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President Samia Suluhu Hassan exchanges greetings with Vice President Dr Philip Mpango and Prime Minister Kassim Majaliwa at Dar es Salaam's Julius Nyerere International Airport yesterday shortly after jetting back from Glasgow, Scotland, where she attended - and addressed - the ongoing (Oct 31 to Nov 12) 26th UN Climate Change conference of the Parties (COP26). Right behind her is Foreign Affairs and East African Cooperation minister Liberata Mulamula. Photo: State House

Conserving indigenous groups gets 3.9trn/- aid

By Correspondent Marc Nkwame, Arusha

A CONSORTIUM of funding organisations linked with the United Nations Conference on Climate Change (COP26) are moving to invest close to four trillion shillings for the conservation of pastoralist and hunter-gatherer communities in Arusha and Manyara regions

The Rt. Hon. Lord Peter Goldsmith of

Richmond Park, the Minister for Pacific and the Environment at the Foreign, Commonwealth and Development Office (FCDO) was named here yesterday as among the key movers of the project, where five leading economies have recognized the conservation role played by northern regions' pastoralist communities.

The targeted groups are chiefly the Maasai

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MPs demand govt to end saga on hawkers

By Henry Mwangonde, Dodoma

MEMBERS of the standing committee of the National Assembly on the Budget have come up with recommendations that the government addresses challenges facing

hawkers and avoid repeated confrontations that lead to losses.

Among the recommendations, the committee said the government via local authorities should set aside sites for petty traders to conduct their businesses,

also facilitated with the necessary infrastructure to attract customers.

Presenting a report on the proposed National Development Plan 2022/23, committee chairman Daniel Baran Sillo said the government must continue with the process of formalizing the informal sector in a progressive way instead of removing petty traders year after year.

The government needs to carry out an analysis of the job market to facilitate the formulation of programmes and strategies aimed at creating jobs for the youth, the

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German NGO talks ecological tourism

● Issue is to protect Serengeti water sources

By Correspondent Marc Nkwame, Arusha

FRANKFURT Zoological Society (FZS), the German conservation organization, has embarked on preserving the Loliondo Hills water catchment area to maintain the flow of rivers and springs that feed the Serengeti National Park.

James Wumbura, the community conservation officer for the FZS Serengeti ecosystem said the agency is particularly

concerned with the Grumeti River, which is a lifeline to the Serengeti ecosystem, home of hippos as well as an important stage in the annual wildebeest migrations.

The agency's community involvement approach shall incorporate leaders from 12 villages located around the three main forests of Loliondo, spawning the two divisions of Sale and Loliondo, he said.

The forests perched on the highlands

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Treasury projects 5.2pc GDP growth next year

By Henry Mwangonde, Dodoma

TANZANIA'S Gross Domestic Product (GDP) growth is expected to rise from 5.0 this year to 5.2 per cent next year, the government believes.

Dr Mwigulu Nchemba, the Finance and Planning minister, made this observation when tabling the 2022/23 national development plan in the legislature on Wednesday, asserting that this projection will be achieved by implementing key fiscal policies.

These include promoting the participation of the private sector in development projects, promoting natural disaster resilience programmes, building on the peace and

stability as well as ensuring food security, he stated, noting that the plan strives to build a competitive and industrial economy focusing on human development.

The government plans to spend about 39.38trn/- in recurrent and development expenditure in the 2022/2023 financial year, an ambitious budget pegged on several priority areas encompassing salary increments for public servants, he said.

He said the target is to stimulate a competitive and participatory economy especially with projects building a community that is competitive regionally and internationally, he said, elaborating that implementation of flagship projects and employment creation are central to the plan.

Development partners are expected to contribute to the national budget through general budget support by about 3.04trn/-, amounting to around 7.7 per cent of the total budget, he specified.

The goal of the plan is also to strengthen overall economic stability, the business and investment environment, enhancing

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The Guardian managing editor Wallace Mauggo (gesturing) takes Indian High Commissioner Shri Binaya Srikanta Pradhan (R) through the basics of newspaper production in The Guardian Limited's newsroom in Dar es Salaam yesterday. The envoy was on a familiarisation tour of IPP media outlets. Others (from-L): The Guardian Limited commercial director Ajay Goyal, IT manager Balaji Gopalakrishnan, director Joyce Luhanga, finance manager Samwel Orgenes, printing manager Balasabramanian Venkatchalam, human resources manager Emmanuel Matondo, and an official with the Indian High Commission. More photos on Page 4. Photo: Correspondent Miraji Msala



Treasury projects 5.2pc GDP growth next year

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research and development plus adopting technology from abroad, he stated, highlighting that the government will focus on developing infrastructures and services, where roads, railways, bridges, water, ICT, energy, ports and airports feature highly.

The minister underlined that the new development plan will focus on strengthening industrial production and service delivery, with industrial projects aimed at adding value to agricultural products, livestock, fisheries and minerals.

Industries will also be geared to products using local raw materials and resources available in abundance in the country, he emphasised.

Key projects slated for

implementation are the East African Crude Oil Pipeline, the Liquid Natural Gas (LNG) processing plant in Lindi Region, the Magadi Soda Engaruka Project along with the coal iron and steel project at Liganga and Mchuchuma.

Other major projects include the Standard Gauge Railway (SGR), the 2,115 megawatts Julius Nyerere Hydropower Project (JNHPP) and improving the national flag carrier, ATCL.

Still others are the Ruhudji hydropower project (358 MW) and Rumakali Hydropower Project (MW 222) both located in Njombe Region, and construction of high bridges and highways like Kigongo Bridge at Busisi (Mwanza) and the New Selander Bridge also named the Tanzanite Bridge in Dar es Salaam, he added.

Conserving indigenous groups gets 3.9trn/-aid

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and Barbaig pastoralists along with the Hadza hunter-gatherers where a pledge was made to collect and invest around \$1.7bn (over 3.9trn/-) to maintain and improve various efforts relating to the zones where the groups inhabit, which also involve large stretches of conserved lands.

Organisations from Norway, Germany, the Netherlands, United States and the United Kingdom, in partnership with 17 other funders, have jointly pledged to invest \$1.7bn to help indigenous and local communities conserve the biodiversity of tropical forests that are vital to protecting the planet from climate change, biodiversity loss, and pandemic risks.

It is on this framework that in Tanzania, the Maasai and Barbaig pastoralists, the Hadza hunters and fruit gatherers are listed among indigenous communities that have helped maintain the world's biodiversity, while the planned grants cover other indigenous people across the African continent.

The effort is based on recent studies showing that indigenous communities and organizations receive less than one percent of the climate funding meant to reduce deforestation, with the new pledge signaling the commitment to protecting the world's tropical forests and those who live in them, on the basis of remarks attributed to Lord Goldsmith in the statement.

Among philanthropic groups joining the new pledge at a critical moment for addressing the climate crisis is the Ford Foundation, the Children's Investment Fund Foundation, the Christensen Fund plus the David and Lucile Packard

Foundation.

Others are Sobrato Philanthropies, Good Energies Foundation, Oak Foundation, William and Flora Hewlett Foundation, while a number of participating organizations belong to 'Protecting Our Planet Challenge,' namely Arcadia, Bezos Earth Fund, Bloomberg Philanthropies, Gordon and Betty Moore Foundation, Nia Tero, Rainforest Trust, Rewild, Rob and Melani Walton Foundation and the Wyss Foundation.

Their joint announcement was made during the high-level world leaders' summit, COP26 in Glasgow, Scotland and made available here by a Ford Foundation statement to the media.

"We are demonstrating our commitment today by announcing an initial, collective pledge of US \$1.7 billion of financing, from 2021 to 2025, to support advancement of Indigenous Peoples' and local communities' forest tenure rights and greater recognition and rewards for their role as guardians of forests and nature," the statement intoned.

Calling on others to add their support as well, the donor agencies said that indigenous peoples and local communities manage half the world's land and care for an astonishing 80 percent of Earth's biodiversity, primarily under customary tenure arrangements.

"The evidence is overwhelming that Indigenous Peoples and local communities are forests' most effective guardians, often in the face of acute danger, and so they should be at the heart of nature-based solutions to the climate emergency.

By investing in tropical forest communities and expanding their communal rights, we will also tackle poverty, pollution, and pandemics," the collective statement declared.

MPs task govt to end saga on hawkers

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report suggested.

"To ensure this is possible the government must start this financial year to allocate special sites and construct the necessary infrastructure up to the next financial year to enable petty traders conduct trading freely," it also affirmed.

The committee noted that if the recommendations are not taken up, the country will be building up for a serious challenge "which will not be addressed by words as it is the case now."

Regional authorities launched an operation to clear petty traders from pavements in major streets in cities and other urban centres, touching off an avalanche of complaints and grieving over the change of posture since the waiver placed on their clearance by the late fifth phase president had now elapsed. Police moved in to restore order in the vast suburb of Mbagala where some commotion was reported.

Prime Minister Kassim Majaliwa directed the clearance of petty traders from pavements and water waste canals or power boosters, lines, etc. City regional

commissioner Amos Makalla said he would 'apologize' to the premier as he extended the clearing off deadline from October 18 to October 30.

The issue in contention is how petty traders can be repositioned to conduct their businesses without impeding the flow of customers to formalized shopping spaces, and making the streets convenient for parking and obtaining any services.

The Association of Petty Traders wrote to the President's Office (PO_RALG) asking for an audience with President Samia Suluhu Hassan to air their grievances and find ways to address them.

They complained of being harassed, beaten up and their tables destroyed by law enforcers, saying this operation was pulling them back to biting poverty.

President Samia had earlier appealed that municipal agencies should rearrange rather than sweep aside the hawkers, but the proper exercise has been one of clearing the streets, with a scatter of them occupying minimal space where they still lay some wares on tables or hanging clothing, not spreading wares.



Prime Minister Kassim Majaliwa chairs a meeting in his Dodoma office yesterday with Jenista Mhagama, Minister of State in the PMO (Policy, Parliament, Labour, Employment, Youth and People with Disabilities), Finance and Planning minister Dr Mwigulu Nchemba and Research officials of several CSOs. Photo: PMO

Adhere to national laws, regulations, Jingu challenges international NGOs

By Polycarp Machira

THE permanent Secretary in the Ministry of Health, Community Development, Gender, Elderly and Children, Dr John Jingu, has cautioned international non-government organisations (NGOs) to adhere to national laws and regulations.

He said some of them violate section 31(c) (i) of the Non-Governmental Organization Act, 2002 which states that international NGOs has to foster and promote the capacities and abilities of other local organisations.

The PS added that while the law requires them to refrain from doing any act which is likely to cause competition or misunderstanding among NGOs, others are doing the opposite.

"Some of the international NGOs suffocate the working space

of their local counterparts and this is against the law," he said adding that they negatively affect contributions of the sector to national development.

He further explained that some of such NGOs are engaging in activities that can be undertaken by local ones or Christian-based organisations (CBOs) and others register as local NGOs despite having branches in many countries in the world.

Dr Jingu made the remarks while officiating the opening of a working session seminar organised by the Tanzania Gender Networking Programme (TGNP) to discuss how to accelerate gender issues at the ministries and government in general.

The meeting brought together representatives from ministries of Health, Community Development, Gender, Elderly and Children, Water, Education, Science and Technology,

Agriculture, Industry and Trade, Information, Communication and Information Technology and Ministry of State, Vice President's Office (Union and Environment).

The PS applauded TGNP for efforts aimed at improving gender equality and advancing women participation in nation building, saying the organisation is supporting the government agenda.

He said during the Generation Equality Forum that took place in Mexico City in March and in Paris from 30 June - 2 July 2021, the Vice President, Dr Philip Mpango who represented Tanzania expressed the government commitment to achieve irreversible progress towards gender equality.

Dr Jingu added that President Samia Suluhu Hassan is one of the champions in an international drive to gender equality, adding that TGNP and other NGOs working on

the same area are supporting efforts of national leaders.

He promised that the ministry would see how to fit TGNP's five-year strategic plan in its activities, adding that recommendations from the meeting would also be worked on.

TGNP's Executive Director, Lilian Lihundi while speaking at the meeting noted that issues of gender are cross-cutting in all the ministries and that is why they sent representatives.

She said the aim of the meeting is to discuss issues on policy and sustainable development. "This will enable participants to identify areas of work in their ministries," she said.

Gender and human rights activist, Gema Akilimali said the meeting was important as it aimed at changing experiences on how to improve gender matters in the government.



National Assembly deputy Speaker Dr Tulia Ackson (2nd-R) in a tête-a-tête in the National Assembly in Dodoma city yesterday with members of a visiting delegation of Nigerian legislators. Photo: Correspondent Ibrahim Joseph

German NGO talks ecological tourism

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include the Seliani, Loliondo One and Enguserosambu, the major catchment areas for rivers and springs flowing down into streams dotting the vast Serengeti National Park, Lake Natron and parts of the Ngorongoro Conservation Area.

"Serengeti has just been named Africa's leading national park, but this achievement is a result of continuous efforts in conservation," the officer asserted.

The Frankfurt Zoological Society has just completed special sessions to train 55 community leaders from Loliondo on matters of forest conservation, with focus on capitalizing on ecological tourism.

The week-long training was conducted by the FZS in association with the Forestry Training Institute (FTI) of Olmotonyi, in the vicinity of Arusha.

Dr Zacharia Lupala, the training coordinator, said the participants were taught how to realize the value

of forest reserves and how they can actually benefit from the natural resources, instead of allowing cattle to graze in there."

Kashanga Pusalet from Olorieni in Loliondo was among the elders attending the session, saying in an interview that the Maasai know a lot about conservation, "but what was new to most of us is the issue of climate change which we learned here, and upon getting back we are going to change our approach on how we handle the environment."

Women from Oldonyowasi village sent Napolos Leshoko to take part in the training, and she said women are natural conservators because "we know the importance of trees as a source of firewood and water springs."

Shamsia Ali Msangi, a forest conservation trainer at the institute, said she was of the view that beekeeping can assist local communities in the ward to maintain their forests with considerable benefits.



Dr Juma Malik Akili (3rd-L), Permanent Secretary in the Zanzibar President's Office (Finance and Planning), graces yesterday's launch in Zanzibar of VodaBima. This is a new digital service made available through a partnership between Zanzibar Insurance Company (ZIC) and Vodacom Tanzania. With him are Tanzania Insurance Regulatory Authority commissioner of insurance Dr Mussa Juma (R) and his deputy, Khadija Issa Said (L), as well as ZIC director general Arafat Haji (2nd-R) and the head of M-PESA business development and marketing, Rashid Tulisindo. Photo: Guardian Correspondent

ZIC wins Z'bar govt applause for improved service delivery

By Guardian Reporter, Zanzibar

THE Permanent Secretary, President's Office (Finance and Planning) Dr Juma Malik Akili Ali has commended the current efforts by the Zanzibar Insurance Corporation (ZIC) for its creativity in simplifying insurance services to its customers and community, a move he insists is complimenting the government efforts in the insurance sector.

Speaking during an event to launch a digital service dubbed VodaBima which is a joint venture between ZIC and Vodacom Tanzania held in the Isles yesterday, Dr Akili said the initiative was a testimony that the State-owned company was fully committed to serving its people by taking services closer to them.

"Through VodaBima, it is evident that people will be in position to receive services via their mobile phones, thus increasing simplicity and improving the insurance sector," he said.

"This is why I pay tribute to ZIC for their tireless efforts to reach out to many people whereas a continuation of what the government wants and this is a big respect and among the achievements recorded in one year under President Dr Hussein Ally Mwinyi in the highest office of the land," he added.

Similarly, the Permanent Secretary praised Vodacom Tanzania for the collaboration with ZIC as he requested the Telecom Company to widen its services in Zanzibar so that more people could enjoy insurance services as well as other mobile phone services.

At the occasion, Tanzania Insurance Regulatory Authority (TIRA) Commissioner, Dr Mussa Juma commended a joint effort, as he called on insurance companies to come up with innovative ideas that would improve service delivery as well as improving distribution channels to reach out to many customers.

"Today we have witnessed the best starting point because initially, we started with financial institutions via bancassurance and now we are going for telephone companies, and on this I commend Vodacom for becoming the first company on this," he said.

ZIC Director General, Arafat Haji said apart from joining efforts by the government in improving insurance services in the country, the new initiative by the corporation aimed at ensuring that more people are accessing insurance services closely and timely.

"This strategy comes at a time when Statistics show that only 30 percent have

access to insurance services, therefore, more efforts are needed and we believe that through VodaBima which is using a high-tech method through M-Pesa, we are now going to reach out to many people and we want to assure our customers of maximum security in the course of providing our services, said Haji.

Earlier, Head of M-PESA Business Development and Marketing, Rashid Tulisindo said through VodaBima his company was eyeing to breach the gap on the provision of insurance services by reducing the cost of accessing services.

"This is the first service of its own in the market and through the service, we are going to simplify insurance services at ZIC as well as services for claiming compensation and currently we are offering several services depending on the changing markets," said Tulisindo. The launching ceremony was attended by several stakeholders including TIRA deputy commissioner Khadija Issa, government officials as well as ZIC and Vodacom employees.

By Guardian Correspondent, Dodoma

NACTE annuls Level Five medical programme examinations results

THE National Council for Technical Education (NACTE) has annulled results for theoretical examinations in respect to all subjects in the Medical Level 5 Programme and directed the examination's re-sitting in six weeks' time beginning November 1 this year.

Also, The Ministry of Health has instructed heads of all medical colleges to convey the message to enable students prepare themselves for the exams.

The remarks were made here yesterday by the government chief medical officer, Dr Aifello Sichahele when speaking to reporters on the medical examinations leakage.

He said the step has been reached after an inquiry panel formed to probe into the issue submitted its report that proved the existence of fraud at some colleges that were investigated through students' mobile phones.

"The examinations for the second term

for the 2020/21 academic term were held nationally from August 16 to September 30 this year, but on the last day of the examination, the ministry received reports of indications of exams leakage.

"In the circumstances we decided to form a probe panel made of experts from defence and security organs," said Dr Sichahele.

He said the panel conducted its investigations from September 6 to October 17 this year when it submitted its initial findings.

"It was found that second year NTA level 5 examinations had leaked, but in regard to other programmes everything was okay," he said.

He further said during its inquiries, the panel found that examination papers have been distributed via social networks and seen in some mobile phones belonging to students.

He also said when interrogated, the students confessed to have received the examinations through social networks started by the students for the purpose of informing each other for discussion.

"The probe panel has submitted its report that has confirmed the existence of examination fraud at some colleges that were investigated, and the investigations still continue to identify the culprits," he said.

He said the panel's findings were submitted to NACTE on October 24 for decision.

"The ministry is very much irked by the incident and will continue to offer its cooperation to defence and security organs to finalize the inquiries so that appropriate steps are taken to all those involved in the examination fraud," he said.

FINANCIAL AND INTERNAL CONTROL SYSTEMS AUDIT (CALL FOR AN EXTERNAL AUDITOR) FOR GERMAN LEPROSY AND TB RELIEF ASSOCIATION (GLRA)

INTRODUCTION: GLRA (DAHW) vision is a world in which no one has to suffer from leprosy, tuberculosis and other diseases which in association with poverty and its consequences could lead to disability and exclusion. We put people at the heart of our work and are committed to helping them live a healthy life with dignity.

Since its inception in 1957, GLRA is entrusted funds from individual donors, sponsors and by grant-giving agencies to support its work in hundreds of projects in many countries worldwide. It is therefore particularly important for GLRA to demonstrate its accountability to all stakeholders and at the same time, maintain its reputation for professional work, integrity and respectful attitude towards beneficiaries, partners and donors.

The purpose of the audit is to confirm whether the financial and asset management systems, as well as the design of the internal control systems being used complies with internationally accepted norms, and whether the corresponding DAHW policy has been satisfactorily implemented.

The objectives of this audit are to enable the auditor to determine whether:

The Financial Report presents fairly, in all material respects, the actual expenditures incurred and the revenue received for all GLRA Projects on specified period in conformity with the applicable DAHW regulations;

- All project funds have been used, in all material respects, in conformity with the applicable DAHW regulations;
- The internal control systems set up and operated by the entity for the purpose of managing and mitigating risks, was suitably designed and operated effectively;
- To examine whether the financial policy and procedures ensure smooth and efficient implementation of activities and prevention of fraud;
- To evaluate the financial bookkeeping systems (WINPACCS System) per project in terms of reliability, comprehensibility and correctness of the accounting entries and the integrity of the documentation;
- To examine asset management and its respective procedures;
- To examine that the national labour laws and tax regulations are followed;

A specific and separate audit report should be issued for each audited entity (grant letter). The report should be presented in English language. An executive summary of the audit report in English should be provided along with the report.

REQUIREMENTS: The auditor should meet the following conditions: The auditor and/or the firm is a member of a National Board of Accountants and Auditors (NBAA) and must have an experience in auditing Non-governmental organizations. A member of the International Federation of Accountants (IFAC) is an added advantage.

AUDIT DURATION: The audit work shall be completed within 4 weeks from the date of commencement of the audit.

DELIVERABLES: The auditors will produce a draft audit report within 3 weeks working days of commencement of the audit.

The auditors on completion of the audit work will submit 3 (Three) original copies of the Audit Report appended to the Financial Statements along with the reports to the attention of the Head of Program.

- The auditors will produce a draft management within 3 weeks working days of completion of the audit.

SUBMISSION OF PROPOSALS: Please submit your application proposals hard copy for the external auditing services by 30th November, 2021 latest 14:00 hours in a sealed and confidential stamped envelope clearly indicating the address of GLRA and that of the auditing firm.

SUBMISSION OF PROPOSALS: Please submit your application proposals hard copy for the external auditing services by 30th November, 2021 latest 14:00 hours in a sealed and confidential stamped envelope clearly indicating the address of GLRA and that of the auditing firm.

Please include the following in your proposals:

- Title of the proposal and full company profile that is submitting the proposal;
- Technical approach and methodology to the assignment with an activity schedule;
- Quotation submission form with the quotations in Tanzanian Shillings;
- The supplier of the service shall attach the following to the quotation:
 - A duly complete and signed price quotation in Tanzanian Shillings;
 - A valid business license and company registration certificate;
 - A valid VAT and TIN registration certificate;
 - Proof of audit registration board;
 - A list of recent performed contracts including the names and addresses of the employers for verifications;
 - Experience of auditing international NGO's;
 - Audit experience years;
 - CV of 2 senior company partners or auditors who will undertake the exercise.
- Your quotation should show the full name, postal address, telephone, fax, email and the physical location of your company;
- The quoted price should include the cost of producing 5 copies of the audit report;
- The price to be paid under this contract shall be the quoted price. No increase will be accepted by GLRA unless it has been agreed to in writing before the service has been provided;
- Delivery of the services required under this contract is to be within 30 days after receipt of our LPO. Payment will be effected within 7 days after service has been completed and a report produced and accepted by the purchaser;
- The purchaser is not bound to accept the lowest or any quotation received and will select the quotation based on the fairest price in accordance to our budget;
- Bidders should attach to the quotation a submission form and a signed copy of the terms of audit of financial and internal control.
- Invoice and/or quotation shall be addressed to the Head of Program, GLRA Tanzania. Kindly send hard copy by hand or via the address stated below.
- For any questions, you may contact us.

Please address the proposal to the following:

Head of Program, GLRA Tanzania,
P.O. Box 6261, CCT - WAMA premises, Block D, Plot 13
along Uhuru Road, Buguruni Malapa
Dar es Salaam
Tel: +255 222 863 114
Email: shamez.sunderji@dahw.org and beatrice.rutta@dahw.org

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CONGRATULATORY MESSAGE

President of the Revolutionary Government of Zanzibar
His Excellency Dr Hussein Mwinyi

The Board of Directors, Management and Staff of the Zanzibar Ports Corporation congratulate the President of the Revolutionary Government of Zanzibar and Chairman of the Zanzibar Revolutionary Council, His Excellency Dr. Hussein Ali Mwinyi, on the successful completion of his one year in office.

PORT FOR BLUE ECONOMY FOR ZANZIBAR PROGRESS

Jubilee

LIFE INSURANCE

JUBILEE LIFE INSURANCE CORPORATION OF TANZANIA LIMITED
 HEAD OFFICE: P.O. Box 20534 DAR ES SALAAM
 Tel: +255 22211176/180

LOSS OF LIFE POLICY NO
 T1201600021571
 BENJAMIN FREDY MWANDETE

Application has been made to this company for the issue of duplicate of the above numbered policy, the original having been reported as lost or misplaced. Notice is hereby given that unless objections is lodged to the contrary at the office of the company within thirty days from the date of this notice, duplicate policy will be issued, which will be sole evidence of the contract. 116554101

Indian High Commissioner Pradhan pays IPP media outlets a visit in Dar



The Guardian Limited director Joyce Luhanga (R) leads the Indian High Commissioner to Tanzania, Shri Binaya Srikanta Pradhan (2nd-R), to the company's offices in Dar es Salaam yesterday accompanied by TGL commercial director Ajay Goyal (in white shirt) and an official with the high commission. The envoy was on a familiarisation tour of IPP media outlets. Photos: Correspondent Miraji Msala



The Guardian Limited printing manager Balasabramanian Venkadachalam (R) briefs the high commissioner on newspaper printing.



EATV manager Lydia Igarabuza (L) explains to High Commissioner Pradhan (R) how TV programmes are produced and aired.



Radio One presenter Othman Suleyman (gesturing) briefs the envoy (R) on the airing of radio programmes.



The high commissioner (3rd-R) seeks clarification on an issue from ITV/Radio One managing director Joyce Mhaville (L)



ITV/Radio One channel director Pius Paul briefs the high commissioner on the channels' programmes. Right is ITV/Radio One MD Joyce Mhaville.



High commissioner Pradhan "practises" broadcasting in an ITV studio.



ITV news current affairs coordinator Steven Chuwa (R, gesturing) briefs the high commissioner on operations in the department.



Cameroonian journalist Alima Nkwong (2nd-L, gesturing), who has just completed several months of practicals on The Guardian newspaper as a journalism student from Arusha-based Habari Maalum College, pictured in the paper's Newsroom in Dar es Salaam on Tuesday making parting remarks for members of The Guardian Limited editorial staff who held a cake-with-soda farewell do for her. She said: "I have been so impressed belonging to The Guardian Limited family. It's no wonder that I extended my stay by three whole months." Photo: Selemani Mpochi

By Guardian Reporter

PRIME Minister Kassim Majaliwa is next week expected to take part in the 10th anniversary of the Legal Services Facility (LSF) in Dar es Salaam.

The event aims to celebrate the great achievements made through the implementation of various programmes of LSF.

Addressing reporters in Dar es Salaam yesterday, LSF Chief Executive Officer Lulu Ng'wanakilala said the programmes achievements include the Access to Justice Programme, the Urban Legal Empowerment Project, and other strategic projects.

"LSF focuses on four main areas. Improving access to basic legal services, improving the protection of women's rights to land, property, safety, and security through legal empowerment; promoting formal and informal institutions at both local and institutional levels that effectively promote legal services to

Majaliwa set to grace tenth LSF anniversary next week

create a legally empowered society; ensuring the delivery of sustainable legal services," she said.

In addition, she said the event coincided with Legal Aid Week, where stakeholders across the country, especially paralegals, continue to provide free services in all districts countrywide.

She said LSF has supported and provided grants to more than 200 legal aid providers and paralegals in mainland Tanzania and Zanzibar over the past 10 years.

The organisation also works with the government at the lowest and highest levels of government through the Office of the President -Regional Administration and Local Government.

She also pointed out that LSF is working with the Ministry of Home

Affairs on the criminal justice project being implemented by ENVIROCARE, while LSF is working with the Tanzania Police Force through agreements to facilitate the review of the General Police Orders (PGO). LSF is also working with the Ministry of Health on a programme to eradicate sexual violence against women and children.

LSF is also working with the Office of Constitution, Law, Personnel, and Good Governance while in Zanzibar promoting access to justice and improving paralegal policies. Recognising the importance of the agricultural sector to the livelihoods of many people in Tanzania, LSF has over the past decade entered into agreements with the Tanzania Agricultural Development Bank (TADB) to strengthen the capacity

of farmers, farmers' associations (AMCOS), and other entrepreneurs in the agricultural sector. "Most importantly, during this time LSF has contributed to the success of the Legal Aid Act passed in 2017, which officially recognizes paralegals in the country. "On our 10th anniversary, we remember the immense contribution of our key development partners, including the Danish International Development Agency (DANIDA), the European Union, and the United Kingdom Agency for International Development (UKAID), as well as Department for International Development (DFID), who have supported us in various stages of promoting access to justice for all people, especially women and children," she said.

Punish motorists breaching traffic regulations, Z'bar city mayor says

By Guardian Reporter, Zanzibar

ZANZIBAR City mayor, Mahmoud Mohamed Mussa has directed the police force to take stringent measures against motor vehicle drivers violating traffic regulations, a move which is expected to bring down the number of road accidents. "We have a good number of motor vehicle and motorcycle drivers who do not have licences. Statistics show that the lives of many people are cut short as a result of road crashes," said Mussa.

He was speaking in Zanzibar yesterday during an occasion to award winners of the road safety drawing competition organised by oil marketing company-Puma Energy Tanzania Ltd in collaboration with an international NGO-AMEND.

In Africa, there are about 26.6 deaths caused by road accidents every year, the number which is high compared to 174 deaths recorded globally in 100,000 people.

The competition was part of the training on road safety to primary school pupils, an initiative that offers young children education and understanding of road safety.

Mussa appealed to Puma to extend the training to other primary schools in the Isles.

"Taking stringent actions against traffic rules violators would be a lesson to other drivers, thus reducing road crashes," Mayor Mussa added, calling upon pupils to share the acquired road safety knowledge with their parents and relatives.

Permanent Secretary in Zanzibar's Ministry of Youth, Arts and Culture, Fatma Hamad Rajab said the training would enable pupils to safely cross the roads to and from school.

Rajab said the drawing competition has helped teachers to identify pupil's talents.

Representing the Zanzibar police force, Salum Amir Ngayan commended the oil marketing company for conducting such training to primary school pupils,

saying the number of road accidents in the Isles is high.

"The bad thing is that most of those killed in road crashes are youth, the nation's workforce. Most of the accidents are caused by reckless drivers failing to obey traffic rules," he said.

Puma Energy Retail Manager Venessy Chilambo said the campaign involved school children because they are more exposed to road risks.

Venessy said: "Road safety campaign to school children is the company's first priority in corporate social responsibilities. We have decided to focus specifically on the primary school children knowing that they are exposed to many road risks."

Puma Energy Tanzania started the road safety training programme in 2013 which has covered more than 100 schools and trained over 120,000 children in the country, said Venessy.

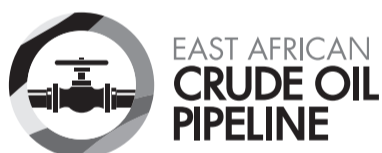
She said they choose Zanzibar because it is rapidly growing with economic activities increasing. She said the numbers of traffic accidents are increasing which poses the risk of accidents to school going pupils.

Puma is operating in Zanzibar hence this is one of our corporate social responsibility, he added.

"We have tested the effectiveness of the training offered and found that in all schools that we have conducted the training, the safety awareness has highly improved," said Venessy.

She said to ensure that road safety is transferred to children, Puma will work very closely with various authorities including the traffic police, government, municipal officials and teachers.

Programme manager of the new vision consortium (NVCT) Zanzibar, Ali Hemedi Ali said the training involved five primary schools whereas more than 40,000 pupils have benefitted. He said that the winner of the drawing competition received a cash prize of 500,000/- and her school getting 1m/-.



EAST AFRICAN
CRUDE OIL
PIPELINE

REQUEST FOR EXPRESSION OF INTEREST (EOI) FOR PROVISION MANUFACTURING, TESTING, SUPPLY & DELIVERY OF HDPE REFERENCE: 0010007214

TOTAL East Africa Midstream B.V. (Company) Tanzania, an Oil and Gas company, requires the services of an experienced and reputable contractor(s) to provide Manufacturing, testing, supply & delivery of HDPE of the East African Crude Oil Pipeline (EACOP) Project. The EACOP Project involves the construction and operation of a buried, cross-border pipeline to transport crude oil from the Lake Albert area in Uganda to the eastern coast of Tanzania for export to international markets. The pipeline will run from Kabaale in Hoima District, Uganda, to Chongoleani, Tanga Region, in Tanzania. The length of the pipeline is 1,443 kilometers (km), of which 1,147 km will be in Tanzania.

BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE SCOPE OF WORK:

EACOP requires the services of experienced and reputable manufacturer to provide services for manufacturing, testing, supply & delivery of large diameter HDPE structured wall pipes according to the standards and dimensions mentioned below:

STANDARDS:

- The properties of the structured wall HDPE Pipes shall conform in all respect to EN 13476-2/ ISO 21138-2, with latest amendments thereof, unless otherwise specified.

DIMENSIONS:

- ID/DN1500 with an OD of 1630 ± 10mm approximate quantity of 400+ lineal meters delivered in 2.45-meter sections.
- ID/DN1800 with an OD of 1960 ± 10mm approximate quantity of 400+ lineal meters delivered in 2.45-meter sections.
- The COMPANY reserves the right to verify the manufacture of Structured wall HDPE pipes at the Manufacturer's premises according to the quality management system as per ISO 9001:2015.
- The Quality management system of the manufacturer shall be certified to ISO 9001:2015 by an Internationally accredited certification body.
- The raw material used to manufacture the Structured wall HDPE pipes and Fittings must correspond to EN13476-1/ISO 21138-1.
- The Structured wall HDPE Pipe quality requirements and their testing are to be satisfied according to EN13476-2/ISO 21138-2, with latest amendments thereof. The quality requirements of the fittings fabricated from the Structured wall HDPE pipes shall conform to EN 13476-2/ISO 21138-2, with latest amendments thereof.
- All the Structured wall HDPE Pipes supplied against this Tender shall be "marked" according to the applicable standard specifications.
- On request, the documentation of the quality of Products supplied is to be submitted by the manufacturer through working certifications according to applicable Standards. All the records of the test results shall be retained by the manufacturer for future references.
- Before and after awarding the tender to the Manufacturer, the COMPANY reserves the right to inspect the testing capability and witness the tests carried out at the Manufacturer's Laboratory facility to evaluate the product quality against the applicable standards.
- The COMPANY shall appoint a representative to witness all the tests conducted at the Manufacturer's laboratory facility and the representative shall submit all the test results to the contractor & COMPANY independently. The COMPANY reserves the right to approve the Products based on quality test reports before delivery to the site.

MINIMUM REQUIREMENTS:

- Companies or organizations expressing their interest are required to submit documentation of their:
 - Experience, performance, and capacity in delivering the tasks outlined under the scope of work, at a large scale in Tanzania, in compliance with national and international standards (including International Finance Corporation Standards (IFC), with at least 15 years' experience / performance of similar services within Tanzania or internationally.
 - Key suitably qualified and experienced personnel tasks outlined under the scope of work for oil and gas projects that comply with IFC requirements.
 - Financial capacity to deliver the services required including submission of financial accounts for the previous financial year.
 - Application for registration with the EWURA Local Supplier Service Provider (LSSP) database at the time of submission of the response to this expression of interest is strongly recommended.
 - Compliance with Local Content Regulations, 2017 and Local Company definition.
 - Evidence of organization QHSE policy, procedure, and process in compliance with applicable Local and Industry standards for similar works.
 - Appropriate licensing from relevant in-country authorities for the provision of the services.
 - Proof of registration with the Tanzania Revenue Authority and Tax Clearance Certificate for the latest year.

Interested companies with the capacity to provide the services listed above should express their interest in English language by sending the above documents to eacop-tz.eoi.1000001@totalenergies.com (not exceeding 20Mbs) on or before **17:00 hours East African Time (EAT), on 9th November, 2021**. Subject of the email should be 0010007214.

Note: The EACOP project will review and assess the documents provided by the interested companies to derive a list of prequalified companies. Only prequalified companies will receive, subject to signature of a Non-Disclosure Agreement (NDA), invitation to submit bids in furtherance of the call for tender process.

216553701



EAST AFRICAN
CRUDE OIL
PIPELINE

REQUEST FOR EXPRESSION OF INTEREST (EOI) FOR THE PROVISION OF SUPPLY & INSTALLATION OF OFFICE FURNISHINGS REFERENCE: 0010007217

TOTAL East Africa Midstream B.V. (Company) Tanzania, an Oil and Gas company, requires the services of an experienced and reputable contractor(s) to provide and install office furnishing for the East African Crude Oil Pipeline (EACOP) Project. The EACOP Project involves the construction and operation of a buried, cross-border pipeline to transport crude oil from the Lake Albert area in Uganda to the eastern coast of Tanzania for export to international markets. The pipeline will run from Kabaale in Hoima District, Uganda, to Chongoleani, Tanga Region, in Tanzania. The length of the pipeline is 1,443 kilometers (km), of which 1,147 km will be in Tanzania.

BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE SCOPE OF WORK:

EACOP requires the services of experienced and reputable companies or organizations to provide and install office furnishings for up to 300 personnel that includes a mix of:

- Desks, working tables; adjustable height work stations
- Meeting room tables and chairs (standard and boardroom level)
- Adjustable, ergonomic office chairs
- Credenzas, filing cabinets, etc
- Storage cabinets

MINIMUM REQUIREMENTS:

- Companies or organizations expressing their interest are required to submit documentation of their:
 - Experience, performance, and capacity in supply and installation of office furnishings outlined above at a large scale in Tanzania, in compliance with national and international standards (including International Finance Corporation Standards (IFC), with at least 5 years' experience / performance of similar services within Tanzania or internationally.
 - Key suitably qualified and experienced personnel experienced in installing office furnishings for corporate offices.
 - Application for registration with the EWURA Local Supplier Service Provider (LSSP) database at the time of submission of the response to this expression of interest is strongly recommended.
 - Compliance with Local Content Regulations, 2017 and Local Company definition.
 - Evidence of organization QHSE policy, procedure, and process in compliance with applicable Local and Industry standards for similar works.
 - Appropriate licensing from relevant in-country authorities for the provision of the services.
 - Proof of registration with the Tanzania Revenue Authority and Tax Clearance Certificate for the latest year.

Interested companies with the capacity to provide the services listed above should express their interest in English language by sending the above documents to eacop-tz.eoi.1000001@totalenergies.com (not exceeding 20Mbs) on or before **17:00 hours East African Time (EAT), on 19th, November, 2021**. Email subject should be 0010007217.

Note: The EACOP project will review and assess the documents provided by the interested companies to derive a list of prequalified companies. Only prequalified companies will receive, subject to signature of a Non-Disclosure Agreement (NDA), invitation to submit bids in furtherance of the call for tender process.

216553701

Experts suggest need for comparative study on African, India's Ayurvedic medicines

By Beatrice Philemon

HERBALISTS have suggested need for a comparative study of African traditional medicines and India's Ayurvedic medicines as both have a potential of being used effectively to treat different diseases.

Traditional Medicine and Environmental Protection Organisation (TRAMEPRO) Secretary-General, Boneventura Mwalongo said this yesterday when briefing audiences who attended an event to plant herbal medicine tree species held at the Swami Vivekananda Cultural Centre (SVCC) campus in Dar es Salaam.

The event was organised in association with All world Gayatri Pariwar Tanzania and chairman of Gayatri Pariwar, Sri Kishore Thakrar and other volunteers.

He said that heart leaved moonseed, tulsī (Holi Basil), peppermint, kidney stone plant, ajwain, neem, aloe vera, giloy and other herbs and medicinal plants were planted at the SVCC campus to celebrate Ayurveda Day (Ancient Indian medicinal system).

Planting of herbal and medicinal plants are more beneficial as far as the health of the common man is concerned, he said.

In Africa, up to 80 percent of the population uses traditional medicine as the primary healthcare system. Trees in urban areas filter the air and remove harmful particles. They also help to filter and regulate water, prevent floods and protect watersheds.

India High Commissioner to Tanzania, Binaya Pradhan said traditional medicines are used globally with a rapidly growing economic importance.

In developing countries,

traditional medicines are also gaining more respect by the Indian national government and also from public, private health providers.

The establishment of the Ministry of AYUSH (Ayurveda, Yunani, Siddha and Homeopathy) in India has given more scope for research and documentation clinical trials and administration of herbal medicines further leading in mass production in standardized ways.

He said the expenses for use of traditional medicine are exponentially growing in many parts of the world.

This year more focus is on introducing Ayurveda products as food supplements and this should turn as a global drive, he said.

"This is necessary to prevent people from being an easy prey to unknown diseases from unseen viruses," he said.

Director of the Swami Vivekananda cultural centre, Santhosh Raja said 'Ayurveda' is the very ancient Indian medicinal system.

Since 2016 every year, Ayurveda day is observed on Dhanwantri Jayanti (birth Day of physician to the gods in Hindu mythology) with the aim of creating awareness in today's generation on the power of Ayurveda and promoting the principals of Ayurveda on healing.

In the global scenario of Covid-19, the need of leading life as detailed in Ayurveda is becoming more important.

Ayurvedic medicines proved scientifically as boosters of immunity in human body and resistance to common diseases.

At much lower cost compared to modern medicines traditional medicine is often the only accessible and affordable treatment available.

Call for innovative solutions to address persons with disabilities needs

By Guardian Reporter

AS Persons with Disabilities (PWDs) continue to face various barriers that hinder their progress in society, the need to include them in Sexual and Reproductive Health and Rights (SRHR) is even greater with the advent of innovative technologies.

According to the United Nations Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities, the number of PWDs keeps increasing by the day for various reasons yet they continue to face almost similar challenges.

Chief Executive Officer (CEO) of Sahara Ventures, Jumanne Mtambalike said during the just ended Sahara Sparks event that the challenges they face limit their participation in community activities at a time when they can be productive in many ways.

He said that according to the World Health Organisation and the World Bank's Report on Disability, the female disability prevalence rate worldwide is 19.2 percent, and that there are between 180 to 220 million young persons with disabilities worldwide, predominantly in developing countries.

"In Tanzania, as it is with other developing countries, the number of people with disabilities is substantive, although no up to date data is available," he said.

Mtambalike said that it was for this reason that Sahara Ventures introduced a programme dubbed Sahara Sparks in 2017 and launched an Innovative Accelerator Initiatives implemented by UNFPA in collaboration with the Ministry of Health, Community Development, Gender, Elderly and Children and the Ministry of Communication and Technology.

He said that the implementation of these initiatives is the outcome of long time experience and learning that to accelerate progress in complex sexual and reproductive health and rights issues, particularly in this era requires innovative

solutions with an entrepreneurial mindset.

"It was during the first round of Innovative Accelerator (IA) where we came up with AMUA Innovation Accelerator, which focused on addressing challenges around teenage pregnancy, given that adolescent pregnancy is rising," he said.

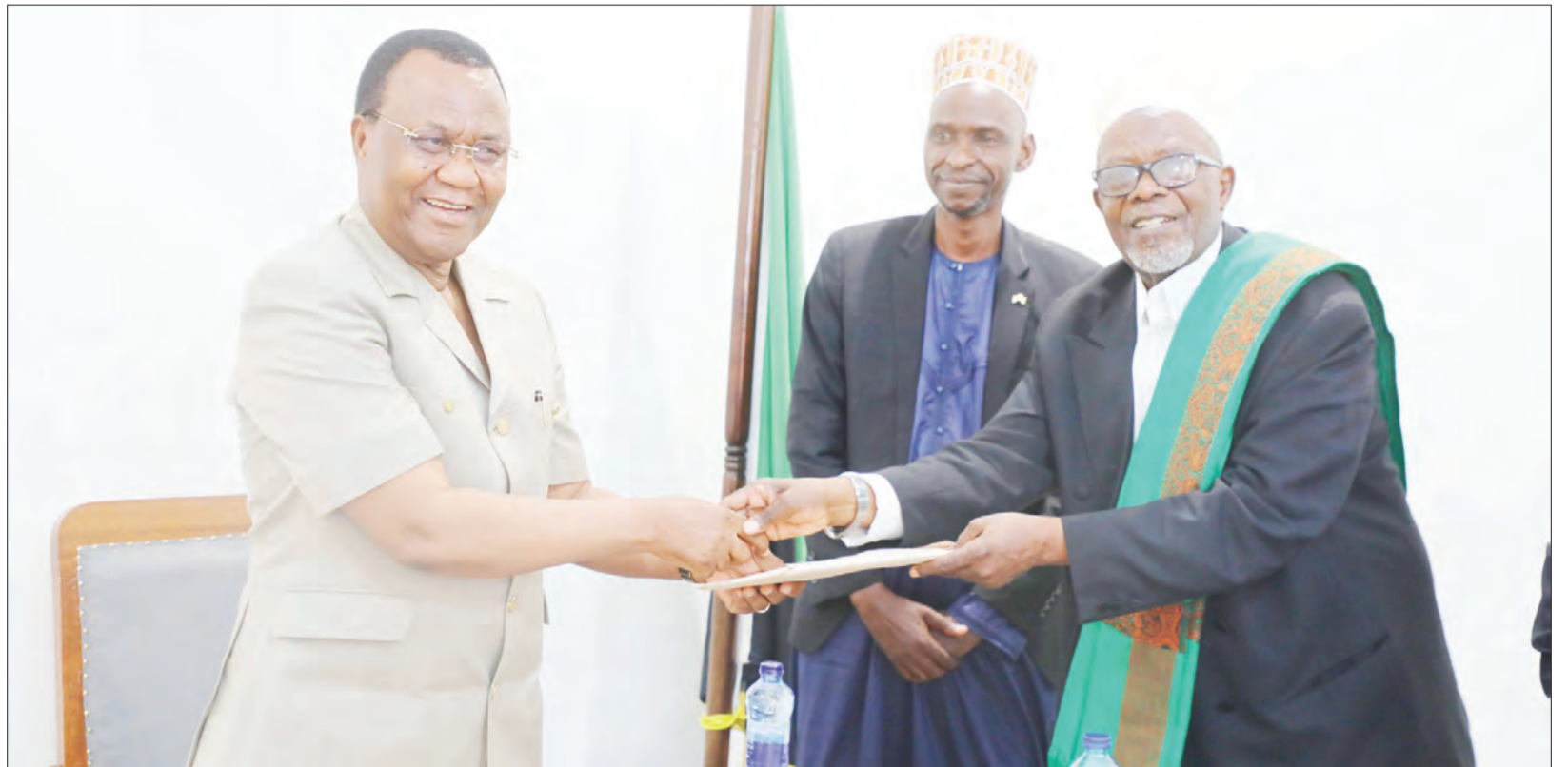
Mtambalike further said that people with disabilities face many challenges in their daily lives, making it impossible for them to realize their potential.

Speaking on behalf of Christine Musisi, the UNDP Resident Representative in Tanzania, Joseph Manirakiza, the programme manager of FUNGUO Innovation Programme at the UNDP said that the need for digital solutions and applied technologies as enablers for breakthrough solutions cannot be overstated, adding that if they are applied strategically, they can unlock once unimaginable potential to address society's complex economic, social and environmental challenges while propelling this nation to its destiny of prosperity for all.

"UNDP recognizes the critical role played by innovation and technology in shaping that future we want, that is why innovative economies are more productive and grow faster. Innovation has long been recognized as an important driver of economic growth," he said.



In Tanzania, as it is with other developing countries, the number of people with disabilities is substantive, although no up to date data is available



Lands, Housing and Human Settlements Development minister William Lukuvi pictured in Dodoma city yesterday receiving a report on challenges and recommendations related to land ownership and use, as compiled by ward councils. Handing over the report is Sheikh Haruna Kichwa, co-chairman of a platform of religious leaders in the Lake Victoria zone. Photo: Guardian Correspondent

RC Mgumba happy with Covid-19 vaccines uptake

By Correspondent Denis Sinkonde, Songwe

SONGWE Regional Commissioner, Omary Mgumba has said residents in the area have positively responded to the COVID-19 vaccination drive, making it one of the 10 regions that had most of its people vaccinated since inauguration of the exercise in August 2021.

He linked the success with increased knowledge and understanding on the health benefits of the jab.

RC Mgumba said this at a meeting with primary health committee members to discuss and evaluate the first phase implementation of COVID-19 vaccination.

The meeting was also aimed to come up with strategies for successful vaccination in the second phase whereas interested people will receive the Sinopharm vaccine. Songwe has so far provided 25,000 doses of the Sinopharm vaccine.

"Since the region started providing the Covid-19 vaccine the situation in the region is now very calm and I ask the people to continue to forward to

get vaccinated," said RC Mgumba.

The region's vaccination target is 750,000 people equivalent to 60 percent of its population. Sinopharm COVID-19 vaccine is administered twice; meaning receivers must return for the second dose after 28 days.

RC Mgumba used the opportunity to also urge parents and guardians to encourage their daughters aged between 10 and 14 to go for cervical cancer vaccination.

Cervical cancer is a leading cause of cancer deaths among women in low- and lower-middle-income countries. More than a half-million new cases and 266,000 deaths occur annually, with most of the deaths occurring in these countries.

In April 2018, Tanzania launched the Human Papilloma Virus (HPV) vaccine following the success of jab in the pilot phase in Kilimanjaro Region.

The World Health Organisation (WHO) recommends two doses of HPV vaccine for girls aged 9 to 14 years, and three doses for girls aged 15 years and older and those who are immune compromised or HIV positive.

Govt calls on media to educate public on financial issues

By Guardian Reporter

PERMANENT Secretary in the Ministry of Finance and Planning, Emmanuel Tutuba has called on the country's media to help the nation in educating the public on financial matters to ensure economic growth.

Addressing editors here from various media organisations at a one-day training seminar early in the week, Tutuba said:

"We have decided to empower the editors from various media outlets so that they educate members of the public on financial matters because they read your reports every day."

He said once the public is well conversed with financial issues, they will be able to free themselves from many of their economic woes.

Speaking on the commemoration of the National Financial Week taking place in Dar es Salaam next week, PS Tutuba said they expect to stress on the correct usage of financial

services and strengthen financial markets.

He added that Tanzanians will be empowered to manage their financial resources and empower small entrepreneurs to enhance their financial knowledge in regard to financial services to improve their businesses.

He said during the week, the people will also be educated on strengthening the culture of saving, to borrow money and pay their debts on timely manner.

He said in doing so they will use among others, brochures, fliers, social networks TV, radio, newspapers and musical artistes.

For his part, the Ministry's Commissioner of Finance, Charles Mwamaja said due to the importance of the financial sector in the country's development, the government has prepared a 10-Year Plan in its main financial planning from 2021-2029/30.



Ngara district commissioner Col Mathias Kahabi (L) presents to Deonesia Filiminus of Bukililo ward coffee seedlings donated by Ngara Farmers Cooperative Union yesterday. Photo: Correspondent Shaban Njia

Dar to host Tanzania-Uganda Oil and Gas Symposium

By Correspondent Theresia Victor

DAR ES SALAAM is expected to host Tanzania-Uganda Oil and Gas Symposium (TUOG) that will provide a platform for the sector to network, and share experiences and opportunities available in the extractive industry.

Organised by the Tanzania Private Sector Foundation (TPSF) in collaboration with Private Sector Foundation of Uganda (PSFU) will be held on November 25, this year.

Briefing reporters yesterday in Dar es Salaam, TPSF Executive Director Francis Nanai said the symposium will bring on board different stakeholders from Tanzania and Uganda to strategize on the involvement of the private sector of the two countries in the execution of the East Africa Crude Oil Pipeline

(EACOP) project.

"The symposium is aimed at enhancing private sector participation in the oil and gas sector in which together we can identify key strategies that can enable partnership and joint ventures between Uganda and Tanzania private sector actor," said Nanai.

It's expected that the 1,443km crude oil export pipeline that will transport Uganda's crude oil from Hoima to Tanga in Tanzania will bring massive opportunities for the private sectors including transportation, securities, food and beverages, hotel accommodation and catering, human resource management, office supply, civil work, finance, the supply of construction materials and many more services.

"The project has also reserved contracts for locals including fuel

supply, land surveying, clearing and forwarding, crane hire, locally available construction materials, civil works, environmental studies and impact assessment and Information and Communication Technology," he said.

In order to ensure that locals are well prepared to tap the benefit availed by the strategic project, TPSF and PSFU found it important to organise the TUOG symposium where the private sectors will network, understand the industry opportunities and challenges, discuss areas of cooperation, and showcase their capacities through experience sharing, and interact with public sector actors on legal matters that govern the industry in both Uganda and Tanzania, he noted.

"This private sector led meeting

will be a hybrid event which is expected to gather in person over two hundred high level private sector officials from Tanzania and Uganda and more than two thousands participants will follow the discussion virtually," he said.

Uganda's High Commissioner to Tanzania Richard Kabonero applauded the two sectors and reminded them to make sure that locals from both countries are benefiting from the project.

The Tanzania Uganda symposium is to facilitate public-private sector dialogue on issues that affect the implementation of local content in the oil and gas industry project, he said.

He further noted that they should explore avenues of collaboration for a sustainable private sector development of the two countries.



Livestock and Fisheries minister Mashimba Ndaki (2nd-L) exchanges ideas with legislators Daniel Sillo (R, Babati Rural), Emmanuel Cherehani (2-nd-R, Ushetu) and Idd Kassim (Msalala) outside Parliament in Dodoma on Wednesday. Photo: Correspondent Ibrahim Joseph

Youth urged to venture into beekeeping sector

By Guardian Reporter, Morogoro

YOUTH in the country have been urged to chip in and start investing heavily in bee smart keeping as demand of bee products is high at both local and international markets.

Malinyi District Commissioner (DC) Mathayo Masele made the call early this week here during the launch of a modern beekeeping project which will be implemented in Malinyi and Ulanga districts.

Dubbed 'Carolies and Household Income from Beekeeping Subsector (CHIBS)', the bee keeping project will be implemented by Acla Honey agribusiness firm.

CHIBS is an awarding project from the Skills for Employment Tanzania (SET) project which is carried out by Swiss contact with funding from the Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation (SDC).

The DC noted that beekeeping in Tanzania is still a nascent industry for rewarding investment thus calling upon Tanzanians to chip in and start bee keeping projects so as to earn more income and transform their lives.

"If well utilized, beekeeping opportunities can transform the lives of the majority of young people as they will be able to get income from selling honey and other bee products," he said.

Masele said beekeeping has transformed the lives of the majority of people who dared to invest in the lucrative business and they are now living happily with their income growing from time to time.

"I encourage young people here and the general public to grab opportunities in the bee sector, this one of the areas which will pay you heavily as it has broader market opportunities," he added.

Dr Rozalia Rwegasira, Morogoro acting Regional Administrative Secretary (RAS) encouraged young people to stop migrating to town

without having stable jobs but rather stay in villages and embark into beekeeping business and other income generating activities.

"We already have a factory at the regional commissioner office that needs a lot of honey for processing, so youth should utilize this opportunity," he said.

Caroline Malundo from Tanzania Forest Service (TFS) said the agency will cooperate with Acla Honey to facilitate the success of the project.

She said Tanzania has a favourable environment for beekeeping, an area which young people need to know. Statistics show that Tanzania currently produces only 34,000 tonnes of honey but it has the opportunity to produce 138,000 tonnes of honey and 92,000 tonnes of bee wax.

Giovanni Nguvu, director of Acla Honey said the project works with youth and women/young mothers in developing sustainable beekeeping enterprises through a well-designed hands-on capacity building programme.

He said the project will directly benefit over 1500 young women and men aged between 14 and 24 years in the two districts.

"The project aims to increase household income and increase nutrition through modern beekeeping where in addition to the beneficiaries being grouped together and trained but will also be provided with modern beekeeping hives, honeycombs and other bee products and guaranteed market for all bee products that will be produced," Nguvu noted.

He said that the project is currently on pilot stage for seven months till March, next year and will commence fully implementation from May, 2022 to April 2026.

Faraji Mbowela commended the organisations for initiating the project which is going to transform mind-sets and lives of hundreds of youth in the area.

By Correspondent Faustine Feliciane

Telco contributes 10bn/- in taxes through gaming

THE government has received 10bn/- in taxes in the past four years through 'Tusua Mapene', a promotion conducted by Vodacom Tanzania.

Speaking in Dar es Salaam yesterday during the launch of the new season of the lucky competition, the company's Director of Digital and Extra Services, Nguvu Kamando said more than five million customers participated in the competition last season with more than 200,000 customers emerging winners.

Kamando said the winners went away with 4.3bn/- in total. The competition was launched in 2017 aiming to give the company's customers a chance to win prizes

that changed their lives. "The Tusua Mapene promotion made us pay that amount of tax and now we are launching a new season of which in collaboration with the Tanzania gaming board would further improve the lives of people," he said.

He said this new season of the 'Tusua Mapene' promotion would give Vodacom customers a chance to win up to 100m/- instantly and that there will also be daily prizes ranging from 500,000/- to 1m/-.

Kamando said that four luckiest

winners will go home with new cars—Suzuki Presso worth 25m/- each.

"Vodacom customers and Tanzanians in general have chances to win prizes, this season will have prizes of more than 2bn/- until the end of the competition in June next year, this season we have increased the number of winners to 300,000," said Kamando.

He said the competition is for both current and new customers, adding that new customers would participate in the promotion as soon

as they complete the registration of their phone numbers through fingerprints.

Representative of the Tanzania Gaming Board, Rasul Masoud said the board has certified the game and issued operating licenses as it has complied with the rules and regulations of gaming in Tanzania.

He said the board's main task is to ensure that gaming rules and regulations are followed and Vodacom Tanzania has complied with all the required procedures.

Former CAG tells graduates: Know self-employment pays

By Guardian Reporter

FRESH graduates from high learning institutions have been challenged to be keen on self-employment instead of waiting to be hired by established organisations or the government.

The challenge was issued by former Controller and Auditor General Prof Musa Assad during the graduation ceremony of Al-Maktoum College of Engineering and Technology (AMCET) in Dar es Salaam recently.

"With the fast changing trend in the employment sector, it is vital for more Tanzanians to start thinking of self-employment," he said.

He said that currently,

employment opportunities are becoming rare by the day; therefore, it is essential for youth to turn to entrepreneurship so that they can be able to employ themselves and employ others in the process.

The former CAG said the courses offered at AMCET help the graduates to be in a better position to hire themselves and become financially dependent, instead of waiting to be employed.

"Colleges and universities produce graduates every year, which means that the market is flooded with eager graduates who are tossed into the overwhelmed employment system, and eventually most of them become frustrated after looking for a job without any success, but

if you think more of becoming self-employed, then it becomes easier," the former CAG told the graduates.

Jannat Sulayman, speaking on behalf of the principal, said that at the college, the more than 90 graduates who were accredited, apart from receiving knowledge, were also in the AMCET Hub, which focuses on discovering, nurturing and mentoring university students and communities with innovative technological and entrepreneurial solutions to problems facing their community.

She said this is important because it gives the students time to become innovative and develop programmes which will benefit the communities they live in.



Zanzibar City mayor Mohamoud Mohamed Mussa presents a trophy to Mtopepo B Primary School Standard Six pupil Khalid Mohamed Said (in cap) on Wednesday for winning Puma Energy's 2021 Road Safety Programme and Drawing Competition involving primary schools for across Zanzibar. It was co-organised by Puma Energy Tanzania and non-profit organisation Amend. Looking on are Puma and Amend officials as well as teachers from the school. Photo: Guardian Correspondent



INVITATION FOR TENDER

DCB Commercial Bank Plc was formed following an outcry of Dar es salaam residents on the lack of capital as the major obstacle faced by micro entrepreneurs in their effort to improve their businesses. The bank was registered in 2001 as Dar es salaam Community Bank Limited, the primary objective being carrying out micro finance bank dedicated to finance poverty alleviation programmes. The bank of Tanzania granted a banking license in 2002 to carry out banking business as a Regional Unit (Community) Bank.

In 2013, the bank uplifted its license from Regional Unit Bank to fully-fledged Commercial Bank. The bank has since then rebuilt its presence in the market by reviewing and aligning its branch network to a commercial set up, appropriately repositioning the existing branches and opening the Dodoma Branch in 2017. The entire five-year transformation exercise has seen DCB Commercial PLC moving into a very competitive and well-established bank ready to serve its potential market niche in the medium- and long-term basis.

The bank invites sealed bids from eligible interested bidders (Applicants) to tender for supply of goods and provision of services for 2022 financial year as categorized individual as follows;

S/N	SERVICE RENDERED
1	Provision of cleaning and hygiene services
2	HR Recruitment and Training Services
3	Travel Agent Services
4	Provision of legal services
5	Supply of office furniture, carpet and curtains
6	Provision of CCTV Camera maintenance
7	Provision of Access Control Door maintenance
8	Preventive maintenance of data center
9	Preventive maintenance of air conditioners and electrical maintenance
10	Maintenance service of office vehicles

11	Provision of Cash in transit services
12	Marketing/Advertising Agency
13	Provision of Media Management & Communication services
14	Provision of videography and photography
15	Provision of experiential marketing
16	Supply of printed stationery
17	Supply of consumable stationery
18	Provision of valuation services
19	Provision of Debt collection services

The bank will use Open Tendering method to identify potential firms/companies to be engaged in the procurement of goods and provision of services.

Tender documents/instructions are obtained from the bank upon payment of a non-refundable fee of TZS. 100,000/= paid by bankers' cheque or cash at the DCB Commercial Bank Plc Magomeni Branch and submission of an official letter for tender document request. No payment will be made by the bank to any applicant in preparing, submitting, discussing or otherwise relating to this tender.

For further information, including tender documents and enquiries please contact:

Managing Director
DCB Commercial Bank Plc
P.O.Box 19798,
Dar es salaam
DCB House, Magomeni Mwembechai, Morogoro Road.
Tel: 022-2180693
Fax: 022-2180259
E-mail: info@dcb.co.tz

Tenders will be closed at 10:00 am (1000hrs) on Thursday, 19th November 2021

DCB Commercial Bank Plc is not bound to give reasons for the acceptance or rejection of any tender and does not bind itself to accept the lowest tender or any tender whatsoever.

Here we go once again: Fake liquor unbeatable?

A news piece in the Business Section of yesterday's issue of The Guardian, quoted Tanzania Breweries Limited's managing director and corporate affairs director as having said that the government was losing billions upon billions of shillings in taxes and other statutory payments every year through clandestine sales of illicit liquor.

The two TBL executives made remarks to that effect during recent talks with business editors in Dar es Salaam, basing mainly on a 2019 survey commissioned by the brewer and conducted by global accounting firm Ernst & Young.

According to the study, Tanzania's alcohol market has witnessed a boom over the years, only that the growth has been especially high with respect to "traditional brews" and counterfeits including copycats of brand names such as Konyagi visibly dominant.

One of the major concerns with regard to this development was that, given the very nature of these latter drinks including the fact that they were so affordable as to "attract" large segments of the population irrespective of age differences, public health was in clear danger.

Now, readers with long memories will recall having been treated to reports similar to these on many previous occasions - often brushed off as resulting from petty differences of opinion involving rival manufacturers of hard drinks.

Fortunately, though, after a longish and probably strategic silence, the Tanzania Revenue Authority (TRA) reacted to long-running complaints that fake, adulterated and other illicit hard drinks were threatening to throw genuine ones out of business and therefore do the economy and public health serious harm.

That was some four years ago. The main argument was that "traditional brews" and illicit liquor commonly sell at a generally lower price than genuine brands, this having to do with whether a manufacturer really cared for quality and was tax-compliant.

A TRA director went to the extent of promising that they would look into the likelihood of illicit alcoholic substances having invaded the Tanzanian market, with some bearing fake TRA excise duty stickers.

The official must have found the reports disconcerting indeed in that witnessing practices that grow into a trend putting government revenue collections at serious risk while also posing untold danger to public health is no laughing matter.

It's heartening that the government has decided to place a premium on industrialisation, although this will not mean much if the revenue it will realise from the liquor industry

remains peanuts owing to all this "haemorrhage".

Things would likely be even worse should it indeed be true that some manufacturers and dealers are not even known to government authorities and therefore whatever windfall they make goes unrecorded.

We would appreciate seeing the probe promised by the TRA director succeed in showing whether indeed roundabout 90 per cent of the hard drinks on sale in our expansive country are produced illegally, often by tax evaders, and hence the fact that they sell at prices far below those of brands made and supplied by tax-compliant and therefore law-abiding businesses.

These tax-evading producers of illicit drinks must be devising and implementing schemes that law-enforcement agencies may not easily see through and kill off.

For instance, conspiring with unscrupulous law-enforcement and other public officials can easily reduce the possibility of their being detected, whether at the quality control, excise duty sticker affixing or other stages of the production chain.

This explains the urgent need for truly competent and patriotic officials and staff in all our oversight agencies. Close collaboration involving committed and incorruptible officers and other staff in the likes of TRA, Tanzania Food and Drugs Authority, Tanzania Bureau of Standards, Fair Competition Commission, Police and other state organs can work miracles - but only just...

However, things will doubtless work much better if enough support from members of the public is forthcoming and if the authorities concerned capitalise on that goodwill - where that external input would prove of added value.

Consider this: some 87 per cent of the alcohol consumed in Tanzania is in the form of local brews that are neither regulated for safety's sake and what nor indeed officially accounted for. Public sensitisation would make a difference by way of inducing or precipitating a boost in quality and ensuring that such brews become taxable items.

Meanwhile, some of the alcohol consumed in the country is imported - or smuggled in - and can also easily prove unfit for human use. Hence, the need for greater surveillance and vigilance at territorial border posts, etc. The public's eyes and ears would come in handy here.

And this is precisely why we believe that injecting sense and sobriety into our liquor industry by sweeping it clean of hazardous elements and rewarding law-abiding ones would be tantamount to fulfilling a noble duty. So, we should all feel duty-bound to help the likes of TRA come to the rescue of the national economy and the health of our people.

Let seriousness, wisdom, empathy prevail in handling retirees' plight

WEBSITES are set up for a reason. That is precisely why keeping them continually updated is crucial - and that is why really quality ones become must-visit stations and earn those who will have established them a good name, particularly if they say what they mean and mean what they say.

We now have this thorny and, to be honest, vexing issue of just how to handle the pension benefits of members of what is now known as Public Service Social Security Fund - or PSSSF, for short.

The plight of some of the retirees in question paints, for lack of better words, a truly sombre picture. Even the shortest of visits to desks at PSSSF offices where they are supposed to be attended will attest to this.

Yet, here is the Fund's official Mission: To provide high quality social

security services using competent, motivated staff and appropriate technology.

And its Vision and Values: To be an outstanding customer-focused provider of social security services in Tanzania - of course, legally it is mainland Tanzania - driven by integrity, transparency, teamwork, professionalism and compliance.

This is what PSSSF has told its members and the larger public it stands for, and isn't the quality of public servants reflected in the standards they set for themselves?

The National Assembly is busy deliberating on ways to make life easier for prospective, current and future PSSSF retirees than now obtains. We wish that all our legislators and other relevant parties to this matter to handle it with the urgency, seriousness, wisdom and empathy it deserves.

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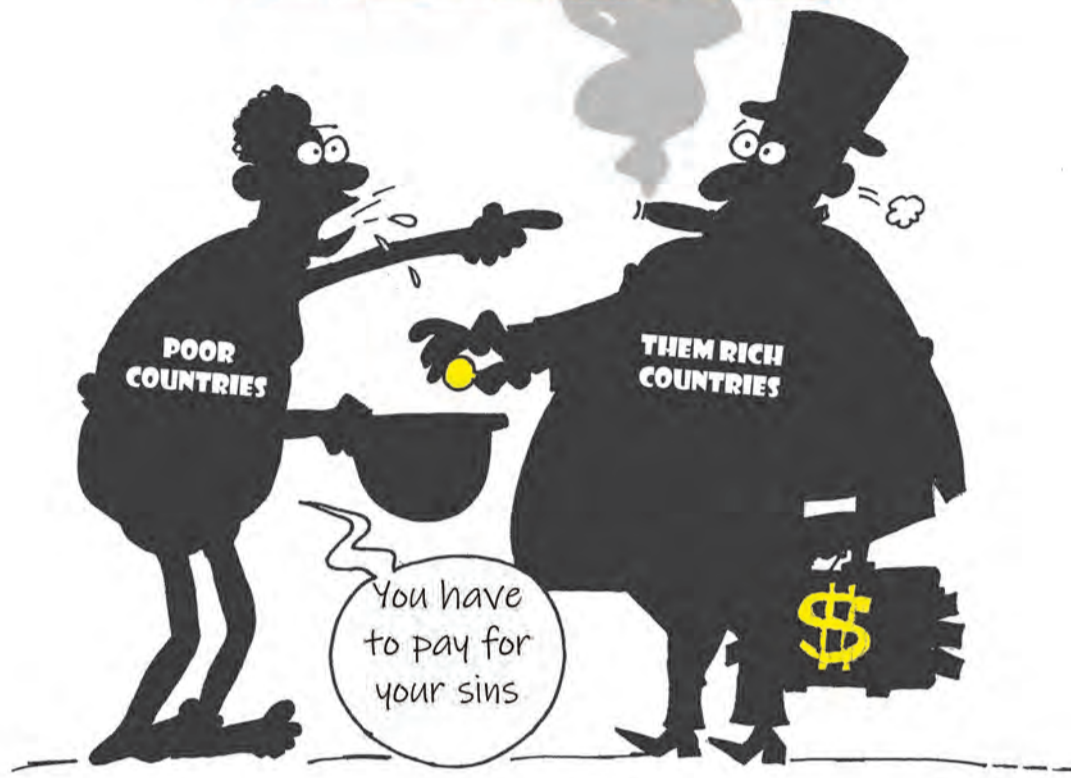
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GLOBAL WARMING



Tips for reporting on COVID-19 vaccines, instances of hesitancy and misinformation

By Josephine Chinele

THE distribution of Covid-19 vaccines in many parts of the world has given people hope that we may finally be nearing the pandemic's end. There have been, however, mixed reactions to the immunisations, influenced by an abundance of misinformation.

In a recent ICFJ Global Health Crisis Reporting Forum webinar on "Reporting Vaccines, Hesitancy and Misinformation without promoting falsehoods", Tara Haelle shared hints for reporting accurately and effectively on the vaccines.

Haelle is an independent science and health journalist, and the medical studies core topic leader at the Association of Health Care Journalists.

Avoid 'both sides' journalism

Journalists should avoid common pitfalls when reporting on vaccines. For instance, don't offer false information a platform in an attempt to balance conflicting beliefs and attitudes, said Haelle.

Legitimate debate may exist - and deserves coverage when it arises - but make sure that you address the actual scientific questions in your reporting, and are in touch with the right experts to supply accurate information.

Clearly establish what the evidence shows, and offer context on the dissenting viewpoints, such as where the scientific and medical communities stand.

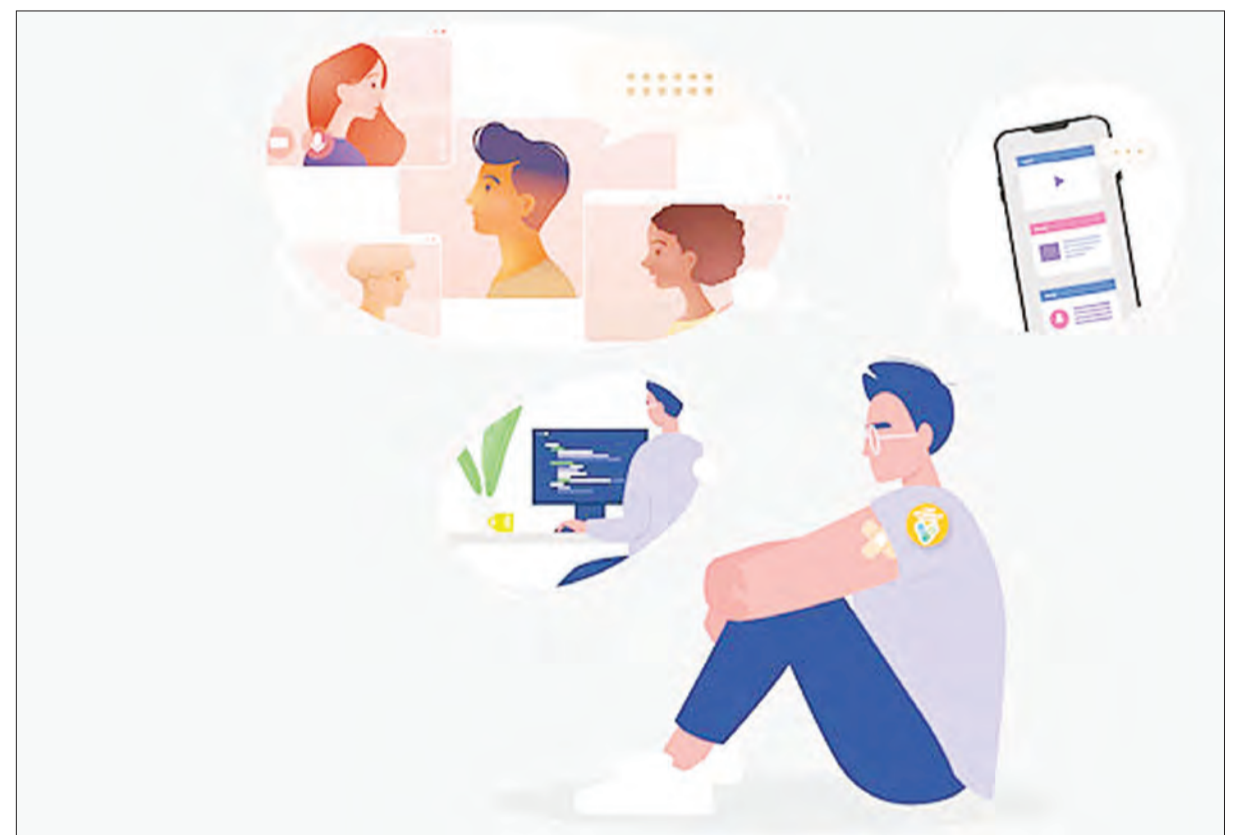
It's important to know what sources to reach out to for your reporting. "Seek out people who are experts specifically in infectious diseases, vaccines and/or vaccine hesitancy," said Haelle.

She added: "There is a need to be as precise as possible and seek diverse sources. Avoid generalised doctors, nurses and researchers who don't have expertise in vaccines."

Get familiar with research concepts

Understanding efficacy and effectiveness is key when reporting on vaccines. The former involves how well a vaccine works in clinical trials, while the latter deals with how well the vaccine works in the real world. Both can refer to different endpoints: prevention, infection, disease, severe disease, hospitalisation or death.

Information from studies requires context. If you come across a shocking or controversial result, confirm with researchers so that you



understand the findings correctly.

If the information has not been officially published in any journal, check the researcher's past work and experience as well as the funders they've worked with. This can help you identify signs of ideological bias, determine the quality of their work, and more.

The same applies to data. It can be easy for big numbers to come across as abstract figures. Do not overload on numbers - use the most relevant ones that support your reporting, Haelle recommended. She also urged journalists to always ask for the scientists' interpretation on the findings.

Avoid sensationalising

Pay attention to how you frame findings and convey information. When incorporating visuals, avoid dramatic photos. For instance, stay away from close-up pictures of large needles.

It's critical that your reporting is precise, including when it comes to reporting on vaccine weaknesses, safety concerns and claims. Be careful to support positive reporting about the vaccines with facts, too. You should accurately cover what people need to know.

Be careful on vaccine hesitancy

Instead of using terms like "anti-vaxxer," "vaccine refuser" or "vaccine-resistant", try to understand why some people don't want the vaccines. Shaming does not change health behaviours.

Keep in mind that those who do not vaccinate are a diverse group politically, economically, socially, educationally and religiously. Cultural beliefs may be well-entrenched in communities; be cautious, do not disrespect people.

There are many issues related to vaccine access, especially in lower-income countries. Pay attention to aspects of this issue, such as how vaccine appointments are scheduled. Importantly, don't conflate hesitancy with a lack of access.

"A lot of people may not have access. Access is not about being able to, or just having a vaccine around the corner. Access also means having access to information that helps you understand the vaccine," said Haelle.

When it comes to data around vaccine hesitancy, make sure that your reporting comes from reliable sources on the issue, and that you don't undermine credible public health efforts.

If reporting large numbers of vaccine hesitancy, journalists should examine why this is the case despite overwhelming evidence that the vaccines are safe and effective. Journalists should not hide the real numbers or story, but should cover it thoroughly.

"You need to be honest as you are reporting the numbers, but you need to be careful about how you convey them," said Haelle.

Resist false information

If there are only three people

talking about why they do not want to be vaccinated, for instance, do not broadcast their arguments more widely, without providing needed context about the inaccuracy of their reasoning. You do not need to include every single finding or opinion you come across. If writing opinion pieces, keep a neutral tone.

Avoid stating false information and then correcting it. Consider using questions followed by statements of fact, instead. For example: "Concern: Can the flu vaccine give you the flu or make you sick? Fact: The flu vaccine can't give you the flu."

Identify and speak with trusted messengers, whether they are doctors or community members, for instance. Consider, too, speaking with influencers to help disseminate your reporting on the issue more widely, but ensure that they understand the science behind the vaccines.

• A dispatch by *International Journalists' Network (IJNet)*, a project of the *Washington-based International Centre for Journalists (ICFJ)*. Multi-award-winning international journalist *Josephine Chinele* is a regular contributor to *Good Governance Africa* and *Africa In Fact*. She has also crafted stories for international publications such as *Bhekisisa* (South Africa's Centre for Health Journalism), *Christian Service Monitor* (the US), *Africa Watch*, the *GAVI website* and *Open Democracy*.

Passion or profit: The decision is yours



HE gets ready for a late afternoon run. He needs to make a decision on a contract that is in his inbox, waiting for his signature so he needs a clear head.

He changes into his tracksuit and sneakers, picks up the phone and creates a running playlist. He picks up his headphones and hits the tarmac.

The contract is a good piece of change, he thinks as he puts one foot in front of the other. He could live in a better apartment; in a few months' time he could put a car on the road and people could know the type of person they are dealing with when he starts putting his keys on the table.

He finishes the first three kilometres and stops at a roundabout with lush greenery. He stretches his legs and his hands then gets in the planking position and does twenty push-ups. He gets on his back and does fifty sit-ups. After he's am done, he's drenched in sweat.

He wipes his forehead with the back of his hand, takes off his glasses, and wipes with his undershirt and gets back on the tarmac for the three-kilometre run back. If he signs the contract there's a good chance he will cement his position among the middle class in the country. There's also a good chance that he will be writing his books less and less.

He gets to his house, takes a screen-



shot of his playlist, posts it on his socials and jumps in the shower. He's heading out for a date. One of his book readers wants to meet him for drinks.

He sits on the first floor of a popular joint in town. Opposite him is a European man. They're probably both waiting for their dates.

The European man orders soup, he orders masala tea with no milk and cuddles it in his hands while he muses over the contract in his inbox. If he signs it, he could start going on vacations. He closes his eyes and imagines the sand on his feet and the breeze in his face.

But he also needs the ability to dream. People work all their lives so they can be free, to dream, to bathe in the sun, and do what they love. He has that now and he cannot put a price on it.

He looks at his watch; his date is thirty minutes late. His anxiety is starting to build up. The lady he's meeting, he knows nothing about her while the lady reads him, and knows everything about him.

His phone buzzes, the lady had arrived. She sees her climbing the stairs from the

corner of his eye. He gets up and hugs her in delight.

He asks her if she sings. She lifts her eyebrows. She looks at him unconvinced.

"You know, I wanted to know the face behind your incredible writing and at the same time, I was afraid of meeting you. What if I didn't like you and I was forced to stop reading you altogether?" Losing two readers in a day? She tells him jokingly and they part ways.

He gets to his house after primetime news, changes into bedtime clothes and as he does so, he looks into the mirror and realizes that he can't sign the contract. He needed to live his current life, write, meet his readers and change their mindsets freely and not on a watch.

To enjoy the ability to be free, the ability to dream, the ability of possibility. Besides, a contract might make him put a car on the road but it is the words he writes that make him want to fly.

He wakes up the following morning and writes a regret email then sits and wonders if he had made the right decision.

After 20-month lockdown, UN plans to return to near-normal by mid-month

UNITED NATIONS

The United Nations, which suffered a pandemic lockdown over the last 20 months- with most staffers tele-working from their homes- is expected to return to near-normal, come November 15.

In a letter to New York-based staffers, Secretary-General Antonio Guterres says that "in the light of improved conditions" relating to the spread of coronavirus infections, "the exception, which currently allows staff members to telework up to four days per week, will be discontinued, beginning November 15."

As of that date, he says, requests for telecommuting may be authorized by managers in line with the policy on Flexible Working Arrangements, ST/SGB/2019/3, and subject to the nature of the functions being performed, as well as to work exigencies.

"Managers are encouraged to afford flexibility to staff members in line with the lessons learned over the past 20 months regarding adaptability and flexibility in our working methods. Furthermore, the requirement for core working hours will remain suspended", the letter adds.

Last month, New York city Mayor Bill de Blasio mandated vaccinations for thousands of City employees, including police, fire fighters, sanitation workers, hospital staff and municipal employees who will be put on "no pay leave" if they are not vaccinated - either for medical, personal, political or religious reasons.

But, so far, the UN has not placed any such penalties on un-vaccinated staffers—even though some private sector employers in the US have told their employees: "Get Vaccinated or Get Fired."

The Secretary-General's authority, as the UN's chief administrative officer, applies primarily to staffers, not to hundreds of diplomats, who are subject to restrictions only by the



The UN delegate's lounge, usually a hive of activity, has remained largely dead due to the pandemic lockdown—except during the high-level segment of the General Assembly last September. Credit: Inter Press Service (IPS)

193-member General Assembly, the UN's highest policy-making body.

UN Spokesperson Stephane Dujarric told reporters late October "the vaccination rate for UN staff ... is about 87.08 per cent that are fully vaccinated, staff in total".

In a letter to UN-accredited journalists last month, Tal Mekel, Chief, Media Accreditation and Liaison Unit (MALU) in the Department of Global Communications, was more specific.

"As the transition continues from Phase 2 to Next Normal - gradual return to the workplace at UN Headquarters—additional precautionary measures will be taken in an effort to ensure a safe work environment for everyone."

"As you may know, COVID-19 vaccinations are now mandated for UN staff performing certain tasks and/or certain occupational groups at UNHQ whose functions do not allow sufficient management of exposure."

All journalists were requested by MALU to send information relating to date of vaccination, location of vaccination (city) and proof of

commuting for up to 3 days per week. But in any case, it should depend on the nature of the work."

Asked whether it is wise to get staff back into the building when infection rates are still relatively high in New York city—and while about 13 percent of UN staff remain unvaccinated- he said: "there will never be 100% of staff vaccinated for various reasons. But of more concern is how many diplomats, consultants, office cleaners and cafeteria workers have been vaccinated."

"Only when you look at the whole picture can you make an informed decision," he added.

The Secretary-General's circular says "the overwhelming majority of staff have reported that they have been fully vaccinated."

Still, says the circular, the UN will take precautions compelling all personnel to continue to wear masks in common areas, such as corridors, elevators, and restrooms.

Masks are also mandatory in enclosed meeting spaces where the vaccination status of all participants has not been confirmed.

However, vaccinated personnel are no longer required to wear masks while working at their individual workstations. Personnel who are not vaccinated will continue to be required, at all times, to wear masks throughout UN premises and to observe physical distancing wherever it is pos-

sible to do so, he added.

Prisca Chaoui, President of the 3,500-strong staff coordinating council in Geneva, which is home to multiple UN agencies, told IPS that at the UN Office in Geneva (UNOG) "we conducted a survey that showed that more than half of those who took part in it wanted to have the COVID pass imposed to get access to the compound."

"But our management decided not to".

"Other international organizations in Geneva such as WTO, WIPO, ITU and WMO are gradually imposing the pass to access the premises or a negative test within the last 48 hours."

She said UNOG staff are required, as of 3 November, to be back in office for two days a week.

"This is a welcome step as we need to be physically back to office even though staff have never stopped to work since March 2020, but we wish it were possible to get more safety measures such as the proof of vaccination or a negative test result".

Still, she said, some staff are concerned about the return to office without these measures being imposed.

"I believe there should be a harmonized approach as each organization is currently taking its own decision, depending on the duty station, which is normal in a way, as the epidemiological situation is different from one place to

another."

But in locations where staff have access to vaccination, such as Geneva, this shouldn't be the case. In Geneva, which is host of many international organizations, there is a disparity in the measures adopted, which shouldn't have been the case.

"I believe that safety measures, including the COVID pass, are important for a safe return to office."

In his circular Guterres says one of the reasons to return to near normal conditions is that conditions related to the COVID-19 pandemic in New York City have continued to improve and stabilize, and the host country is further opening for international travel starting on 8 November 2021.

In addition, the overwhelming majority of UN staff have reported that they have been fully vaccinated.

"I want to once again thank all colleagues for your efforts during this unprecedented period. You have helped ensure the uninterrupted work of the Organization and support for Member States as needed."

Ian Richards, former President of the Coordinating Committee of International Staff Unions and Associations (CCISUA) told IPS that in a survey carried out at the UN in Geneva, staff said it wanted administration to request either proof of vaccination, recovery or a negative test to enter the building and cafeteria, like at the WTO and WMO.

Many said it would make them feel safer returning to their offices, especially as infection rates in Geneva have been shooting up, much of the building is open space and authorities are recommending teleworking, he added.

"Administration refused staff's safety request saying that it would prevent delegates attending meetings. While we understand that there are political considerations, we don't quite buy this argument", said Richards.

He also pointed out that Geneva-based diplomats have all been able to get vaccinated and those travelling in from abroad will have a PCR with them or can easily get one.

"We hope the administration will reconsider its decision so we can help our offices get back to business in the safest way possible."



The empty racks on the UN's third floor, home to several news organizations. Credit: IPS

Obtaining water an endless battle in Argentina's El impenetrable region

GENERAL GÜEMES, Argentina

Next to the brick or adobe houses of El Impenetrable, a wild area of forest and grasslands in northern Argentina, loom huge plastic barrels where rainwater collected from the corrugated iron roofs of the houses is stored. However, the barrels are empty, because it has hardly rained for two years, local residents complain.

"Things have been very bad recently. It rained one day in September, but very little," said Francisco Montes, who has lived for 35 years in a house in a large open area in the middle of a monotonous landscape of trees and bushes, several kilometres from his nearest neighbours.

On the dirt road leading to his house, it is rare to run into a person or a vehicle, but it is easy to come across cows, goats, horses and even pigs, since domestic animals are raised loose in this area, to roam freely in their arduous search for green pastures.

Located in the Argentine portion of the Chaco - the great sparsely forested plain covering more than one million square kilometres, shared with Paraguay and Bolivia - El Impenetrable was so named not only because of the thick brush and the scarcity of roads.

The ecosystem covering some four million hectares also owes its name precisely to the lack of water, which turns most of the vegetation a yellowish hue and is made more dramatic by the combination with temperatures that can be suffocating.

From droughts to floods

Rainfall in the area usually comes in just three months, during the southern hemisphere summer. And rains have been scarce for as long as anyone can remember in this part of the Chaco.

But for two years now the situation has been worse than usual, because the drought has been especially bad, after severe flooding in 2018 and 2019 that wrought havoc among local residents

and their livestock, when it rained three times the historical average.

In the absence of piped water, Montes, who lives on his remote property with his wife, is one of the best equipped in the area to deal with the complex scenario, because in his field he not only has a large cement tank with a capacity to store thousands of litres of rainwater, which lately has been of little use. He also has an 11-metre deep well that allows them to extract groundwater.

But this is not enough either. "The water is very brackish. You would have to go at least 20 metres down to get good water," he told IPS.

Montes, however, at the age of 73, has the resignation of someone who has lived a lifetime knowing that water is a scarce commodity. "Back then we used to take water directly from the river or from a well, when it was available," he recalled.

He was referring to one of the branches of the Bermejo, one of the biggest rivers in the La Plata basin, which originates in Bolivia and passes about 500 metres from his field. The Bermejo - or "little Bermejo", as the branch is known locally - is one of the few rivers in El Impenetrable, and the vegetation on its banks is a deep green colour that is not usual in this region.

A few kilometres from Montes' home, near the entrance to the El Impenetrable National Park - a 128,000-hectare protected area created in 2014 - there is a 160 square metre rainwater collector sheet metal roof facility with two tanks that can store up to 40,000 litres.

It was built in 2019 to supply local residents, as part of the "Native Forests and Community" programme.

This Ministry of the Environment and Sustainable Development programme was supported by a 58.7-million-dollar loan from the World Bank and 2.5 million dollars from the national government and seeks to generate community roots in areas where there are no



Francisco Montes shows the cement tank where he collects rainwater in El Impenetrable. Scarce rainfall in the last two years has created serious trouble for the inhabitants of this four-million-hectare ecoregion, who are scattered around the Chaco region of northern Argentina. CREDIT: Daniel Gutman/IPS

sources of employment.

Native Forests and Community benefits vulnerable rural communities, both indigenous and non-indigenous, through infrastructure works and training for the sustainable management of natural resources.

One of the programme's priorities is to promote the use of renewable energies, and it has installed solar panels for electricity generation and solar stoves

in areas where the most commonly used fuel is firewood.

According to official figures, the initiative has so far benefited 1,200 families from 60 communities in different provinces of the country, most of them in El Chaco and the rest of northern Argentina.

Esteban Argañaraz lives only 100 metres from the

rainwater collector. Sometimes he goes to fetch water from the community tanks, although he cannot get enough there either, so he resorts to buying drinking water in the nearest town, Miraflores, which is 60 kilometres from his home down a dusty dirt road.

"This year I brought an 8,000-litre water tank. It cost 700 pesos (about

seven dollars), but the complicated part was transporting it, which cost 4,000 pesos (40 dollars)," Argañaraz explained to IPS, while showing the well that was dug in front of his house to accumulate water for the animals and irrigation, which is completely dry.

Argañaraz, 60, and his wife have a garden at home to grow vegetables and fruits. But they have had to practically abandon it since 2020, due to the lack of water. Skinny cows and goats are another reflection of the severe drought.

The inhabitants of El Impenetrable rarely manage to sell any animals and almost everyone survives on social assistance. This ecosystem - environmentally degraded by the extractive economy - is part of Argentina's Northeast region, which has the highest poverty rates in the country, with 45.4 percent of the population living in poverty.

But the situation is complicated in urban areas as well. In fact, the provincial capital Resistencia, with a population of 300,000,

has the highest poverty rate in Argentina, at 51.9 percent.

Unpredictability is the rule

"The main characteristic of rainfall in (Argentina's Chaco province) is its high variability: there are cycles of dry, normal and wet years. The other important aspect is that most of it is concentrated in one part of the year: in the case of El Impenetrable, the rainy season lasts only three months," water resources engineer Hugo Rohrmann, former president of the Chaco Provincial Water Administration, told IPS.

The expert pointed to another important fact: rainfall in El Impenetrable is usually between 600 and 800 millimetres per year, but evaporation, due to heat that can reach 50 degrees C in summer, is much higher - up to 1,100 millimetres.

"That is why neither wetlands nor aquifers with the capacity to supply a population are formed and there is no other choice but to collect rainwater, which is also scarce. The lack of water is becoming more and more evident and makes life more and more difficult for the local population," Rohrmann added from Resistencia.

Constanza Mozzoni, a biologist from Buenos Aires who has been living in El Impenetrable for two years doing social work, has a categorical answer when asked what life is like for the local population, both indigenous and non-indigenous people: "Everything revolves around how to get water," she told IPS.

Mozzoni works for the Rewilding Argentina Foundation, an environmental conservation organisation that works in and around the El Impenetrable National Park, and lives in a prefabricated house that also has a rainwater harvesting roof.

The foundation, however, provides all its staff with bottled water that is brought from the town of Miraflores, along the only safe road in El Impenetrable.



Goats cross a dirt road in El Impenetrable, an ecosystem of four million hectares, where livestock is raised loose, to roam the area in search of pasture. CREDIT: Daniel Gutman/IPS

CAPITAL RADIO

RATIBA YA VIPINDI JUMATATU - JUMAPILI

MONDAY TIME PROGRAMME	TUESDAY TIME PROGRAMME	WEDNESDAY TIME PROGRAMME	THURSDAY TIME PROGRAMME	FRIDAY TIME PROGRAMME	SATURDAY TIME PROGRAMME	SUNDAY TIME PROGRAMME
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Tembelea mitandao ya kijamii ya CAPITAL RADIO



CAPITAL RADIO

Legal empowerment programme: Its impact on urban communities



Participants of a seminar meant to help empower women effectively enough for them to make it in business and other forms of employment come together for a commemorative. Photo. File photo

By Guardian Reporter

THREE years ago, Legal Services Facility (LSF) launched its urban legal empowerment program aiming to address issues such as environmental rights, women's economic rights, housing, and labour, which are prevalent in urban settings around the country.

To facilitate implementation of this program, LSF partners with urban-based organizations and provides funding to that effect and in so doing enabling these organizations by extension to contribute to LSF's key results areas.

The "Wanawake na Ajira" project which is being implemented by the Women in Law and Development Africa (WILDAF) in Dar es Salaam addresses labour rights challenges facing women, youth and girls employed in the industrial sector in the region. Under this project several factories have installed preventive mechanisms against all forms of violence and discrimination in the workplace, as further evidenced by requests from 12 manufacturing businesses in Dar es Salaam to develop anti-sexual harassment policies for their workplaces. Another commendable achievement of the project has been a one-year plan that was developed by the Ubungo WCPC to effectively address violence and harassment against women in the workplace.

WILDAF's National Coordinator Anna Kulaya says: "Primarily we want to see women benefitting from available opportunities and resources around the country. A project such as this needs further support so that we can realize even bigger outcomes, but also that it should be expanded beyond Dar es Salaam to include other regions where there are manufacturing activities and ultimately improve the work conditions of many more people".

On another front, LSF collaborates with the Lawyers' Environmental Action Team (LEAT) to ensure every citizen in Dar es Salaam enjoys their fundamental right to live in a clean and healthy environment through a project that is implemented in the city's five districts. Under the auspices of this project notable achievements include the enactment of by-laws that enable communities to establish waste collection points in the streets, put in place strict rules against

water leakages and introduced fines on persons who violate these by-laws. This initiative has significantly improved the overall cleanliness of the environment around the city and eliminated disease outbreaks.

To address housing issues among urban poor communities, LSF pooled resources with the Tanzania Women Lawyers Association (TAWLA) which provides legal education to the general public to help them to understand their right and ensure they entered into fair rental contracts with landlords to avoid situations that violated the tenants' rights.

Furthermore, a special program that aims to empower women economically has been launched and is being piloted in the Ubungo Municipality. The program will see more than 300 women assisted to acquire their title deeds, and over 2,000 empowered in legal matters pertaining to land issues which are instrumental in addressing ever-growing land-related disputes in many parts of the country.

With LSF's support, the Women's Legal Aid Centre (WLAC) is implementing a project named "Community Legal Empowerment in Labour Laws and Rights" whose beneficiaries are women and youths working in both the formal and informal sectors. Under this project a total of 1,192 people have had access to legal aid through sensitization, training, drama and dissemination of tailor-made awareness messages. Furthermore, workers are enlightened on breaches of employment contracts, infringement of maternity rights, and sexual harassment at the workplace.

In Mwanza Region LSF supports Railway Children Africa which is implementing a program designed to improve and change the lives of vulnerable children by raising awareness of challenges that push and expose children to unsafe environments where they are exploited through child labour and other abuses in the urban settings of Illemela and Nyamagana districts. Through legal aid and training on the rights of street children and domestic workers, justice support mechanisms have been supported and additionally, the right to parental or guardianship care to street children is provided through family reintegration approaches. A dedicated phone number for

domestic workers to report abuses is in place and more people are using it to report injustices and receive assistance.

A pilot project that focuses on solid waste management in Dodoma is being implemented by Reaching Unreached Tanzania (RUT). Through it the city council has been trained to comprehend and apply solid waste laws and assisted in their implementation. The laws ultimately promote the rights of the city's residents to live in a clean and healthy environment.

On the other hand, in Mbeya LSF works with Teofilo Kisanji University (TEKU) to create awareness and equip urban women with skills sufficient to navigate terms and conditions of loans in 36 wards of the city of Mbeya. The project has so far imparted these skills to 11,000 individuals and address challenges women faces such as unfavorable contract term when they acquire loan for their economic or social activities

In Zanzibar LSF supports the Zanzibar Paralegal Organization (ZAPAO) to empower small businesses particularly those run by women and youth in the Urban West region to improve their business environment. Through this intervention ZAPAO helps these businesses acquire government-zoned locations where they conduct their businesses without hurdles.

Deo Bwire, LSF's Senior Program Manager, points to the rationality the organization saw in engaging urban-based NGOs in the broader context of its Access to Justice Program adding, "In totality, LSF's urban legal empowerment program has to a large extent addressed challenges in the urban setting hence increasing opportunities to continue working with local communities, local governments and other partners to addressing every day urban issues and help women and youth realize their potentials. Legal problems that are commonplace in urban settings are just as crucial as those in rural areas and our partners found in these major cities provide that vital link for legal aid beneficiaries".

As LSF celebrates its 10th anniversary it sees the rewarding impact that the program has had, and that supporting and expanding both its scope and scale will broadly enhance the legal landscape in urban areas around the country.



celebrating 50 years

REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS

RFQ Title: Supply of Education Subsidies & Sports Materials
RFQ Number: 2022-PACT/11/01
Date of Solicitation: 5nd November 2021
Closing Date and Time: 19th November 2021, 11:00 am (Dar es Salaam, Tanzania)
Questions and Clarifications: Due by 18th November 2021

Introduction to Pact and ACHIEVE Project:

Pact Inc. is an international non-profit organization with its headquarters in Washington, DC. Pact serves communities challenged by poverty and marginalization because we envision a world where everyone owns their future. To do this, we build systemic solutions in partnership with local organizations, businesses, and the government. Our goal is thriving, resilient communities where those we serve are heard, capable, and vibrant.

The Adolescents and Children, HIV Incidence Reduction, Empowerment, and Virus Elimination (ACHIEVE) project is a five-year, USAID-funded global project to reach and sustain HIV epidemic control among pregnant and breastfeeding women, adolescents, infants, and children. ACHIEVE is implemented by Pact, in partnership with Jhpiego, Palladium, No Means No Worldwide, and WI-HER. The overall goal is to improve access to HIV-inclusive services to improve the health and well-being of orphans and vulnerable children (OVC). The project is working to support and strengthen the capacity of the national and community-level social services workforce, systems, and structures to ensure quality services for OVC, at-risk AGYW, and people living with HIV (PLHIV) at the National and across all regions of Tanzania. The project began in April 2019 and has initiated activities in seven countries from USAID country mission buy-ins: Tanzania is one of the seven countries implementing ACHIEVE and got its buy-in in June 2020.

Overall Objective:

LOT Number	Item Name	Specification	Quantity
LOT 1	Supply of educational subsidies comprised of School bag, Mathematical set, Pens, Pencils and A4 Exercise books for 78,986 adolescents (77,954 adolescent girls age 10-14 from 10 DREAMS Councils and 1,032 adolescent boys and girls age 10-14 from 6 non DREAMS Councils)	Available in the ToR	78,986
LOT 2	Supply of re-usable Sanitary kits to 88,732 adolescent girls (87,700 adolescent girls age 10-14 in 11 DREAMS Councils and 1,032 adolescent girls age 10-14 in 6 non-DREAMS Councils)	Available in the ToR	88,732
LOT 3	Supply and print school and sports materials for both coaches and boys aged 9-14 in the twelve (12) councils implementing Coaching Boys into Men (CBIM) intervention.	Available in the ToR.	28,334 (Details Available in the ToR)
LOT 4	Supply and print school and sports materials for both Instructors and girls aged 9-14 in the two (2) councils of Mwanza CC and Muleba DC with No Means No intervention.	Available in the ToR.	2,950 (Details Available in the ToR)

Scope of Work

Specific scope of work is available in each LOT's respective ToR, available upon request.

Interested vendors should request the full Terms of Reference (ToR) through email with the subject line "TOR for Supply of Education Subsidies & Sports Materials: (Name the LOT, Eg: LOT 1) to ProcurementTZ@pactworld.org before Thursday, 18th November 2021.

All questions and requests for clarification should be directed to ProcurementTZ@pactworld.org with the subject line "Request for Clarification: Supply of Education Subsidies & Sports Materials: (Name the LOT, Eg: LOT 1)" before COB Thursday 18th November 2021.

B. Eligibility

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

- Ability to meet or exceed the requirements/technical specifications outlined in Section A;
- Ability to deliver the items/services specified in Section A no later than the date(s) required.

C. Submission Instructions

The following information is to be included by a vendor in the proposal:

- Draft inception report detailing methodology & timelines for supplying the items.
- Quote, valid for at least 90 days
- Current company profile.
- Delivery time (estimated work completion timeline after receiving an order).
- Quality of the work (measured on the sample submitted upon request).
- Copies of registration, certificate and address of their registered office, valid business license, VAT, TIN certificates, Tax clearance certificate, and any industry relevant license or certificate.
- Evidence of similar assignments, and at least two (2) names and addresses of client served.
- Current Audited financial statement.
- Payment terms.

Vendors who wish to answer this RFP should send their proposals in sealed envelopes to Pact Tanzania Head Office by 19th November 2021, 11:00 am. All sealed envelopes need to be marked as "Tender for Supply of Education Subsidies & Sports Materials."

Office Address: :

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

PACT will open all bids on Friday 19th November 2021 at 11.30 am in the presence of Bidder's representatives who choose to attend.

Quotes must be in Tanzania shillings and include taxes and distribution costs separately:

- Each LOT should have its separate quotation.
- Proposals submitted through emails will not be considered.
- Quotations received after that time or at a different address may not be accepted
- All quotations and delivery dates shall be valid for at least 90 days following the submission as mentioned above.
- Pact may award different LOTs to different vendors.

Microfinance firm launches bancassurance in Tanzania

By Guardian Reporter

FAIIDIKA has launched its new suite of Bancassurance products to become the first microfinance institution in Tanzania to fully collaborate and form strategic partnerships with several insurance companies to provide a holistic range of insurance covers in the market.

Faidika is a subsidiary of Letshego Holdings Limited (LHL), a Botswana-based and listed holding company focused on financial inclusion across Africa.

Faidika's four key Bancassurance products were launched in Dar es Salaam recently in partnership with Sanlam, Sanlam Life, Alliance General, Britam General, Strategies General and Medical, First Assurance General, Jubilee Life and Jubilee General.

The company now offers Life Insurance, Health Insurance and General Insurance products, including assurance cover for assets - all risks,

industrial - all risks, fire and allied perils, motor, accident, home insurance, burglary and theft, professional indemnity, goods in transit and marine and cargo insurance cover, among others. Additionally, Faidika will also be offering customers its Insurance Premium Financing, to enable their smooth on boarding and easy access to acquire the insurance products.

Faidika Chief Executive Officer, Baraka Munisi said: "The launch of this new suite of insurance products is an exciting milestone that truly aligns with our vision to become a leading world class financial services organisation. This Bancassurance offering forms part of our commitment to diversify our product offering, to deliver a unique customer value proposition and to, at the same time elevate the Faidika offering to generate increased value through diversified revenue streams."

A key objective for Faidika is to reach the general public through

their extensive network of branches and satellite operations across the country in order to provide access, convenience and financial inclusion to Tanzanians, including people at the remotest areas of the country.

Faidika Board Chairman Adam Mayingu added: "We are exceptionally proud to be associated with the Tanzania Insurance Regulatory Authority (TIRA), the body that regulates all insurance services in the Bancassurance market to guarantee mutual benefit for all concerned stakeholders. At Faidika, we understand that our prompt responsiveness to customer' needs generates trust, improves customer relationships and enhances customer experience, all leading to happy and satisfied customers."

Through their new Bancassurance solutions, Faidika are now positioned to provide their customers with increased value and well-rounded services as a seamless, one-stop financial services provider, offering a wide range of relevant

and innovative solutions to benefit existing and potential customers.

Faidika's Head of Sales, Marketing and Channel Asupya Nalingigwa added: "In recognizing the peace of mind that our insurance solutions will provide for many Tanzanians, we have committed to increase their convenience and access, by offering them our attractive Insurance Premium Financing, as part of our full Bancassurance package, providing our customers with even more benefits."

Faidika is a licensed financial services provider, offering loans to individuals across the public and private sectors. The company is a wholly owned subsidiary of Letshego Group and operates as a non-bank financial institution with 16 Branches, 4 Sub Branches and 86 Satellite Offices with a staff compliment of 58 employees. Their customer reach is enhanced through strategic partnerships, innovative delivery and their new and enhanced digital channels.



Faidika CEO Baraka Munisi speaks during the Bancassurance launching in Dar es Salaam recently. Photo: Guardian Correspondent

New initiative makes 6,000 girls achieve their dream of education in Mara Region

By Guardian Correspondent, Serengeti

A programme aimed at empowering secondary school girls to get an education without any problems has put thousands of girls at a better chance of realizing their education dreams in Serengeti and Bunda districts, Mara Region.

Grumeti Fund's Girls' Empowerment came into existence in 2018 after their study identified a number of barriers to educational dreams for girls.

Some of the challenges include oppressive traditions, such as FGM, early marriage, and teenage pregnancy as well as lack of female towels, a condition that caused many of them not to attend school during menstruation.

The Grumeti Fund that supports conservation in the Ikorongo / Grumeti Game Reserve and community development in 22 neighboring villages has managed to alleviate these problems by enabling 6,000 female students to realize their value and the importance of education.

The implementation of the programme has witnessed the presence of concerts to enable girls from various schools in the districts to receive training to enable and encourage them to study hard to achieve their dreams. The programme has benefited 2,391 girls and 632 boys in the area.

"We are pleased that this year alone, we've been able to reach 2,391 girls and 632 boys from 12 schools. The aim of these concerts is to enable and inspire girls to achieve their educational dreams," said Frida Mollel, Grumeti Fund community development manager.

Frida said the concerts took place between May and October this year, with the programme for the first time taking the initiative to involve boys so that they could be

part of the girls' success to achieve their dreams.

"We have seen fit to involve boys because they are part of the community so that they too can be part of the solution to the girls' challenges," Frida said during the inauguration of the boys' festival at Issenye Secondary School in the Serengeti district recently.

University of Dar es Salaam lecturer Dr Chris Mauki urged the boys to be ambassadors to encourage their communities to abandon the notions that deprive a girl child of access to education and economic development.

Dr Mauki said empowering a girl child is not only the responsibility of the government and philanthropic institutions but of everyone in the community.

"Everyone should care for love, respect, and defend the girl child," she stressed.

According to Frida, the secondary schools reached in the first phase in May this year, are Serengeti, Issenye, Makundusi, Nagusi, Rigicha, and Nyichoka (Serengeti) and Hunyari and Chamriho (Bunda).

The second phase involved boys from Issenye, Rigicha and Nagusi secondary schools, while another recent festival involved 1,100 girls from Mugumu, Manchira, Ikoma and Sedeko secondary schools.

Handing over female towels to the 1,100 girls at a festival held at Mugumu Secondary School, Frida said the sanitary towels were reusable hence they can be used throughout the year.

"These towels are used throughout the year and as a Grumeti Fund we are happy to come up with a solution to the menstrual challenge which has been causing female students to miss school periods while they are menstruating," she said.

The students received more training and understanding about the effects of bad habits that could jeopardize their educational dreams, such as FGM.

One of the activists in Mara Region, Rhobi Samwelly urged the students to be at the forefront of opposing the tradition in their communities.

"Life is education, and not FGM," Rhobi said, adding that FGM is one of the biggest obstacles to the development of the girl child in the Mara region.

"Circumcision is a long-standing tradition. I myself was circumcised and after going through hardships I do not like to see girls being circumcised," said Rhobi who is also the founder and director of Hope for Girls and Women in Tanzania (HGWT), she said.

Rhonda Vetere from the US, who is one of the 10 women technology champions in the world, said: "Study hard so that you can achieve your dreams and not let anyone extinguish your dreams."

The students who participated in the concerts thanked the Grumeti Fund, saying the training they had received gave them the courage to stand up for their rights and study hard so that they could finally achieve their educational dreams and economic freedom.

A 17-year-old and Form Four from Nyichoka Secondary School Faraja Sospeter commended the fund for supporting girls with female towels saying: "These towels have motivated us to attend school without missing even during menstruation."

Jane Amos (16) of Form Three from Makundusi Secondary School also said the training has empowered her to overcome and overcome academic barriers, including FGM.

"This training has changed me; it has great benefits for me. Even these female towels will help us a lot to be modest, and they have taught us a good way to burn out expired, instead of throwing them away," Jane said.

Damali Misolo (17) of Form Four student from Serengeti Secondary School thanked Grumeti Fund saying: "I have benefited from the reproductive health education they have given us; they have built our confidence and overcome obstacles. I want to graduate and be a mentor to what we have been taught." A male student, Magori Stephano, a Form Three student at Nagusi Secondary School, said: "This training has made me realize that all children; women and men have the same rights, both are entitled to education and care. Even with household chores, we have to support one another."



UNITED REPUBLIC OF TANZANIA
MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE
TANZANIA COTTON BOARD



PUBLIC NOTICE

RE: INTENTION TO SELL PROPERTIES OWNED BY WI AFRICA (T) LIMITED UNDER AUCTION

Notice is hereby given to the general public that, WI Africa Tanzania Limited has been a tenant in the Cotton Board warehouses A5 and B7 located in Plot No. 17 & 18 respectively at Kurasini area, Dar es Salaam for more than three years.

Since mid-2019 the owners of the company have disappeared and since then rental charges have not been paid by the client.

In view of the situation mentioned above, the Tanzania Cotton Board is notifying the general public that any person or entity associated with this company to appear for settlement of outstanding rent within seven (7) days from the date of this notice. Failure to do so will amount to assets of the company be sold under auction according to laws and regulations of the United Republic of Tanzania.

Issued by;

Director General,
TANZANIA COTTON BOARD,
P. O. Box 61,
MWANZA.

Jengo la Pamba, Barabara ya Mkoa, S.L.P. 61, Mwanza. Simu: +255 28 2500528,
Baruapepe: info@tcb.go.tz; tovuti: www.tcb.go.tz1

Maulid Celebrations of Prophet Mohammed SAW and 78TH Birthday Celebration of His Holiness Dr. Syedna Ali Qadr Mufaddal Saifuddin TUS

PUBLIC NOTICE – ROAD CLOSURE

The General Public is hereby informed that on **Saturday, 6th November 2021**, A procession to celebrate Maulid of Prophet Mohammed SAW and 78th Birthday of their Spiritual leader, organized by The Dawoodi Bohra Community in Dar es Salaam will start from Kaluta/Zanaki Streets up to Elia Complex, cross at Junction of Bibi Titi Street, turning left to Olympio Street till Alykhan Road, Upanga from **4PM to 5PM**.

All are welcomed to witness the event.

Permit NO. TRR/IMC/R.3/3/ – TARURA
DSM/ILALA/A.24/60/VOL.VIII/250 –
JESHI LA POLISI

RADIO One RATIBA YA VIPINDI
JUMATATU - JUMAPILI

MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY
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Tembelea mitandao ya kijamil ya Radio One  **Radio One**

TBL PLANNING TO INVEST IN MALT MAKING PLANT IN 2-3 YEARS' TIME

By Property Watch Reporter

THE country's largest alcoholic beverages manufacturer, Tanzania Breweries Limited is planning to invest in another malt making plant to serve the local market from imports within the next two to three years.

TBL's new Country Director, Jose Moran said in Dar es Salaam mid this week that the brewer which controls over 70 percent of the formal alcohol market, wants to get all of its raw materials locally. "Currently we source over 70 percent of raw materials locally," Moran said adding that because the country produces less malt to meet demand, much of it is sourced abroad.

"We are also looking at the market demand because we also will have to sell the malt to others," he pointed out saying currently the alcoholic beverages market is dominated by illicit liquor manufacturers who have also forged electronic tax stamps.

Moran who also worked in Zambia before coming to Tanzania



TBL's Dar es Salaam brewery.

said unlike Lusaka which imports almost all beer making ingredients from South Africa, Dodoma produces much of the raw materials locally although supply constraints remain for some products including barley.

"We have illicit products in the market which also include counterfeit electronic stamps which

consumers cannot easily notice," he pointed out while stressing that while TBL and its parent company AB InBev are committed to investing more in the country's unfair playing field remains a concern.

The new TBL chief who clocked 100 days since assuming the position this week com-

mended Treasury for lowering excise duty charged on beers made from locally made malt saying such an incentive encourages investors to put money in the business.

He pointed out that although the country's alcoholic consumption has been increasing for many years, formal producers have not enjoyed the growth because of illicit manufacturers but also the burden of ETS.

The brewer which has plants in Arusha, Dar es Salaam, Mwanza and Mbeya has paid over 3.7trn/- in taxes for the past 10 years. "The value added by TBL to the Tanzanian economy is 613bn/- or 0.5 percent of the country's gross domestic product. TBL also produces malt at its malting plant in Moshi, which has a production capacity of 15,000 metric tonnes per annum. Malt is an important ingredient in manufacturing lager beers.

While presenting his maiden budget speech in parliament last June, Finance and Economic Planning Minister, Dr Mwigulu Nchemba lowered excise duty manufactured with locally malt by five percent although Confederation of Tanzania Industries had requested for a 20 percent reduction to attract more investment in the area.

AfDB tightens Kenya projects scrutiny amid graft claims

NAIROBI

Kenyan firms bidding for the multibillion-shilling projects funded by the African Development Bank (AfDB) are set to face more scrutiny as the lender moves to seal graft loopholes. AfDB plans to hire quality assurance experts to enable greater transparency and oversight of its funded projects in the wake of financial scandals.

The lender recently banned nearly a dozen Kenyan firms over fraudulent practices, according to the bank. "Bank's portfolio in the region is facing a number of challenges and requires close monitoring," said AfDB in an internal document seen by the Business Daily.

"...The consultant will participate in country/regional meetings to review project and portfolio related reports, including but not limited to project concept notes, project appraisal reports, project completion reports, country portfolio performance reviews reports"

The bank said the consultants will also review and edit operations, strategy, and policy related proposals to ensure "alignment with Bank strategy objectives, quality standards, readiness and compliance with Bank policies."

The move to bring on board consultants is seen as meant to enable the bank have a tight leash around projects it finances. "(They will) assist in the identification of problems related to the Bank's portfolio performance and service delivery, and promptly undertake appropriate action."

Some of the recently banned firms include Sinotec, Rockey Africa Limited, and its affiliates including Aerospace Aviation, Eva-Top Agencies, Sony Commercial Agencies, Beta Trading Company, and Madujej Global Services.

Others are Express Automation Limited, Kenya Power contractor Chint Electric, Global Interjapan (Kenya) Limited, Techno Brain (Kenya) Limited, and its United Arab Emirates(UAE)-based parent company Techno Brain Global FZ-LLC.

A ban from the AfDB over fraud concerns may attract similar actions from other multilateral development banks including the Asian Development Bank, the European Bank for Reconstruction and Development, the Inter-American Development Bank, and the World Bank. The financial institutions, which are mostly owned and financed by governments, have been keen to curb corruption in their projects which run into billions of dollars annually.

Global nutrition alliance touts bio-fortification of maize and beans in averting stunted growth

By Property Watch Reporter

SOME 31.8 percent of children under the age of five years are suffering from chronic malnutrition in the country because of lack of adequate nutrients for a long period.

Private sector especially suppliers and processors have been urged to take a decisive step toward making Tanzania's food systems more nutritious and inclusive, by, among others, supplying bio-fortified crops across seed and food value chains.

Speaking in Dar es Salaam this week, Grain Alliance for Improved Nutrition (GAIN) Program Focal Point in Tanzania, Mariam Luhambati said private sector suppliers and processors will spur faster integration and scale up the commercialization of bio-fortified seeds, grains and foods hence contribute towards ending malnutrition.

Luhambati said at GAIN's pavilion during a special food fair, that bio-fortification is the process of increasing the density of vitamins and minerals in staple crops biologically. GAIN and Harvest Plus are working with different stakeholders through Commercialisation of bio-fortified Crops (CBC) Programme to develop and promote nutrient enriched varieties of staples that are conventionally bred with high levels of iron, zinc, or vitamin A.

She said the minerals are needed for



Mariam Luhambati, focal point of the Global Alliance for Improved Nutrition programme in Tanzania, displays the nutritious beans at a special exhibition of bio-fortified foods held in Dar es Salaam earlier this week. Photo: Guardian Correspondent

maintaining good health and human development. In the country, the programme is focusing on two major crops which are pro vitamin A maize and high iron beans.

"Tanzania is still facing a serious problem of malnutrition, due to poor nutrition diets, but since maize and beans are the main staples for most people, bio-fortification is the way forward to contribute in reducing micronutrient deficiencies," Luhambati noted.

She further argued that increased consumption of bio-fortified maize and beans

will combat malnutrition especially among children and people living in rural areas who grow their own foods.

"The best way to achieve this goal is for key value chain actors such as farmers, processors, aggregators, suppliers and the community at large to shift to bio-fortified seeds and foods which are cost effective and more nutritious than normal white maize and beans available in the market," she argued.

"We also urge schools to start feeding students with meals which are more nutritious to reduce the levels of malnutrition in the country," the GAIN Program Focal Point in the country added.

The GAIN Programme has worked with processors and suppliers such as Afco investment, Ruaha Millers, Makange millers to bring nutrient rich foods to the market and to ensure suppliers of foods to schools shift to more nutritious foods.

GAIN's Program assistant, Bernadetha Shosho backed her peer saying at their pavilion, they have included some bio-fortified maize flour millers, processors/distributors of high iron beans and orange fleshed sweet potatoes who have come to demonstrate how such foods can be processed, packaged, and sold.

The Swiss-based GAIN Foundation was launched at the United Nations in 2002 to tackle malnutrition among people in developing countries by working with governments, the private sector and civil society, to transform food chain in order to deliver more nutritious foods to all people, especially the most vulnerable. Headquartered in Geneva, Switzerland, GAIN has offices in countries with high levels of malnutrition including Tanzania.

Natural gas key to Africa's energy security, says AfDB's Adesina

GLASGOW

Natural gas remains key to Africa's energy security and economic prosperity, even as political pressure grows to speed up the transition away from fossil fuels, according to the continent's biggest development bank.

"Gas is fundamental to Africa's energy system," African Development Bank President Akinwumi Adesina said in an

interview with Bloomberg News on Wednesday. "We've got to make sure that we're pragmatic" and that a system is created to support long-term development, he said.

While natural gas is less polluting than other fossil fuels such as coal and oil, some environmentalists want to end its use because the industry is responsible for methane that has far more planet-warming power than carbon dioxide.

For African governments like Mozambique and Tanzania, where more than \$50 billion-worth of gas projects are being discussed with companies including TotalEnergies SE and Equinor ASA, it tops the development agenda. In Kenya where the national electricity grid is already 90% renewable, authorities are considering converting the remaining fossil-fuel power plants to use liquefied natural gas.

Even if Africa tripled its natural gas output, it would add under 1% to its less-than 3% contribution to global greenhouse gas emissions, said Adesina. The world needs to "be fair to Africa" because the continent needs to industrialise and create jobs which requires a stable energy supply, he said.

Eskom plan The AfDB seeks to mobilise \$25 billion, funding half of that itself, to support climate-

change adaptation programs in Africa. The bank has financed renewable projects, including Africa's single-biggest wind farm in northern Kenya, the world's largest concentrated solar power plant in Morocco and is leading an initiative to plant trees and grasslands stretching 8 000 kilometers (4,970 miles) across the Sahara and Sahel drylands.

The development bank has invested almost \$5 billion in South Africa's Eskom, which

mostly burns coal to generate electricity. The utility estimates up to \$35 billion will be needed over 15 years in order to make a transition to cleaner power sources. "What is needed is financing on the table to allow them to make the investment that is necessary," Adesina said, adding that the bank has been in discussions with the South African government about a plan. He declined to provide more detail.

STUDY SUGGESTS MEASURES TO INCORPORATE SMES IN AGRO-PROCESSING INDUSTRIES

By Property Watch Reporter

AGRO-processing is dominated by large companies in Tanzania and South Africa as Small and Medium Enterprises (SMEs) struggle for inclusion.

A recent comparative study carried out by the Economic and Social Research Foundation, (ESRF), Centre for African Studies (CAS) at the University of Edinburgh, and the Centre for Competition, Regulation and Economic Development (CCRED) at the University of Johannesburg South Africa and funded by the UK Economic and Social Research Council (ESRC) has said whereas South African SMEs are undermined by market concentration, which favour large enterprises, Tanzania has a more competitive market but small firms are not well organized.

The research said local SMEs also have low capital and lack adequate institutional support for inclusion in agro-processing. The research across the two countries with diverse economies, examined the processing of maize, dairy and citrus. It points to adverse market structures and meager policy interventions as other common factors undermining the participation of small enterprises.

In the cereals sector, it was found that SMEs handle 90 percent of the maize milling in Tanzania, but low capitalization means that they cannot afford to buy quality maize from farmers, leaving it to the four big millers.

In the dairy sector, the bulk of the milk produced in the country is sold directly to households through hawkers and vendors. Only about 14 percent of the 2.5 billion litres of milk produced in the country annually is processed by about 80 micro dairy processing firms, each handling less than 5,000 litres per day. There are three large firms with individual installed processing capacity of more than 50,000 litres per day.

In the citrus sector, there is no significant industrial processing because the bulk of citrus fruits grown in Tanzania's three regions have low lactose content, hence unsuitable for quality juice making.

As a result, the fruits are sold at the farm gate to middlemen, who take them to towns



Small scale maize miller at work in Mtwaru region.

for sale as table fruits or resell to agents of Kenyan processors for export to the neighbouring country. There is, therefore, no notable SMEs participation in citrus processing.

A similar maize market pattern was found in South Africa, where four big millers dominate the market in which 20 firms handle 80 percent of the milling process. There is also concentration in maize growing and although the market was reconfigured in the 1990s in favour of small firms, the value chain's structure is still adverse to SMEs.

Same situation was observed in dairy processing where 80 percent

of the milk produced in South Africa is marketed through formal channels by 130 processors, five of whom command 60 percent of the sales.

The large players in the dairy industry are accused of anti-competitive conduct and buyer power abuse, which tend to exclude small processors. The study also found that Supermarket chains, which handle a major volume of dairy products sales, impose terms considered inhibitive to small enterprises.

Unlike the case of Tanzania, citrus production and processing is a vibrant business in South Africa, which is the second-largest

global exporter. Apart from the local market, fresh and processed citrus is exported to the EU and the regional market. As with maize and dairy, the industry is dominated by large companies, but there is notable participation of smaller players, mainly black farmers, who are also exporters.

The research found that small maize millers in Tanzania rely on hammer mills and similar inferior technology, while the large millers use roller mills to mass-produce branded products, sold to the urban market and exported to neighbouring countries. SMEs sell largely unbranded products to medium and small street shops and markets.

In terms of policy intervention in favour of small enterprises, the study found that the state paid relatively more attention to the maize crop in Tanzania, but focused on production with little or no support to the contribution of SMEs in maize processing. On the other hand, little government attention was given to citrus, evidenced by lack of adequate public resource allocation for citrus research and development or extension services to farmers.

Although there is a strategy for dairy sector development, improved breeds still accounted for just three percent of the national herd and therefore dairy processing is dependent on the predominantly low yielding indigenous breeds.

Low milk production impedes SMEs participation in dairy processing in the country and the study recommends upgrading of the national herd to raise milk production. Formal channels of milk trading should be established and business regulatory reforms adopted to better organize the sub-sector.

The report calls for a comprehensive approach by both Tanzania and South Africa to enable small and medium enterprises upgrade technologically and logistically. Firm-level upgrading is key to inclusion of SMEs and this can involve: Innovation of product, Innovation of process and Organizational changes.

Banks would help with capital in Tanzania. However, the situation in South Africa was complex and policy intervention would be costly. Although Tanzania has a strong SMEs presence compared to SA, the product diversification in all value chains is minimal as well as technological capabilities.

South African citrus growers have a strong association and use the grower power to bargain with stakeholders for better terms of trade. On the other hand, Tanzanian growers have weak organization and were weakly supported by the government. The report, therefore, calls for state intervention to revive citrus production in Tanzania by re-establishing the institutional framework needed to organize and develop the sector.

Opibus, BasiGo raise Sh935m for the manufacture of electric buses alongside bikes

NAIROBI

Eco-friendly engine converter Opibus has raised Sh834.37 million (\$7.5 million) in equity and grant funding to scale up production of electric motorcycles and buses in Kenya next year.

At the same time BasiGo, an e-mobility start-up headquartered in Nairobi yesterday announced its entry into the Kenyan market. The company will provide electric buses offering a more environmentally sustainable solution that is also cheaper to maintain than current diesel buses.

BasiGo has already raised Sh100 million in funding for the venture. Opibus financing was led by Silicon Valley fund, At One Venture with support from Factor(e) Ventures and Ambo Ventures consisting of Sh556.25 million (\$5 million) equity and Sh278.1 million (\$2.5 million) grants.

Opibus with Nairobi as its African head office converts diesel and petrol engines into electric motors reducing costs and carbon dioxide emissions, which are the major contributors of air pollution in urban areas.

"We are proud to be backed by globally recognised investors providing a balance between deep-tech and emerging market expertise. We have together reached a clear strategic and visionary alignment - with the conviction that mass manufacturing of electric mobility solutions in Africa will not only make the products more accessible and affordable but also lead to one of the largest industrialisation and welfare transitions of the region in modern time," the start-up co-founder and chief executive officer Filip Gardler said.

This comes as the world meets in Glasgow to try and mitigate the harmful effects of climate change majorly caused by carbon emissions. "For years, diesel-powered buses have been the only viable solution for bus operators in Kenya. We are excited to provide public transport operators with a new option: state-of-the-art electric buses that are more affordable, more reliable, and reduce bus operator exposure to the rising cost of diesel fuel," said Jit Bhattacharya, chief executive officer and co-founder at BasiGo yesterday. Opibus was founded as a research project at one of Sweden's top technical universities with a mission to implement electric mobility in emerging markets. It chose Kenya as the location for the headquarters as it is the fastest-growing nation in sub-Saharan Africa. The country also has a growing number of used vehicle imports, which means electric conversions make sense. "The targets and objectives we've set for Opibus might seem bold, however, it is a mission that has become more important than ever."

Singida gold project to commence production in early 2023

By Correspondent Geoffrey Nangi

PRODUCTION work at the delayed Singida Gold Mining Project will finally start in 2023, Shanta Gold Plc has announced this week.

East Africa-focused gold producer, said construction of the mine remains on track with production scheduled for early 2023 as the London Stock Exchange listed company seeks to add a second revenue stream across its portfolio.

In a project drilling and construction update report release by Shanta Gold's CEO, Eric Zurrin, the Singida project will transform the company from a single asset producer to a near-term 100,000 ounces per annum.

"Today we've reiterated that our Singida Project is progressing on schedule, with first production due in early 2023," Zurrin said adding that there are encouraging results of the grade control drilling at the mine which reinforces the company's confidence in the strength of the production profile, especially for the first 18 - 24 months.

"This programme is ongoing, and we look forward to coming back to the market in due course with further updates. We take deep pride in the social impact our projects



Shanta Gold's Singida Gold Mine.

create for the communities on the ground," he said.

Zurrin noted that the company is committed to ensuring that it prioritizes local communities during its recruitment process, as part of its local content strategy. "This has been the case at our New

Luika project in Mbeya where 99.5 percent of our workforce is Tanzanian and now at Singida, we are delighted to confirm that we have reached 100 percent," he added.

"All senior roles at both assets are led by highly skilled Tanzanian only management

teams. This is a proud day for us as a business and we look forward to continuing to support the communities grow and thrive through our investment in the region," Zurrin added.

Shanta Gold started construction of its Singida project

in October last year with an average annual life of mine gold production of 32,000 ounces at an all-in sustaining cost of US\$869 per ounce. According to the company, the total capital investment at the Singida project will be US\$2 million over a 24-month period.

Southern Africa air transport industry needs urgent government interventions

CAPE TOWN

The Airline Association of Southern Africa (Aasa) has warned that without urgent and coordinated government interventions, a commercially viable, economic and environmentally sustainable southern African air transport industry will remain unattainable.

Although confidence is gradually returning, cautions AASA, demand for air travel to, from and within southern Africa is currently 45% down on pre-Covid-19 levels, making it the second most affected region in the world after South-East Asia (-70%).

External pressures, such as the rising price of jet fuel, which has increased by over 116% over

the past 12 months, as well as the political and socio-economic upheavals in the region, have also put the squeeze on the industry.

"We are in a fragile and vulnerable space and we urgently require governments to use the levers at their disposal to provide the relief that airlines need if they are to continue to provide the connectivity between

markets that is the lifeblood of every modern, sophisticated and aspirational country," said Aaron Munetsi, Aasa CEO, who was addressing the body's 51st annual general assembly online.

"With the right medicine, tough and bitter as it might sound, and appropriate interventions we can emerge as a fitter, stronger and more efficient industry. Unlike your doctor's

prescription, ours is clear and legible," he added.

Urgent actions Aasa has identified include: The removal of barriers to trade and market access with the full implementation of the Single Africa Air Transport Market (SAATM) to support the Africa Continental Free Trade Area; Financial relief for airlines by way of reducing or scrapping some taxes and

statutory charges, fees and levies on air travel; Standardising currently inconsistent Covid-19 travel and test requirements and reducing the costs of compliance which together are deterring intra-Africa and inter-continental travel; and The appointment of South Africa's international and domestic air services licensing councils - which have been without councillors since April.

CONSTRUCTION

INDIAN ROYAL PRINCESSES TRANSFORM FAMILY PALACE INTO HOTEL DUBBED 'A LIVING MUSEUM'

NEW DELHI

Nestled amid rolling hills and sparkling waterfalls, The Belgadia Palace is a charming Victorian-era property in the princely province of Mayurbhanj, in India's eastern Odisha state.

Still home to the Bhanjas, one of the country's oldest living royal families, the 200-year-old manor has welcomed international royalty and foreign dignitaries. The late Indian Nobel laureate Rabindranath Tagore's family, Mark Shand (late brother of Camilla, Duchess of Cornwall), Gyanendra Shah, former king of Nepal and billionaire tycoons have all converged at the property. As the longest-reigning clan of the kings of Mayurbhanj, the Bhanjas ruled for more than 1,000 years until their kingdom's merger, after the Indian Union in January 1949.

After a makeover in 2019, the palace has now opened its doors to travellers as a boutique heritage hotel. On offer are nine rooms brimming with jewel tones and vintage furniture, overlooking landscaped gardens filled with the woody scent of tropical blooms. Doric-Corinthian columns, hand-painted verandas, beautiful patios and lush mango orchards add to the regal



Inside The Belgadia Palace.

aesthetic.

The estate is also home to 15 species of birds, including black drongos, which can often be spotted perched on the pristine white building, while Simlipal National Park, an elephant and tiger Unesco Biosphere Reserve, is located nearby. The Belgadia Palace is a living museum. Nothing has changed here for the past 200 years and we want people to partake of this unique and timeless experience

The credit for the palace's restoration goes to sisters Akshita, 28, and Mrinalika Bhanj Deo, 32, the second and third daughters of Praveen Chandra Bhanj Deo, the 47th ruler of the Bhanja dynasty. Their mother is

Rashmi Rajya Laxmi Bhanj Deo, from the royal family of Jaisalmer, and their grandmother, Maharani Bharati Rajya Lakshmi Devi, is the daughter of Nepal's late King Tribhuvan.

As social entrepreneurs and directors of The Belgadia Palace and its philanthropic arm, The Mayurbhanj Foundation, the siblings say they became hoteliers "to allow people to experience the magic of living in a palace, as well as the intangible heritage Mayurbhanj has to offer in terms of its unique art and culture, food, architecture and people." "[The] Belgadia Palace is a living museum. Nothing has changed here for the past 200 years and we want people to partake of this

unique and timeless experience," says Akshita.

Born and raised in Kolkata, the sisters studied at the United World College of South East Asia in Singapore, after their initial schooling in India. Their interest in international affairs, sustainability and tourism helped them attain a scholarship for higher studies in the US.

The entrepreneurial bug hit in 2015 when the duo decided to put Mayurbhanj on the global tourism map. "Mayurbhanj has such an illustrious history. It was a creative crucible where our ancestors invited European and American artists, scholars, writers and poets to live and work," says Mrinalika.

Mayurbhanj was a constitutional monarchy, elaborates Akshita, but was operated as a democracy where "our forefathers encouraged mutually enriching interactions between the palace residents and locals". Patronage was extended to talented artists and performers. "We were always taught to be accessible to people and keep the palace gates open for all. Having memories of that culture as a child

sowed the seeds in our minds to create an inclusive and empowered community with no barriers of caste, creed, gender or religion," says Akshita. What better place than our own ancestral home to host guests and then reinvest profits back into the region?

After travelling to palaces and heritage homestays in Europe and South America, the sisters decided to embrace the idea of a palace being more of a platform than a property. "So we thought, what better place than our own ancestral home to host guests and then reinvest profits back into the region?" says Mrinalika.

India's royals lost their official ruling powers in 1947, and the privy purses they were paid by the central government were abolished in 1971. But the Bhanjas continued to leverage their centuries-old familial contacts across the world to promote local art and culture in the region, while embracing eco-tourism. This had a multiplier effect on the region's economy, helping poorer families to earn livelihoods.

The duo's parents are also

actively involved in The Mayurbhanj Foundation, which supports local communities. "As an extension, we curate special experiences for our guests encompassing heritage, arts and culture, culinary experiences and wildlife. Broadly, we're promoting rural tourism to help people discover what country living actually means. It is immersive and responsible travel," says Akshita.

There's plenty to see and do at the palace hotel. You can learn about exotic and endangered crafts such as dokra (an ancient wax casting art form) or Mayurbhanj Chhau (a martial arts dance form). For culture buffs, excursions can be organised to nearby Sitakund waterfall, where, according to local folklore, the Hindu goddess Sita bathed. Arts and culture aficionados can visit centuries-old villages where generations of artisans have lived and worked. These include craftspeople specialising in items made from sabai grass, which was brought back to Odisha from Madagascar at the turn of the century to act as a cash crop during famines.

Mitsubishi invests in Oxford Properties, Investa Sydney JV

TORONTO

Canada's Oxford Properties and its Australian operating partner Investa have welcomed Japanese property giant Mitsubishi Estate into a joint venture to develop a premium office building in downtown Sydney.

The 39-storey office building and retail precinct, known as Parkline Place, will integrate with the future Pitt Street metro station and feature 47,800 square metres (514,515 square feet) of office space and a further 1,290 square metres of retail.

Oxford, the global property investment wing of the Ontario Municipal Employees Retirement System, and Sydney-based fund manager Investa received development approval for the Parkline project in March, with completion scheduled for the first quarter of 2024. Under the terms of the JV, Mitsubishi Estate will acquire a 25 percent interest in Parkline Place and Oxford will retain a 75 percent interest, Oxford Properties said Tuesday in a release.

"Partnership is in Oxford's DNA, so we're proud to be working alongside Mitsubishi Estate to deliver a project that we believe will redefine the modern workplace in Australia," said Alec Harper, Oxford's country head. "Mitsubishi Estate's investment in the project is another demonstration of the strong appetite among global institutional capital for high-quality office product that Oxford is seeing play out in key gateway markets around the world."

The JV partners did not disclose the amount of their investment in Parkline Place. Local construction firm CPB Contractors on Tuesday confirmed its role as the builder of the project and said it anticipated revenue of A\$368 million (\$274 million) from the job, which is to start work immediately. CPB, a unit of civil engineering giant CIMIC Group, is also constructing Pitt Street station under a A\$463 million contract and an Oxford-developed build-to-rent building above the station for A\$150 million.

Designed by architects Foster & Partners, Parkline Place takes its name from the nearby parklands in Sydney's central business district. The development at the inter-



Rendering of Parkline Place on 175-185 Castlereagh Street.

section of Pitt and Park streets promises "exceptional views" of Hyde Park and the Sydney Harbour, plus smart-building features such as a "digital twin" building model for real-time operations insight and management. The project is targeting a minimum Gold certification for WELL Rating Core and Shell, a sustainability standard.

"City-defining projects such as Parkline Place bring great minds together," said Nellie O'Keefe, Oxford's Pitt Street project director. "We are confident in the Sydney office market and believe the project's exceptional location, integration with the new Pitt Street metro station, leading sustainability and technology features and world-class delivery team will underpin the successful delivery of the development."

Mitsubishi Estate, one of Japan's biggest developers, has stayed active in overseas investment this year, including in Sydney. In mid-2021, the group set up a joint venture with Australia's Lendlease to develop

the Residences Two, a second residential tower at the One Sydney Harbour project, with Mitsubishi Estate acquiring a 25 percent interest in the tower to match its 25 percent interest in Residences One.

Earlier this year, Investa

joined a different Canadian financial services firm Manulife, in a 50:50 partnership to acquire an under-construction Sydney commercial building for A\$800 million. The 28-storey tower at 39 Martin Place is being devel-

oped by Australian banking giant Macquarie. In another key office deal in the city, Singapore-listed AIMS APAC REIT in September agreed to purchase retailer Woolworths' Sydney headquarters for A\$463.3 million.



A UN facility at Bir Lahlou area.

Morocco says confrontation with Algeria bad for economic interests of Maghreb region

RABAT

A day after Algeria accused Morocco of targeting Algerian truckers with drone strikes, Moroccan authorities have denied the alleged attack and said the country will not be dragged into an open conflict its neighbour.

In statement Rabat said it does not want to enter in an intense conflict with its neighbour because such a conflict does not serve the economic interests of Maghreb region which is already battered by the coronavirus outbreak.

After social media posts showing two destroyed vehicles made rounds on Tuesday, Algerian President Tebboune accused Morocco of using advanced weapons which destroyed two Algerian trucks as they headed to a city in northern Mauritania.

Despite the denial of the rumours from the Mauritanian government, Algiers has stuck to its rhetoric and vowed to avenge the death of its citizens. Even as Morocco has long restrained itself from responding to a series of other uncorroborated accusations from Algiers, this particular incident has raised fears of an open confrontation between the two neighbours. "This conflict is not useful for the Maghreb region's economies," the Moroccan statement said.

According to a high-ranking source in the Royal Armed Forces (FAR) interviewed by AFP recently, the reality of the situation is that, "The two Algerian trucks carrying supplies for the Polisario Front crossed a mined field," the statement added.

While the official did not specify the location, Algerian media referred to the Bir Lahlou area, which serves as a buffer zone within Western Sahara between Algeria, Morocco and Mauritania. Another source confirmed the area was off-limits to civilians and is used exclusively by military vehicles and armed militias.

WORLD

Hunger stalks millions in East Africa amid drought, conflicts

NAIROBI

MILLIONS of people across Kenya, Somalia, Ethiopia and Sudan are likely to face extreme hunger in the coming months, warned global humanitarian aid organization International Rescue Committee.

The organization attributed the likely situation to ongoing conflicts in parts of the countries coupled with multiple seasons of drought.

"We're extremely worried about the impact of continuing drought and conflict on vulnerable populations throughout the Horn of Africa, where a large proportion of the population relies heavily on crops to eat and sell for their livelihoods," said Kurt Tjossem, the organization's regional vice-president for East Africa, in a statement on Tuesday.

Tjossem said 2.1 million people in Kenya alone, including refugees from neighboring countries, will face extreme hunger in the next six months due to poor rainfall and low crop production in the last few months.

The October-December 2020 short rains and the March-May 2021 long rains in Kenya

were dismal. Both seasons were characterized by late onsets and below average cumulative quantities.

The Kenya Meteorological Department projects that the October-December 2021 rainy season will also be poor, consequently leading to below-average harvests and worsening livestock conditions in northern and eastern Kenya.

Harvests hit

In Somalia, 3.5 million people are facing hunger due to a reduction in harvests. Additionally, farmers who depend on livestock are witnessing their animals dying from thirst on a daily basis. Riverine areas in southern Somalia that typically produce off-season crops are also facing multiple challenges.

According to food insecurity analysis website Famine Early Warning Systems Network, both cereal and cash crop production along the Shabelle River have been severely affected by poor rainfall, inadequate and costly irrigation, and episodic river flooding.

Cereal and pulse production in southern



An Eritrean refugee woman sits with a child at the door of a house at Mai Aini Refugee camp, in Ethiopia, on Jan 30, 2021. AFP

Somalia and southeastern Kenya ranged 30 to 50 percent below average during the July-August 2021 harvest.

In Ethiopia's Oromia region, severe drought is exacerbating hunger amid the largely agropastoral-reliant population. With funding being diverted to the war-torn northern part of the country, people are left at risk of extreme hun-

ger. Tjossem said rising fuel prices, currency depreciation and inflation have worsened the situation.

"In Sudan for example, hunger needs are up to 60 percent higher than the last five-year average due to inflation and the economic and current political crisis in the capital," he said.

Agencies

Russia's initiative to lift diplomatic restrictions turned down by US – Russian ambassador

MOSCOW

THE United States has turned down our initiative to lift all the existing diplomatic restrictions, Russian Ambassador to Washington Anatoly Antonov said on Wednesday.

"Our proposal to lift all the existing restrictions was not supported by either the Department of State or the White House. I raised this issue during my contacts," he said in an interview with the Rossiya-24 television channel.

According to the Russian diplomat, it will be impossible to resume normal relations between the two countries without settling these problems.

"It seems to me that someone here in Washington thinks that we need predictably bad relations in this sphere. Naturally, we cannot accept this point of view," he stressed, adding that these problems impact adversely everyday life of Russian diplomats.

Russian Deputy Foreign Minister Sergey Ryabkov on Tuesday called on the United States to begin dialogue with the Russian side to lift the existing restrictions.

In response to the US sanctions and another expulsion of Russian diplomats, Moscow banned the US embassy from hiring Russian and foreign citizens.

The US embassy said after that it would reduce the range of consular services, including considering the applications for visas other than those for diplomatic trips, from May 12.

Visa issuance to diplomatic personnel slowed down considerably. Since August 1, the US embassy in Moscow has been working with only 120 employees, the lowest ever number over the past five years.

The Russian foreign ministry noted that the US embassy is free to fill the quota of 455 diplomats by employing US nationals.



China urges US to stop suppressing Chinese students

BEIJING

A Chinese foreign ministry spokesman Wednesday urged the United States to stop harassing and suppressing Chinese students and visiting scholars, so as to create a sound atmosphere for bilateral cultural exchanges and educational cooperation.

Spokesperson Wang Wenbin made the remarks at a daily press briefing in response to a query about the recent repatriation of Chinese students and visiting scholars by the United States.

Wang Wenbin said there have been frequent incidents of harassment and suppression of Chinese students and visiting scholars to the United States, adding that some days ago a visiting Chinese scholar with a visa issued by the US government was repatriated after being interrogated while entering the



Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the People's Republic of China in Beijing, capital of China. File photo

country. According to incomplete statistics, since August this year, nearly 30 Chinese students and visiting scholars to the United States have suffered such unfair treatment, and many people have been harassed and questioned by the United States in a rough way, Wang said.

"Most of the above-mentioned people were asked whether

they or their parents were members of the Communist Party, or if they had been assigned tasks by the Chinese government before going to the country," he said, adding that some of them were repatriated for unbelievable reasons, such as being suspected of having military background because photos of college military training were

found in their mobile phones. "These interrogations have gone far beyond the ambit of normal law enforcement claimed by the United States."

Wang said that the United States claimed to welcome Chinese students on the one hand, and inherited the poisonous legacy of the previous administration on the other.

Some law enforcement departments and personnel in the United States continue to generalize the concept of national security and harass Chinese students and scholars, he said, pointing out that these moves run counter to the mutually beneficial and win-win nature of cultural and people-to-people exchanges between the two sides, seriously hurt the feelings of the people on both sides, and affect mutual trust and cooperation between the two countries.

"We urge the US side to stop such practices that harm others without benefiting itself and create a sound atmosphere and necessary conditions for China-US cultural and educational exchanges and cooperation. We will firmly safeguard the rights and interests of Chinese personnel pursuing studies in the United States," Wang said.

Xinhua

ICC prosecutor says he will open investigation into Venezuela

CARACAS

INTERNATIONAL Criminal Court prosecutor Karim Khan said on Wednesday he will open an investigation into possible crimes against humanity in Venezuela, with the country's government saying it respects the decision but does not share his opinion.

Khan has "determined that he will proceed to open an investigation to establish the truth" of events in Venezuela, according to a copy of a memorandum of understanding signed by Khan and President Nicolas Maduro and shared by the government.

The government does not think the situation in the country "justifies the movement from the preliminary examination phase to an investiga-



People who say their relatives are victims of human rights violations hold signs welcoming Karim Khan, International Criminal Court Prosecutor, outside the UN Development Program headquarters in Caracas, Venezuela, Oct 29, 2021. AP

tion phase," the memorandum added.

"The preliminary examination that opened in 2018 is nothing more than a filtering stage as we move into this new stage," Khan said during an

event broadcast on state television.

The prosecutor is on the final day of his visit to the South American oil nation.

Both Venezuela's opposition and its government have asked

the ICC to look into alleged crimes perpetrated by their opponents. Opposition leader Juan Guaido cheered the decision to open the investigation on Twitter.

The ICC has been conducting a preliminary examination into the country since 2018 and has said there may be reason to believe officials in Maduro's government have committed crimes against humanity.

Khan stressed the court's independence and said its investigations should not be politicized.

"We respect his decision as a state, though we have made clear we do not share it," said Maduro. "We have signed an agreement that does guarantee, in an effective way, cooperation, positive complementarity,

mutual support, constructive dialogue to seek truth and justice."

The decision by the ICC was hailed as a step in the right direction by advocacy groups.

"This decision (...) gives hope of justice to the hundreds of victims of the brutal repression by the Maduro regime," Jose Miguel Vivanco, director of Human Rights Watch's Americas division, said in a message on Twitter, adding the investigation is the first in Latin American history.

During his visit, Khan met with Maduro three times, while relatives of people detained or allegedly slain by the government held street protests to demand a meeting with the prosecutor.

Agencies

US must honour its promise and act cautiously on Taiwan question

THE U.S. needs to know that the Taiwan question is purely an internal matter for China, one which brooks no external interference. No one should underestimate the resolve, the will, and the ability of the Chinese people to defend their national sovereignty and territorial integrity.

Recently, certain U.S. politicians have continuously hyped Taiwan's participation in the United Nations (UN) and other international organizations and, in total disregard of facts,

falsely accused China of threatening regional peace and stability.

Relevant remarks and acts of the U.S. have seriously violated the one-China principle and the provisions of the three China-U.S. joint communiques, breached its own promises, and betrayed the basic norms governing international relations.

By doing so, the U.S. side is sending gravely wrong signals to the "Taiwan independence" forces and pushing the China-U.S. relations toward confronta-

tion. While claiming that they uphold the one-China policy, certain U.S. politicians have tried to disguise their unreasonable challenge to the policy as a matter of values and a practical issue by distorting concepts and confusing the public.

Although these politicians have racked their brains to choose the words, they couldn't change and conceal the nature of the problem and their true motives.

Taiwan's Democratic Pro-

gressive Party (DPP) authority has long been ridiculously clamoring for Taiwan's so-called "representation" in international organizations and "international space," which is, in essence, seeking "Taiwan independence."

By backing up Taiwan in this regard, the U.S. side has sent gravely wrong signals to the "Taiwan independence" forces.

The participation of the Taiwan region in activities of international organizations must be handled in accordance with the

one-China principle.

Resolution 2758 adopted by the UN General Assembly (UNGA) has solved once and for all the issue of the People's Republic of China (PRC)'s representation in the UN in political, legal, and procedural terms. The system, agencies, and the Secretariat of the UN should abide by the one-China principle and UNGA Resolution 2758 when dealing with Taiwan-related affairs.

A total of 180 countries in the world, including the U.S., have

established diplomatic relations with China based on the one-China principle. As a global consensus and one of the universally recognized basic norms governing international relations, the one-China principle allows no unilateral challenge or distortion by the U.S.

Fifty years ago, the attempt of the U.S. to create "one China, one Taiwan" or "two Chinas" at the UN failed. Today, the country is peddling the so-called "Taiwan's participation in the UN system" again, trying to

turn back the wheels of history. However, standing on the opposite side of the vast majority of countries globally, the U.S. is bound to face another failure.

The Taiwan question, which concerns China's sovereignty and territorial integrity and other core interests, is the most critical and sensitive issue in China-U.S. relations. The one-China principle is the political foundation of China-U.S. relations.

People's Daily

Targeted containment aims to curb COVID-19 while minimising impact

BEIJING

SHANGHAI Disneyland and Disney town reopened Wednesday, just two days after a temporary closure for epidemic prevention and control works.

On the evening of Oct. 31, Disneyland issued a statement saying entry has been suspended to cooperate with COVID-19 epidemiological investigation in other provinces and cities. The notice asked guests to undergo nucleic acid testing at the exit when leaving the resort.

"I spent a memorable Halloween at the resort along with tens of thousands of visitors," said a visitor surnamed Li who celebrated her birthday at the park with her boyfriend. "Fireworks dazzled the sky as we completed our testing, while healthcare workers were busy conducting our tests effectively," she recalled.

A total of 66,460 tests were conducted and all results came out negative as of 8 a.m. Tuesday, in the two rounds of COVID-19 screening within 48 hours, including all cast members and third-party employees and tourists who had visited the facility during the weekend, according to a notice issued by Shanghai's epidemic control headquarters on Tuesday.

The efficient response by Shanghai Disneyland resort mirrored the determined efforts across the country in the face of sporadic cluster infections. Meanwhile, local governments are leaving no stone unturned to curb infections while minimizing the impact on people's lives and production.

TARGETED ANTI-EPIDEMIC MEASURES

The Chinese mainland reported a total of 93 locally transmitted CO-

VID-19 cases on Tuesday, according to the national health commission.

Anti-epidemic measures such as mass nucleic acid testing, epidemiological investigations, origin tracing, targeted screening and quarantines, adjustment of medium and high-risk area classifications, have been immediately adopted to curb transmissions.

Northwest China's Ningxia Hui Autonomous Region has enforced closed-off management in over 5,000 buildings and apartments, along with home quarantine and close health monitoring measures.

In order to eradicate the hospital-acquired infection, the designated People's Hospital of Ningxia has put all patients under closed-loop management and provided them with exclusive transportation to avoid cross-infection.

"If a patient is seriously ill and needs to be hospitalized, doctors will divert him or her to different wards according to classified management," said Ma Feng, director of the joint prevention and control office of the hospital. More hospitals in Ningxia have been mobilized to follow suit.

In a neighborhood in Beijing's Haidian District, Chen Yumei, a resident, said that community workers worked very hard around the clock during the closed-off management of the neighborhood that was lifted Wednesday morning.

Their daily necessities were guaranteed every day through doorstep delivery and the people benefited from the local government's efforts to ensure stable prices and an adequate supply of daily necessities, Chen said.

Provinces and regions in northwest China saw a recent resurgence of the epidemic at a number of popular tour-



A staff member sorts out delivery packages at Furongli residential community, which has been put under quarantine amid a recent COVID-19 outbreak, in Haidian District in Beijing, capital of China, Oct. 27, 2021. Xinhua

ist sites. Over 9,000 tourists who were stranded in the Ejina Banner of the Inner Mongolia Autonomous Region have been orderly transported to their homes since Oct. 27.

The local government came up with diversified transport plans for different tourists, including individual tourists as well as those who traveled by coaches, trains, or drove to the tourist sites.

A hotel for medical observation in Erdos offers masks, hand sanitizers and fresh fruits to such tourists. It also provides wheelchairs, common medicine and first aid for the elderly people who need them.

FACILITATING PRODUCTION, BUSINESS OPERATION

A slew of policies and measures have been rolled out to help mitigate the impact of local flare-ups since a COVID-19 outbreak over summer affected dozens of cities including Nanjing and Yangzhou in east China's

Jiangsu Province.

The provincial government of Jiangsu released a document in September, aiming to aid local enterprises in resuming normal operations, which included widely acclaimed tax cuts, finance support, and insurance reduction. All major provincial and municipal projects in epidemic-hit areas had resumed work as of the end of October this year, and Jiangsu's foreign trade imports and exports increased by 17.1 percent year on year from January to August, according to the Jiangsu Provincial Development and Reform Commission.

"Wearing face masks, regular disinfection and vaccination are the consensus here, so as to protect ourselves from the epidemic," said Fu Yujiao, one of the employees with Wuxi Murata Electronics Co. Ltd., a Japanese company based in Jiangsu's Wuxi New District.

Nishikohri Takumi, general man-

ager of the company, said that with the help of the local government in offering on-site vaccination service, they are confident in advancing production and operation. The company's sales revenue from January to September this year climbed 22 percent year on year.

Nucleic acid testing services are provided around the clock to enhance the testing capacity and efficiency for factories and companies to ensure smooth operation.

Shanghai will host the fourth China International Import Expo (CIIE) from Nov. 5 to 10. Despite the COVID-19 pandemic, global exhibitors have shown greater interest and confidence in seizing new opportunities in the Chinese market. Rajat Agarwal, president of Henkel Greater China, an exhibitor of the expo for three years, said Shanghai has quickly and effectively implemented sound disease prevention and control measures. The city rolled out a well-organized vaccination program that included foreign residents.

"Henkel is eagerly looking forward to participating once again in the CIIE and having the opportunity to engage more closely with consumers and partners in China at this flagship event," Agarwal said.

The epidemic has also made manufacturing firms accelerate the digitalization process. Jingyi Group, a textile company in Jiangsu's Suzhou City, has developed intelligent manufacturing technologies to reduce human labor.

"Faced with impacts like rising raw material prices and labor costs, we have stepped up digital transformation and our sales have seen robust growth this year," said Chen Lu, general manager of Jingyi Group.

Xinhua

Russian Navy to get Tsirkon hypersonic cruise missiles starting from next year, say Putin

SOCHI

THE trials of the Tsirkon hypersonic cruise missile are nearing completion and they will start arriving for the Russian Navy from next year, President of Russia Vladimir Putin said at a defense industry meeting on Wednesday.

"The trials of the Tsirkon seaborn hypersonic cruise missile are coming to a close. In the course of the trials, it struck both ground and sea targets from the submerged position and from surface ships accurately and in full compliance with the assigned task. Already from next year, these missiles will start arriving for service in the Russian Navy," Putin said.

The trials perfectly confirmed the unique properties of Peresvet laser weapons, Avangard and Kinzhal hypersonic systems, the Russian president added.

Today it is especially important to develop and introduce technologies required for creating new hypersonic weapon systems, enhanced power lasers and robotic platforms that will be capable of effecting fending off potential military threats, Putin stressed.

"And this means that they will further bolster our country's security," the Russian president said.



China makes outstanding contributions to global climate governance

CHINA on Oct. 27 issued a white paper titled "Responding to Climate Change: China's Policies and Actions," in the lead-up to the 26th United Nations Climate Change Conference of the Parties (COP26) to be held in Glasgow.

The white paper was released by the State Council Information Office.

This marked the second time for China to have released a white paper on climate change, said Ye Min, Vice Minister of Ecology and Environment. The white paper fully demonstrates China's progress and achievements in coping with climate change, as well as the country's remarkable contributions to the global climate governance, offering a systematic description of China's proposal, wisdom and solution in dealing with climate change, Ye explained.

As an active promoter and staunch follower of climate action, China in recent years has implemented a national strategy for actively responding to climate change, adopting a series of policies and measures such as upgrading industrial structure and energy mix, reinforcing efforts in energy conservation and greater energy efficiency, establishing market mechanisms, and enhancing forest carbon-sink, Ye introduced, adding that positive progress has been achieved.

Greenhouse gas emissions have been effectively controlled. China's carbon intensity in 2020 was 18.8 percent lower than that in 2015. The figure was also 48.4 percent less than that in 2005, which means that China had more than fulfilled its commitment to the international community - to achieve a 40-45 percent reduction in carbon intensity from the 2005 level by 2020. It demonstrates that China has largely reversed the rapid growth of its carbon dioxide emissions.



Electric bikes are exhibited at a trade fair for new energy and electric vehicle and spare parts held in east China's Jiangsu province, Oct. 27, 2021.

Energy structure has been optimized. Preliminary calculations show that in 2020, non-fossil energy contributed 15.9 percent to China's total energy consumption, a significant increase of 8.5 percentage points compared with 2005, Ye introduced, adding that the country's reliance on coal consumption has significantly reduced. The national carbon emissions trading market has been constantly improved.

According to the white paper, the national carbon market started online trading on July 16, 2021. A total of 2,162 power generation companies were involved, representing 4.5 billion tons of carbon dioxide emissions, making this the world's largest emissions trading system.

Besides, China has continuously advanced low-carbon piloting and reinforced its ability to adapt to climate change. The Chinese society's awareness of low-carbon development has also been raised. While doing a good job in coping with climate change at home, China has also actively participated in and charted the course for global climate governance. It has played a historic role in promoting the conclusion, coming into effect and the making of implementation rules of the Paris Agreement.

The white paper says that as the largest developing country, with a population of over 1.4 billion, China faces major challenges across a range of important areas including economic development, improving the people's lives, pollution control, and eco-environmental protection. In order to meet its targets in response to climate change, China has risen to these challenges and formulated and implemented a variety of strate-

gies, regulations, policies, standards, and actions.

As a responsible country, China is committed to building a global climate governance system that is fair, rational, cooperative and beneficial to all, and makes its due contribution to tackling climate change using its greatest strengths and most effective solutions, the white paper says.

The COP26 is the first meeting of the parties since the implementation of the Paris Agreement. It will complete the negotiations on the remaining issues of the implementation rules of the Paris Agreement.

"We hope that parties relevant can meet each other halfway. Developed countries shall be constructive and flexible, obey the principle of 'common but differentiated responsibilities,' and adhere to the nationally determined contributions, so as to avoid backtracking and even renegotiation on the issues that have been agreed on," said Sun Zhen, an official with the Ministry of Ecology and Environment.

China believes the COP26 should make a strong political voice of safeguarding multilateralism and respecting multilateral rules, and all parties relevant shall implement the principle of common but differentiated responsibilities and the nationally determined contributions, so as to contribute to the global response to climate change, said Ye.

Sun said China is willing to work with the UK that holds the presidency of the COP26, to make negotiations open, transparent, inclusive, party-driven and consensus-based. It will also maintain close communication and coordination to push for the completion of the negotiations on the remaining issues of the implementation rules of the Paris Agreement, he added.

People's Daily

COPENHAGEN

COVID-19 prevalence in England rose to its highest level on record in October, Imperial College London said on Thursday, led by a high numbers of cases in children and a surge in the south-west of the country.

Nearly 6 percent of school-aged children had COVID-19, the researchers found, although there was a drop in prevalence towards the end of the study's period coinciding with the closure of schools for half-term holiday.

Despite that dip, researchers said rates had doubled in older groups compared to September,

Study: UK sees record COVID-19 prevalence in October

a concerning sign as the government races to give booster shots to the most vulnerable.

"We did see a doubling in that group, and clearly that's the worry," Paul Elliott, the Imperial epidemiologist who leads the program, told reporters.

"It's being driven from the young school age but it is going right across the whole population."

The Imperial REACT-1 study estimated overall prevalence at 1.72 percent based on swabs collected between Oct 19-29, compared to 0.83 percent in September.

Elliott said that the figure was higher than the study's previously recorded high in January, though he noted that the study had not been in the field last December, when last winter's wave might have peaked.

The Imperial study found there was nearly a four-fold increase in prevalence in the south-west, the area impacted by an error at a private lab that resulted in an estimated 43,000 people wrongly being given negative PCR test results.

Another 41,299 people in Britain have tested positive for COVID-19,

bringing the total number of coronavirus cases in the country to 9,171,660, according to official figures released Wednesday.

Chile

Chilean presidential candidate Gabriel Boric tested positive for COVID-19 on Wednesday, sidelining the top left-wing contender from the campaign trail less than three weeks before voters head to the polls.

Boric is in contact with local health authorities over case traceability, according to the candidate's personal Twitter account.

He had suspended activities including a scheduled television appearance on Tuesday and underwent a PCR test after saying he had a fever.

Boric, who gained prominence as a student protest leader, has placed at or near the top of all new polls. In recent weeks, he has been challenged by the rise of conservative candidate Jose Antonio Kast.

He caught the virus amid the final stretch of the campaign that will include the last televised debate. The first round of the presidential election will take place on

Nov 21. If no candidate obtains at least 50 percent of the vote, a runoff will be held on Dec 19.

Denmark

Danish Prime Minister Mette Frederiksen, facing a probe over the slaughter of the country's entire mink herd last year, on Wednesday denied that she knew then that the government did not have legal authority to order the move.

Responding to the rising spread of coronavirus from mink to people, including a new mutated strain, Frederiksen's Social Democratic government in November 2021 ordered all of the country's 17 million minks killed.

Xinhua

President Mwinyi to participate in Z'bar Blue Economy Half Marathon

By Guardian Reporter

ZANZIBAR'S White House has confirmed that the eighth-term President of the Revolutionary Government of Zanzibar, Hussein Ali Mwinyi, will participate in this year's Zanzibar Blue Economy Half Marathon, slated for Friday.

A White House statement confirmed by 2021 Zanzibar Blue Economy Half Marathon Organizing Committee's Chairman, Abdallah Idrissa Majura, said the President will participate in a four-kilometer walk from Mapinduzi Square in Kisonge to Amaan Stadium.

"The Organizing Committee verbally confirms that President Mwinyi will take part in this great event so we urge all Zanzibar's people to turn out in large numbers at Nyerere Square on Saturday from 5 am to support him in this event," Majura stated yesterday in Unguja.

Majura called on the registered athletes set to feature in 21km and 10km races to ensure they arrive early at Mapinduzi Square as there will be no time to waste to comply with White House directives.

"Due to President Mwinyi having many responsibilities on Saturday, all of the races



Participants of a recent Zanzibar Half Marathon battle it out in the event in the Isles. Zanzibar will on Friday host the 2021 Zanzibar Blue Economy Half Marathon. PHOTO: CORRESPONDENT

will therefore start in Kisonge instead of Amaan Stadium," Majura pointed out.

The official revealed after President Mwinyi had started the race, runners will move to the Michenzani roundabout and run via the Miembeni route up to the Kijangwani crossroad.

The ones set to run 21km event are to be separated from the rest once the former move to the Central Bank while the 10km race competitors will run through to the Mwembe Jungu side.

Majura said the White House statement's confirmation that the President will participate in the Zanzibar Blue Economy Half Marathon has given them great joy because they had already started worrying about his unavailability for the event due to the first-anniversary schedule

provided by the Isles' government.

The Organizing Committee's Chairman further pointed out they have also sent invitations to the armed forces such as JKU, KMKM Special Forces, KVZD, Bee Brigade, and Prisons.

"We intend to get a sufficient number of participating athletes and those who will walk in support of the President," Majura revealed.

Commenting on the response from the athletes, he said that as of yesterday, more than 600 athletes from far away areas of Mainland Tanzania and Zanzibar had registered.

"Tanzanians are used to completing their scheduled late, you should for that matter not be surprised to find out the race has involved more than 900

athletes."

However, the chairman said he was not sure if the 100m event for retired athletes and the 200m race for the athletes selected by the Zanzibar Athletics Association would take place.

Majura said Zanzibar's amputee football team's players requested to take part in the race, the committee has though told the players that they will not take part given the schedule is quite tight.

According to the Organizing Committee's Chairman, top athletes in the 21km event, sponsored by NBM Bank, will receive 1,200,000/- apiece.

The event's second-placed athletes will walk away with 800,000/- apiece, third-placed athletes will rake in 500,000/- apiece.

In the 10km race sponsored by KCB Bank, the first-placed winners will receive 800,000/- apiece, the second-placed will get 500,000/- apiece, and those that will settle for the third spot are to rake in 300,000/- apiece.

All athletes participating in the 200m event will each walk away with 50,000/- regardless of either the winner or finalists.

Other sponsors for the 2021 Zanzibar Blue Economy Half Marathon are Tanzania Ports Authority, Zanzibar People's Bank, Mohamed Raza through ZAT, Tanzania Revenue Authority, Bumaco Insurance, Tanzania Postal Bank, World OF Sports Kikwajuni Zanzibar, PSSSF Zanzibar, Azam Media, TTCL, Zanzibar Port Authority, and Sea Cliff Zanzibar.



Simba SC assistant coach Suleiman Matola.

Matola: Simba SC's challenges will not last long

By Correspondent Ismail Tano

Simba SC assistant coach, Suleiman Matola, reveals challenges his squad is currently facing are temporary and insists the club will rediscover its form.

Matola's charges have participated in five fixtures in this season's NBC Premier League, notching a victory in three fixtures and managing a draw in two clashes.

Rwandan forward, Meddie Kagere, is lately the Msimbazi Street outfit's leading scorer with two goals.

Kagere netted in his club's league fixture against Dodoma Jiji FC which took place in Dodoma on October 1, with the visitors notching a 1-0 victory.

The goal-getter was again on target as Simba knuckled down to a 1-0 victory over Namungo FC in Dar es Salaam mid this week.

Matola said they are aware that their squad is going through a difficult peri-

od but there is an end to the situation because the problem is clear.

The tactician was adamant they are in the process of finding a lasting solution.

The coach noted: "It is clear that we are currently going through a difficult time but these transitions have an end and will not always last."

"I was a Simba player and I have experienced situations like these."

"Last season we as well went through a period like this but at the end of the day we rediscovered our form and won the Mainland Premier League title."

"Our fans should not give up and should continue to be with us as they currently do," Matola stated.

The 1-0 victory against Namungo FC has helped Simba notch 11 points and move up to second place in the NBC Premier League's standings, with age-old rivals, Yanga, enjoying the driver's seat with 15 points.

Simba SC footballer apologizes to outfit's fans

By Correspondent Ismail Tano

SIMBA SC's Congolese defender, Henock Inonga, has apologized to the squad's fans after he was sent off in the NBC Premier League tie against Coastal Union Tanga which took place in Dar es Salaam Sunday.

Coastal Union and Simba shared the spoils with a 0-0 draw at Benjamin Mkapa Stadium in what happened to be an intriguing game, which ended with two players given marching orders.

Inonga was sent off by the fixture's referee, Raphael Ikambi, as the defender was deemed to have headbutted Coastal Union midfielder, Issa Abushehe, late in the second half.

Abushehe pulled Inonga's jersey as the defender was preparing to take a free kick.

The visibly infuriated Inonga turned and looked to have retaliated by head butting the midfielder.

The midfielder made the most of the reaction, falling theatrically and the incident prompted Ikambi to send Inonga to the dressing room.

"I apologize to my fellow players, our squad's technical bench, and fans for being sent off. I did not intend to do that, considering we were under pressure to win and it was close to the final whistle," Inonga disclosed.

The DR Congo defender moreover noted that the referee also had to be careful with the opponents due to the tactics they were using to delay the time.

Coastal Union's midfielder, Benedict Jacob, had early been sent off for what was deemed as an attempt to delay the encounter.

Jacob deliberately prevent one of Simba footballers from taking a free-kick, so the former's fellow players could have time to defend.

It was Jacob's second bookable offense of the duel, he was earlier shown the yellow card.

Inonga will not take part in three league fixtures because of the dismissal.

Simba was under huge pressure to notch victory and move to a better position at the competition's table.



Henock Inonga

Tupac Shakur's life, legacy to be subject of massive exhibit

LOS ANGELES

TUPAC Shakur's handwritten lyrics from classic songs such as "California Love" and "Dear Mama" along with galleries that pay homage to his upbringing and late mother are among the features in a massive touring museum exhibit.

The Shakur Estate announced Tuesday that the "Tupac Shakur. Wake Me When I'm Free" will open Jan. 21 in Los Angeles. The exhibit is described as a fully immersive, thought-provoking museum experience that explores the life and legacy of the late rapper.

Shakur, one of the most prolific figures

in hip-hop, died in 1996 from gunshot wounds. He was 25.

The exhibit is expected to spend six months in Los Angeles with the hopes of touring other cities.

"There are thousands of pieces of paper, handwritten pieces of paper - which is everything from his lyrics to all of the songs and poetry that you know down to a grocery list for a birthday party," said Arron Saxe, president of Kinfolk Management + Media, who is working with Shakur's estate. Saxe has worked with estates for other iconic music artists including Otis Redding and Donny Hathaway.

"The whole point of this exhibit was to

not only show the kaleidoscopic nature of Tupac, but also show how he is relatable," Saxe continued. "There are incredible pieces of clothing. This exhibit is also a mix of contemporary art and technology too. Many of the artifacts have never been seen before."

The 20,000-square foot exhibit will showcase Shakur's music, poetry, wardrobe, activism journey and other items in galleries.

One of the galleries will be dedicated to the rapper's late mother, Afeni Shakur, the former Black Panther who inspired the work of her son. She died in 2016.

Saxe said Shakur's mother is the "guid-

ing light" of the exhibition.

"Afeni was the baddest Black woman to walk the planet," said Jamal Joseph, the rapper's godfather and special advisor to the estate, in a statement. "She raised awareness and shifted the atmosphere wherever she went. Tupac's brilliance shined brighter than the sun. He lived and moved with creative - revolutionary - fearless-passion fueled speed of a comet. Afeni and Pac challenged, re-imagined, and transformed history."

Shakur's estate-sanctioned museum experience is produced in partnership with Universal Music Group, CAA, Round Room Live and Kinfolk Management +

Media.

"Tupac Shakur was my Malcolm; he was my Martin, and to build an experience that honors such a prolific man, cannot be summed up in words," said Jeremy Hodges, whose firm, Project Art Collective, is working with The Rock and Roll Hall of Fame on the creative portion of the exhibit. "We wanted to create a memorable experience that will inspire you to be better than when you walked in, all while leaving you with the knowledge that he was a true revolutionary spirit."

Conte vows to revive Tottenham's fortunes

LONDON

ANTONIO Conte on Wednesday said managing Tottenham was an "honour" and vowed to "repay the trust" of chairman Daniel Levy by reviving the fortunes of the struggling Premier League club.

The Italian was appointed on Tuesday, a day after Spurs sacked Nuno Espirito Santo following last weekend's limp 3-0 defeat at home to Manchester United.

Conte, who guided Chelsea to the 2016/17 Premier League title, had said Levy's "contagious enthusiasm and determination" convinced him to join.

"It's a great pleasure, a great honour to become the Tottenham manager. This is a great opportunity to come back to England in a club of top players," he told Spurs TV.

"The club and Daniel Levy wanted me strongly and it has been an honour to accept. Now, for sure, I want to repay this trust."

The 52-year-old led Inter Milan to their first Serie A title since 2010 last season to break Juventus' nine-year stranglehold on the Italian league before leaving the Nerazzurri.

Conte began Juve's period of dominance with three Serie A titles between 2011 and 2014 and managed Italy from 2014 to 2016 before his two-year stint at Chelsea.

His spell at Stamford Bridge saw the Blues accumulate 93 points and score 85 goals en route to the Premier League title before FA Cup success in 2018.

In stark contrast to Conte's array of trophies, Spurs have not lifted any silverware since the 2008 League Cup.

After four consecutive seasons in the Champions League under Mauricio Pochettino between 2016 and 2019, Tottenham have failed to qualify for European club football's premier competition for the past two years.

Conte knows he has a big task at hand, with the north London club languishing in ninth place following five defeats in seven league games.

"I arrive at a top club where the stadium, the training ground are wonderful. I will work to bring Tottenham on the pitch to the same level of the infrastructure," said Conte.

"This type of situation pushes you and increases your desire to work and to do something important for the fans of this club."

- 'Very ambitious' -

Conte was one of Spurs' top targets in the summer, but he revealed he did not feel ready after a draining spell at Inter.

"I had just finished two very tough seasons and it wasn't the right time to start another experience with Tottenham," he added.

"For this reason, I tell them, 'thanks, but I prefer to wait and enjoy time with my family'. Emotionally, I was still under the last experience with Inter."

"I must be convinced 100 per cent because when I start, I'm totally involved in the situation."

Conte's first game in charge of Spurs will be their UEFA Conference League fixture against Vitesse Arnhem on Thursday.

Tottenham captain Hugo Lloris believes his team should relish a "great opportunity" to work with Conte.

Calling for Tottenham's stars to back Conte and show their commitment, the France goalkeeper said: "He is very ambitious and he believes in all the players in the dressing room."

"Then as players we need to demand more from each other. We need to show more responsibility for the clubs and fans."

"It is a great opportunity to work under one of the greatest managers of the last few years. Now is not the time for words. It is time to work."

"There is a lot of ambition for Tottenham and they try to provide the best towards the players. But the players need to show their responsibility and they need to show their commitment." AFP

Guardiola on Ronaldo: City must stop 'one of the greatest'

LONDON

PEP Guardiola says Manchester City will have to stop "one of the greatest players in history" in Cristiano Ronaldo if they hope to win the Manchester derby.

Ronaldo has scored nine goals in 11 games since returning to Manchester United in the summer, including both in the 2-2 draw with Atalanta on Tuesday, and Guardiola has warned his players about the challenge they face on Saturday.

"I didn't see the United match [against Atalanta], I'm going to analyse and to see what they are so I know how good they are," said Guardiola, after watching his side beat Club Brugge 4-1. "We saw it last season. They have one of the best players in history, a guy who can be a scoring machine."

Guardiola insisted in the build up that the clash with Brugge was "more important" than the meeting with United. After Paris Saint-Germain's 2-2 draw with RB Leipzig, City are top of Group A with two games to play.

"People [were upset] for the fact I said today is more important than United and it was," said Guardiola. "Now, the most important game ever is United."

"The second half [against Brugge] was really good. A good game, good victory. We need one point to go through, three points to win the group."

(Agencies)

Antonio Conte is betting on himself at Tottenham

By Gabriele Marcotti, Senior Writer, ESPN FC

ANTONIO Conte is betting on himself. He's betting that he can restore star-crossed players to greatness (or, at least, a level of output equal to their salaries/transfer fees). Betting that he can jolt Tottenham Hotspur to life. Betting that his "intensity/winning mentality schtick" -- which has generally been around as long as coaches, in any sport, have existed, but which he takes to another level -- will be so successful that it persuades the club to loosen the budget constraints and invest meaningfully in the squad.

(And -- a corollary to that last wager -- betting that if they don't spend, he'll still achieve enough that he'll be able to jump ship to a bigger club, hence his 18-month contract.)

Knowing what we know about Spurs and about Conte, the above is simply the most rational and plausible explanation behind the union of the thriftiest Big Six club in the Premier League and a man who left his last three club jobs (Juventus, Chelsea and Inter) because his team were unwilling or unable to "invest" to a degree that matched his ambition.

Over the past decade, Tottenham's net spend has been €233.3m, an amount dwarfed by Liverpool (€342.9m), Chelsea (€430.1m), Arsenal (€619.3m) and the two Manchester clubs (City and United are both well past the billion Euro net

spend mark). Their wage bill has also consistently been lowest out of the Big Six, too. It's true that Spurs have spent more than usual in net terms over the past three seasons -- according to Transfermarkt, they've actually outspent Liverpool and Chelsea in that time frame -- but it's equally true that they were hit especially hard by the coronavirus pandemic and have a massive stadium to pay off.

Other possible explanations? Maybe Conte, 52, isn't as obsessed with winning and ambition as he once was (unlikely). Maybe the club is about to be sold to Jeff Bezos or Elon Musk or some other multibillionaire happy to bankroll massive losses in exchange for success (also unlikely). Or maybe the club's existing billionaire owner, Joe Lewis, has decided, now that he's in his mid-80s, that he'd rather pour cash into the club and see them win rather than sitting around in the Bahamas (even less likely). So let's stick with the most plausible one: Conte is betting on himself and putting his reputation on the line, and it wouldn't be the first time he's done this either.

Conte did it in 2014, when -- after winning three straight Serie A titles -- he walked out on Juventus, complaining that they weren't signing "top players" (he famously compared it to expecting him to dine in a €100 a head restaurant with €10 in his pocket) and took the Italy job, at a time when the Azzurri's talent pool was at its lowest ebb in 60 years.

That Italy side, featur-



Antonio Conte

ing the likes of Emanuele Giaccherini, Graziano Pelle, Eder and Mattia De Sciglio, lost to Germany on penalties -- remember this? -- but played some of the best football in the tournament. Conte showed that he could take some very average players and achieve great things through coaching, hard work and tactical savvy.

His critics will point out -- not unfairly -- that he won league titles at Inter, Chelsea and Juventus (at least his second and third) with star-studded, free-spending sides, and that when the cash infusions stop, Conte tantrums and leaves, complaining that the club's "ambition" doesn't match his. (Frankly, it's a rather cheap line: it's easy to be "ambitious" with someone else's money.)

But his experience with the national side between 2014 and 2016, when he took lemons and made lemonade, will always be an effective rebuttal to those who say he can only be successful with lavish resources. It's simply

not true. That's why the likelier parallel is with the Azzurri than with Chelsea or Inter, both in terms of resources and starting point.

Chelsea may have finished midtable in 2015-16 -- the year of the Mourinho meltdown -- but they were a season removed from winning the league and signed N'Golo Kante, David Luiz and Marcos Alonso the summer he arrived. Inter were coming off consecutive top-four finishes and pushed out the boat for Romelu Lukaku, Achraf Hakimi, Christian Eriksen and Nicolò Barella.

It's hard to see that happening here. Instead, you imagine, Conte will do what he did first and foremost at Chelsea and Inter, when he spent hours working individually with players. He'll try to repair and rehabilitate the likes of Tanguy Ndombele, Ryan Sessegnon, Dele Alli, Eric Dier and Giovanni Lo Celso, players who -- for different reasons -- performed better in years past. Then there's Harry Kane.

There's no question he's been on the slide over the past six months, possibly as a result of wanting (and then failing to get) his move to Manchester City.

Get Kane and, say, three of the aforementioned five back to a decent level, throw in Son Heung-Min, Lucas Moura, Pierre-Emile Hojbjerg, Sergio Reguilón and Hugo Lloris (at least until his contract expires in June), and you have a decent starting point. Add in the guys his old friend Fabio Paratici acquired in the summer (you assume he and Conte are on the same wavelength) and get them to perform -- we're talking Emerson and Cristian Romero more than Bryan Gil, who is still very raw -- and with a couple of choice, targeted signings in January and Conte's tactical savvy, you can achieve something this season, especially if Conte succeeds in introducing a system that makes the whole greater than the sum of its parts, like he did at most of his previous stops.

It won't necessarily be the back three either (I'm not sure Spurs have the personnel to do it). He has played a whole range of systems, from the 4-2-4 that got him promoted at Siena to last season's 3-5-2, to everything in between. When it comes to systems, there are none he's afraid to play and none he thinks he can't teach. Find the right set up for the raw material at hand and you're off.

Finishing in the top four is objectively difficult -- it's not so much the gap, which is five

points, but the fact that there are five teams ahead of them -- but an improvement on last season's seventh-place finish, a strong run in a cup competition (maybe even the UEFA Europa Conference League) and, most importantly, a sense that you're headed in the right direction isn't unrealistic. And then you take stock in the summer.

Kane is obviously key. You either rehabilitate him to the point that someone is still willing to pay £100m-plus for him and then you'll have cash to invest or, more realistically, since he'll be 29, that he's as happy and prolific as he's ever been.

Is it a gamble? Sure, it's a massive gamble, but Conte feels he's gambling on himself. And he's the sort of person who is convinced that if he's intense enough and works hard enough, he can get where he wants to be. If he gets it right, in a year or so he'll have enhanced his reputation even further and be in a position to either demand serious investment from Spurs or, without the burden of a long-term contract, be free to throw his hat in the ring for a possible A-list vacancy (Paris Saint-Germain? Manchester United? Real Madrid? Who knows?).

If he gets it wrong? Well, Conte likely isn't contemplating that scenario, but he'll still be the guy who, since 2011, has won more major league titles (five) than anybody not named Pep Guardiola. And that's not a bad place to be.

Xavi: Barcelona job would be 'spectacular'

BARCELONA

A BARCELONA delegation has travelled to Qatar to finalize an agreement for Al Sadd coach Xavi Hernandez to take over at Camp Nou.

Xavi said on Wednesday after coaching his team to a 3-3 draw against Al-Duhail that a return to Barcelona was "common sense" as negotiations continue.

"It's a question of common sense and in the end it has to happen. I am excited. I'm really looking forward to returning home. I hope it happens. It would be spectacular to coach Barca," Xavi said. "The two clubs are in conversations. I can't say a lot more but I'm a positive person. They have to reach an agreement. That's where it's at. The two clubs know my position and I hope there is a solution soon."

Vice president Rafa Yuste and director of football Mateu Alemany flew to Doha after Tuesday's Champions League win over Dynamo Kiev, and sources told ESPN that Barca hope to announce Xavi as Ronald Koeman's successor before the end of the week.

Yuste and Alemany took in Al Sadd's top-of-the-table clash against Al-Duhail on Wednesday before sitting down

with the Qatari club to discuss bringing the former Barca midfielder back to LaLiga.

Negotiations with Xavi over personal terms are already advanced, but because he has two years to run on his contract with Al Sadd, the two clubs still need to reach an agreement.

Al-Sadd said later on Wednesday that they are not willing to let Xavi leave despite interest from Barcelona, according to the Qatari club's CEO Turki Al-Ali.

"We welcome the visit of the administrative delegation from Barcelona, and we appreciate and respect this," Al-Ali said in a social media statement on Al-Sadd's official Twitter account.

"The club's position is clear from the beginning -- we are committed to keeping our coach Xavi with us and we cannot have him leave at this sensitive time of the season."

Xavi, 41, likely will be tasked with breathing life into a struggling Barcelona side. They are winless in three league games and sit ninth in the table, although Tuesday's result in Kiev means they can book their place in the round of 16 of the Champions League with a win against Benfica on Nov. 23.

Interim coach Sergi



Xavi Hernandez

Barjuan is expected to remain in charge for Saturday's match at Celta Vigo, with Xavi then taking over after the international break. His first game likely will be against rivals Espanyol on Nov. 20 at Camp Nou.

Xavi quickly emerged as the favourite to take over last week when Koeman was sacked following the surprise 1-0 loss to Rayo Vallecano.

Barca president Joan Laporta has said there were "other options" on the table, too, but sources told ESPN that Xavi was the No.1 candidate to fill the vacancy from the off.

The ex-Spain international left Barca for Al Sadd in 2015 after spending 24 years at the Catalan club, during which time he made 767 first-team appearances, a figure bettered by only Lionel

Messi.

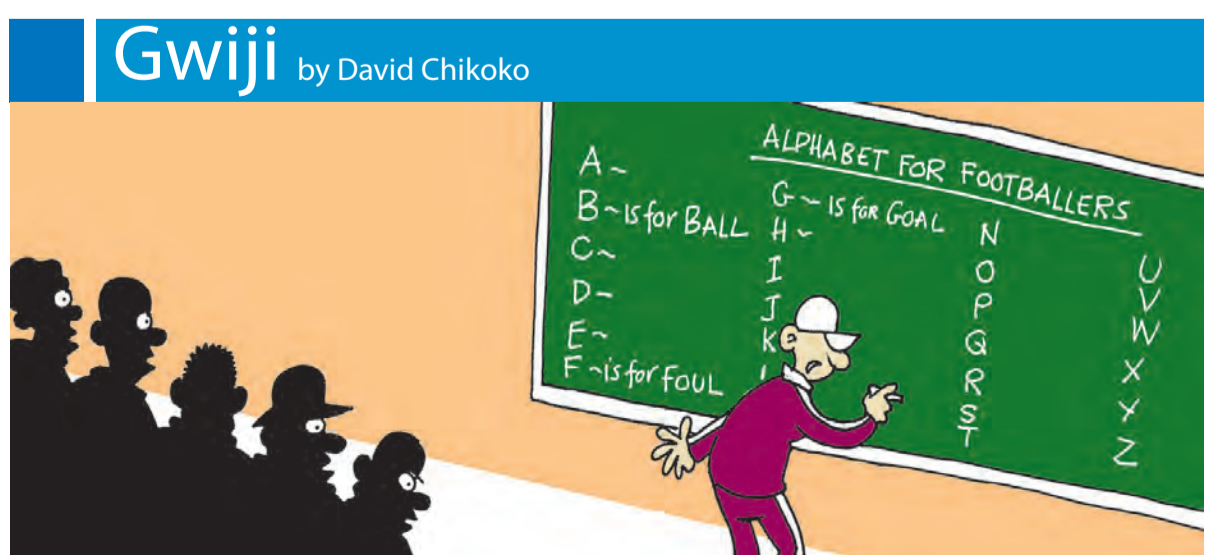
Xavi spent four years as a player in Qatar before beginning his coaching career in 2019. He has already won seven trophies as Al Sadd manager, and his team are unbeaten in 36 league games spanning two seasons.

Laporta had previously said that he didn't think Xavi was ready to take over at Barca yet, but the club's deteriorating results forced him to change his mind.

Speaking after dismissing Koeman, the president said he had "very good references" about Xavi as a coach and that he had already spoken to him about how Barca can improve.

Xavi, meanwhile, previously turned the job down when it was offered to him by the previous president, Josep Maria Bartomeu, at the start of 2020. Almost two years later, though, sources told ESPN he is now keen to return home.

(Agencies)



SPORT

Antonio Conte is betting on himself at Tottenham

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Coach: Simba SC will make full use of NBC Premier League break



Simba SC midfielder, Ibrahim Ajibu (L), negotiates his way past Namungo FC's Reliants Lusajo as the two outfits locked horns in the NBC Premier League match, which took place in Dar es Salaam on Wednesday. PHOTO: COURTESY OF SIMBA SC

Champions League's second preliminary round game against Jwaneng Galaxy of Botswana, his charges have not had time to work on their weaknesses but this league break is going to solve the problem.

"After the game, we came back to the league, now we have to work and our side will regain competence faster," Hitimana noted.

In addition, he said the Wednesday victory is important to his squad, insisting the success will change many things within his squad.

"We desperately needed a victory to restore order in the squad. This victory is very important to us, it will make us come back stronger," he said.

Hitima further pointed out every player has a chance to play in Simba's first team.

He said his midfielder, Ibrahim Ajibu, who came on in the second half in Wednesday's tie, has a great chance to play due to his potential.

"He is a very good player, he has everything and you will see that even when he entered the field he changed the game and contributed significantly to the victory."

"I think he has a place in the squad if he continues to show what he showed," Hitimana noted.

He said there would be a rotation of players in his squad to win every top-flight clash.

Yesterday's victory has seen Simba SC now collect 11 points from five fixtures.

The side is four points adrift league leaders, Yanga. Yanga come out victorious in their five matches and collected 15 points.

TONIGHT @ 9:00

EATV FRIDAY

11:00 DADAZ LIVE
12:00 Mid Week Movie (r)
13:30 Kafi Za Wana
14:00 Bongo Hits
15:00 Funguka
15:30 Wakilisha (r)
16:00 Ujenzi (r)
16:30 #HASHTAG
17:00 SSELEKT
17:55 Kurasa
18:00 eNewz
18:30 Skanga
19:30 EATV SAA I
19:45 MJADALA
20:00 DADAZ (r)
21:00 Friday Night Live
23:00 Kurasa (r)

Friday Night Live The Weekend begins here! Listen to upbeat mixed music by the hottest DJs. Gossip, showbiz updates and exclusive interviews with celebrities from home and abroad. Don't you dare miss this.

eastafrika RADIO

06:00 Supa Breakfast
10:00 MAMAMIA
12:00 Kipenga Xtra
13:00 Planet Bongo
16:00 EA Drive
20:00 Kipenga
21:00 Friday Night Live

88.1FM DAR ES SALAAM

By Correspondent Faustine

Feliciane

SIMBA SC's interim head coach, Thierry Hitimana, has said his outfit will use the NBC Premier League's short break to look for ways for addressing its shortcomings in the offensive line.

Hitimana admitted that his squad still has shortcomings in the final third despite the many opportunities his squad's footballers create.

Speaking to The Guardian after the NBC Premier League tie pitting Simba against Namungo FC, which took place at the Benjamin Mkapa Stadium in Dar es Salaam on Wednesday, Hitimana said the shortcomings will be addressed at training

during the period.

The NBC Premier League has been put on hold to give room for Tanzania's national football side 'Taifa Stars' to battle it out in African Qualifiers for the 2022 World Cup.

Taifa Stars will entertain DR Congo in the qualifiers' Group J tie in Dar es Salaam on November 11.

In Wednesday's game, which ended with Simba cruising to 1-0 victory over Namungo FC, the hosts could not fully capitalize on lots of chances to score much as they attacked now and then.

"We are still struggling at the end, we are creating lots of chances but we are not able to use them."

He said that since the CAF



Dickson Job. PHOTO: COURTESY OF YANGA

Former Yanga defender lauds Dickson Job

By Correspondent Ismail Tano

FORMER Yanga and Toto Africans' defender, Ladislaus Mbogo, says Yanga defender, Dickson Job, is in good form and stands to turn into one of the best defenders in the country if he values discipline.

According to Mbogo, Job needs to see to it he keeps on doing well and he should take care of himself.

Speaking about soccer players playing in central defensive positions in this season NBC Premier League, Mbogo said Job is a gifted youthful domestic defender and will benefit the country with that continuity.

Mbogo served Yanga for one year from 2012 to 2013, but he did not have a good season due to competition in his position and injuries he sustained.

The defender who joined Yanga from Toto Africans had undergone surgery on his cheek, and the treatment forced him to miss some of the fixtures. Mwanza Veterans is an outfit he now plays for.

Mbogo disclosed: "There are many defenders in Tanzania, but if you see a young defender like Dickson Job, the youngster is a defender one can see has potential to benefit the country because he is doing justice to his position."

The former player pointed out Job plays very well, knows how to read the game, and keeps his squad solid.

Mbogo stated he is impressed by the way Job plays and the youthful defender reminds him of his heyday.

Mbogo mentioned other defenders, who currently impress him as Yannick Bangala of DR Congo who plays for Yanga, and Kelvin Yondani who plays for Polisi Tanzania.

The former soccer player warned Tanzanians not to consider the age of the players and criticize the latter, but they should look at their potential on the field.

"There is one foreign defender in Yanga, namely Bangala, the way he plays makes me very happy, but still even Tanzanian players, who are deemed to be aging are still in good form."

"Yondani is seen as a footballer who is aging but he is a good defender."

Mbogo's statement was backed by outspoken coach, Jamhuri Kihwelo 'Julio', who said Job's impressive performance has not started at Yanga but was seen since he was turning out for Mtibwa Sugar.

Kihwelo advised Job to continue working hard and God will help him.

Kihwelo disclosed: "Dickson Job has a great talent for playing football and it is a talent that in the future will be of great benefit to the nation."

"I pray to God to help him, he should as well step up efforts, improve dedication and discipline."

Kilimanjaro basketball squad set for CRDB Taifa Cup showdown

By Correspondent James Lanka, Moshi

THE Kilimanjaro regional basketball team, dubbed 'Kili Dream team', has left Moshi Municipality yesterday for Dodoma to participate in the 2021 National Basketball Tournament, known as 'CRDB Taifa Cup'.

The tournament that is scheduled to take place at Chinangali Stadium in the city from November 5-14, 2021, will bring together a total of 32 regional basketball teams.

The sides are expected to compete in the showdown, with a total cash prize of 29mil/- set aside for winners.

Speaking to The Guardian during the farewell event of the team in Moshi Municipality, the Chairman of the Kilimanjaro Regional Basketball Association (KBA), John Mmbando, explained that a total of 12 players and three leaders left for the tournament.

He added that, apart from the main sponsor CRDB, the 'Kili Dream team' has also been sponsored by the Vunjo legislator, Charles Kimeji, and the Moshi Urban legislator, Priscus Tarimo.

Announcing the prizes recently, CRDB Managing Director, Abdulmajid Nsekela, said the increase in prizes will motivate the basketballers to showcase their talents.

The CRDB bank boss disclosed the bank has continued with its decision to sponsor the national basketball competition for the second time in a row as part of the bank's efforts to empower Tanzanian youths through sports, among many others.

He added that CRDB bank, through its Community Investment Policy, has been investing in youth sports, believing that sports help to increase their participation in various development activities in the community.



Female basketballers put their skills to show in the previous season's national basketball tournament, known as the 'CRDB Bank Taifa Cup', which took place at Chinangali courts in Dodoma. PHOTO: COURTESY OF CRDB BANK PLC

Draw for the 2021 national basketball tournament, known as the 'CRDB Bank Taifa Cup', took place in Dar es Salaam on October 29, and 32 regional teams are expected to battle it out in the competition at Chinangali courts in Dodoma.

Defending champion of the previous season's 'CRDB Bank Taifa Cup' for men, the Mbeya regional team, has been put in Group C with CRDB Bank Youth, Iringa, Tabora, and Manyara teams.

Group A competitors are Mwanza,

Mtwara, Rukwa, Kilimanjaro and Unguja, Dar es Salaam, Pemba, Shinyanga, Coast Region, and Kigoma make Group B.

Dodoma, Simiyu, Tanga, Arusha, and Morogoro will prove their worth in Group D.

On the women's side, the groups were announced by Tanzania Basketball Federation (TBF) Women's Commission leader, Agneta Semwaiko, who said 12 regional teams will participate this year, they have been divided into three groups.

Agneta said this year the women's teams have increased to four, compared to last year in which there were eight sides.

Defending champion of the 'CRDB Bank Taifa Cup' for women, the Dar es Salaam regional team, has been placed in Group B with Mwanza, Arusha, and CRDB Bank Youth.

Group A brings together Dodoma, Mtwara, Unguja, and Iringa teams, whereas Group C is made up of Pemba, Tanga, Mbeya, and Coast Region.

Flexibles by David Chikoko

DO GLASSES CHANGE HOW YOU LOOK?

THEY SURE DO!

