on social justice issues. The discussions were intense and names, objectives and even registration of the organization were discussed. Should it be a company or a not-for-profit. The discussions pattered out around April this year maybe because the lead instigator, Leila, was occupied with other endeavors. We may never know, but most agree it is an idea worth following up to honour her memory.

Another facet of Leila that perhaps many of her acquaintances may not have privy to is that she was a hafiza, meaning the protector of the Holy Quran, having memorized the whole text and could recite it by heart. A few years back she started a WhatsApp group on religious matters called Muslimat and as usual she roped me in. I saw another facet of Leila as a highly learned Muslim scholar. Every day, she would send dua's and explain hadith on various issues of faith. She also invited in a number of well learned ladies in Islamic scholarship who have assisted some of us who were in great need of such guidance.

Leila was also hard headed and at times we batted heads that left us each sulking in our own corner. I learnt soon enough that for her part Leila would recover fast enough and take off on a different tangent while you remained sullen. To her it is done and over and it is there might be some manuscript laying down somewhere waiting to be published.

Leila was a beautiful woman and that fooled many a people who thought she was just a pretty face masquerading as a human rights activist. They would soon be dissuaded once they spent a few moments with her and learnt to respect, admire and seek her counsel due to her intelligence and quick appraisal of issues.

Personally, I feel enriched by having been touched by her life and I hope I too was able to influence her life. We were like the Ying and Yang in Chinese philosophy. There is no guessing who was the flamboyant, charmer between us. I was the balance, the cool and restrained one who would take time to appraise a situation before making a decision. Perhaps the voice of reason vis a vis the impulsive nature of Leila.

Leila has left us in the prime of her life. Yet if one takes count of her life's achievements, she has indeed lived several lifetimes over and has left an indelible mark in the social history of this country. Few people can grudge her claim to this feat. In the words of the writer Edward J. Stieglitz - "And in the end it's not the years in your life that count; it's the life in your vears.'

Fare thee well, my sister and friend, until our paths cross again.

Pili Mtambalike is a long-serving journalist and human rights activist. She is also one of the founder members of TAMWA who include Fatma Alloo, Edda Sanga, the late Leila Sheikh, Valerie Msoka, Elizabeth Marealle, Rose Kalemera, the late Jamilla Chipo, the late Nellie Kidela, Rose Haji Mwalimu, Ananilea Nkya, Halima Shariff and Chemi Che Mponda.

Guardian

was started in 1994 by TAMWA to provide a refuge for battered women, access to legal aid and counseling. TAMWA members and Leila as the coordinator of the centre cajoled, begged and enticed professionals such as lawyers, social workers,

many facets. She was a brilliant person and had a great memory. She could recall many escapades that we had encountered together in our early years as disruptors of the paternalistic social order. We would reminisce and chuckle about those good old days. Indeed, she was the institutional memory of TAMWA and we are at a loss for her departure.

I remember in the early years I would observe her in awe how she could charm a media executive to give us free airtime for TAMWA programmes or cajole a village time for more action.

Yet despite all her bravado, Leila had a vulnerable side. She also had a vivid imagination and would at times draw from the air all sorts scenarios regarding people's attitudes or behaviour towards her. She would then lash out and many a perplexed person has been subjected to her ire without knowing the reason why. I used to tease her if she ever penned a novel, it would be a best seller due to her expansive imagination! Of course, that gave her food for thought. Who knows,

Delicate balancing act of energy development and environmental protection

By Prof Raphael Mwalyosi

HERE is a growing global consensus that the supply of hydrocarbons to meet energy demand leads to an increase in greenhouse gases (GHGs), which in turn contribute to climate change.

Also, it is agreed that until reliable alternatives are found to power lowcarbon economies, the use of gas and oil remains essential for economic and social progress in developing countries, including Tanzania.

In recent years, developing countries have ventured into oil and gas exploration and production. This undertaking is carbon intensive. Knowledge of measuring, verification and reporting on greenhouse gas emissions through these sources would provide an understanding on the level of contribution in such countries. Such knowledge would also be an important part of the Environmental Assessments (EAs) of oil and gas exploration and development.

Biofuel production is among the explicit goals of policy measures to reduce GHGs emissions. Fuels from bioenergy crops are thus considered emissionneutral when burnt. Despite these potential benefits, however, scientific studies have revealed that different biofuels vary widely in their GHGs balances when compared to petrol.

Depending on the methods used to produce the feedstock and process the fuel, some crops can even generate



more GHGs than do fossil fuels, namely oil and gas. For example, nitrous oxide, a greenhouse gas with a global warming potential of around 300 times greater than that of carbon dioxide, is released from nitrogen fertilizers.

Moreover, greenhouse gases are emitted at other stages in the production of bioenergy crops and biofuels such as in producing fertilizers, pesticides and fuel used in farming, during chemical processing, transport and distribution, up to final use.

GHGs can also be emitted by direct or indirect land-use changes triggered by increased biofuel production, for instance when carbon stored in forests or grasslands is released from the soil during land conversion to crop production.

Also, while maize produced for ethanol can generate greenhouse gas savings of about 1.8 tonnes of carbon dioxide per hectare per year, and switch grass -

a possible second-generation crop - can generate savings of 8.6 tonnes per hectare per year, the conversion of grassland to produce those crops can release 300 tonens per hectare, while conversion of forest land can release between 600 and 1,000 tonnes per hectare.

Although Tanzania is endowed with diverse energy sources, including wood fuel, geothermal, wind and hydropower, the oil industry has so far remained an important sector in the country's economy absorbing about 55 percent of the country's foreign exchange.

Natural gas is likely to substitute expensive importation of petroleum fuels following discovery of more than 2 billion cubic feet of the gas in Songo Songo, Mnazi Bay area in Mtwara and offshore in the Indian Ocean. Gas to electricity projects alone are expected to have a market of 17 potential industries in Dar es Salaam Region.

Currently, natural gas is used for cooking and heating, in vehicles and many other applications. It is used as raw material for production of a large range of products like fertilizers, methanol and many other products.

Agriculture is the mainstay of the economy of Tanzania and related industrial aspects comprising of processing of food, beverages and tobacco, which represent over 70 percent of Tanzania's industrial production. In future, most agro-industries in the country would be concentrated within the Southern Agricultural Growth Corridor of Tanzania (SAGCOT) region, associated with major energy generation, sensitive wetlands and water sources.

There are also chemical industries including petroleum, rubber and plastics (12 percent) as well as textiles, clothing, leather and footwear (4 percent).

Tanzania's economic growth and changes in economic policies have raised huge demand for electric power in the country. Whereas the current power supply in the country is only about 1,400MW, the demand by 2025 is expected to be 5,000MW. Tanzania's strategy under the Big Results Now (BRN) was to raise the current low per capita electricity consumption of about 236kWh in 2015, to 444 kW/h and 616 kW/h by 2025 and 2035 respectively, increasing generation capacity to 3,197MW.

The Julius Nyerere Hydropower Project in Rufiji is the only large scale project that is likely to provide over 2000MW by 2026. To achieve the desired goals, the government plans more use of natural gas and coal which unfortunately are both associated with major environmental pollution and water use.

Assessment of Power System Master Plan (PSMP) for electricity in Tanzania shows increase in environmental burden in all chosen impact categories during 2000-2030. Industrial, social development and environmental protection are the key pillars of sustainable development.

With increasing trend of population in Tanzania, population dynamics play an important role in the process of industrial transformation, not only in terms of the rate of population growth, but also its age and sex distribution and hence environmental degradation.

With the present growth rate and age structure, working Tanzanians will have to support a growing population of youth and young people who currently make up more than one half of the entire population. However, the benefits to project proponents include: reduced cost and time of project implementation, cost-saving modifications in PPP design, increased project acceptance, avoids impacts and violation of laws and regulations, improves PPP performance and avoids treatment or clean -up costs.

On the other hand, the benefits to local communities and other stakeholders include: a healthier local environment (forests, water sources, agricultural potential, aesthetic values, and clean living), improved human health, maintenance or improvement of biodiversity, increased and sustainable resource use and fewer conflicts over natural resource use.

The author is an environmental ecologist based in Dar es Salaam. He can be reached on 0754 270 196.

FEATURE

Bolivia's dream of reaping from natural gas fading away

By Franz Chávez

NE of the largest natural gas reservoirs in South America is showing signs of decline and the hopeful expectations that emerged in 2006, to turn Bolivia into a regional energy leader, are waning.

When the fossil fuel bonanza was already showing signs of fatigue, then president Evo Morales (2006-2019) announced in the middle of his election campaign, in March 2019, the discovery of what was described as a "sea of gas" in the department of Tarija, in the south of the country.

But the certainty of a future natural gas boom gave way to a downward trend in the sector that is currently affecting production and sales and has shattered the hopes that gas would remain the engine of internal development for a long time to come, according to industry experts.

"They strangled the goose that laid the golden eggs," said Gonzalo Chávez, an analyst with a PhD in economics, who pointed to a 3.2 billion dollar drop in gas revenues between 2014 and 2021. The decline is attributed to the lack of exploration of new reserves.

In 2014, oil and gas revenues amounted to nearly 5.5 billion dollars, compared to less than 2.3 billion dollars in 2021, according to Chávez's calculations. The fall is considerable, more so given that in 2021, public spending totaled 2.6 billion dollars. The economy grew that year by 6.5 percent, according to the Ministry of Economy and Public Finance.

The state-owned oil and gas company Yacimientos Petrolíferos Fiscales Bolivianos (YPFB) "has shown that it does not now have the technical or financial capacity to explore or develop new fields," economic analyst Roberto Laserna told IPS.

The company's website reported that the investment in exploration and exploitation of hydrocarbons for the period 2021-2025 amounts to 1.4 billion dollars, and quotes its president, Armin Dorgathen, as stating that the aim is "to change this situation of the importation of fuels.

On Jun. 12, the YPFB announced that the testing stage at the Chaco Este X9D oil well, located in the province of Gran Chaco in Tarija, "recorded hydrocarbon flows in two reservoirs," as part of the effort the company is making to show that it is pulling out of the production rut.

Dorgathen announced that the discoveries will contribute an average production of 8.76 million cubic feet per day of natural gas and 281 barrels per day of crude oil.

Questions that IPS sent to YPFB a few days earlier, regarding the drop in gas revenues, received no response.

In the 21st century Bolivia remains dependent on hydrocarbons, both for its energy consumption - 81 percent of which comes from fossil sources - and for its tax revenue - 35 percent of which comes from the industry since the Hydrocarbons Law was introduced in 2005.

This landlocked Andean country of 12.2 million people has an economy traditionally based on extractive activities, especially tin, lead, zinc, copper, gold and silver mining, and more recently and abundantly on fossil fuels, after the discovery of large gas deposits at the beginning of this century.

One of the first measures adopted by Morales upon



A photo of workers of the state oil company Yacimientos Petroliferos Fiscales Bolivianos (YPFB) drilling an oil well. CREDIT: YPFB

bought on the international market for an average of 90 dollars and is sold domestically for 27 dollars.

Long gone are the "sea of gas" dreams that in April 2002 led President Jorge Quiroga (2001-2002) and his Minister of Economic Development Carlos Kempff to announce that after a study of 76 oil fields by a US company, it was estimated that the country's proven and probable gas reserves totaled 52 trillion cubic feet (TCF).

But only 10.7 TCF of proven natural gas reserves were certified in 2018. The search for new reserves runs up against a legal framework that protects the environment and indigenous lands, where part of the probable sources of hydrocarbons are located. "The constitution contains many obstacles and restrictions to attract foreign companies with the capacity for exploration," said Laserna.

The rewritten constitution, approved in February 2009, forces companies interested in exploration and exploitation to obtain authorization from the Plurinational Legislative Assembly, with the threat that any permit will be declared null and void if this requirement is not met.

Foreign companies, according to the constitution, are "subject to the sover-

eignty of the State," which rules out arbitration and diplomatic demands as a way of solving conflicts.

Environment and development

In terms of energy production, the constitution prohibits transnational corporations from exclusively managing concessions.

In addition, it places the environment above interests in economic uses of land and gives the local population the right to participate in environmental management, "to be previously consulted and informed about decisions that could affect the quality of the environment."

These powers granted to indigenous peoples and local communities are protecting the Tariquía National Flora and Fauna Reserve, in the municipality of Padcaya in the department of Tarija, which covers 246,870 hectares, part of which is close to the border with Argentina.

Since 2017, Lurdes Zutara has been a local organizer fighting the entry of oil companies into the area, warning that since the first roads were opened to give access to exploration equipment and teams, the water from the local source that gives rise to rivers and streams has decreased in flow.

Speaking with IPS from her town in Tariquía, the activist said that some families in the communities accepted the entry of heavy machinery, and noted that municipal authorities belonging to the governing Movement to Socialism (MAS) party were facilitating the preparatory operations for oil exploration.

"The immediate risk is drought because the road affects the water intakes," Zutara said.

She added that things will never be the same, that the relationship among local inhabitants will change because inequalities will emerge between those who obtain development with the support of the company and others who will

Bolivia is officially a multinational country located in the center of South America, where 41 percent of the population of 12.2 million consider themselves indigenous, according to the last census.

The United Nations Development

be left out.

10

taking office in 2006 was the total nationalization of the industry, leaving the entire production and marketing chain in the hands of the YPFB. And thanks to the gas boom, 38 billion dollars in oil and gas revenues were obtained in the period 2006-2018, when the steady decline began.

Hasty actions

To try to pull out of the crisis, Minister of Hydrocarbons and Energy Franklin Molina announced on Apr. 28 to Congress 18 new exploration and exploitation projects, 11 of which are to be carried out this year, with an investment of 324 million dollars - a plan considered unrealistic by industry observers.

The 11 projects, where oil appears to take precedence over gas, are located in four of Bolivia's nine departments: La Paz in the west, Tarija in the southeast, Santa Cruz in the east, and the central Chuquisaca.

"The fact that we do not have gas and we are net fuel importers is the fault of flawed government policies" in the sector, financial analyst Jaime Dunn wrote on his social networks.

According to the expert's calculation, the fiscal deficit for the year 2022 reached 1.7 billion dollars, largely due to the fuel subsidy, because a 159-liter barrel of oil is



A photo of the 15-story building of the headquarters of Yacimientos Petrolíferos Fiscales Bolivianos (YPFB), located in La Paz, where the executive and organizational offices of the government-owned oil company have been operating since 2018. CREDIT: Franz Chavez/IPS

Program (UNDP), based on data from the National Statistics Institute (INE), described in its latest report on human development the persistence of significant inequalities by geographic area, ethnicity, gender, and socioeconomic status.

In 2018, 54 percent of the inhabitants of rural areas suffered from moderate poverty and 33.4 percent from extreme poverty, compared to 26 and 7.2 percent, respectively, in urban areas.

Against this backdrop, Chávez the economist lamented that Bolivia went from being a major gas reserve in the South American region "to an importer" of fuels, with the subsequent impact on social development.

Laserna concurred, stating that "the outlook for the country is very discouraging" with respect to gas and the expected socioeconomic boost that was to come from fossil fuels.

RATIBA YA VIPIND CAPITAL RADIO JUMATATU - JUMA

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

AfDB to save African children at risk of dying before their fifth birthday

By Special Correspondent, Abidjan

T least 216 million African children suffer from stunting and malnutrition. In sub-Saharan Africa, malnutrition is the second leading cause of death among children after malaria.

To end this situation, the African Development Bank (AfDB) is stepping up its actions and its calls for mobilization both in Africa and worldwide. In 2016, the Bank launched the African Leaders for Nutrition (ALN) initiative as an advocacy tool that would enable African countries to work with partners to boost nutrition on the continent.

Backed by the African Union, the initiative also commits African governments to commit part of their budgets to reducing malnutrition. In particular, countries are invited to implement policies and interventions to combat malnutrition through agriculture, the food system and education, in tandem with various development partners.

To demonstrate its commitment to combating malnutrition in Africa, in 2018, the bank also unveiled the Multisectoral Nutrition Action Plan. The plan seeks to mobilize additional financial resources for smart nutrition investments in the key sectors of agriculture, education, health, social protection, and water, sanitation and hygiene to reduce child stunting on the continent by 40% through 2025. These sectors account for over 30 percent of public spending in Africa and are the underlying drivers of nutrition. So far, the Bank has allocated nearly \$2.8 billion of its portfolio to smart nutrition, on a baseline of USD 0.70 billion in 2018, broken down as follows: health (USD 531 million), agriculture (USD 950 million), WASH (USD 650 million) and social protection (USD 605 million).

Moreover, the Bank is continu-

ally stepping up initiatives to ensure that thousands of African children have the chance to celebrate their fifth birthday. Through the "Banking on Nutrition programme, a partnership with Big Win Philanthropy and the Aliko Dangote Foundation, the Bank is leading the urgent fight against infant malnutrition. The programme is mainstreaming nutrition into regional and national strategies and work to increase the production and consumption of healthy, nutritious food through the mobilization of partnerships, governments and the private sector.

For example, in the Sahel region, which faces enormous impacts from climate change including desertification, drought, erosion, flooding and political insecurity, the bank is implementing a specific regional programme on food security and nutrition. The Programme to Build Resilience to Food and Nutrition Insecurity in the Sahel exemplifies the sort of collaboration the Bank seeks to establish with other development partners to combat malnutrition.

With contributions from the Canada-African Development Bank Climate Fund, the West African Development Bank , and the African Development Fund, the African Development Bank Group's concessional window, the initiative will mobilize \$176 million to sustainably increase productivity and income from agrarian, forestry, pastoral and fisheries value chains. The programme is also strengthening Africans' capacity to adapt to climatic hazards and contributes to mitigating the effects of climate change in six countries: Burkina Faso, Guinea, Mali, Niger, Senegal and Togo. Some 1.38 million people will benefit directly from this project, and a further 5.69 million will benefit indirectly.

In Burkina Faso, the School Meals with Local Produce for Intel-



velopment Bank, keeps thousands of schoolchildren in school. With funding of \$990,000, the project is reinforcing efforts by the Burkina Faso government to ensure that every child in elementary school has at least one balanced meal a day.

In 2019, the Bank approved a grant of \$8 million for the creation of the Regional Centre of Excellence in Nutritional Sciences in Burundi. It will help address the shortage of qualified nutrition and agro-processing specialists to ligent Nutrition Project, financed strengthen food security in Burun-

project was implemented against a backdrop of high rates of chronic malnutrition in Burundi (56%) and East Africa. The centre will offer courses in clinical nutrition, nutrition and public health, agrifood technology, food quality, food safety and climate change. By June 2022, the syllabi had been developed and a cohort of 59 students enrolled for training.

As affirmation of his work on nutrition, AfDB President, Dr Akinwumi Adesina, has just been appointed by UN Secretary-Gen-

global leaders to spearhead the fight against malnutrition at a critical time for food and nutrition security. Other global leaders include Cindy McCain, Executive Director of the World Food Program; Catherine Russell, Executive Director of UNICEF; Gabriela De Bukele, First Lady of El Salvador; Sania Nishtar, member of the Senate and President of the NGO Heartfile in Pakistan; and Gunhlid Stordalen, Founder and President of the EAT Foundation in Norway, also feature on the list.

"I am greatly honoured by the United Nations Secretary General eral António Guterres as one of 22 appointing me among global leaders to tackle global malnutrition. Thank you SG. I look forward to helping to deliver on this agenda," said Dr Adesina on Twitter, welcoming the news.

The appointment should reinforce the commitment of Mr. Adesina, under whose leadership, the Bank has helped mobilize \$72 billion from international partners, following the Dakar 2 Summit on Food Sovereignty and Resilience, to boost food and agricultural production in Africa. The Bank itself has committed to invest \$10 billion in the sector over the next five vears in Africa.

Chinese cars gain recognition in Angola's auto market

LUANDA, Angola

HE first edition of Luanda Expo Car 2023 concluded Sunday after five days of exhibition in Luanda, the capital of Angola. On the last day of the event, Chinese expositors continued attracting the interest of local visitors.

Sitting inside a newly launched UNI-K model from Changan Automobile, a state-owned automobile manufacturer headquartered in Jiangbei, Chongqing in southwest China, Alfredo Massango, a visitor, said, "It's a beautiful car. It seems to be very comfortable and spacious inside. Now, we need to find out about its performance, but the first impression is very positive. I believe it will be well-received in Angola."

According to him, Chinese cars are becoming a "good alternative" for Angolan consumers, surpassing the brands that previously dominated Angola's automotive market since Chinese brands convey a greater sense of technology, equivalent performance, and better value for money.

At this automotive fair, Chinese car brands such as Changan, Jetour, Gac Motor, and Dongfeng occupied a large exhibition area. Changan's exhibition area was the largest among those Chinese brands, and the launch of two new models in the Angolan market was also announced during the five-day event held from June 14 to 18.

Moises Jonico, sales and marketing director of Changan, said Chinese brands have strong competitiveness in the Angolan market. Chinese cars are valued for their technology, functionality, and comfort, which arouses great interest and preference among Angolan consumers.

"China is one step ahead in terms of technology and functionality in their car models. In our market, every high-tech vehicle is seen as something new. China has encouraged us, as Angolan consumers, to abandon the habit of using traditional cars and seek more technology and functionality," he said.

He also stated that Chinese electric cars have a great advantage. Currently, most vehicles imported to Angola are gasoline-powered. Still, he believed that if Angola provides political support for electric cars and expands the charging infrastructure, China's new energy vehicles will also perform excellently in Angola.

"This new technology from Chinese brands, with electric cars and less pollution, represents the future. It will benefit society and the world, both for vehicle users and automobile enthusiasts in Angola," he said.

Jairo Santos, sales director of Jetour, said due to the high quality, comfort, and advancements in mechanical and electronic technology demonstrated by the brand's models, Jetour has become one of the most popular



This photo shows an SUV of Geely Auto, a Chinese automotive maker, cruising on a road in Luanda, Angola's capital.

brands in the Angolan market and is widely accepted by consumers. "The acceptance is very positive, the feedback from our partners and customers is very good, and we are very satisfied," he said.

"But we are even more ambitious because we want to do more. We don't want to stop here; we want to sell much more. Currently, we have been in the market for about five years. We believe that we will continue to win over and please the hearts of Angolans, and with our work, we hope to change the automotive market in Angola," he added.

He recalled that entering the Angolan market was a challenging process for Jetour, but through the continuous efforts of the Chinese brand, the barriers of prejudice regarding the quality of Chinese cars have been overcome.

"Now, the situation is completely different. Other Chinese brands that entered Angola after Jetour found a smoother and more convenient path thanks to the presence of Jetour. The Angolan and African markets already recognize that Chinese brands are good," he noted. Some university students from Angola were excitedly experiencing a 7-seater MPV of GAC motor. "I have been to China, and this car is very popular there. I really like it. I am happy to see it in the Angolan market, and the price is also affordable. I am recommending it to my friends, and if possible, this spacious Chinese car can take us on a trip with many people," said one of the students. Hilaria Espalanga, an employee of Guangzhou-based GAC Motor

in south China's Guangdong province, said the brand is new in the Angolan market, and their participation in the exhibition has been very

helpful for brand expansion.

"Many customers like our brand, thanks to our vehicles that are here to demonstrate safety, stability, and technology," she said.

The car exhibition received registrations from more than 80 exhibitors of the approximately 200 active automotive sector players in the Angolan market. According to the organizer's statement, the event received 6,000 visitors.

FEATURE

A shipwreck that should remind us of the mess in Libya

By Karlos Zurutuza

NEW catastrophe in the Mediterranean, this time off the coast of Greece. The number of drowned still to be determined – barely 100 survivors speak of more than 700 passengers on board– will be added to almost 30,000 lost at sea since 2014, according to the International Organization for Migrations.

Guardian

Those are just the people that someone, family or friends, ever claimed. The actual figures are almost certainly much higher.

We read that the traffickers' boat had left the coast of Libya bound for Italy. We rarely look deeper. Does anyone remember Libya other than as the port of departure after a new misfortune at sea?

Libya has always been a transit country from Africa to Europe. Today, however, we are talking about a scale of unfathomable magnitude, for a very simple reason. Libya has been in chaos for more than a decade, and by now the line dividing trafficking mafias, armed militias, and politicians has become almost invisible.

It might not have turned out this way. We all remember 2011, when a wave of protests against regimes entrenched for decades rocked the Middle East and North Africa. Once that unrest descended into conflict, Libya's revolt became doubtless the most visible. The eightmonth civil war monopolized TV channels and newspapers throughout the world.

The war seemed to end with the lynching of the country's leader, Moammar Gaddafi, in October of that same year. Literally overnight, Libya disappeared from global attention, as focus shifted elsewhere. There was neither time nor international will to reflect on what had happened, and would come next.

It would prove a missed opportunity. Libya's immediate future did not look bleak at the time. In 2012, after presidential elections in Tunisia and Egypt, Libya too elected a post-Ghaddafi democratic body, the first General Congress of the Nation, designed to replace the "umbrella" body opposition forces had created during the war, the National Transitional Council.

Elections brought hope to a society that had never been asked its opinion on anything. And at first, unlike what happened in neighboring countries, a self-dubbed "democratic" coalition of new political parties took hold, with political moderates prevailing over an emerging religious extremist wing.

But the euphoria only lasted until that summer. Sectarian attacks against Sufi Muslims took place, followed closely by the assassination of the US ambassador in Benghazi. Images of the burning American consulate anticipated the unraveling to come.

A new war broke out in 2014, but remained almost unreported and poorly understood outside Libya. The country split between two governments: one in Tripoli that had the backing of the UN, and another in Tobruk, in the east of the country, that had the backing of allies such as Egypt, Saudi Arabia or the United Arab Emirates. Both sides claimed to be the legitimate government of Libya.

In the fall of 2015, emails leaked to the UK Guardian revealed that Bernardino León, the United Nations envoy for Libya charged with mediating the conflict, had maintained close links with the UAE, which backed Tobruk's



Migrants spotted aboard a sinking dinghy boat somewhere off the Libyan coast. Credit: Karlos Zurutuza / IPS

Once again, European politics would come into play in Libya. EU parliamentary elections-held in May 2019- filled the Brussels parliament with politicians who were less concerned with the lost to average Libyans, and shared French President Emmanuel Macron's more hawkish vision.

The French leader's US counterpart, Donald Trump, also called France and Russia directly and told them he wanted

neither Egypt nor the UAE, Haftar's backers, as enemies. Washington would go on to support Haftar in Tobruk, though the rival Tripoli government had the backing of the UN.

All this would occur in a nation with enormous potential for prosperity. Libya has the largest oil reserves in Africa, as well as reserves of underground water and promising mineral resources. It is very close to Europe geographically,

boasting an enormous tourist potential and a network of ports that many governments would dream of.

With a population of barely vision million, it would be easy for the Libya to turn into a model of progress and well-being for the entire region. But the world's decision-makers have other plans, it appears. In addition to the calls between Washington, Brussels and Moscow, governments in Ankara, Doha, Dubai, compared to the calls between the calls betw

ers, also know Libya's strategic and financial value, and want their share. If they don't get what they want there, each of them will make sure their rivals don't either. While global forces take the country's fate out of Libyans' own hands, thousands of Sudanese, Malians, Somalis, Nigeriens and others fleeing war and misery continue to pass through a mirage of a country. Those who survive

Cairo and Riyadh, among oth-

the brutal desert journey fall in the hands of the deeply-rooted human trafficking networks, which operate unmolested amid Libya's chaos.

The long-awaited stability in Libya is key for the region and its people, including those in the northern Mediterranean. But the world continues to look the other way. After this new catastrophe at sea, we will only remember that an entire country, and its people, from a single line, so familiar now: "The boat had departed from Libya."



side in the war. Neutrality was assumed from the UN negotiatorbut this was seemingly not the case.

After "Leongate" forced the UN envoy's resignation in November 2015, León would move to Dubai, where he was appointed director of the UAE's Diplomatic Academy. International press remained largely silent on the scandal, and a promised UN investigation never saw the light of the day. Far from contributing to a rapprochement between Libya's two warring sides, the UN process had led to the war dragging on, and the two sides to entrench.

In 2019, after five years of neither side gaining the upper hand, the Tobruk side, led by strongman Khalifa Haftar – a general who had helped bring Gaddafi to power, and was then later recruited by the CIA– launched a brutal offensive at Tripoli, receiving air and logistics cover from the United Arab Emirates.

The attack on Tripoli was fast and indiscriminate. Civilian targets were bombarded, provoking officials in London and Berlin to initially protest Hafter's move as "an attack by someone who had not been attacked". European governments debated calling for Haftar to reign in the onslaught.

The remains of a shipwreck on a beach in western Libya. Credit: Karlos Zurutuza/IPS



Tembelea mitandao ya kijamii ya Radio One 间 📑 💟



Brokers expecting 20-year bond to be oversubscribed

By Guardian Reporter

BROKERS of the Dar es Salaam Stock Exchange (DSE) are expecting higher investor turnout on 20-year Treasury bond to be auctioned today by the government through the Bank of Tanzania (BoT), its fiscal agent.

According to the 12.10 percent fixed rate Treasury bond's bids invitation announced last week, the government is expected to raise 178.5bn/- through competitive and 0.52bn/- through non-competitive, in a minimum bid sixe of 1mn/- in multiples of 100,000/-.

"This week there will be a 20-year Treasury bond auction. It is expected that demand will be high for the tenor as the market shifted from the equities to fixed income securities," said a weekly market re-

port by Exodus Advisory, broker and member of the DSE.

"As the market shifts away from the equities market, demand for fixed income securities is expected to increase. Given that is the last month of the government year, there is expected to be high demand in the last bond auctions."

BoT noted that the bond will be listed on the Dar es Salaam Stock Exchange (DSE) secondary trading in multiples of 100,000/to commence on Friday, 23rd June 2023.

Exodus Advisory has noted that equity market activity is expected to decline in the financial markets, as companies are currently undertaking the corporate actions.

In its monthly report for May, the broking firm also indicated specifically that 20 years and 25 years Treasury bonds are expected to trade at a discount.

"Due to lower demand for the other tenors, we expect the central bank to continue accepting significantly more bids than amount tendered," it said, noting that 25 years remains the most demand bond in the market.

On the bonds secondary market, the firm's weekly report shows, activity increased by 46.23 percent where volume of transactions increased to 175bn/-, compared with 119.67bn/- recorded during the previous week.

Demand notes were primarily the 20years and 25 years Treasury bonds.

In April 2023, all primary auctions of government securities were undersubscribed; save for the 2- year and 25-year Treasury bond auctions, which were highly oversubscribed.

BoT conducted the 2, 20, and percent registered in the preceding auction, respectively.

Meanwhile, on short term securities, the central bank issued a Treasury bills in the tenors 182 days and 364 days last week, whereby tenders for the 182 days was undersubscribed while the 364 days T- bills was oversubscribed.

"This continues to indicate the higher demand for the 364 days tenor," the broking firm has noted.

The yield for the 182 days T-bills increased from 5.40 percent in previous auction to 5.81 percent in the latest auction.

Conversely, the 364 days yield decreased to 7.14 percent from 7.22 percent recorded in the last T-bills auction

In May there was two T-bills auction conducted on 3rd May 2023 and 24th May 2023. Demand was primarily for the 1 year tenor across all auctions, which was oversubscribed by 71.32 percent.

Back in April, the central bank conducted one Treasury bills auction with a tender size of 177.4bn/-, to cater for government budgetary operations and monetary policy operations.

The auction was undersubscribed receiving bids worth 174.2bn/-, which were all accepted. The weighted average yield increased to an average of 6.65 percent from 5.81 percent in the preceding month.



Iringa municipality ordered to respond to 45 CAG queries

By Friday Simbaya, Iringa

IRINGA Regional Commissioner Halima Dendego has instructed the Iringa Municipal Council to respond to 45 audit issues raised by the Controller Auditor General (CAG), including more than 217mn/that were not deposited to the bank

RC Dendego issued the directives when discussing the audit queries of the CAG for the financial year 2021/22 for

the municipal council.

nicipality.

She also asked the council She said that the council to ensure that 217mn/- which should respond to the arguare collections were supposed ments and ensure that all to be deposited to the bank those involved in mismanageare deposited immediately, ment of public funds are taken legal and disciplinary action. Dendogo explained that basically the existence of many audit queries by the office of the CAG shows that there is negligence in public funds management, which hinders

as current report shows only 12.5mn/- have so far been sent to the municipal's bank account. "Basically, the collected funds should be sent to the

bank, so that they follow the procedure of how to spend them in accordance with the public funds expenditure directives," she explained. Regarding the procurement of goods and services, RC Dendego asked the council to follow official financial regulations and procedures.

According to the CAG audits for the year 2020/21, the Iringa municipal council purchased of equipment worth 264mn/- was done contrary to article 68 of the local government financial memoranda of 2009.

"I order to ensure that this

matter is not happening again, ensure that all the people involved with mismanagement of public funds are taken legal measures," claimed Dendego.

Earlier on, Iringa Regional Administrative Secretary Engineer Leonard Masanja asked the Iringa municipal council councilors to ensure that CAG's audit queries are answered.

"My brothers and sisters, honorable councilors, as you are the managers of all the

revenue and expenditure procedures of the council, make sure that the CAG's arguments are answered...," he said.

25-year Treasury bond auctions

for government budgetary financ-

ing, with a combined tender size of

Total bids received amounted to

Weighted average yields for the

20- and 25-year Treasury bonds

rose to 12.85 percent and 13.01 per-

cent from 12.61 percent and 12.91

604.2bn/-, and the accepted bids

506.2bn/-.

worth 518.1bn/-.

Masanja added that the councilors, as the chief managers of all the council's development programs, they are directly responsible for the CAG's arguments.

He asked the councilors to discuss the arguments in detail and ensure that they are resolved because the arguments are not solved through

words, rather than actions.

The Iringa municipal council Mayor Ibrahim Ngwada has accused the previous regime, led by Chadema councilors for generating 80 percent of the current council's debt.

He briefly explained the projects that generated debts for the council including the modern Mlandege market and the Main Bus Stand in Igumbilo.



the development of the mu-

NAIROBI

KENYA Airways (KQ) has resumed direct daily flights to is fighting to fly out of the loss-New York as it seeks to cash in making territory. on the summer season expect-

said the airline.

The move comes as a boost to the national carrier, which The daily flights to the US

Ababa via Abidjan in June 2019. However, the route was suspended in March 2020 due to Covid-19. Later, the flight resumed serving New York via

York from its main hub Addis



ed to push up demand for air travel.

The national carrier has been operating five daily flights on the US route since January when the demand for passengers was low as America entered into the winter season.

KO says the decision to ramp up the frequencies has been informed by high forward booking from passengers seeking summer tickets.

"We have increased our frequencies to daily on the New York route because of high demand from passengers as we approach the summer season,"

come at a time when Ethiopian Airlines-Africa's largest carrier has expanded its flights to the US by adding another route to Atlanta, and reintroduction of the New York route via Abidjan, heightening competition on the

route. The Ethiopian carrier introduced four weekly flights on the Atlanta route last month, allowing passengers who want to fly directly to the city to avoid connecting through JFK International Airport in New York, where most airlines that have direct links with the US fly. The carrier first started serving New

Lomé starting in October 2020. Atlanta is Ethiopian Airlines' sixth destination in the US besides New York, Newark, Chicago, Washington DC and cargo service to Miami.

KQ has been struggling financially, making it rely on the Treasury for bailouts to remain afloat, with the government announcing recently it would stop funding the carrier.

The plan, if implemented, could save taxpayers billions of shillings spent annually to keep afloat the national carrier that last returned a profit in 2012.

The Deputy Chairperson of the Board of Directors of DCB Commercial Bank, Alexander Sanga (3rd L), accompanied by board members head for the 21st shareholders' Annual General Meeting held in Dar es Salaam at the weekend. From left: Legal counse Alex Mgongolwa, DCB managing director Isidori Msaki, and board members, Dr. Amina Baamary, Cliff Maregeli and David Shambwe. Photo by Guardian Correspondent

LONDON

OIL prices slipped on Tuesday after China cut benchmark lending rates less than some expected while demand was seen rising this year, clouding the outlook for the world's largest crude importer.

Brent crude was up 47 cents or 0.6 percent at \$76.56 a barrel at 0850 GMT. US West Texas Intermediate (WTI) crude for July was down 13 cents from Friday's close at \$71.65. The July contract expires at the end of trade on Tuesday.

The more active WTI crude contract for August delivery was down 18 cents from Friday at \$71.75 per barrel. There was no settlement in the WTI contract on Monday due to a public holiday in the United States.

China on Tuesday cut two benchmark lending rates by 10 basis points each. The cuts, the first in 10 months, were less aggressive than some forecasts.

"The rate cuts ... were widely expected, hence it

did not offer a bullish push to the oil markets," said Tina Teng, a markets analyst at CMC Markets in Auckland.

"Oil traders may need to see a materialised strong economic rebound in China to improve their outlook on oil demand," Teng said.

The rate reductions follow recent economic data that showed China's retail and factory sectors are struggling to sustain the momentum seen earlier this year.

Still, China's 2023 crude oil demand is expected to rise 3.5% on last year, a researcher at China National Petroleum Corporation's (CNPC) research arm said on Tuesday.

The Chinese government met last week to discuss measures to spur growth in the economy, and several major banks have cut their 2023 economic growth forecasts for China amid concerns its post-COVID recovery is faltering.

On Monday, two policymakers at the European Central Bank argued for more rate hikes amid risks of higher

inflation. Markets also await rate clues. testimony from US Federal Reserve Chair Jerome Powell later in the week for future

Higher interest rates reduce appetite for spending and can drive down oil de-

crude exports and oil output have hit new highs in 2023

mand.

On the supply side, Iran's

despite U.S. sanctions. Russia is also set to increase seaborne diesel and gasoil exports this month, outweigh-

ing cuts by the Organization of the Petroleum Exporting Countries (OPEC) and its allies, including Moscow itself.

Oil mixed on China rates cut, growth outlook



Pump jacks operate at sunset in an oil field

BUSINESS NEWS

Tanzania among first markets for **Airtel 5G rollouts**

By Guardian Reporter

TANZANIANS are among of residents of three countries in Africa to benefit from 5G network rolling out by Airtel Africa, the a leading provider of telecommunications and mobile money services with a presence in 14 countries across the continent.

The statement issued by the company yesterday said the 5G network will initially go live in three countries starting in Nigeria and followed by Tanzania and Zambia, with plans underway to rollout in the rest of the markets.

With 5G, customers can now enjoy immersive realtime gaming, streaming live content among other uses on the ultra-fast, ultra-reliable network for home internet.

The greater and seamless

connectivity will also power businesses, particularly those that run on web-based applications as well as facilitate virtual meetings.

Airtel Africa's Group CEO, Segun Ogunsanya said: "With the 5G network, we are offering our customers an opportunity to live the future and experience its possibilities. This is in line with our purpose to transform lives. By investing in cutting-edge digital connectivity to unlock a broad range of opportunities, we are facilitating a digitally connected world for our customers and giving them a reason to imagine".

The 5G network will be concentrated in specific zones, such as highly populated residential areas and amenities such as malls, hospitals, and city centers and central busi-



Airtel Tanzania headquarters in Dar es Salaam

ness districts.

marked, customers can en-In these specific 5G zones joy up to ten times faster inwhich will be designated and ternet, streaming vivid-quali-

ty videos uninterrupted. The 5G network can only be connected through compatible

devices. 5G wireless technology is meant to deliver higher mul-

ti-Gbps peak data speeds, ultra-low latency, more reliability, massive network capacity, increased availability, and a more uniform user experience to more users.

It is a new global wireless standard after 1G, 2G, 3G, and 4G networks.

Last year, Airtel Africa, purchased 140 MHz of additional spectrum across the 2500 MHz and 3500 MHz bands from the Tanzania Communications Regulatory Authority (TCRA) for a reported US\$60.1 million.

"This investment reflects our continued confidence in the opportunity inherent in the Tanzanian market, supporting the local communities and economy through furthering digital inclusion and connectivity,' the company said in an official statement in October last year.

Airtel 5G efforts in Africa are not a standalone development. The operator's Indian parent company, Bharti Airtel started deploying the connectivity since last year back in its home market.

Since October 2022, the business launched the service across 70 cities in India, starting with Delhi, Mumbai, Chennai, Bengaluru, Hyderabad, Siliguri, Nagpur, and Varanasi. The company has long-term plans to hit at least 300 cities in total by March 2034.

China cuts benchmark lending rates as policy easing picks up

BEIJING

CHINA has cut benchmark lending rates for the first time in almost a year as policymakers push ahead with cautious monetary support in an effort to spur more robust growth in the country's struggling economy.

The one-year loan prime rate (LPR) was reduced by 10 basis points to 3.55 per cent, the People's Bank of China said on Tuesday, while the fiveyear equivalent rate was lowered to 4.2 per cent from 4.3 per cent.

The rates, which are set by major banks and influence the cost of borrowing for businesses and households, indicate authorities' latest effort to shift the policy framework towards easing as concern mounts over the trajectory of the world's second-biggest economy.

China's economy has failed to fully rebound six months after authorities

KENYA and the European Union

(EU) recently signed a free trade

agreement to boost their exchanges.

The ceremony took place in Nairobi,

earlier Monday, in the presence of

Kenyan President William Ruto and

The agreement comes after a deal

with the UK and talks with the USA.

The EU, the other signing party, is

Kenya's main export market. In 2022,

tions that had been in place for three years, with growth under pressure from trade headwinds and weakness in the property sector, which accounts for more than a quarter of activity.

Last week, the PBoC cut the country's medium-term lending facility, which affects banking sector liquidity, while Beijing unveiled additional tax breaks for businesses. Economists widely anticipate additional supportive measures to be rolled out in the coming months.

China's benchmark CSI 300 stock index was flat following the LPR announcement, while the Hang Seng China Enterprises index of Hong Kong-listed mainland companies dropped 1.9 per cent. Shares in property developers led losses after the five-year rate was cut by just 10 basis points.

"The market was expecting up



The People's Bank of China

five-year LPR, since it's linked to mortgages and would help to boost the property market," said Marcella Chow, a global market strategist at

important thing right now is to boost na's reopening, fuelling speculation confidence, so a better macro out- over whether policymakers would look and stronger property prices remain cautious or pivot to more

are key." Economic data has disap- forceful stimulus measures to boost

at Goldman Sachs cut their forecast for China's full-year economic growth to 5.4 per cent from 6 per cent, citing "persistent growth headwinds and constrained policy responses". The government's official growth target is 5 per cent, its lowest in decades, after the economy grew just 3 per cent last year. Economists at Citi wrote in a re-

port on the LPR cuts that "decisive support is necessary to avoid a confidence trap and keep growth on track", adding that they "continue to see a measured stimulus package with a focus on property as both plausible and possible".

Other economic indicators pointed to sustained pressures on confidence. The results of a June survey released on Tuesday by Bank of America showed consumer sentiment had weakened further, with only about a third of respondents saying they planned to spend more over the next six months, compared with more than 40 per cent in April.

The share of respondents expecting home prices to rise over the next year fell to just one in five, compared

Kenya signs EPA deal with the European Union

trade between the two parties reached \$3.6 billion.

The new Economic Partnership Agreement (EPA) aims to liberalize trade between the two parties, notably by offering Kenvan products duty-free access to the European market. In return, Nairobi will gradually open its market to a greater number of European products.

"The deal assures Kenya of an expanded, stable, lucrative, and sustainable market, enhancing trade and investment opportunities. This will create employment for millions of people, expand earnings and spur sustainable growth," President William Ruto praised.

Beyond offering interesting prospects for the development of trade relations between the two parties, this agreement once again confirms Kenya's position as the main gateway to the East African market. In 2020, the UK, whose EU exit was still fresh at the time, signed an agreement with Kenya. By 2024, the USA is hopeful for a free trade agree-

ment with Nairobi.

At a time when Western countries are looking for ways to challenge China's position as Africa's leading trading partner. Brussels hopes to make this agreement the new cornerstone of its relations with East African countries. In 2014, the EU concluded a broader Economic Partnership Agreement with the East African Community (EAC).

This trade and development agreement, which

provides for the immediate opening of European markets to products from countries in the region, in return for a gradual opening of East African markets to European products, was never implemented.

Of the five EAC members at the time (Kenya, Rwanda, Burundi, Tanzania, and Uganda), only Kenya ratified it. Two years ago, the other members of the bloc allowed it to pursue a renegotiation of the agreement in its name.

JOHANESBURG

senior EU officials.

ACCORDING to Forbes, Aliko Dangote (pictured) has lost his position as the richest individual in Africa.

However, data from Bloomberg presents a different view and even indicates that the Nigerian is the most solvent, with his fortune potentially increasing by several billion dollars thanks to his refinery.

In its updated ranking of African billionaires, Forbes claims that South Africa's Johann Rupert has dethroned Aliko Dangote as the continent's richest man.

According to Forbes, Johann Rupert's fortune is estimated at \$12 billion, while the Nigerian businessman's is just \$10.7 billion.

However, the figures provided by Bloomberg in its latest ranking update, dated June 18, 2023, paint a different picture.

According to Bloomberg, not only is Dangote richer than Rupert (\$16.8 billion vs. \$13.6 billion) but he is also considered the most solvent, with a larger amount of liquidity (\$3.35 billion vs. \$1.8 billion).

These discrepancies in the rankings are difficult to explain, especially as both media appear to use a similar methodology to assess individuals' wealth.

Calculations include both available cash and the valuation of hold-

Forbes and Bloomberg differ on Dangote's fortune



ings in listed and unlisted companies.

Dangote's fortune is based primarily on his \$6.7 billion stake in Dangote Cement, an industrial conglomerate listed on the Lagos Stock Exchange.

Dangote's other listed assets include stakes in Dangote Sugar, Nascon Allied Industries, and United Bank for Africa.

Those stakes in listed companies are held directly and indirectly through Dangote Industries, which also owns unlisted companies operating in the food, fertilizer, oil, and other industries.

Apart from listed assets, Dangote's fertilizer plant, with a production capacity of up to 2.8 million tonnes of urea per year, represents its most important unlisted asset.

The net value of this asset, estimated at \$5.58 billion on June 18, 2023, is based on a discounted cash flow analysis carried out by KPMG and confirmed by external analysts.

It should be noted that Dangote's net worth does not include the \$19 billion refinery, which is still under construction.

Whether Dangote moves into second place or finally retains his top spot, he remains the most famous of Africa's great fortunes.

His story continues to fascinate and, to some extent, inspire new generations of African entrepreneurs.

Johann Rupert, on the other hand, is more famous in South Africa and leads a discreet life, far from media headlines.

INTERVIEW:

ActionAid strives to continue promoting economic justice

ACTIONAID has been working in Tanzania over the last 25 years engaged in different socio-economic activities with the purpose of fighting against poverty through social empowerment. Our Correspondent Beatrice Philemon spoke to Actionaid Tanzania Head of Programme, JOVINA NAWENZAKE (pictured), on successes and challenges they are facing and future plans. Excerpts:

Q. Briefly give the history of ActionAid Tanzania and its focus?

A. ActionAid Tanzania (AATZ) is a development agency that is committed to social justice, gender equality and eradication of poverty. It started its development interventions in Tanzania as ActionAid Kenya in 1998 before being a full-fledged country program in 2000. It is operating in both parts of the union, Tanzania Mainland and Zanzibar.

It is running programs in Kigoma rural, Bagamoyo, Tandahimba, Newala, Kilwa, Mafia, Mkuranga, Singida, Chamwino, Pemba and Unguja by working with Community Based Organizations, national and international organizations, networks, coalitions, and forums to influence policies and practices in favor of people living in poverty.

Generally, the focused areas have been educational, agriculture and food security, women's rights, children rights and public accountability.

Q. What achievements have ActionAid Tanzania programmes registered?

A. In promoting women's economic justice, women have become more engaged in productive economic activities including agriculture, hairdressing/beauty, beekeeping, poultry and food vending because of our capacity building initiatives on economic opportunities and income generation activities.

Women mostly build their capital base for income generation activities through Village Community Bank (VICOBA) membership.

As a result, women participation in economic and social activities is increased, men support and care to the expectant mothers is improved.

Knowledge, skills, and confidence of the farmers have increased.

Q. Do you see any alignment between ActionAid Tanzania's programme priorities and the Government's priorities? How is this necessary for Action-Aid Tanzania to accomplish its strategic objective?

A: ActionAid Tanzania has been strategic in conducting its programs. Since being into full operation, we have launched four Country Strategic Papers (CSPs) which have been informing our programmatic activities.

Among other things, CPSs preparations are usually guided by the government's instruments such as national visions, policies and local structures which deem essential in meeting our vision of having Tanzania without poverty, injustice, and inequalities where everyone enjoys the life of dignity.

If you clearly analyze Tanzania Development Na-



clusion are standing firm to demand their rights, to hold the government and other powerful people and institutions into account.

Most important, the work of the organization should contribute to power shift where citizens will be more respected with their voices heard.

Q: Why do you see decent work and women's economic justice as so important?

A: Inequalities and injustice around women's labor and their access to decent work, have blocked women's access to larger parts of the labor market, confining them to living in extreme poverty.

While number of stakeholders is recognizing the importance women's participation in paid work, much of the work performed by women is not considered work at all and is therefore considered of no economic value despite its contribution to the wheels of production.

Low women labor force participation is contributed by cultural and social norms as well as policy and non-policy issues on access to resources, services, and opportunities.

The government recognized that women participation in labor force is markedly affected by the flexibility of working-time arrangements and support to families with young children, sick and older persons, despite the Tanzanian government efforts to support women' labor force participation, there still a missing a social care support to allow women to fully participate in labor force and fulfill family responsibilities.

Also, the international and national policies in place have biased to the formal sectors and leave out the informal sectors where most females are employed.

Currently most of the rural workers particularly females are more worse off with respect to conditions of freedom, equity, security, and human dignity at their workplace than their urban counterparts.

Nonetheless, the Sustainable Development Goals (SDG 8), outlines the need to promote inclusive and sustainable economic growth as well as full and productive employment and decent work for all, as such it is paramount to address all obstacles to women's economic growth, inequality labor markets, unequal distribution of unpaid care work in line with descent work to cater for just sustainable and just society.

Q: As head of the programme, what obstacles have you been facing and how have you fared?

A: Being the Head of programs, it involves leadership and management, and thus it is not an easy task. People management and partnership building are the two areas where many challenges were faced.

High staff turnover, new staff capacity gaps and performance issues, these have been the eminent challenges in people management.

It becomes complex especially at the time where you have number of programing activities to be accomplished in tight timelines with limited technical resources as a result, I had to borrow my own brain, creativity, and efforts to ensure a balance between strategic demands and operational demands; And sometimes this led to working long hours which in turn resulted in work priorities to override

work-life balance and self-care.

Through its popular operational philosophy of Human Right based Approach (HRBA), AATZ embraces partnership.

This entails working with entities with whom we share vision, values and interests which require a great deal of mobilizing efforts and resources towards achieving common goals.

However, differing organizational funding strategies and advocacy approaches from the partnership entities expose the partnership to competing interests.

In order to address these challenges, I found that getting all parties in preparing Terms of Reference to guide the partnerships from the beginning guarantees ownership and establish commitments to the processes which warrants for amicable resolution of issues in the partnership.

Q: what advice would you give to other people working in this space or aspiring to?

A: I understand that different stakeholders and development practitioners apply different approached to development.

Based on my experience I would recommend the approaches which intend to build the capacity of people in a way that they are taking leadership of their struggles.

Empowerment should focus on building the agency of people so that they continuously engage and challenge the status quo.

In case of advancement of women's rights the investment should be on addressing structural issues which are embedded in our socialization and cultural norms such as gender roles, gender stereotypes, and power relation.



tional Vision 2025 which articulates that "the people of Tanzania should be empowered to make their leaders accountable and hence build the accountability culture", this shows how the government's priorities are well aligned to the AATZ vision.

Q: What vision do you have for ActionAid Tanzania in the next five to ten years?

A: I would love to see ActionAid working more innovatively, creatively to ensure its relevance and achieve the purpose of its existence.

Particularly I would love to see ActionAid is leading in empowering people especially women, young people (male and female) and those experiencing social ex-

IMF now presents blueprint for cross-border digital currencies WASHINGTON

NEW platforms for cross-border central bank digital currencies (CBDCs) could be more efficient and safe, while still ensuring countries can impose compliance checks and capital controls, an official from the International Monetary Fund has said.

Tobias Adrian, director of the IMF's monetary and capital markets department reckons one global CBDC platform that will allow for capital controls could cut payment costs - but such a vision is a far cry from crypto enthusiasts' dream for decentralized financial systems.

"Our blueprint for a new class of platforms would enhance and ensure greater interoperability, efficiency, and safety in cross-border payments, as well as in domestic financial markets," Adrian said in a speech given in Rabat, Morocco. "The cost, sluggishness, and opacity of cross-border payments comes from limited infrastructure."

Earlier Monday, Managing Director Kristalina Georgieva said the IMF was "working hard" on a global infrastructure to enable different CBDCs to work with each other, according to Bloomberg.

The new system, also outlined in an IMF Fintech Note published Monday, could program payments without payees giving precious private information to intermediaries, and saving liquidity by letting contracts be pledged as collateral - without changing the fully fungible nature of money, Adrian said. Adrian first proposed the idea of a CBDC platform in September.

"The ledger would be controlled by the platform operator," Adrian added, apparently rejecting more innovative ideas such as blockchain-based validation. "The single ledger would ensure there is a unique description of who owns what, so no double spending can occur.'

MONDAY - WEDNESDA

ITV PGM SCHEDULE 12:55 13:00 Soap rpt: Uzal Uwanja wa Mazoez HABARI Kumekucha HABARI Kumekucha Michezo Habari za saa Kumekucha Kishind Soap: In Love with Ramo Habari za saa Watoto wetu Jungu kuu rpt Habari za saa Hawavumi lakini wamo rp Habari za saa Our Earth rpt Habari za saa Dakika 45 rpt Habari za saa Kipindi maalum: NSSF rp . Chetu ni chetu rpt Habari za saa Meza huru Watoto Wetu Music: The Base Jiii Letu lgizo: Mizengwe Jarida la wanawake Kipindi maalum: BO Soap: In Love with Ramo Habari Aibu Yako Kipindi maalum: Watumish Kipindi maalum: Tanesco Kipindi maalum: Pesa fast . Ripoti maalum Soap: Uzalo Habari Music: The Base Al Jazeera DWTV THURSDAY 22 June Soap rpt: Uzalo Uwanja wa Mazoez HABARI Kumekucha HABARI Kumekucha Michezo Habari za saa Kumekucha Kishindo Soap rpt: In Love with Ramor Habari za saa Watoto wetu

5.00

5:30 6:00 6:40 7:30 8:00 8:55 9:00 9:30 9:55 10:00 10:25 10:55 11:00 11:55

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16:30 17:00 18:00

18:15 18:30

19:00 19:30 20:00 21:05

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10:55 11:00 11:55

12.00

Shamba lulu

Habari za saa

Habari za saa

Al Jazeera

Ripoti maalum rp

	Ripinul maalum ipt. bo i
13:30	Kipindi maalum: Brela
13:45	Shamsham za pwani rpt
13:55	Habari za saa
	Shamsham za pwani rpt
14:55	Habari za saa
	Meza huru
	Watoto wetu
	The Base
18:00	Jiji Letu
18:15	Mapishi
18:30	Jagina
19:00	Usafiri Wako
19:30	Soap: In Love with Ramon
20:00	Habari
21:05	Malumbano ya hoja
23:00	Habari
23:30	Music: The Base
00:30	Al Jazeera
02:00	DWTV
FRIDAY 23 J	
5:00	Soap rpt: Uzalo
5:30	Uwanja wa Mazoezi
6:00	HABARI
6:40	Kumekucha
7:30	HABARI
8:00	Kumekucha Michezo Habari za saa
8:55 9:00	Kumekucha Kishindo
9:00	Soap rpt: In Love with Ramon
9:55	Habari za saa
10:00	Watoto wetu
	Usafiri Wako
	Habari za saa
11:00	Kipindi maalum: Watumishi housing rpt
11:20	Jungu kuu
11:55	Habari za saa
12:00	Al Jazeera
12:30	Kipindi maalum rpt: Tanesco
12:55	Habari za saa
13:00	Kipindi Maalum: Maisha ni Nyumba rpt
13:30	Kipindi Maalum rpt: Sema na Mahakama ya TZ
13:55	Habari za saa
14:00	Kipindi Maalum rpt: Sema na Mahakama ya TZ
14:30	DW: Afrimaxx rpt
15:00	Meza huru:
16:30	Watoto Wetu
17:00	The Base (DJ Show)
17:30	Kiislam
18:00	Jiji Letu
18:15	Our Earth
18:45	Kipindi maalum: Soka Bet
19:00	Shamba lulu
19:30	Soap: In Love with Ramon
20:00	Habari
21:05	Kipima Joto
23:00	Habari
23:30	The Base
00:30	Al Jazeera
02:00	DWTV

Habari za saa

Kipindi maalum rpt: BOT

Uwanja wa Mazoezi HABARI Kumekucha Habari Al Jazeera Watoto wetu Kipindi maalum: FAO Shika Bamba 5
Kumekucha Habari Al Jazeera Watoto wetu Kipindi maalum: FAO Shika Bamba 5
Habari Al Jazeera Watoto wetu Kipindi maalum: FAO Shika Bamba 5
Al Jazeera Watoto wetu Kipindi maalum: FAO Shika Bamba 5
Watoto wetu Kipindi maalum: FAO Shika Bamba 5
Kipindi maalum: FAO Shika Bamba 5
Shika Bamba 5
Mjue Zaidi rpt
Chetu ni chetu rpt Hawavumi lakini wamo
Usafiri wako
Art and Lifestyle
Soap: In Love with Ramon rpt
Igizo: Mizengwe
Igizo: Slay Queen
Shamsham za Pwani
Jiji Letu
ITV Top 10 rpt
Jungu Kuu Shika Bamba
Snika Bamba Habari
Kipindi Maalum: Tatu Mzuka Igizo: Slay Queen
Art and lifestyle
ITV Top 10
Hawavumi lakini wamo
Soap: Uzalo rpt
DWTV
June
Uwanja wa Mazoezi
HABARI
Kumekucha
Habari
Al jazeera
Watoto Wetu
Soap: In Love with Ramon rpt
Bongo Movie rpt:
Tamasha la Michezo
Mwangaza
ITV Top 10 rpt
Kipindi cha kikristo
Jiji Letu
Mapishi
Matukio ya wiki
Igizo: Slay Queen
Habari
Kipindi maalum: Biko
Igizo: Mizengwe
Kipindi maalum: Mchezo Supa Jackpot
Mjue Zaidi
Bongo movie:
Soap: Uzalo rpt
Al jazeera

Wed 21 Jun

06:00 Al jazeer Morning Jam (Via Capital Radio

09:00	Dw
11:00	Al Jazeera
11:30	Tomorrow Today rpt
12:00	Dw News Africa rpt
12:30	Our Earth
13:00	Telenovela rpt The Three Sides of Ana
14:00	Club 101 (via Capital Radio)
16:00	Bussines Edition Rpt
16:30	Culinary delight rpt
17:00	Innovation rpt
17:30	Meza huru
19:00	Sports Gazette
19:30	Chetu ni chetu
20:00	Monday Agenda Rpt
20:45	Telenovela: The Three Sides of Ana
21:30	Capital Prime News
22:00	Dakika 45:
22:45	The Décor
23:15	Al Jazeera
Thurs 22 J	
06:00	Al Jazeera
07:00	Morning Jam (Via Capital Radio)
09:00	Dw
11:00	Al Jazeera
11:30	Spots gazette
12:00	Innovation
12:30	Culinary
13:00	Telenovela rpt: The Three Sides of Ana
14:00	Club 101 (via Capital Radio)
16:00	Tommorrow Today
16:30	Business edition rpt
17:00	In good shape
17:30	Meza huru
19:00	Out & About Rpt
19;30	Eco@Africa
20:00	Our Earth Rpt
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WORLD **UK parliament backs** report that Johnson lied over 'partygate'

LONDON

BRITAIN'S parliament delivered another blow to the political career of former prime minister Boris Johnson on Monday when it endorsed a report that concluded that he deliberately lied over rule-breaking parties.

Johnson abruptly resigned from parliament earlier this month after seeing an advance copy of the findings of a yearlong investigation into his conduct during the COVID-19 pandemic when lockdown-breaking parties were held in Downing Street.

The committee published its findings last week concluding that Johnson had deliberately lied to colleagues when he assured the House of Commons that all COVID-19 rules had been

The report recommended Johnson should be denied a pass giving him automatic access to parliament and would have recommended suspending him from the House of Commons for 90 days if he had not already resigned.

Lawmakers in the House of Commons voted on Monday 354 to 7 to endorse the committee's report after a five-hour debate on its findings.

Parliament's decision to back the conclusions of the report does not stop Johnson from standing again to be a member of the House of Commons, but it is an embarrassing punishment for a politician who was still prime minister a year ago.

Most politicians who spoke in parliament on Monday criticized Johnson's followed at all times in government behavior, while a handful of his sup-



A video grab from footage broadcast by the UK Parliament's Parliamentary Recording Unit (PRU) shows former British Prime Minister Boris Johnson looking at photographs of him in Downing Street on November 13, 2021, as he attends a Parliamentary Privileges Committee hearing, in central London on March 22, 2023. Britain's parliament opened an inquisition of former prime minister Boris Johnson about "Partygate" that could decide his political future. (PHOTO / AFP)

porters questioned the impartiality of the committee. Former Prime Minister Theresa May warned Johnson's supporters not to vote against the committee's report, saving that doing so would erode the public's faith in democracy

Jacob Rees Mogg, a minister in Johnson's government, said it was "perfectly reasonable" to challenge the views of committee and suggested lawmakers investigating the former prime minister had "wanted to come to a particular conclusion".

Johnson, prime minister from the middle of 2019 until September 2022, was one of Britain's most controversial leaders in recent decades. Opinion polls show that Johnson is currently unpopular with most of the public, but he retains the backing of some

Conservative Party members.

Senior politicians in the governing Conservative Party, including Prime Minister Rishi Sunak and many members of the cabinet, skipped the debate and avoided voting on Monday to avoid increasing tensions with party members who remain loyal to the former prime minister.

Sunak, who promised a government of integrity, did not attend the debate in parliament because he was welcoming the prime minister of Sweden and had other meetings, his spokesman said earlier.

Johnson has characterized the committee as a "kangaroo court" and said the report was "intended to be the final knife-thrust in a protracted political assassination". Agencies

West sees CSTO as threat, tries to breed discord, says Lavrov

MINSK

THE West sees the Colective Security Treaty Organization (CSTO) as a threat to its dominance in the international arena, which explains why it has been trying to split its ranks, as well as to breed discord within the



BRICS group (Russia, Brazil, India, China and South Africa) and the Shanghai Cooperation Organization (SCO), Russian Foreign Minister Sergey Lavrov told the media after the meeting of heads of delegations participating in the CSTO Council of Foreign Ministers (CFM) session with Belarusian President Alexander Lukashenko.

"We noted that this organization, as well as the Shanghai Cooperation Organization and BRICS are considered by the West as a threat to its dominance in the international arena, as the emerging centers of a future multipolar world order, which the West sees as a threat to its interests and its hegemony," Lavrov said.

"In this regard, we also observe the West's vigorous and aggressive actions to split the CSTO members, as well as the BRICS group, the Shanghai Cooperation Organization and other organizations independent of it, including attempts to resort to some dishonest methods to drive a wedge between members of the Collective Security Treaty Organization," said Lavrov.

He said that the two sides had an hour and a half-long conversation with the president of Belarus. Alexander Lukashenko explained his vision of the situation in the world, which was in line with common actions and furnished the basis for the further development of the CSTO. The participants in the meeting came to the conclusion that it was necessary to resist the pressure of the West and to fully implement the allied obligations and strengthen solidarity.

"The president of Belarus stressed that this is required, in his opinion, which we share, not only by the allied moral duty, but also by purely pragmatic interests. Ultimately, we all have to live together within the CSTO, within the Commonwealth of Independent States, within the Eurasian Economic Union and, of course, within the Union State, and solve our problems together. We are destined to live side by side with each other," Lavrov concluded. **Agencies**

'India's position on Russia well understood in entire world'

NEW DELHI

PRIME Minister Narendra Modi has said that India stands on the side of peace in the ongoing Russia-Ukraine conflict, Wall Street Journal (WSJ) reported.

In an interview with WSJ ahead of his departure for a historic State visit to the US, PM Modi said that when it comes to the Ukraine conflict, "Some people say that we are neutral. But we are not neutral. We are on the side of peace." Asked about cricitism in the US of his government for not taking a more forceful stance against Russia in the conflict with

Xi: China's development path to offer world more opportunities

BEIJING

CHINA'S commitment to a highquality development path that prioritizes ecological conservation and features a green and lowcarbon mode will provide more opportunities for the world and make greater contribution to human progress, Chinese President Xi Jinping has said.

a letter from Eric Domb, president and founder of the Pairi Daiza Zoo in Belgium.

moting Chinese modernization

that features harmonious coexistence between man and nature and carrying out major biodiversity conservation projects, he said. A large number of endangered species have been under effective protection with giant pandas thereby having been downgraded from endangered species to vulnerable ones, he added. Xi also said that the develop-

Xi made the remarks in reply to ment of China-Belgium relations cannot be achieved without the long-term efforts and selfless dedication of friendly personages from At present, China is actively pro- all walks of life in both countries. He voiced confidence that



Domb and other friendly personages will continue to sow the seeds of friendship, attract more people, not least those of the younger

to make new contributions to advancing China-Belgium and China-Europe relations.

In a letter Domb has lately written to Xi, he recalled that Xi and his wife, Peng Liyuan, attended the opening ceremony of the giant panda hall at the Pairi Daiza Zoo during their visit to Belgium in March 2014.

Domb said that the Chinese garden of the zoo epitomizes the concept of harmonious coexistence between man and nature, and that the Chinese Dream as well as Chigeneration, to actively participate na's development and prosperity

in the cause of friendship so as will always be opportunities that could be shared by the rest of the world.

> Reading Domb's warm letter, Xi said he recalls the time when he and Belgian King Philippe, along with their spouses, attended the opening ceremony of the giant panda hall at the Pairi Daiza zoo during the visit to Belgium in 2014.

He is glad to learn that the purple magnolia planted in the zoo at that time has blossomed and the two giant pandas, as China's "friendship envoys," are also growing up, Xi added.

Xinhua

During his US visit, PM Modi to meet Tesla CEO Elon Musk, other big names

NEW YORK

PRIME Minister Narendra Modi will during his visit to New York on Tuesday meet a galaxy of leaders from various walks of life, including Tesla co-founder Elon Musk, astrophysicist Neil deGrasse Tyson, and American investor Ray Dalio among others.

PM Modi is set to meet around 24 people in New York which includes Nobel laureates, economists, artists, scientists, scholars, entrepreneurs, academicians, health sector experts, and more, officials said.

The PM will also meet Grammy awardwinning Indian-American singer Falu (Falguni Shah), World Bank Senior Vice President Paul Romer, Essayist Nicholas Nassim Taleb, Author Jeff Smith, former US Trade Representative Michael Froman, American diplomat Daniel Russel, Bureaucrat Elbridge Colby, American physician Dr Peter Agre, Author Dr Stephen Klasko and musical artist Chandrika Tandon.

There will be conversations to achieve better synergy and understand the developments in the US. The Prime Minister will invite people to collaborate with India, officials said.

PM Modi, on Tuesday, emplaned for the United States for his first historic State visit. Prior to leaving for the US, PM Modi tweeted, "Leaving for the USA, where I will attend programmes in New York City



The Indian American diaspora hold a unity rally ahead of Prime Minister Narendra Modi's historic visit to the United States, in Washington on Monday. ANI

include Yoga Day celebrations at the @ UNHQ, talks with @POTUS @JoeBiden, address to the Joint Session of the US Congress and more."

Joe Biden and First Lady Jill Biden. The welcome at the White House on June 22 Congress on June 22.

Prime Minister will lead the celebrations of the International Day of Yoga at the United Nations Headquarters on June 21.

PM Modi will then travel to Washington PM Modi was invited by the US President DC, where he will receive a ceremonial

and Washington DC. These programmes visit will commence in New York where the and meet President Biden to continue their high-level dialogue.

> President Biden and First Lady Jill Biden will host a State Dinner in honour of the Prime Minister the same evening. The PM will also address a Joint Sitting of the US ANI

Ukraine, PM Modi told the publication, "I don't think this type of perception is widespread in the US."

"I think India's position is well known and well understood in the entire world. The world has full confidence that India's topmost priority is peace," he told the Wall Street Journal in an interview that was conducted at the Prime Minister's residence in New Delhi.

The Prime Minister said all countries should respect international law and the sovereignty of countries, disputes should be resolved with diplomacy and dialogue, not war. India has abstained from UN votes condemning the inva-

sion. The PM during his interview with WSJ said he has spo-

ken several times to Russian President Vladimir Putin and Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelenskyy. He said he most recently spoke to Zelenskyy on the sidelines of the Group of Seven summit in Japan in May.

"India will do whatever it can" and supports "all genuine efforts to bring an end to the conflict and ensure enduring peace and stability," PM Modi said.

According to The Wall Street Journal, India's relationship with the US has strengthened in recent years in part because of economic ties. Trade between the two countries reached a record USD 191 billion in 2022, making the US India's largest trading partner. The US is India's third-biggest source of foreign direct investment and one of the top five destinations for investment from India.

India has at the same time, maintained close ties with Russia, which still provides about 50 per cent of the country's military supplies, including arms, ammunition, tanks, jet fighters and S-400 air defence systems, according to WSJ.

PM Modi during the interview also said that "there is an unprecedented trust" between the leaders of the US and India

ANI

Digital technologies contribute to healthy development of China's anti-counterfeiting industry

AS new anti-counterfeiting technologies keep emerging over the recent years, digital solutions have been widely applied in the anti-counterfeiting of products, tickets and certificates, which contribute to the sustainable and healthy development of the Chinese anti-counterfeiting industry.

For instance, each book under the protection of a book anti-counterfeiting and track & trace system has its unique identity information; tea brands are employing block chain, QR codes, miniature texts and images as well as VOID labels to fight fakes; manufacturers of dietary supplements have labeled their products with scratch-off anti-counterfeiting stickers with QR codes, which prove the authenticity of the products.

In China, a laser hologram label and a OR code can be found on each bag of edible salt sold on the market. To obtain product authenticity information and track the production and circulation of the salt, all a consumer needs to do is to scan the OR code.

Over the recent years, the China Salt Association has been requesting producers of edible salt to upload the information of every bag of salt they pro- market shares and profitability are al-

duce onto a national edible salt tracing ways counterfeited. For example, some service platform the association established, so that the origin and circulation of the salt can be tracked, and responsible parties would be called to account once problems happen.

Brand value has been considered increasingly important as market economy develops in China. However, it is also triggering illegal activities.

According to an official with the China Trade Association for Anti-counterfeiting, products made by renowned manufacturers and come with high generic brands of milk powder are selling their products with a strategy of copycat packaging, and adulterated alcohol is sold in recycled bottles of renowned liquors.

Today, these counterfeiting methods can barely exist any longer as more and more anti-counterfeiting technologies are developed.

The Fujian branch of Quantum Cloud Code, a Shenzhen-based provider of enterprise digitalization solutions, has developed an anti-counterfeiting and track & trace system for international

to the system, every kitchen and bathroom accessory produced by JOMOO comes with an anti-counterfeiting label that is extremely difficult to be duplicated. More importantly, the label still can be read an show authenticity information even 90 percent of it is worn out. Insiders believe that anti-counterfeiting labels and QR codes adopted by

enterprises have well regulated market competition.

Today, anti-counterfeiting remains an important method to safeguard fair competition in the market and plays a

smart bathroom brand JOMOO. Thanks unique and irreplaceable role in protecting brands and intellectual property rights, in protecting the rights and interests of enterprises and consumers, and in building the social credit system.

> An official with the China Trade Association for Anti-counterfeiting told People's Daily that China is currently home to more than 1,200 enterprises engaged in the anti-counterfeiting industry, which generate a total output of more than 150 billion yuan (\$20.96 billion) and produce over 360 billion anticounterfeiting labels each year.

People's Daily

German Chancellor Scholz: West should 'brace' itself for prolonged conflict in Ukraine

BERLIN

THE West should adjust its policy with the expectation that the Ukraine conflict may go on for an indefinite period of time German Chancellor Olaf Scholz said on Monday. "We have to brace our-

selves that the Russian

[special military operation] act could last for a long time," German Chancellor Scholz (pictured) said speaking at a joint news conference with NATO Secretary General Jens Stoltenberg

"This is what we are preparing for and this is what we are orienting our policy toward," Scholz told Stoltenberg.

"Germany will continue to be a staunch supporter of Ukraine as long as it takes," Scholz continued. "However, it's obvious that NATO will not become a party to the conflict."

On June 14, the German government has adopted the country's first ever National Security Strategy, which enshrines the main principles and measures to counter potential external threats to the state in the coming years. "The determining factor" of the document's development was Russia's special military operation in Ukraine, the "Zeitenwende" or "tipping point," as German Chancellor Olaf Scholz called it.

The German government enshrined its NATO commitments and decided to increase defense spending by twp percent of GDP.

"We express our strong commitment to NATO and the EU and strengthen the Bundeswehr (the Armed Forces of the Federal Republic of Germany) to meet the primary objective of national and alliance defense (of two percent)," the document said.

It pointed out that the authorities planned to reach the two-percent increase in defense spending in the term of "over several years." "We will strengthen our security in cyberspace and space," the document stressed.

In addition, the German government said that it will reduce dependence on energy and raw materials supplies and work on their diversification.

"We will reduce unilateral dependency on the supplies of raw materials and energy resources by diversifying them. We will work together with our businesses to promote raw materials projects, including creating strategic stockpiles," the document said.

The German authorities also added that they sought to expand national food, energy, and medicine reserves. The document included as well plans to overpass a law aimed at protecting critical infrastructure facilities.

Global charity warns of cholera outbreak at South Sudan's border amid flooding JUBA

DISPLACED children on the South Sudanese side of the border with Sudan are at risk of deadly cholera outbreaks due to flooding and lack of adequate sewage systems, Save the Children, an international charity, warned Monday.

The charity said displaced children and families con-

Africa's Ukraine-Russia peace mission: What was achieved?

KYIV

SOUTH African President Cyril Ramaphosa has hailed as "historic" last week's trip of African leaders to Ukraine and Russia, describing it as "the first time African leaders have embarked on a peace mission beyond" the continent.

However, with neither warring sides agreeing to peace talks, did it make any difference, or was it just an attempt by Mr Ramaphosa to secure attention on the global stage, amid mounting problems in South Africa?

An African contingent including leaders and representatives from seven countries met Ukraine's President Volodymyr Zelensky and Russia's President Vladimir Putin at the end of last week and over the weekend.

There had been hopes that the trip, which was announced last month and led by Mr Ramaphosa, would work towards ending the war, which has badly affected living standards in Africa.

The delegation from South Africa, Egypt, Senegal, Congo-Brazzaville, Comoros, Zambia, and Uganda put forward a 10-point proposal, including a recognition of Russia and Ukraine's sovereignty and continued unhindered grain exports. They also called for a de-escalation of fighting and for negotiations to commence with urgency, for the release of prisoners of war and for greater humanitarian support, among other requests.

Both Russia and Ukraine agreed to continue engagement, South Africa said, but on Saturday Russian President Vladimir Putin appeared to dismiss large chunks of the plan. Ukraine also appeared lukewarm.

The conflict has led to a shortage of grain and fertiliser in many African countries, which import the commodities from Ukraine and Russia respectively. This has led to a spike in food prices around the world, especially in Africa.

The Africa Development Bank says the war is directly responsible for a shortage of about 30 million tonnes of grain on the continent.

President Putin has been threatening to not renew a deal to let Ukrainian grain ships headed for Africa pass through Rus-



The African delegation travelled by train from Poland to Ukraine, and then on to Russia

sian-controlled ports on the Black Sea.

It's not the first time Mr Putin has threatened to do this, but if he follows through this time, it could exacerbate food shortages on the continent - which Africa leaders are keen to avoid at all costs. Although it is thought unlikely Mr Putin will deliver on his threat because he needs African countries on his side to avoid diplomatic isolation.

Alongside raising international awareness about the economic impact the war has had on the continent, African leaders were confronted by further calls to condemn the invasion.

Ukraine's leader argued that condemning Moscow was needed to send a clear message to the Russian people that their isolation on the international stage was a result of their president's invasion of Ukraine.

tions

For Ukraine, it wants its borders as they were in 1991 to be reinstated. This would mean Russia withdrawing from all the territories it has seized from Ukraine in the past decade, including the Crimean Peninsula. This is something the Kremlin is deeply opposed to, arguing instead that for negotiations to take place, Kyiv would have to accept its country's "new territorial reality".

Kremlin spokesman Dmitry Peskov on Monday said that talks with the Africa

delegation would continue. Despite failing to bring the two sides of the conflict together, Mr Ramaphosa argues that his delegation opened the door for future talks.

Given his problems at home, including crumbling infrastructure, regular blackouts and growing discontent with his government, Mr Ramaphosa may have been seeking to play up a win on the international stage.

Unfortunately for him, this peace mission has not delivered that win. Agencies

Macron's Paris summit seeks new life for global finance agenda

PARIS

FRENCH President Emmanuel Macron hosts a summit tomorrow and Friday to pin down a roadmap for easing the debt burdens of lowincome countries while freeing up more funds for climate financing.

The summit brings dozens of leaders together in the French capital to forge a top-level consensus on how to progress a number of initiatives currently struggling in bodies like the G2O, IMF-World Bank and United Nations.

Ranging from debt relief to climate finance, many of the topics on the agenda take up suggestions from a group of developing countries, led by Barbados Prime Minister Mia Mottley, dubbed the 'Bridgetown Initiative'.

"We are moving to a world - I would call it the Bridgetown system of finance - (that) recognizes that we have to massively upscale the public sector and focus that on building resilience and adaptation because it's hard for that to be funded any

special envoy for Mottley on climate finance.

Though binding decisions are not expected, officials involved in the summit's planning said that some strong commitments should be made about financing poor countries.

Nearly eighty years after the Bretton Woods Agreement created the World Bank and International Monetary Fund (IMF), leaders aim to squeeze more financing from multilateral lenders for the countries that need it most.

In particular, there should be an announcement that a \$100 billion target has been met that will be made available through the International Monetary Fund for vulnerable countries, officials said.

The plan, first agreed two years ago at an African finance summit in



tries without putting its top AAA funding while the most distressed credit rating a risk.

"We want to go farther and Zambia - have had little choice but should be able to set targets to put to default.

icized G20 restructuring framework.

On top of interest rate stress, developing and emerging market countries are also struggling to secure the \$1 trillion economists say they need by 2030 to finance carbon emission cuts, boost climate resilience and deal with damage from climate change.

Persaud said support was also expected for the IMF and other multilateral development banks to offer \$100 billion in currency risk guarantees to unlock private investment in poor countries for climate and development initiatives. Some leaders are expected to

lend their weight to long-stalled proposals for a levy on shipping industry emissions ahead of a meeting next month of the International Maritime Organization, officials



tinue to flock into South Sudan daily from Sudan, fleeing violence and instability due to power struggle. "People are dying in these transit centers and resettlement camps due to lack of access to medical care and exposure to the elements.

With the start of the rainy season, facilities are reaching breaking point," said Muzamil Sebi, Save the Children's director of Advocacy, Campaigns, Communication and Media in South Sudan, in a statement issued in Juba, the capital of South Sudan, after a visit.

The charity said cases of cholera have already been reported in resettlement camps in Malakal, further down the River Nile, where many of the refugees from Sudan and returnees from South Sudan have been resettled after they cross the border.

It called on donors who are meeting in Geneva Monday to discuss financial support for the crisis in Sudan and the subsequent refugee influx to neighboring countries to give generously to avoid a health crisis.

Save the Children's Country Director in South Sudan Pornpun Iib Rabiltossaporn said cuts to international funding have had a devastating impact across South Sudan. "We have been fortunate to be able to respond to the needs of newly displaced people from Sudan so far, but without new funds there is no telling how long this support will last.

With the crisis in Sudan showing no sign of abating, support will be needed for weeks and months to come as people will continue to come across the border," Rabiltossaporn said. She said more international support is urgently needed to enable humanitarian partners not only to respond to this new crisis but also to continue to support people affected by the ongoing hunger crisis affecting millions across the country.

The organization said the start of the rainy season earlier this month in Renk, in the northeastern part of South Sudan, brought in torrential rains, causing large areas of transit centers to become mud fields and raising fears that deadly floods and outbreaks of diseases like cholera will occur in coming weeks. Cholera spreads quickly in flooded areas when the feces of an infected person contaminates water or food.

The disease can spread rapidly in areas with inadequate treatment of sewage and no drinking water. The charity said resources to respond to this escalating crisis in the border region are increasingly limited, with facilities reaching breaking point.

Since fighting began in Sudan in mid-April, more than 1.7 million people have been displaced, including close to 500,000 people who have sought safety in neighboring countries.More than 100,000 people have reached South Sudan, making the country the third largest host of displaced people from Sudan after Egypt and Chad, according to the UN.

Paris, calls on wealthy governments to lend unused special drawing rights to the IMF to, in turn, lend to poor countries.

Governments are also looking at ways to allow the World Bank to use other way," said Avinash Persaud, a leverage to lend more to poor coun-

more public money on the table," a French presidency source said.

Rising interest rates

left a growing number of low-income countries dependent on IMF

A source close to the Paris Club said creditor nations said on Monday that the governments Zambia owes money to aim to make a debt Rising global interest rates have restructuring proposal in time for which allow a country to suspend the summit in what is widely seen repayments in the case of a disasas a test case for the much-crit-

- Ethiopia, Ghana, Sri Lanka and

Both Uganda and South Africa, which

formed part of the African delegation, are

seen as aligned with Russia's position. Last

month the US ambassador accused South

Africa of violating neutrality and supplying

weapons to Russia, violating its non-aligned

It is also unclear if South Africa would

hand Mr Putin over to the International

Criminal Court, should he visit South Af-

rica during the upcoming Brics summit in

The key aim of the trip was to help

strengthen the case for a negotiated diplo-

matic solution to the war in Ukraine, and in

Both Ukraine and Russia reiterated be-

fore and after the African peace mission

that they would not come to the negotiat-

ing table without certain basic precondi-

that respect, it has not been a success.

status. South Africa denied this.

August.

They said calls are also expected to be made in favour of disaster risk clauses in lending agreements, ter. Agencies

Uganda school attack: I covered myself in blood to hide

MPONDWE

Student Julius Isingoma has told the BBC how he miraculously survived a night-time assault by suspected Islamist rebels on his school dormitory in western Uganda.

"I smeared the blood of my dead colleagues in my mouth, ears and on my head so that the attackers would think I was dead," he said, when we met him at Bwera General Hospital in Kasese district.

More than 40 people - most of them students - died in the attack on the secondary school in the small town of Mpondwe on Friday night.

Uganda's President Yoweri Museveni blamed the attack on the Allied Democratic Forces (ADF), adding that they were "possibly working with other criminals because I hear that school had some wrangles". He did not elaborate, but vowed to hunt down the militants in their hide-outs across the border in the Democratic Republic of Congo.

The ADF has not yet commented.

It was formed in the 1990s and took up arms against Mr Museveni, alleging persecution of the minority Muslims population.

Its leader reportedly pledged allegiance to the Islamic State (IS) group in 2016.

But it was not until April 2019 that IS first acknowledged its activity in the area, when it claimed an attack on army positions near the border with Uganda.

This statement marked the announcement of IS's "Central Africa Province" (Iscap).

Six students are believed to have been abducted as the militants retreated to DR Congo

Julius was among six people who managed to survive the assault which lasted for several hours

He did not identify the attackers, but said



Godwin Mumbere managed to run away from the school

they were gun-wielding men who launched their attack at about 22:00 local time.

They came to the boys' dormitory but the students had locked it after realising they were in danger.

"When they couldn't open the door they hurled a bomb inside the dormitory and then used hammers and axes to break down the door." he said.

Julius was standing behind many of the students who had formed a shield near the door and were shot dead when the militants got into the dormitory.

There were cries as the students were gunned down, hacked or shot to death.

He quickly climbed to the top of a bunk bed, removed some of the wooden planks of the ceiling, and jumped inside to hide.

From there, he helplessly watched his colleagues being brutally murdered by the assailants, who then set fire to mattresses and

"I was overwhelmed by the smoke and dropped back down into the dormitory with

The militants heard the thud and came back.

It was at that point that Julius knew he had to come out of the attack alive.

"I lay next to the bloodied bodies of my friends and thought very fast. Then I smeared a lot of blood into my ears, mouth and on my head and when the militants came, they checked my hand for a pulse and left," Julius said.

Another survivor, Godwin Mumbere, was in the same dormitory as Julius.

The 18-year-old recalled the assailants going to the girls' dormitory, dragging them out and hacking them to death with machetes.

They then came to the boys' dormitory, broke down the door and started attacking the students.

The bed Godwin was hiding under was overturned and his friends who were on top fell to the ground and were killed.

"The attackers saw me but thought I was dead," he told the BBC.

But they went out and came back into the dormitory to ensure everyone was dead.

"It was at this point that they shot me in the hand and set the dorm ablaze," he said.

Godwin was brought back to reality by the shouts of another student who said they were dying.

He ran out of the dormitory, scaled the school gate and ran to a nearby hardware store through a cocoa plantation. He got to a lodge and hid under a vehicle until he was rescued.

Clarice Bwambare, the senior administrator of Bwera General Hospital, told the BBC they started receiving the bodies of students and residents at around 01:00 - about three hours after the attack started on Friday night.

He noted that out of the 20 bodies they received, 18 were those of students.

Five survivors are currently recuperating at the hospital. One of them is a girl who is in critical condition at the intensive care unit. A surgeon advised that she cannot be moved because of a severe head injury from being hit with a hammer by the rebels.

Mr Bwambare said only one body had not been claimed from the mortuary.

On Sunday, grief-stricken families buried 21 of the students, according to Uganda's New Vision newspaper.

Lying on his hospital bed, Julius expressed regret that he could not attend their funerals. He said he wished he was a soldier who could fight back and save the lives of his friends and colleagues. BBC

left. a thud," he said.





Ladislaus Matindi, Chief Executive Officer and Managing Director of Air Tanzania Company Limited (ATCL), presses a computer button to mark the launch of an album, titled 'Kanuni ya Dhahabu', composed by St. Cecilia Church's choir, at St. Peter Oysterbay parish in Dar es Salaam recently. Standing (L) is the parish's priest, Alista Makubi. PHOTO: CORRESPONDENT MIRAJI MSALA

Taifa Stars edge closer towards sealing African Nations Cup spot

By Correspondent Lloyd Elipokea

LAST weekend, at the magnificent Benjamin Mkapa Stadium in Dar es Salaam, Taifa Stars revived their hopes of sealing a berth at the 2023 AFCON finals slated for next year after they earned a razor-thin 1-nil victory against Niger in their high stakes AFCON qualifier.

Indeed, there was a lot on the line in their clash with Niger because before facing off against the West Africans, Taifa Stars had suffered a costly slip-up by losing to the Uganda Cranes.

This loss to Uganda then meant that the Stars had to go all-out to claim victory against Niger while the Uganda Cranes were of course trying their utmost to gain a win against Algeria in last weekend's round of AFCON finals qualifiers.

For those still in the dark, Taifa Stars were drawn in an AFCON finals qualifying group that consisted of mighty giants Algeria, the distinctly unheralded Niger, and ferocious regional rivals Uganda.

As they headed into last weekend's round of particularly vital AFCON qualifiers, Taifa Stars were level pegging with the Uganda Cranes in the group standings with each team having amassed four points.

At the moment, Taifa Stars are sitting in second place in the group with seven points behind table-toppers Algeria, while Uganda is unhappily in third place in the group with four points.

As a consequence of recent results, Taifa Stars can book a ticket to the 2023 AFCON finals next year if they earn a share of the spoils with heavyweights Algeria on the latter's home turf in their next AFCON qualifier.

Indeed, a draw against the redoubtable 'Desert Foxes' would bring our tally of points up to eight in the group, which would be greater than Uganda's tally of seven points, assuming of course that the Cranes can down Niger in their next AFCON qualifier.

Regardless of the outcome, one thing is positively true. The next and final round of AFCON qualifiers will be must-watch, and thrillingly entertaining football duels.

Naturally, we wish Taifa Stars all the best as they head into the home stretch of their marathon AFCON qualifying campaign.

Moving on, the National Inter-Secondary School Sports Games have recently gotten underway and this is of course cheerful news

for unbridled fans of grassroots sports. The games, which are fondly dubbed the

SPORTS

Football rules needed to eliminate repeated mistakes in Mainland Premier League

By Correspondent Nassir Nchimbi

A shocking mistake of omission occurred in the just concluded 2022/23 NBC Premier League.

Yanga's talisman Fiston Mayele scored 17 goals in the Premier League that concluded on June 9 and Simba SC midfielder Saidi Ntibanzokiza also scored 17 goals.

Before Tanzania Football Federation (TFF) Awards ceremony, suddenly, Tanzania Premier League Board, which does its duties in conjunction with TFF, found itself in a difficult position to tell soccer lovers who deserved the top flight golden boot after Mayele and Ntibanzokiza had the same number of goals.

Well-developed countries in football never forget this principle given it becomes clear before the start of the respective countries' leagues and other showdowns. Regulations for FIFA World Cup, English Premier League, CAF Champions League, and other major showdowns hardly forget this aspect because there is a possibility that two to three players will find themselves

tied for the same number of goals. Other countries' competitions' regulations go further as sometimes participating teams are likely to tie each other on the number of points and goals.

They look at what should happen if such a situation happens. If Tanzania's soccer bodies do not know what to do when it happens that footballers are tied in the number of goals scored, what will they do once clubs are tied on points and other aspects?

There are many words on the street about the decision to have Mayele and Ntibanzokiza end as joint top goal scorers and receive the prize, supporters of the footballers' clubs have as well entered into meaningless arguments.

The truth is that had the rules have been clear earlier, they would have decided the seemingly little case.

What is going on is dwelling on arguments that have no basis, for example, someone underestimates Ntibazonkiza's goals he notched via spot kicks.

Mayele did not score goals via penalties but he also missed a spot kick, whereas there are many goals netted by Ntibazonka via penalties.

Converting a penalty kick is difficult, given if a person wants to know that taking the penalty is difficult, he/she should look at the impact resulting from the failure of footballers to convert the spot kicks.

Some penalties cost the team dearly and some penalties cost the player. One example is Mayele's failure to

Yanga's left fullback, Joyce Lomalisa (down), blocks Simba SC's right-back, Shomari Kapombe, as the clubs took on each other in this season's NBC Premier League match which took place in Dar es Salaam on April 16. PHOTO: CORRESPONDENT JUMANNE JUMA

Simba SC players that did not convert spot kicks, Shomari Kapombe and Clatous Chotta Chama, are some of the side's talented players.

There is also the issue of Ntibazonkiza being presented with the golden boot because he has executed lots of assists, I think it is baseless.

The top goal scorer is the player that is sought after but, if he has another quality like execution of assists, then he should be the Most Valuable Player.

The biggest problem with most assists is they are not determined by the footballer executing them, they are determined by the goal scorer.

A performer can play smooth passes but his/her teammates might waste the opportunities, and that is why European countries have started to concentrate on the most chances created.

Mayele may have created many opportunities that were wasted by midfielder Stephane Aziz Ki and other teammates, if they had fully exploited them, then he

top of the list for a long time. However, so far two football matches allowed Ntibazonka to equal the Congolese forward.

There is also a striker, Prince Dube, at Azam FC. In his outfit's last match, he scored four goals. If Dube had worked hard to reach at least 11 goals until the last match, it is not surprising that he would have challenged Mayele on the last day and the latter would have found himself battling two challengers.

At the end of the day, despite all this, the country

18

This is a fact of great significance, especially when one remembers that the Cranes lost their AFCON qualifier 2-1 against Algeria last weekend whereas as previously stated, Taifa Stars carried the day 1-0 in their clash against Niger.

With Algeria having already sealed their spot at the AFCON finals next year, the race is on between the Cranes and Taifa Stars to see which of the two old foes progresses to the African Nations Cup as the runner-up in the group.

Umisseta Games serve as a springboard for previously undiscovered talents to rise from obscurity to the national spotlight.

However, as we ooh and aah over the precociously gifted youngsters take center stage on our sports scene, care must be taken to keep tabs on the talented youngsters who emerge as potential sporting icons.

Indeed, we would be making a gigantic blunder if we were to let the talented youngsters who catch the eye in this year's Umisseta Games slip through our fingers.

convert two penalties last season, there is one that cost his team victory.

If the Congolese striker could have converted those penalties, he would have surpassed last season's top goal scorer, George Mpole, who beat the former to the golden boot by just one goal.

Not only every penalty is important but also when it comes to an outfield footballer standing 12 steps away from a shot-stopper, while the ball is spotted in front of the former, the footballer needs to use his/her mind to expertly put the ball in the net.

It is not surprising to see that almost all the best players in the world have missed penalties, starting with Lionel Messi, Cristiano Ronaldo, and even Johan Cruyff and many others have missed penalties. Recently, Simba SC fared dismally in a penalty shootout of this season's CAF Champions League last-eight encounter with Morocco's Wydad Athletic Club in Casablanca on April 28, which ended with the latter emerging victorious.

would have had more assists than Ntibazonkiza.

There is this belief that Mayele's goals have enabled Yanga to win the titles, the truth is that one player's goals do not solely enable a team to win titles.

They only contribute to an outfit's success, an individual should consider how Simba SC has this season scored more goals than Yanga but has not won any title.

In terms of winning silverware, many behaviours enable the team to win titles, not just goals netted by one player. Sometimes even the goalkeeper contributes to an outfit clinching a silverware, I believe the confusion could have been ended if there were rules on the issue.

I believe that both Mayele and Ntibazonkiza deserve to share the golden boot since no rule could have explained it all. ted out separate them from the beginning... it is thus important for the soccer bodies to set parameters before the next season. There are two lessons that Mayele has continued to receive when it comes to competing for the golden boot, Mayele scores as many goals as he loses chances. If he had taken most of his chances this season he could have reached 25 goals.

I though think he has learned how life comes at an individual fast, as he thought that he had already taken the golden boot after notching 16 goals and stayed on

needs strikers who will start to get past the 20-goal barrier. Seventeen goals are not enough to make a striker end as a golden boot winner.

A striker who starts in the squad every weekend and avoids injuries has to score more than 17 goals.

When the Premier League had 12 teams. Yanga's Mohamed Hussein 'Mmachinga' scored 26 goals in one season in 1999. How could the likes of Meddie Kagere, Amisi Tambwe, Mayele, and others have failed to achieve Hussein's record with the Premier League made up of 16, 18, and 20 teams?



Taifa Stars' goal-getter, Simon Msuva (L), shoots past Niger's players when they locked horns in a 2023 Africa Cup of Nations Qualifiers' Group F match at Benjamin Mkapa Stadium in Dar es Salaam on Sunday. Taifa Stars commanded a 1-0 victory over Niger. PHOTO: CORRESPONDENT JUMANNE JUMA

Arusha out to establish yoga centers for tourists

By Correspondent Marc Nkwame, Arusha

ARUSHA is in the process of establishing yoga centers in the city to accommodate the demands of tourists and other foreign visitors coming to Tanzania, as the latter have been asking for places to practice the Hindi exercise.

The plan was made public during an occasion in which more than 300 participants from all corners of Arusha city and its suburbs were taking part in special yoga exercises and meditation to cultivate healthy living and promote personal well-being.

Organized by India's High Commissioner to Tanzania, the event was staged at the 'Fun Retreat' hall under the

coordination of Milan Cable to mark the ninth International Yoga Day observed annually throughout the world.

Speaking during the exercise, Milan Cable Manager, Kishen Majithia, extolled the benefits of yoga, recommending that the exercise should be undertaken every morning, shortly after waking up to promote body health. "We are intending to start Yoga training classes in Arusha City and throughout the region to initiate residents into this beneficial exercise," Majithia maintained.

The Milan Cable Manager also pointed out that many foreign visitors coming to Arusha have always been asking for places where they can participate in yoga exercises, thus it was Iranghe, who admitted that important to establish yoga yoga has been beneficial to the

centers in the precinct. The International Day of Yoga has been celebrated across the world annually on June 21 since 2015, following its inception in the United Nations General Assembly in 2014.

Yoga is a physical, mental, and spiritual practice that originated in ancient India, whose name was derived from the Sanskrit word 'Yuji', meaning either yoke or union.

Yoga is an ancient practice that brings together mind and body and incorporates breathing exercises. meditation, and poses designed to encourage relaxation and reduce stress. The guest of honour at the event was the Arusha City Mayor, Maximillian

Hindi communities in Arusha and advised the other residents to emulate the practice.

"The members of the Asian community who run various business entities in town have been going on for years without falling sick or getting tired," Iranghe stated, adding that their secret has been discovered to be yoga. According to the city Mayor, it was also high time for the Olympic Committee to include yoga in the lineup of sporting activities to be competed in during the Olympic Games.

One of the yoga supporters in Arusha, Abubakar Omary, said they intend to conduct several yoga events to encourage more Tanzanians to undertake the ancient exercise and also benefit from it.

SPORTS

'Insulted' Courtois refuses to play Belgium qualifier after captaincy snub

BRUSSELS

THIBAUT Courtois had refused to make the trip to Tallinn for Belgium's Euro 2024 qualifier against Estonia later yesterday after being overlooked for the stand-in captaincy last week.

In the absence of regular skipper Kevin De Bruyne, Romelu Lukaku wore the captain's armband for a 1-1 draw with Austria last Saturday.

Coach Domenico Tedesco said the plan had been for his two vicecaptains, Lukaku and Real Madrid goalkeeper Courtois, to lead the side in one match each during the international break

"After the game Thibaut suddenly wanted to talk to me and told me he was going home because he was disappointed and felt insulted," Tedesco told a press conference on Monday.

"In my eyes, he's the best goalkeeper in the world. I appreciate him as a goalkeeper and also as a person.

"I'm surprised and shocked that he felt offended and disappointed.

"In March, we decided that Kevin would be captain and there would be two vice-captains -- Lukaku and Courtois.

Courtois in a statement said he was "surprised" to hear Tedesco "give a partial and subjective view of

a private conversation".

"I asked him, not out of personal interest, to explain and take decisions to avoid situations we have already experienced that harmed us," he said.

"To be captain or not isn't a whim or a random decision, it's up to him (Tedesco) to decide and that's what I tried to make him understand."

Strasbourg'keeper MatzSels was to take Courtois' place in goal for the Estonia game. Belgian media reported that

Courtois' decision also came as a surprise to his teammates.

"It's a sad situation," said veteran defender Jan Vertonghen.

"I would prefer Thibaut to be there but the group process is important. That process is now certainly disrupted and a solution will have to be found.'

Belgium were affected by reported infighting during the World Cup last year when they crashed out in the group stage, with De Bruyne saying during the tournament the team were "too old".

Previous captain Eden Hazard retired from international football after the debacle in Qatar and coach Roberto Martinez left.

Belgium have four points from two games in Euro qualifying, sitting second in Group F behind Austria. AFP

The tactical move had mixed

results, as Arsenal were defeated at Nottingham Forest with Partey

in that position before they then

thrashed Wolves 5-0 on the final

With Partey predominantly a

midfielder, and with his future in

north London in doubt, the sign-

ing of Timber – if a deal can be

agreed with Ajax - would provide

Arteta with a more natural option

England rampant in Euro 2024 qualifying as Mbappe lifts France

LONDON

BUKAYO Saka scored a hat-trick as England demolished North Macedonia 7-0 in Euro 2024 qualifying on Monday, while Kylian Mbappe's re-taken penalty gave France a narrow victory over Greece.

Harry Kane swept England ahead at Old Trafford before Saka stole the show with two superb finishes either side of Marcus Rashford's goal.

Saka completed his treble early in the second half, Kalvin Phillips added another and Kane then struck again from the spot as England won their fourth straight match in Group C.

"It's a feeling I can't put into words. I can't describe how I'm feeling right now. I'm so happy," Saka told Channel 4.

"It's been a really long season. It's the end of the season now. I couldn't have ended it in a better way."

England top the section on a maximum 12 points, six ahead of Ukraine, who are second after a 1-0 win over Malta in Trnava was secured by Viktor Tsygankov's second-half penalty.

European champions Italy are nine points adrift in third but have played just twice.

France also kept up their 100 percent record in Group B with a 1-0 win over Greece in Paris, which propelled the World Cup runners-up six points clear of their opponents. Mbappe saw his initial spot-kick saved by Odysseas Vlachodimos, but the France striker made no mistake with his second attempt after encroachment by a Greek defender.

Greece finished with 10 men as Kostantinos Mavropanos was sent off, having escaped red earlier when he caught Antoine Griezmann in the face with his studs and gave away the penalty.

"We did what we needed to win this match. I'm very pleased with what the players have done in this difficult period," France coach Didier Deschamps told TF1.

"There's less experience than Group D. there was six months ago, but there's quality.' Wales in trouble -

Mikey Johnston, Evan Ferguson and Adam Idah scored as the Republic of Ireland picked up their first points of the campaign with a 3-0 home victory over minnows Gibraltar

ify after a second loss in four days, going down 2-0 in Turkey following the dismissal of midfielder loe Morrell late in the first half.

Hakan Calhanoglu had his penalty saved before Umut Navir and Arda Guler struck in the final 20

key in fourth place, level with Nations League runners-up Croatia, who have two games in hand.

Armenia are second after Tigran Barseghyan converted a stoppagetime penalty to snatch a 2-1 win against lowly Latvia in Yerevan.

Finland lead a tight Group H in which the top four are separated by only two points.

Substitute Daniel Hakans bagged a hat-trick in Finland's 6-0 mauling of San Marino, the world's lowestranked side, with Glen Kamara, Benjamin Kallman and Teemu Pukki also on target.

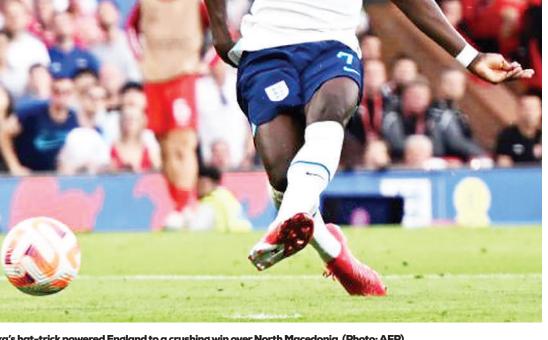
Kazakhstan are level on nine

points in second after winning 1-0 away to Northern Ireland, Abat Aimbetov's late goal fuelling their surprise qualification push.

Slovenia and Denmark drew 1-1 in Ljubljana as Andraz Sporar opened the scoring for the hosts only for Rasmus Hojlund to level before the interval.

Valentin Mihaila stunned Switzerland with two late goals as Romania fought back for a 2-2 draw in Lucerne after Zeki Amdouni's brace had put the Group I frontrunners in control.

Israel saw off Andorra 2-1 while Belarus beat Kosovo by the same scoreline in Budapest.



Bukayo Saka's hat-trick powered England to a crushing win over North Macedonia. (Photo: AFP)



Wales are five points behind Tur-

Wales face a difficult task to qual-

minutes to keep Turkey top of

Jurrien Timber: The 'inverted rightback' Arsenal are in talks to sign

day of the campaign.

that position.

ARSENAL are hoping to sign Ajax defender Jurrien Timber in a move that would add further depth and versatility to their back four.

By Sam Dean

Telegraph Sport understands that Timber has been top of Arsenal's list of defensive targets for weeks, with Mikel Arteta looking to recruit a player who can provide quality competition as a rightback and central defender.

The 22-year-old is valued at around £50 million by Ajax but Arsenal are hoping to secure a deal at a lower price for a player who has two years remaining on his contract.

Timber is a Dutch international who has previously attracted interest from Manchester United, and Telegraph Sport understands Arsenal are not the only top European club to have expressed interest in signing him this summer.

A key part of Arsenal's squadplanning for this window has been to add a player who can play as an inverted right-back, in a similar way to Oleksandr Zinchenko on the left flank.

Timber, who is known for his composure in possession, can also play as a centre-back and is regarded as having a superb passing range.

At the end of the 2022/23 season, with Zinchenko injured, Arteta experimented with an inverted rightback by playing Thomas Partey in

for that right-back position, in the event of Ben White being moved to centre-back.

The attempt to sign Timber is also a result of Arsenal's need to add more defensive options this summer, after their title charge deteriorated following injuries to key centre-back William Saliba and full-back Takehiro Tomiyasu in March.

Timber would compete with Saliba and White for a place in the starting lineup and his signing would also allow for more rotation as Arsenal prepare for the demands of playing in the Champions League next season.

Meanwhile, Arsenal remain in negotiations with West Ham United over Declan Rice and Chelsea over Kai Havertz. It is understood the Havertz deal is progressing quickly, with Chelsea willing to sell the player for the right price.

THE TELEGRAPH



Bukayo Saka cements his place as England's next leading man with first career hat-trick

By Richard Jolly

THERE was a period when it seemed that Bukayo Saka's golden season would end with him a Premier League champion, perhaps even anointed as Footballer of the Year. And if neither quite came to pass, he still conjured a fitting finish to a wonderful campaign.

The first hat-trick of his career came in just 13 minutes and in his country's colours. As England football team's No. 7 made off with the match ball, they scored seven. North Macedonia have claimed the scalps of Italy and Germany in their recent past but they were demolished. If this could have been a group laced with pitfalls for England, with the reigning European champions,

Euro 2020 quarter-finalists and a side who almost qualified for the World Cup, they have the maximum 12 points and are turning their journey to Germany next summer into a procession.

If Saka's last European Championships ended with the trauma of a penalty miss in the final shootout, he has rendered it highly likely England will go to next summer's. If he started this season outside Gareth Southgate's strongest side, he ends it very much in it. A treble took his tally to six goals in his last nine caps; for country as well as club, Saka has proved more prolific than most envisaged.

And yet it is never just about the numbers with Saka. A wonderfully endearing footballer scored the goal of the night against North Macedonia and England had six others to pick from - with a spectacular half-volley from 20 yards, sent crashing in after a similarly brilliant pass from Trent Alexander-Arnold, a 50-yard ball from

Southgate's new midfielder.

On an evening when Harry Kane extended his national record to 58 goals and Marcus Rashford, a lifelong Manchester United fan, struck for his country on his home ground, Saka nevertheless upstaged both.

He became the youngest player to score a hat-trick for England since Theo Walcott against Croatia and if an earlier Arsenal winger is an illustration that potential does not always lead to greatness, for now England can enjoy his promise.

His goals were very different, illustrating his range. First came a rising shot, rifled in with his less favoured right foot, following a low cross from Kyle Walker.

Then, after his superb second, came the sort of strike Raheem Sterling used to get; Harry Kane dropped deep to act as playmaker, feeding a pass into the path of an on-rushing winger. Saka made the dart behind the Macedonia defence and slotted in his shot.

It was England's fifth goal of the night and a sign they had turned what could have been an awkward fixture

into a rout. Southgate had cited the fact England had never beaten North Macedonia at home before; in a soporific start in the Old Trafford sunshine, perhaps the visitors imagined that sequence could continue. But each of Southgate's front three found the net; perhaps they will be his firstchoice forward line next summer, too

Certainly Rashford advanced his case. He had missed a fine chance a minute before he scored, with Harry Maguire the unlikely provider, but then slotted in from Jordan Henderson's low cross. Meanwhile, it was eminently predictable that Kane struck. A brace took his tally to 40 goals in the season for club and country and he bookended the scoring.

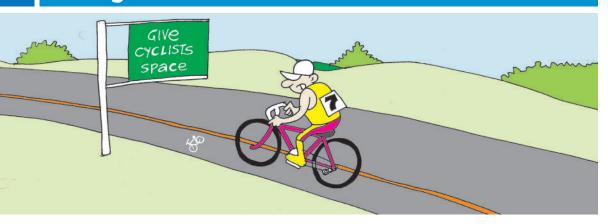
The first was a goal made in Manchester and scored by a man United's left-back is trying to persuade to join him at Old Trafford. Rashford was England's brightest player in the first half-hour and made the initial incursion, drawing in two defenders and feeding the underlapping Luke Shaw. His cutback was tucked in by Kane; it may be a goal Shaw envisages United scoring next season, though Kane is unlikely to ply his trade at Old Trafford then. His second stemmed from a foul on a Manchester City played with John Stones wrestled to the ground by Egzon Bejtulia and Kane converting the penalty.

Before then, substitute Kalvin Phillips tapped in his first international goal after Jack Grealish's cross was not cleared. For him, it has been a strange season, with a treble but a bit-part role at City and a threat to his place in the international pecking order from Alexander-Arnold.

For Kane, it felt a typical occasion: he has scored in each of his last six games for England, even if one of those was more notable for the skied penalty against France in Qatar.

For Saka, though, it was another breakthrough night. England have a phalanx of gifted wingers but, in the last dozen years, only Kane and Sterling had scored hat-tricks for them. Such nights do not come around often but, given the speed of Saka's rise, a first may not be a last for him.

THE INDEPENDENT



by David Chikoko



England rampant in Euro 2024 qualifying as Mbappe lifts France

COMPREHENSIVE REPORT, PAGE 19

PETROFUEL CARAV ARAVANS **DC CARAVANS** T ΤΛΤΛ **T20 CUP 2023** PAIKING AUROB Power for епse AUTOMA MAX ΛSΗ ishnet ZANIA BANK . m ϑ JIUZH⊕U harmonic Sams EUPO **VL** SMART MOBIDOO L ATELEPORTS

Aurobindo Aga Khan SC's Ajith Augastin (R) receives the Colourflex Man of the Match award from Umesh Dingare, Product Development Manager of TVS, once the squad confronted Flashnet Pak Stars in a 2023 Petrofuel Dar es Salaam Cricket (DC) Caravans T20 Cup tournament Super4s tie on Sunday. PHOTO: COURTESY OF CARAVANS CRICKET CLUB

Kasongo hails Premier League clubs for adjusting to schedule changes

By Correspondent Nassir Nchimbi

TANZANIA Premier League Board (TPLB) Chief Executive Officer (CEO) Almas Kasongo (pictured) has stated that scheduling the top flight's fixtures is still a challenge for the board although it is not big compared to previous seasons.

It should be noted that

this season's NBC Premier League ended on June 9 while the Championship League and First League ended earlier.

Yanga is NBC Premier League champions, JKT Tanzania and Kitayosce FC will participate in the Premier League next season after dominating this season's Championship League, while Polisi Tanzania and Ruvu Shooting have been relegated to the 2023/24 Championship League.

"Having the right schedule is everything in our leagues, from the clubs, the Premier League League Board, and the Tanzania Football Federation (TFF), this helps simplify our daily activities," the TPLB CEO pointed out.

"The schedule is the number one priority, we have to have a schedule that is productive in management and efficiency of all our games for all leagues," the official noted.

The TPLB CEO stated: "Among the things that give us a very difficult task in the management and operation of all leagues is the schedule, it is difficult because the schedule that will be announced cannot be liked by every stakeholder that is the club."

"We are in a good balance, You also have to provide a schedule that reflects the participation of our teams in the CAF tournament, when you reach that area, often our schedules face a big challenge."

This season like many other previous seasons, Premier League fixtures have numerously been rescheduled due to various teams needing to have more

Three foreign stars exit Simba SC

By Correspondent Michael Mwebe

NIGERIAN midfielder Victor Akpan, Burkinabe midfielder Ismael Sawadogo, and Ivorian defender Mohamed Ouattara would not be part of Simba SC's squad next season after their exit from the club.

They join Ghanaian winger Augustine Okrah on the outgoing list of the outfit, also known as 'Msimbazi Reds'.

Lack of game time has been cited as the reason the three foreign players are leaving Simba SC to seek a fresh start elsewhere next season.

Akpan joined Simba SC from Coastal Union in 2022 for a reportedly \$50,000 transfer fee but struggled to make an impact at the Msimbazi Street club.

He was part of the Coastal Union squad that went all the way to the 2021/22 Azam Sports Federation Cup final before losing to Young Africans SC (Yanga) on penalties.

The midfielder had a difficult introduction to life at Simba SC under the then-head coach Zoran Maki.

Maki was not convinced by Akpan during pre-season training camp in Egypt and wanted the midfielder to be axed before the campaign began.

However, Akpan was kept until mid-season when he was loaned out to Ihefu SC and served the club for the remaining part of the season.



Aurobindo Aga Khan SC stuns **Flashnet Pak Stars** in 2023 Petrofuel DC Caravans T20 Cup

By Guardian Reporter

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AUROBINDO Aga Khan SC has boosted its pursuit of success in the 2023 Petrofuel Dar es Salaam Cricket (DC) Caravans T20 Cup tournament, cruising to victory against Flashnet Pak Stars in a nail-biting Super4 encounter which took place on Sunday.

Aurobindo Aga Khan SC won the toss and elected to bowl first, aiming to restrict their opponents to a manageable total in the exhilarating tie.

The decision proved fruitful as they managed to contain the Flashnet Pak Stars' batting lineup.

The opening pair of Ivan Ismail and Zeeshan Ul-Haq set the stage for Flashnet Pak Stars with their solid contributions.

Ismail scored a commendable 34 runs off 21 deliveries, while Zeeshan Ul-Haq added 24 runs off 28 balls. Their partnership provided a solid foundation for their team.

However, it was the explosive Zafar Khan who stole the limelight with his phenomenal innings given the cricketer single-handedly took matters into his own hands, smashing the ball to all corners of the ground.

His blistering knock of 89 runs off just 46 deliveries left the Aurobindo Aga Khan SC bowlers searching for answers.

Zafar Khan's innings was embellished with eight massive sixes and six boundaries, leaving the opposition in awe of his power-hitting display.

Flashnet Pak Stars finished their innings with a total of 172 runs for the loss of six wickets in their allotted 20 overs.

Kartik Syal stood out with the ball for Aurobindo Aga Khan SC, picking up three crucial wickets, while Vipin Abraham contributed with two wickets to his name.

Chasing a challenging target, Aurobindo Aga Khan SC had a shaky start as Abhik Patwa was dismissed on the very first ball by Muhammad Bilawal, sending shockwaves across the ground.

However, the arrival of Ajith Augastin at the crease changed the course of the match. Augastin showcased exceptional batting skills and played at a different level altogether.

He smacked the bowlers around the park, scoring a breathtaking 75 runs off just 30 deliveries, including nine colossal sixes. Just when it seemed like Aurobindo Aga Khan SC was cruising toward victory, tragedy struck unexpectedly. Augastin fell victim to a mankad dismissal executed by Zafar Khan, bringing an end to his sublime innings. The dismissal raised eyebrows and sparked a wave of debate among the spectators. Despite the loss of Augastin, Aurobindo Aga Khan SC found a reliable hero in Harsheed Chohan. Chohan's unbeaten knock of 43 runs off 18 balls proved to be the turning point of the game. His powerful hitting and sensible shot selection swung the momentum in favour of Aurobindo Aga Khan SC. With Chohan's resilient batting and some valuable contributions from the rest of the lineup, Aurobindo Aga Khan SC chased down the target with 19 balls to spare, securing a thrilling victory They finished the match with six wickets in hand, highlighting their dominance in the latter stages of the game. For his explosive cameo, Chohan garnered the Rickshaw Game Changer of the match's prize. Ajith Augastin was adjudged the Colourflex Man of the Match. The match showcased a perfect blend of explosive batting, remarkable bowling, and nerve-wracking moments, captivating the audience until the last ball was bowled. Aurobindo Aga Khan SC emerged as the deserving winners, displaying their exceptional skills and determination in the Petrofuel DC Caravans T20 Cup. The Petrofuel DC Caravans T20 Cup is an annual T20-formatted cricket competition organized by Caravans Cricket Club. Petrofuel is the title sponsor of the showdown. Other sponsors include Alliance Insurance, Colourflex, TATA Africa Holdings, ASAS, Rickshaw Travels, RAS Logistics, Pepsi, e-Parking, Remax, Flashnet, and Aurobindo.

preparation time for the CAF inter-club competitions.

"We always plan our schedule so that the league has to start, but we never know what will happen in either CAF or FIFA showdowns," the official disclosed.

"The biggest challenge is our schedule of domestic games to reflect the CAF schedules to give space to our teams participating in the Championship League, including limited time to play another match."

Kasongo also touched on schedule improvements, stating: "Many stakeholders do not agree with the schedule, there are no problems, now the challenge is where the teams are waiting for each other."

"When you are waiting for each other, the league takes a long time and the teams stay for a long time without playing."

"We are looking at how the team can spend a little time without playing, this is a good example of the CAF inter-club tournaments' finals schedule, Yanga had to wait for the fixtures to draw to an end so that all teams can play the remaining rounds," the TPLB CEO pointed out.

"Its main basis is to remove the spoils otherwise the other teams would have finished the league so there would be no balance and we would create indicators for planning the results."

"A large percentage of our teams do not have a good economy, now we are trying to see how we can help if the team has two or three matches, maybe at the Lake Zone, then finish all matches, although at the end of the day, you cannot do it for all clubs there, now others must be hurt."



Cruise

The Msimbazi Street club officially announced Akpan's departure on Tuesday after the Nigerian had turned down another loan deal option as he is not in coach Roberto Oliveira 'Robertinho's plan for next season.

The squad noted in a statement: "The club management announces that it has reached an agreement to part ways with Nigerian midfielder Victor Akpan."

"We thank Akpan for his service in the team and also wish him well in his new career outside our team," the statement said.

Sawadogo joined Simba SC as a free agent during the January transfer window.

The 27-year-old could hardly break into the starting lineup, with Mzamiru Yassin, Sadio Kanoute and even veteran Erasto Nyoni having been always preferred ahead of him.

In a few games (seven) Sawadogo played in a Simba SC shirt, he hardly offered them the goods.

Simba SC's Burkinabe midfielder, Ismaël Sawadogo. PHOTO: COURTESY OF SIMBA SC

On the other side, Outtara joined Simba SC from Sudanese giants Al Hilal and was tipped to shine at his new side.

However the 23-year-old found the going rather tough at the Msimbazi Street squad's den, he was discarded to the bench after coach Maki left Simba SC for Egypt

Having failed to dislodge Joash Onyango and Henock Inonga in central defense, Simba SC terminated Ouattara's deal just

a season after he had joined them.

As Simba SC undergoes these player movements, football followers eagerly await further transfer news regarding the team's preparations for the upcoming season.

More players are expected to be released as the club tries to rebuild the squad for the CAF Super League and other tournaments under coach Robertinho.

Flexibles by David Chikoko

