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Global oil price hikes, drought could spur inflation, says BoT

By Guardian Reporter

THE rises in oil prices in the world market and dry conditions experienced in some parts of the country could exert upward pressure on the projected inflation, the Bank of Tanzania (BoT) has cautioned.

The central bank's monetary policy statement for this month shows that

inflation progressively edged up from July to December 2021 but remained within the targets by averaging 4 per cent compared with 3.2 per cent during July to December 2020 period.

It said that, despite the recent upward trend, inflation was projected to remain within the target of 3-5 per cent in the remainder of (financial year) 2021/2022.

The increase was driven by the

price of both food and non-food consumer goods and services, according to the bank.

Core inflation, which accounts for 73.9 per cent of the consumer price index, stood at 4.5 per cent compared with 2.6 per cent, with much of the increase driven by the transport, rent and the prices of garments, building materials.

Food inflation meanwhile had risen

to 4.3 per cent, from 3.4 per cent, owing to an increase in demand for food in neighbouring countries. Non-food inflation rose slightly to 3.9 per cent from 3.2 per cent.

Various parts of the country faced delayed seasonal rains during the end of last year, a situation likely to have disrupted the production of food crops while putting pressure on consumer prices.

Market surveys show the prices of a number of food products including maize, rice and beans as having experienced rising trends and by extension crowding consumer spending.

The International Monetary Fund's January 2022 World Economic Outlook update projected that inflation would remain elevated in most coun-

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EABC eager for a quicker introduction of the EAC permits on COVID-19

By Guardian Reporter

EAST African Community (EAC) partner states are set to adopt the EAC Pass to facilitate travel as countries across the globe strive to get back to normal amid the Covid-19 pandemic.

Dr Kevit Desai, Principal Secretary in Kenya's East African Community and Regional Development Ministry, said this at an EABC Trade Facilitation Forum held at the Taveta/Holili One-Stop Border Post on Kenya's border with Tanzania. He lauded Kenyan President Uhuru Kenyatta, current Chairman of the EAC Heads of State Summit, for bolstering the economic bloc's regional integration agenda for businesses and East Africans to actualise prosperity.

Dr Desai called for the enhancement of collective efforts towards trade facilitation and value addition to bolster manufacturing, appealing to East African businesspeople to "boldly tap into the markets of the Democratic Republic of Congo and the African Continental Free Trade

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National park weddings add to packages in tourism sector

By Correspondent Marc Nkwame, Arusha

SAYING 'I DO' deep inside a national park, by definition surrounded and possibly witnessed by wild animals, is a now a popular addition to the tourism package in Tanzania - and some lovebirds have already taken advantage of it ahead of Valentine's Day today.

Frank Richard and Stella Joel have decided to take a new path, a wild path at that, by tying the knot inside Lake Manyara National Park at the weekend and vowing to celebrate their first anniversary right there come next year.

Tanzania has just introduced this type of tourism that makes it possible for tourists from all over the world to come to the country to tie the knot or celebrate their wedding anniversaries in the company of not only close friends and family but also wild animals.

Dr Noelia Myonga, Assistant Commissioner of Conservation for Lake Manyara National Park, said here at the weekend that this will be a new addition to the "menu" from now onwards "as we endeavour to come up with more and more creative ideas to boost our travel industry in the post-Covid-19 period".

Tanzania intends to attract over 5 million foreign visitors annually by the year 2025 as it awakes from the two-year slump in tourism following the outbreak of the coronavirus disease.

Wedding in national parks seems to be the new 'in-thing' in town and the country is marketing this romantic adventure abroad slowly but surely.

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President Samia Suluhu Hassan witnesses the signing of agreements for a 210bn/- long-term loan and 2.6bn/- in technical assistance meant to help the Tanzania Agricultural Development Bank (TADB) catalyse short-term and long-term financing of the country's agricultural sector. Signing the pacts in Brest, France, at the weekend are TADB managing director Frank Nyabundege (L) and French Development Agency director Rioux Remy. The president was in France for the February 9-11 first Ocean Summit, meant to step up the international community's ambition on maritime issues and put into practice human-kind's shared responsibility for the oceans. Photo: State House

Zanzibar's small traders due to get 82bn/- in blue economy soft loans



An entrepreneur briefs Zanzibar President Dr Hussein Ali Mwinyi (2nd-R) at the weekend's launch in Zanzibar of the 'Inuka na Uchumi wa Buluu' programme, which is being implemented jointly by the Zanzibar government and CRDB Bank Plc. Others include Zanzibar Trade and Industries Development minister Omar Said Shaaban (R) and CRDB Bank Plc CEO and managing director Abdulmajid Nsekela (3rd-R). Photo: Zanzibar State House

By Guardian Reporter

GROUPS of small traders and entrepreneurs in Zanzibar are set to benefit from 82bn/- the Isles government has set aside for the implementation of a range of projects under its flagship Blue Economy initiative.

Zanzibar President Dr Hussein Ali Mwinyi said here yesterday that, in this connection, CRDB Bank Plc has been assigned to provide financial literacy and issue zero-interest loans.

Unveiling the 'Inuka na Uchumi wa Buluu' (literally, Grow with the Blue Economy) programme the Isles government is implementing jointly with CRDB Bank, President Mwinyi said the government has allocated 81.5bn/- for the purpose and declared that the plan

will benefit groups formed by entrepreneurs and small traders.

"We have assigned CRDB Bank to provide financial literacy and interest-free loans to groups of entrepreneurs and small traders thanks to the bank's track record," he said.

He pointed out that the Dar es Salaam-based lender is expected to allocate a similar amount of money for businesses to invest in various sectors including food vending, bodaboda business, women's beauty parlours, fishing and seaweed farming.

Dr Mwinyi explained that the Zanzibar government has started issuing small traders with identity cards so that they don't get harassed when conducting their businesses.

He added that the government is also in the process of establishing modern markets meant to accommodate all manner of businesses, including small traders.

"My advice to all concerned is that it would be wise to vacate the premises where the construction of such markets will take place," said Dr Mwinyi, adding: "I assure you that, once the implementation of projects is completed, you will be given priority in the allocation of shops."

Turning to his assistants, he warned that anyone daring to tamper with the blue economy initiative risked being fired.

Upon the completion of implementation, the pro-

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Global oil price hikes, drought could spur inflation, warns BoT

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tries throughout this year, largely owing to on-going supply chain disruptions and high energy prices.

Inflation in Tanzania and most of sub-Saharan Africa is projected to stand at 8.6 per cent this year before slowing to 7.1 per cent next year.

Vitol Group, the world's largest independent oil trader, has meanwhile said that much the same robust oil demand and the headroom for money managers to expand their long positions in the crude complex, could push oil prices even higher.

It said this would be com-

bined with shrinking global spare production capacity and "worrying" inventory levels.

This resulted in demand recovery and the mild impact of the Omicron (Covid-19) variant on consumption, this alongside the Russia-Ukraine crisis and a deep freeze in Texas that disrupted some Permian oil production.

According to OilPrice.com, oil prices are at their highest in years, with Brent crude touching US\$94 per barrel in Asia and West Texas Intermediate trading at over US\$92 per barrel for the first time since 2014.

US\$100 oil is in the cards this year, and it could be

reached as soon as the second quarter, according to the Bank of America.

Major Wall Street banks including Goldman Sachs, the Bank of America, JP Morgan and Morgan Stanley expect oil prices to hit US\$100 a barrel this year.

Last month saw Vienna-based OPEC (Organisation of the Petroleum Exporting Countries) and its allies declare that they would increase oil production by a total of 400,000 bpd this month. However, the inter-governmental organisation or cartel of 13 member-countries is reported to have been undershooting its production targets.



Chief Justice Prof Ibrahim Hamis Juma (L) has an audience with Judge Nestor Kayobera, President of the East African Court of Justice, at the East African Community headquarters in Arusha city at the weekend.

Z'bar's small traders due to get 82bn/- in blue economy soft loans

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gramme is expected to generate more than 300,000 formal jobs - with an estimated 700,000 business owners benefiting directly in terms of loans but also training on financial literacy.

Briefing Dr Mwyni on the bank's activities in Zanzibar, CRDB Group CEO and Managing Director Abdulmajid Nsekela described the cooperation as a new opportunity that businesses ought to exploit and graduate into big companies.

"We have since last year issued over 150bn/- in loans to businesses in various sectors including tourism, fisheries, agriculture and trading," he said.

He added that, under the 'Inuka na Uchumi wa Buluu' initiative, entrepreneurs and small traders have already started receiving financial literacy training.

Nsekela said informal businesses contribute at least one per cent of the 'Spice Islands' gross domestic product and are thus an important segment of clients being served by our bank (CRDB), "the country's largest bank in terms of deposits and net assets value".

"Through this initiative, the bank has set aside 60bn/- to lend to businesses. If need arises, more loans will be issued at zero-interest rate as agreed with the government," he noted.

Prior to launching the Blue Economy initiative, the bank had given 94m/- worth of loans to five groups, with Nsekela noting: "We also have just approved a 2bn/- loan to a group of fishermen for buying modern fishing boats and related gear."

He said the past year has also seen CRDB investing billions of shillings in community

projects as part of its corporate social responsibility, with a substantial chunk of the proceedings supporting last year's 'Kizimkazi' cultural festival graced by President Samia Suluhu Hassan.

Dr Juma Malik Akil, Permanent Secretary in the Zanzibar President's Office (Finance and Planning), also spoke at yesterday's event.

He said that the 81.5bn/- set aside by the Isles government would, among other things, would be in the form of loans to help fishermen to acquire 577 big fishing boats and 500 small vessels "to enable seaweed farmers, most of whom are women, to move about easily in their ocean farms and as well as support the construction of a seaweed processing factory on Pemba islands.

"This project is expected to benefit over 700,000 entrepreneurs directly during the

initial stage because the funding is revolving and will be in existence for several years to come," Dr Akil said, urging the beneficiaries to desist from misusing the money.

One of the beneficiaries, Hamis Hamad Hamis from Pemba Island, said his 20-member group engages in livestock keeping and has already landed a 25m/- loan with which to set up a milk processing plant.

"Previously, our milk was not of high enough quality and therefore lacked a reliable market. Thanks to value addition, it has gained in quality and now sells at over twice the previous price of 1,500 per litre," he explained.

He attributed this mainly to the CRDB loan, noting that the group used to produce 100 litres per day but this has now risen to five times as much.

National park weddings add to tourism package

FROM PAGE 1

Ruaha, the second largest national park in Tanzania after the newly christened Nyerere National Park (formerly Selous Game Reserve), was recently listed among the most romantic destinations on the African continent.

But Stella and Frank decided that Lake Manyara National Park was the ideal choice for their alternative place to confirm their nuptials.

So, as the world observes the romantic month of February, the two newlyweds returned to natural settings, relighting the innocent fire which were, maybe, experienced only in the beginnings of time.

They left behind city cacophonies and took cover under the lush forest of Lake Manyara, one of the smallest but a most beautiful national park very easily accessible from Arusha city.

As they both affirmed "I do," a herd of elephants a few meters away looked up. Tree-climbing lions that are the trademark of Lake Manyara also looked down to the couple and possibly nodded too. And this is no exaggeration...

But it was foreign tourists, who happened to be sampling the national park, who really enjoyed the feat - hence joining the cheering and the dancing that followed.

"When it comes to bush-based nuptials, you never know who will attend your wedding," said Frank Richard when they visited the couple soon later, at their home at the PPF Estates in the Njiro section of Arusha city.

Both the bride and the groom happen to be Musicians but on the gospel side of business.

"So! Was it a reminiscence of Adam and Eve in the Garden of Eden?" we asked them.

"Let's just say we wanted to do things differently," said Frank, who plays Bass and Rhythm guitars. His wife sings alto and soprano in choirs but they also do solo music projects.



As they both affirmed "I do," a herd of elephants a few meters away looked up. Tree-climbing lions that are the trademark of Lake Manyara also looked down to the couple and possibly nodded too



Beneficiaries of Serengeti Breweries Limited's Science Technology, Engineering and Mathematics (STEM) programme come together with girls pursuing science disciplines in various colleges and universities shortly after attending a workshop organised by the firm in commemorating International Day of Women and Girls in Science. Photo: Guardian Correspondent

EABC calls for quick roll-out of the EAC Covid-19 permits

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Area (AfCFTA)". Sarah Keiya, Chairperson of Women Cross-Border Traders, meanwhile said that unharmonised measures on Covid-19 raise the cost of business operations. She cited the US\$10 antigen test on the Tanzania side while on the Kenya side this is made free of charge. She also suggested that the EAC's Simplified Trade Regime is yet to be implemented as fully as envisioned. EABC Executive Officer John Bosco

Kalisa reported that the Taveta/Holili One-Stop Border Post cleared 33,000 cargo trucks last year, a 73 per cent increase from 19,000 the previous year.

He said the increase in the volume of trade underscored the importance of eliminating non-tariff barriers for the quick recovery and resilience of the EAC economies amid Covid-19.

Kalisa also called for a "green channel" for East African products at the border to boost trade and competitiveness of the region.

He said that Holili/Taveta OSBP links

the northern and central corridor and has high potential to transform into a leading trade hub in the continent. Levies on transit and EAC originating goods (East African products) by the counties in Kenyan and re-testing of products by Bureaus of Standards are among other hurdles raised by the business leaders during the forum. The Eastern Africa Grain Council and Taha Fresh called upon the customs agencies to offer priority clearance to perishable and all agricultural goods especially during Information Technology System breakdowns to

avoid delays.

Dr Desai urged for regular holding of the joint border management committees, strengthening partnerships to set up the Jumuiya Market at Taita/Taveta and explained that the Ministry's Business Reforms Unit will work closely with the EABC and Chambers of Commerce to analyze counties' regulatory compliance. The forum also recommended cross-border traders be permitted to cross and do business up to 10 km on both sides of the border, quick rollout of the EAC COVID-19 pass and improved

infrastructure such as cargo scanners. The EABC Trade Facilitation Forum was attended by over 60 delegates composed of Officials from the Ministry of EAC, trade facilitation agencies, importers, exporters, transporters & freight forwarders, Eastern African Sub-Regional Support Initiative for the Advancement of Women (EASSI) and women cross-border traders. The forum was supported by GIZ "Support to East African Market-Driven and People-Centred Integration" programme (SEAMPEC).



Dunya Yusufu Dunia (L), one of trainees who have recently completed a course in the use of drones at the Dar es Salaam-based Civil Aviation Training Centre, receives a certificate from Tanzania Civil Aviation Authority acting director general Daniel Malanga at a ceremony held at the centre at the weekend. Photo: Guardian Correspondent

Dodoma police: We're holding 45 Ethiopian illegal migrants

By Guardian Correspondent, Dodoma

POLICE in Dodoma Region are holding 53 people, including 45 illegal migrants from Ethiopia who were hiding on Kolo Mountain in Kondoa district.

Addressing reporters here yesterday, Dodoma Regional Police Commander, Onesmo Lyanga said the migrants were arrested February 11 this year at 9:00am hiding in the mountain.

He said the migrants were aged between 15 to 25 years and their main aim was to transit the country looking for greener pastures in other countries and added that they will in no time face court action.

Meanwhile, RPC Lyanga said they have recovered a laptop belonging to Engineer Salehe Nabil of the Standard Gauge Railway (SGR) that was stolen from Holiday Hotel on February 10 this year.

He said three suspects; all residents of Dar es Salaam were being held in connection of the

incident.

"We will not tolerate criminals who go from one region to another to commit theft, the laptop and other belongings of the engineer have been recovered.

He further said the police were holding two other suspects for motorcycle theft that was stolen in Mayamaya area in Dodoma with Reg No. MC 801 CVS.

RPC Lyanga said the police were also holding one Brighton Mhando, who was driver of an Isuzu vehicle with reg. No. T 788 ASG carrying 97 bags of cement that was allegedly stolen from Mtumba Government City.

He said the suspect has already appeared in court and the cement returned to the owner for the ongoing construction project.

RPC Lyanga said other crimes included thefts of a refrigerator and a TV set and called on people who lost these items to go to the police station to identify them.

By Guardian Correspondent, Ikungi

2 die after eating wild mushrooms

TWO members of the same family of Muhintiri village in Ikungi district, Singida Region, have died after eating wild mushrooms.

Ikungi district council chairman Ally Mwangi announced after closing the Councilors meeting to deliberate the 2022/23 draft budget.

He said the incident happened on February 3 this year when Martina Lazaro Mpuka (9) was rushed to Muhintiri dispensary while Amani Lazaro Mpuka (4), earlier hospitalised, continued with treatment at Makiungu mission hospital, Mungaa division.

Mwangi, who is also the Councillor for Irisya ward named those admitted at Muhintiri dispensary as including Happiness Lazaro Mpuka (31), the mother of Martina, Sara Lazaro Mpuka (16) and Esther Lazaro Mpuka (15).

He said those hospitalised at Makiungu mission hospital and were in critical condition include Rashidi Lazaro Mpuka

(12), Fadhili Lazaro Mpuka (21) and Richard Lazaro Mpuka (12).

Muhintiri ward Councillor, Hamisi Abdallah Mpuma confirmed the incident at the home of one Makungu Mpuka Irumba, aka Lazaro.

He explained that on February 3 this year Mpuka's youth went to nearby woods to fetch mushrooms and in the evening the family cooked the mushrooms but showed no signs of sickness.

He said the entire seven-member family ate the evening meal but on the following day the daughter of happiness Mpuka, who is the mother of Martina Lazaro Mpuka, started vomiting.

However, it is said that on the following day, February 4 Martina's mother left home. Councillor Mpuma said

when Martina was at home with her grandmother she started vomiting again emitting yellowish puke and her grandmother thought she was suffering from malaria, and gave her Panadol tablets, after which she continued playing with other children.

He said the following day the family again ate their meal with the remaining mushrooms and on February 7 the entire family started experiencing stomach pains and were taken to Muhintiri dispensary for treatment.

"At the hospital the girl child who had been vomiting became critically ill and died before receiving treatment, and out of the nine family members, six were transferred to Makiungu mission hospital for further treatment," said the Councillor.



Chief Commercial Officer

Our client CRDB Bank Plc, is the leading bank in Tanzania with 3.3 million customers, 22% of total deposits and 22% of total assets in the country. With a wide network of 223 branches, 560 ATMs, 20 mobile branches, 17,031 banking agents 4,584 POS terminals, and 385 e-commerce merchants, the Bank offers comprehensive Corporate, Retail, Business, Treasury, Premier, and wholesale microfinance services. The Bank has also established two wholly owned subsidiaries namely, CRDB Bank Burundi S.A and CRDB Insurance Broker Ltd.

CRDB's history of strong leadership and culture of innovation led it to receive "B1 stable outlook" by Moody's - the highest rating to have been acquired by banks or financial institutions in sub-Saharan Africa. The Bank's ability to develop uniquely tailored products and being responsive to market needs resulted into growth of 37.5% in net profit growth, 8.7% in total assets and 4.5% in customer deposits in the last financial year.

CRDB focuses on improving operational efficiency, increasing penetration into the key economic sectors, optimizing digital ecosystem, and diversifying portfolios with special focus on SMEs. The Bank is therefore looking for an experienced and effective leader, with strong business acumen and exemplary ethics to join the executive management team as Chief Commercial Officer (CCO). Reporting to the CEO, the CCO will be responsible for developing commercial and business development strategies that are optimized for short-term results and long-term sustainability and growth.

Key Duties and Responsibilities of the CCO at CRDB includes:

- Developing operations plans that will lead to increased market share in key selected economic sectors and portfolio diversification.
- Ensuring that technology transformation is aligned to customer changing and diverse needs.
- Using data analytics, develop products, channels and marketing campaigns that are aligned with targeted customers' needs.
- Designing and maintaining robust customer management system that facilitates effective acquisition, retention, engagement, and continuous service.
- Monitoring market trends, providing regular competitor analysis and drawing insights to inform management decisions.
- Implementing sound business practices with focus on maintaining quality loan portfolio, low non-performing loan ratio, competitive interest rates and a healthy profit and loss account.
- Proactively assessing business, financial, human resources and technology risks within the directorate and ensuring that they are monitored and minimized.
- Identifying and reporting potential and actual money laundering risk, including suspicious transactions according to Financial Intelligence Unit's directives and the country's AML and KYC procedures.
- Developing and overseeing adherence to policies, procedures to ensure compliance with national and international regulations and taking corrective action when necessary.
- Preparing, monitoring utilisation and reporting, to the Board, short- and long-term financial plans, including annual operating budget.
- Preparing standard and customised performance reports for the commercial directorate and present to executive management, board committees and regulatory bodies.
- Setting and cascading comprehensive goals and key performance indicators and effectively manage staff performance.
- Building a culture that is inclusive and fosters teamwork; integrity and strong ethics to facilitate excellent customer service.
- Building and maintaining relationships with key customers, collaborators, promoters, partners, vendors, banking industry executives, shareholders, and stakeholders.
- Advising the Group CEO on all strategic commercial matters.

Person Specifications

- 10 years proven experience in banking, three of which must be in a senior management position in a medium to large entity.
- Thorough knowledge and experience in corporate and/or retail banking.
- Demonstrable competency in strategy execution, financial management and analytics.
- Outstanding leadership capabilities i.e. leading change, building strong teams and coaching for high performance.
- Excellent interpersonal, decision making and problem-solving skills; and
- University graduate from a recognized institution. Masters' degree is an added advantage.

If you believe you clearly meet the relevant criteria for this role, please submit your application, copies of your academic and professional certificates, testimonials and your detailed curriculum vitae, including among other details your current position, current and expected remuneration. To apply, kindly log onto our e-recruitment platform via <https://apply.workable.com/deloitte-eastafrika/>. Applications deadline is 21st February 2022. Email or hard copy applications will not be accepted. All applications MUST be submitted through the e-recruitment portal to be considered.

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Advertisement of Business Opportunities

Date: 14th February 2022
Reference no: 0001/NCA/2022
Subject: Supply of Goods and Services
Contracting Authority: Norwegian Church Aid - Tanzania Office
Deadline for submission of letter of interest: 26th February 2022

Background

Norwegian Church Aid (NCA) is a Norwegian Non-Governmental organization working with local Faith-based partners (FBOs) to promote Social Justice, Human Rights and Economic Justice for poor communities. NCA has its foundations based in the congregation of Churches in Norway, whose efforts are dedicated towards eradicating poverty, its causes and social deprivation.

Norwegian Church Aid invites qualified suppliers of one or several of the following goods and services to respond to this advertisement. Suppliers who have responded to this advertisement and provides the required information may be invited to participate in the procurement procedure for the relevant lot(s).

Goods and services needed:

- Hotel conference and accommodation services
- Stationery and office consumables
- Air ticket services
- Internet Service Provider and IT support services (software and hardware).
- Printing services
- Micro Investment Consultancy Services
- Water Sanitation and Hygiene(WASH) Consultancy services.
- Sexual and Reproductive Health Rights(SRHR) Consultancy Services.
- Professional events facilitation services
- Training services
- Programme review, Research and evaluation consultancy services
- Environment Impact Assessment (EIA) services
- Solar equipment supply and installation.
- Insurance Services.
- Editorial and translation services.
- Car hire services.
- Vehicle service and maintenance.
- Clearing and forwarding services.

The interested supplier shall provide the following information to the Contracting Authority using the contact details below:

- Indicate which supplies or service you are interested in supplying.
- Provide the following information preferably in **one page**:
 - the company's name and contact details.
 - contact person.
 - brief description of the company's background and main line of work; and
 - experience with this kind of supply/service.

This is purely information on business opportunities and does not constitute a commitment to purchase or any other form of contractual commitment with the Contracting Authority.

Information should be provided to the following address by hand or by email:

Country Director,
Norwegian Church Aid
Plot 436, Mikocheni II Mwai Kibaki Rd,
Dar es Salaam, Tanzania+255 22 277 1650
E-mail: procurement.tanzania@nca.no

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Faidika Microfinance in 'lets go digital mall' push

By Guardian Reporter

FAIDIKA Microfinance (T) Ltd has launched its 'LetsGo Digital Mall', another milestone in the inclusive finance provider's transformation strategy to be digitally-led while strengthening its people-first culture by assisting employees with digital skills and agile ways of working.

Managing director Baraka Munisi said that this initiative is an interactive platform that customers can access via their mobile phones, online, or via USSD. Experts say the latter is an unstructured supplementary service data code that is programmed into SIM cards or cell phones to make it easier to perform certain actions. "When you know the code for what you want to do, you can run it with a few simple taps," the write up explains.

LetsGo Digital Mall enables existing customers to apply for new or top-up loans, access account details, statements and update personal information, he said noting that as the platform evolves, the LetsGO Digital Mall will serve as an interactive access catalyst.

It will be used to extend customers' reach to an array of options and choices in financial and lifestyle services, including digital payments, savings solutions, rewards, personal insurance, shopping, and cross-border trading as well as educational and personal empowerment portals, he explained.

The digital mall is a customer-centric, user-friendly platform "that brings the brand's LetsGO Nation philosophy to

life by delivering the gift of personal time to pursue individual priorities as customers no longer have to wait or visit a branch to apply for products or access their accounts."

"Our LetsGO Digital Mall is an ideal platform to unlock Faidika Microfinance Tanzania's current and future potential - through this digital platform, we are enhancing customer experience through easier access, improving turnaround times through end-to-end processing technology, and increasing customer choice by enabling us to launch more products, sooner. Digital supports our promise to improve the lives of Tanzanians - wherever they may be located, any time of day."

To support the institution's commitment to increasing access to its solutions, customers can reach the mall through the web, mobile or even save on data costs by using the USSD channel.

Board chairman Adam Mayingu noted that Faidika Microfinance remains committed to investing in its country operations, training and upskilling employees in agile methodologies and digital skills to support the growth and expansion of its local business.

"Digitization not only increases Faidika Microfinance's reach in terms of products and channels but also supports and enhances standards in reporting, processing, risk management and governance," he declared.

'LetsGo' is a new brand in Faidika Microfinance Tanzania's brand sta-



Faidika Microfinance board chairman Adam Mayingu (L) displays his mobile phone in Dar es Salaam at the weekend moments after joining 'LetsGo Digital Mall' during the launch of the digital service. With him include Faidika managing director Baraka Munisi, Finance and Planning ministry Financial Systems director John Sausi, and Letshego Africa chief cooperation and development officer Frederick Mmesesi. Photo: Guardian Correspondent

ble, resonating and reiterating the group's regional transformation strategy and vision to build a world-class, future-fit organization that supports individuals and micro and small

entrepreneurs to achieve their goals and aspirations.

"Faidika Microfinance Tanzania invites all individuals to join its LetsGoNation - a nation that is built by Africans

for Africans, unleashing individual creativity and potential that supports sustainable economic growth for our communities and achieves a collective social impact."

John Sausi, the Treasury director of financial systems, commended Faidika Microfinance for the innovation that aims to improve service delivery across a range of transactions.

'Ngorongoro, Loliondo ecology 65 pc destroyed'

By Getrude Mbagu, Dodoma

SOME 65 percent of Ngorongoro and Loliondo conservation areas' ecology has been destroyed due to massive environmental destruction, increase of livestock and invasive plants, the Tanzania Wildlife Research Institute (TAWIRI) has declared.

The increase in population in the Ngorongoro Conservation Area (NCA) threatens wildlife sustainability in the park, requiring urgent efforts to alleviate the situation.

Dr Ernest Mjinga, the director general, made these observations during a seminar conducted to legislators concerning the situation in Ngorongoro National Park, following a directive by Prime Minister Kassim Majaliwa last week, in the wake of a hot debate on the NCA situation.

Population within the conservation area has reached 110,000 from 8,000 people in 1959 and the park's capacity is expected to shelter not

more than 20,000 people, he said.

This is a huge threat to the environment but and sustainability of wildlife in the park, along with the safety of residents often being attacked by dangerous animals, he stated.

The NCA ecosystem has been badly affected. Ngorongoro is an important area for the growth and sustainability of other parks such as the Serengeti and many forest reserves in adjacent areas, the director noted.

A portion of the wildlife was increasingly being endangered with extinction, like cheetah, gazelle and black rhinos whose populations have drastically decreased, he said.

Increasing human activities in the park has touched off the spread of invasive plants, now numbering 143 types enumerated so far, affecting the ecology of the area and scaring animals trying to feed on such plants, he explained.

Population growth has also had a negative impact on human lives as 165 local residents were attacked by

wild animals, 47 people dying from 2015 to September 2021, while over 800 livestock also fell to predators, he elaborated.

Prof Audax Mabulla, a researcher from the University of Dar es Salaam (UDSM) said most of the Maasai who live in Ngorongoro were driven there in the late 1950s to clear the way for its more famous neighbor, the Serengeti National Park.

The trusteeship administrators promised that the newly created 809,440-hectare (2m acre) NCA would be a multiple use area, where pastoralists could graze their cattle and preserve their livelihoods alongside conservation and tourism management.

At present, the NCA is mostly inhabited by Hadzabe hunter groups and Maasai livestock keepers, while Dr Robert Fyumagwa, retired researcher at TAWIRI says that in 1959, there were 300,000 livestock but now the number of animals exceeds one million.

The Ngorongoro Conservation Area Authority (NCAA) has spent 35.3bn/- to provide services to one administrative division in the area for the past five years, he stated, pointing out that the area has been hit by poverty by up to 50 percent, while 64 percent of the area's inhabitants are illiterate.

"Hunger and famine affects 75 percent of the population in the NCA," he specified, while Prof Hamis Malabo, a UNESCO representative, also raised concern over the increase of population and livestock threatening NCAs ecological balance and biodiversity.

Farming within the park, increase of livestock keeping as well as ground transport infrastructures were among the major challenges facing the NCA, he asserted, noting that UNESCO advises that law changes be made to rescue the park.

However, if evacuation exercises take place, they should adhere to good governance practices, includ-

ing the provision of compensation, he said.

In their contributions, MPs called on the government to take immediate measures to rescue the conservation area, urging that inhabitants be evicted from NCA.

Hawa Bananga (Special Seats, Chadema) said it is high time now for the government to take tough decisions for the interest of the whole nation.

Even MPs have been finding themselves in tough times when visiting the areas as the residents (Maasai) follow them everywhere they go, especially when a parliamentary committee visits the NCA to observe and speak with leaders, she told the gathering.

The lawmaker also wanted the government to review and amend laws so as to protect the coveted national park, meanwhile as Sophia Mwakaganda (Special Seats) said the situation in Ngorongoro is scary. If the country will not take immediate and robust measures, it may lose the

park, she cautioned.

Putting the people in the parks is a total violation of habitat procedures as the populace has no right to own land, access quality social services including education and health, she said. "We need to take tough decisions now. The Masaai have all the rights as any other persons, so while evacuating them we need to adhere to laws and observe basic human rights," she stated.

Simanjoro MP, Christopher ole Sendeka acknowledged that wildlife conservation is vital for the country's development, emphasizing that the welfare of human beings should be respected, urging that the Speaker form a special committee to tour the area and later come up with a report.

The Ngorongoro Conservation Area encompasses a great variety of ecosystems including mountain forest, swampy, marshy, dry forest, as well as long and short grasslands, part of an extended ecosystem into the Maasai Mara across the border and the Serengeti ecosystem nearby.

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216703801

171 addicts desert rehab confinement

By Guardian Correspondent, Mbeya

THE whereabouts of more than 171 drug addicts out of 435 registered for rehabilitation at the Methadone Clinic in Mbeya are unknown.

Dr Beatrice Thadei, senior psychiatrist at the Mbeya Zone Referral Hospital housing the clinic, said that by the end of last month the whereabouts of 171 rehab patients were startling.

The clinic serves the Southern Highlands since its inauguration in 2017 to reduce HIV/Aids infections after it was found that many drug addicts were also HIV/Aids sufferers.

The clinic provides various services to help drug addicts as well as those suffering from tuberculosis (TB) and sexually transmitted diseases, she said.

Since its establishment, around 53 drug addicts have healed from the habit by completing the therapy, but clinic officers still make follow-ups on the large group to see if their conditions remain stable, she said.

About 17 drug addicts are HIV positive, with 52 addicts also being HIV/Aids sufferers received since 2017, out of



GF Trucks & Equipment Ltd board chairman Mehboob Karmali (C) leads the company's co-directors in cutting a cake in Dar es Salaam at the weekend as the firm marked its 15th anniversary. Photo: Guardian Correspondent

whom eight died and 12 others vastly improved and are no longer at the clinic.

Among obstacles the clinic faces is that addicts tend to be overly troublesome in having to take their medicines when they feel a bit better, resorting to smoking cannabis and alcohol consumption, she said.

Meanwhile, stakeholders in the fight against drug abuse in Mbeya Region have called on the police force to train its personnel on combating drug use, as it abets HIV infections.

Damali Lucas, a prevention officer for the HJF Medical Research International (HJFMRI) said the training will help the police when they arrest

youths, to place them in drug rehabilitation therapy. Those who violate regulations regarding treatment be made to pursue the course of therapy as in abandoning it they retard the nation's war against illicit drugs and HIV/Aids.

She was closing a two-day seminar for stakeholders in the fight against illicit drug use in Mbeya Region.



DTB-Tanzania head of ICT Stella Masha pictured in Dar es Salaam on Friday having a word with Form IV students of the city's Zanaki Secondary School. It was at an event to mark International Day of Women and Girls in Science. Photo: Guardian Correspondent

Coca-Cola Kwanza has 1,000 women empowerment target

By Guardian Reporter

COCA-COLA Kwanza Ltd, a subsidiary of Coca-Cola Beverages Africa group, has declared an intention to empower 1,000 women this year through education, employability and entrepreneurship programmes.

The initiative is part of its 'Brave Woman' campaign to celebrate International Women's Day, with this year's theme given as 'break the bias,' equipping women to take their rightful place as equals in the economy.

Public Affairs director Salum Nassor said at the weekend that decisions the company was making is a chance for the firm to do the right thing. "In all our actions, we must be relentlessly self-aware of our role in the world and the impact we can have. Therefore, we must help care for the people and communities we depend on to succeed," he affirmed.

The company supports communities by empowering women in various local settings to give back every year, so as to

make the company stronger and more prosperous, he stated.

"As women are integral to our continent's shared success, we seek to empower women both in the workplace and through community programmes. Whether donating money or our time, we take our responsibility to the communities we call home seriously," he further noted.

"I have met great and amazing women who are determined to break barriers and reach greater success," he said.

Unguu Sulay, the managing director, said the campaign was aligned with the priority theme of the 65th session of the United Nations Commission on the Status of Women, aiming at achieving women's full and effective participation and decision-making in public life, elimination of violence, achieving gender equality and empowerment of women and girls.

Under the pillar of education, the company will provide girls' schools with desks to contribute to a conducive studying en-

vironment, giving the learners a start towards a fulfilling career. It will also donate 250 desks to government girls' schools, providing comfortable sitting for 500 students, he said.

For its employability initiative, the firm will take up 100 women graduates in an internship programme, to provide hands-on skills training to make them 'workplace ready' as part of the future leaders programme pegged to the wider campaign, he asserted.

Entrepreneurship will similarly be fostered among women by selecting a group of women involved in recycling and supporting them with resources like plastic shredding machines to expand their value chain involvement, he said.

Coca-Cola Kwanza Ltd has been involved in various sustainability initiatives that empower women, including the 5by20 Coca-Cola global initiative to provide economic support to 5m women to run their own businesses in developing countries by 2020, he added.

RC assures small gold miners to continue activities without bother

By Guardian Correspondent, Geita

SMALL gold miners at Nyakafuru Mine in Mbogwe District, Geita Region, have been called on to continue with their activities for the region's economic growth as well as earning income for their economic wellbeing.

The remarks were made here at the weekend by Geita regional Commissioner, Rosemary Senyamule, saying it was the appropriate time for the Nyakafuru mine to be handed over to the small miners as they have been working at the mine for a very long time not knowing their destiny as some of them have already invested a lot of money.

The RC said she had discussed the issue with Minerals Minister, Dr Doto Biteko on the small miners' destiny and said he assured her the issue was being dealt with.

Senyamule was addressing a public meeting at the mine site at the weekend during her working visit in Mbogwe District with the aim of inspecting the Nyakafuru Gold Mine administered by the Isanjabadugu Group and another Swalehe Mine at Masumbwe as well as Mbogwe mineral market.

"Last year, while at Mwanza, the President instructed the mineral office there to locate mining areas for small miners so that they benefit by their country's resources," said Geita RC Senyamule.

She said the government will not provide a direct decision and instead the miners should be patient while their government was deliberation on the issue of granting mining licences in the area.

Reading his statement at the meeting, the Secretary General of the Isanjabadugu Mining Group that oversee Nyakafuru Mines activities, Patrick Kasoga said the main challenge they face is lack of mining licences that keep away big miners to invest in their mine.

He said they have already submitted their application to the Mbogwe District Mining Office for further steps, and asked the RC to assist them in the issue.

He also said where there are achievements one cannot miss challenges, and as for now they face the challenge of power outages that has affected production.

He mentioned another challenge as is the lack of mobile phone network, and that he said does not affect miners only but the entire residents of Nyakafuru.

"But on the other hand the Nyakafuru Mine has been able to construct four modern classrooms and teachers' office at Masumbwe Secondary School all costing 85m/-, 320 desks costing 22.4m/- and two houses for health workers at Nyakafuru dispensary as well as a village office," he added.

He added that the mine has also constructed six stalls for revenue collection costing 6m/- in various areas of Mbogwe District, the aim being to take closer to the people mining services in the District.



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Tanzania Sisal Board acting director general Saad Kambona (R) takes Agriculture deputy minister Anthony Mavunde around a sisal farm in Tanga Region at the weekend. Photo: Guardian Correspondent

CPB to improve warehouse crops storage capacity - DG

By Correspondent Valentine Oforo, Dodoma

THE Cereals and other Produced Board (CPB) is implementing a programme to expand its warehouse crops storage capacity, from the current 112,000 to at least 500,000 tonnes by 2025.

The robust project which goes in tandem with a strategy to construct new factories for processing different crops produce include installation of major warehouses and a number of silos at various places from across the country.

CPB Director General (DG), Dr. Anselm Moshi, told this publication in an interview that, among others, plans are afoot to construct a major warehouse in Mwanza region, with a storage capacity at 8000 tons at a go, as well as silos with 15,000 tons storage capacity.

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

He also expressed that, CPB has accumulated enough land bank for the construction of a modern warehouse in Songea, with capacity to accommodate 6000 tonnes.

"In Katavi, we're installing a warehouse with at least 20,000 tonnes capacity, and a silos with storage ability at 50, 000," he added.

And Dr. Moshi informed that the board has so far adopted and put in place equipped laboratory for professional mitigation of contaminations of aflatoxins in crops, saying the facility has been inspected and certified by the Tanzania Bureau of Standards (TBS), through the set East African Standards.

"The board is working tirelessly to ensure for professional storages of crops in order to cater for home and away markets safe and standards crops products," he assured.

He added that the facility was now exporting to different countries processed products due to its high technologies in performing additional value chain.

"Our prime focus is to help the country refrain from exporting raw crops," he insisted.

He detailed that the board was often exportating processed crops products to neighboring Kenya, Rwanda, DRC Congo and South Sudan.

So far, the board has already opened at least seven crop processing factories in different regions.

The factories, according to the CPB boss, include a wheat processing plant in Arusha (with capacity to process 120 tons in a day), rice processing plant in Mwanza (8000 tons per day), cashew butter plant in Dar es Salaam (96 tons in a day), to mention but a few.

CPB was established by the Cereals and Produced Act no. 19 of 2009 (The Cereals and Other Produce Act No. 19 of 2009).

Unlike other crop boards that are responsible for managing crops / crops, CPB has been tasked with trading grain and other crops to enable the farmer to have a reliable market and a competitive price for his produce.

The board, CPB was initiated with the aim of addressing the responsibilities of the former National Milling Corporation (NMC) and the former Export Agricultural Board (GAPEX) in ensuring the farmer has access to reliable markets for the crops they grow and also to bring about a balance in the grain and other crops sectors.

Assets entrusted to the CPB include factories, warehouses, factory sheds and land.

Human-wildlife clashes: Serengeti youths undergo five-day special training

By Guardian Correspondent, Mugumu

MORE than 50 youths from several villages in Serengeti District in Mara Region have attended an intensive theory and practical training aimed at stopping human-wildlife conflicts in their villages.

The five-day training which began here last Friday was organized by Frankfurt Zoological Society (FZS) in collaboration with the Tanzania Wildlife Research Institute (TAWIRI).

Among other things the youth had been trained on the use of various improved techniques that can help to prevent elephants from destroying crop farms and lions from killing livestock especially cows.

The techniques involve the use of special mobile phones, binoculars, torches, vuvuzela and cultivation of crops that are not loved by elephants like pepper.

"We also want to use modern technology of special mobile phones that will be helping the youths to track and even identify hot spots area", FZS Project Manager, Masegeri Rurai said at the official opening of the training which also involves several conservation stakeholders in the Western Serengeti.

Thus, FZS donated 34 special mobile phone and other various tools like binoculars, torches and vuvuzela to help in minimizing the increasing human wildlife conflicts in the in the villages.

With its headquarters in Germany, FZS is an international conservation organization, having significant support to the greater Serengeti ecosystem and other wildlife conservation areas in Tanzania.

The target villages are those located around Ikona Wildlife Management Area (WMA) and four from outside the WMA, according to Serengeti officials.

The villages are Robanda, Park Nyigoti, Nyanungu, Makundusi, Natta-mbiso, Bokore, Nyichoka, Motukeri, Singisi, Iharara and Nyeiberekera.

"The most important thing here is monitoring, providing timely information and for the trained youths to prevent the damages", Mr Masegeri explained.

Masegeri also called for the use of modern and indigenous techniques to mitigate the conflicts involving elephants and lions.

Serengeti district is reported to have highest cases of human-wildlife conflicts mostly involving stray elephants that destroy crop farms and lions which at times kill cows and threaten people's lives.

"We believe the new techniques will help citizens of Serengeti by solving the challenge and we thank FZS for supporting this training and the entire initiative", the Head of Wildlife Information and Education Unit at TAWIRI Dr Janemary Ntalwila told journalists at the sidelines of the training in Mugumu, the capital of Serengeti district.

The techniques are expected to help to maintain co-existence between local communities living near wildlife conservation areas and wild animals in the villages.

On his side Serengeti District Commissioner (DC) Dr Vincent Mashinji urged citizens not to take their livestock to graze in wildlife conservation areas.

"Let us not avoid grazing in wildlife conservation areas. There are some conflicts that are caused by ourselves", Dr Mashinji warned on part of his opening remarks during the first day of the training.

Dr Mashinji insisted that conservation of Serengeti ecosystem is a government top priority.

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Rights defenders want independent commission over Ngorongoro dispute

By Guardian Correspondent, Arusha

THE government has been asked to form an independent commission that can conduct research on the Ngorongoro Conservation Area disputed issues and thereafter come up with recommendations, which will guarantee protection of the area and people's human rights in the district.

Human Rights Defenders made the advice here over the weekend on how to end land dispute in Ngorongoro District, Arusha Region

They said the commission must involve native pastoralists of Ngorongoro, conservation experts, human rights defenders, tourism stakeholders, livestock experts' and human rights stakeholders.

"The ministry of Tourism and Natural Resources as well as NCAA must abandon its plans to evict pastoralists from Ngorongoro and take away village land in Loliondo with the view to protect the primary objective of establishing NCA and also to protect the

right of the native people who live in the area in accordance with the law. It can be remembered that conservation activities in the Ngorongoro area very much depend on the presence of the native people as native conservators.

All the tourists are flocking in Ngorongoro to see the unique multiple land use system and the way of life of the Maasai people."

They also call on Parliament to fairly moderate parliamentary debates about the Ngorongoro issue and to discourage utterances that denigrate the dignity of the people of Ngorongoro who have for many years sacrificed their lives to protect the natural resources in the area. "Let it be remembered to the people of Ngorongoro are innocent because an increase in population of wildlife and humans in a natural phenomenon and is not a crime."

According to them, the law which establishes the Ngorongoro Conservation Area Authority should be reviewed with the view to improve management of the area

and protection of the rights of the people as well as ensuring the area continues to be conserved and developed.

Among issues to be reviewed include preventing construction of hotels and an increase of motor vehicles, abandoning plans to take away village land in 14 villages in Loliondo with 1500 square kilometres instead there should be an agreement between the government and the people to protect the said area for livestock and wildlife activities.

They suggested the need to avoid any plans to evict pastoralists of Ngorongoro and other areas because already the conflicts between pastoralists and farmers are rife in many parts of the country.

It also suggested the need to jointly plan with the people about all remaining areas earmarked for conservation activities at Ngorongoro Conservation Area and to leave the people in areas or wards with no great interference with conservation activities in the Ngorongoro which has a large area of 8,400 square kilometres.



John Maganga (2nd-R), Absa Bank Tanzania, head of sales and workplace banking, teams up with head of collections and recoveries Omar Shomari in slicking in Dar es Salaam at the weekend. It was during celebrations to mark the second anniversary of the bank's rebranding. Photo: Guardian Correspondent



THE SALVATION ARMY

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Context	The Salvation Army has been operating in Tanzania for over 80 years. At present, there are more than 150 Salvation Army locations in Tanzania. Each location aims to bring the Good News of Jesus Christ to the community. Through Church programmes, schools, institutions and extensive community development work, The Salvation Army aims 'to bring people to a living faith in Jesus Christ through preaching the gospel, teaching and modelling holy living, and meeting physical need without discrimination.' Candidates should understand, respect and sympathise with the Mission and Values of The Salvation Army.

Specification	Required Qualifications, Skills and experience
Chief Accountant 1 post.	Bachelor's degree in accounting or finance with CPA required. 3+ years' experience in field of accounting based to nonprofit maximization organization. Working knowledge of tax laws and GAAP. Working knowledge in accounting package especially pastel Strong financial analysis skills. Strong communication skills, both written and verbal. Strong organizational and stress management skills. Proficiency in Microsoft Office, particularly with Excel. Ability to train and manage staff. Ability to work with little to no supervision. Any other activities as assigned by leaders.
Project Accountant	Bachelor's degree in Accounting/finance related field. 3+ years' experience in field of accounting based to nonprofit maximization organization. Working knowledge of tax laws and GAAP Strong analytical, communication, and computer skills. Understanding of mathematics and accounting and financial processes. Proficiency in Microsoft Office, particularly with Excel. Good experience working in donor funded projects.
Ass. Project Accountant	Diploma in Accountancy or Finance Interpersonal Communication/Written and Verbal Communication both English and Swahili. Basic (PC) Computer Knowledge especially in Excel Multitasking Skills Reporting skills. Excellent organization and analytical skills 1-2 years' experience working in this field.
Mentality/Situation /Sex	Sympathetic to The Salvation Army and its aims Between 25-45 years of age No previous criminal convictions or child abuse incidents, sex exploitation and abuse.

APPLICATION: Please send within 7 days after publication, your cover letter, passport size, CV with copies of professional certificates and contact details of 3 referees to The Salvation Army HQ, To Chief Secretary Willy Gibson (Lt.-Colonel), PO Box 1273, DSM, attention to Captain. Stivina Sinana email TNZ.Leadership@gmail.com



TETRA TECH

JOB OPPORTUNITIES

TANZANIA MAJI NA USAFI WA MAZINGIRA (MUM) ACTIVITY

The Tanzania Maji na Usafi wa Mazingira (MUM) Activity funded by USAID/Tanzania and implemented by Tetra Tech International Development (<http://www.tetrattech.com/intdev>) is currently accepting expressions of interest for qualified candidates to fill various positions. The purpose of Maji na Usafi wa Mazingira (MUM) Activity is to expand and sustain the provision and governance of WASH services by 1) increasing access to sustainable water services; 2) Increasing access to finance for water, sanitation, and hygiene; 3) Strengthening the market for sanitation products and services; and 4) Strengthening basin water boards and water user associations for stewardship of water resources.

Tetra Tech seeks experienced candidates for the following positions:

Water Resources Management Team Lead (1 Post)- Based in Iringa	Admin and Finance Officer (1 Post)- Based in Sumbawanga
<p>Under the supervision of the Deputy Chief of Party-Technical, the Water Resource Management Team Lead will be responsible for technical implementation and expected results achievement for Strategic Objective (SO) 4, Strengthening basin water boards and water user associations for stewardship of water resources.</p> <p>Technical Roles: He/she will provide day-to-day supervision of Strategic Objective 4 team, including direct supervision of the Lakes Rukwa and Nyasa Basin Water Board Coordinators, and will carry out duties and responsibilities as the Rufiji Basin Water Board coordinator. Coordinate interventions, provide technical assistance, Coordinate and manage implementation relations with target basin water boards, water user associations, and the WRM Division at the Ministry of Water. In coordination with the DCOP-Tech, provide leadership, supervision, and direction to the SO4 team and seek additional short-term technical assistance resources where necessary, to ensure high quality standards of all deliverables and work products.</p> <p>Management and coordination roles: Work closely with technical staff, in coordination with the management team, to ensure the integration of SO4 with other activity components. Support project closeout activities, working with the COP, DCOP OPS, and home office team. Assist the management team with the preparation of work plans that define the activities to be carried out under the project, of progress reports that update the client on project implementation, and of all other major project deliverables defined in the contract. Monitor and evaluate project performance and progress against approved work plans under SO4 and inform the DCOP-Tech of the results of this monitoring, including suggested corrective measures where appropriate.</p> <p>External representation: Communicate/work with key stakeholders at regional, national and district levels and establish and maintain relationships with key stakeholders. In consultation with the COP/DCOP Tech, represent Tetra Tech ARD at conferences, seminars, and other professional meetings related to the SO4 component. Comply with Tetra Tech policy on media inquiries, consulting with the management team on response management.</p> <p>Minimum Qualifications: Education: Degree in engineering, international development, business, or a related field, and a post graduate degree in a relevant field such as water resources management, or similar.</p> <p>Experience: Seven years with Masters Degree (or equivalent) or 10 years with Bachelors Degree (or equivalent). Demonstrated technical experience in water resources management in Tanzania, including in at least three of the following areas: integrated water resources management, river basin development and management, water resources data acquisition and management, water resources financing including payment for environmental services mechanisms, water abstraction surveys, and pro-poor approaches to water access. Demonstrated experience overseeing teams across multiple WASH focuses, ensuring appropriately tailored and synchronized activities. Experience with managing donor funded activities desired.</p>	<p>Under the responsibility of the Director of Administration & Finance, to whom he / she will report, the Administration and Finance Officer will have the following responsibilities in the MUM sub-office in Sumbawanga. The office is anticipated to host six long term staff (including the Admin Finance Officer and 2-3 drivers) and occasional visiting staff and STTA.</p> <p>Office Management Roles: Responsible for the day-to-day management of the MUM sub-office in Sumbawanga, ensuring orderliness, establish work relationships with service providers; Establish and maintain effective office information management systems including files, responsible for managing office petty cash and develop, maintain and report on and manage property inventory assigned to staff; Serve as primary liaison with office leased landlord and control of maintenance needs.</p> <p>Events and Travel Roles include: He/she will have the primary responsibility of ensuring the timely provision and delivery of all logistical support to the operation of the Sumbawanga office, including; organizing meetings and workshops etc.; creating and maintaining a staff travel tracker; oversee the traveling schedules and verify the authorizations required for travels process as well as maintain supporting documentation in files for all trips. Monitor and ensure compliance with Tetra Tech's Travel Policy and Procedures.</p> <p>Information Management roles: Ensure all project equipment are in excellent working condition and coordinate with the Administrative Manager in Iringa on the status of IT equipment and general computer systems in the Sumbawanga office; provides assistance to staff to enable effective communication. Ensure all staff are connected to networked computer systems; maintain information management and administration systems; including efficient use of Egnyte information sharing system as needed.</p> <p>Minimum Qualifications: Education: University degree in accounting, finance, business administration, or other relevant discipline. Experience: Minimum of three years' experience in Office management, information technology management or equivalent position, with University degree, or minimum 8 years without. Experience working in a similar position for an international organization is preferred.</p>

To apply through ARD.recruitment.TZMUM@tetrattech.com with a cover letter and current curriculum vitae (CV) in reverse chronological order format. Please list the title of the position in the email subject line

General Qualifications:

- Must be computer literate (in Microsoft Office applications such as Excel, Word, PowerPoint, etc.).
- Excellent interpersonal skills, including patience, diplomacy, willingness to listen and respect for colleagues.
- Ability to work individually and as part of a team. Must also be able to work effectively in a team environment.
- Professional fluency in English and Swahili is required for verbal and written communication.
- Experience delivering services in Tanzania, working successfully within a team environment;
- Please note: Only Tanzanian citizens are eligible for this position.

Only Short-listed candidates will be contacted for an interview. No phone calls will be accepted about these positions.
Deadline for submission of applications is February 21, 2022.

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MONDAY 14 FEBRUARY 2022

Taking A New Look
At The News
ESTABLISHED IN 1995

Bushmeat need shows why private sector could help in game reserves

CONSERVATION authorities in the northern tourism circuit are battling a new form of poaching, for giraffe whose meat is said to be catching attraction over a range of local roast meat enthusiasts and definitely huge demand outside, by routine market trends.

What conservation units - now being beefed up by paramilitary units in various national parks and game reserves - are doing is to hunt for such poachers. Yet there is a way in which demand for an object outweighs controls placed around its being procured.

Demand for bushmeat becomes a threat to conservation as it brings up a new factor in the natural balance between predators and prey, as the market demand for such meat can easily overwhelm limited licenced hunting as it is often practiced.

In addition, licences are usually available for animals whose supply in the natural environment is widespread and in large numbers, which isn't necessarily what a new market craze will be gunning for. In that case pursuing less populous varieties leads to ecosystem imbalances, in time.

The easier method or one which conservation authorities are used to is to take the bushmeat demand as a problem of law and order, but they face a managerial problem since a segment of the hunting is licenced and another part isn't.

That provides leeway for mixing up, but when it comes to large species like giraffe which may have a special protection regime in conservation regulations, procedural mix up or negligence becomes difficult. Other ways of facilitating poaching thus come in, tied to solidity of law enforcement.

At the same time, bushmeat demand, like the need for wood for charcoal, furniture or export incomes, is something that can be projected over time, where it isn't the natural environment which forms the focus of time-based management of resource exploitation.

It is to place natural forest zones under community groups as in village forest areas management, or private companies especially as it involves skills like the control of predators in given areas. Then the right sort of targeted bushmeat animals can rise in numbers.

Especially at this period where large scale grazing in a customary mode is becoming out of date with drought diminishing the free movement of cattle herders in pursuit of pasture, getting such communities to take up portions of game controlled areas and invest in ponds should not be difficult.

They will have boundaries set by conservation authorities, where proactive limitation will be placed on the movement of animals from or into controlled areas, to keep off predators, chiefly. Cattle and giraffes can live together.

That would change the way auxiliary game parks are managed, as a mixture of cattle ranches and bushmeat zones, with an additional advantage of eliminating current wars of farmers and herders, where the roaming herders spread chaos to settled communities.

This situation is unmanageable as conservation is strictly the keeping of animals, though it can regroup such areas into mixed prey and predator zones (national parks) and circumscribed bushmeat-cum-cattle herding zones. It can be done if planned out well.

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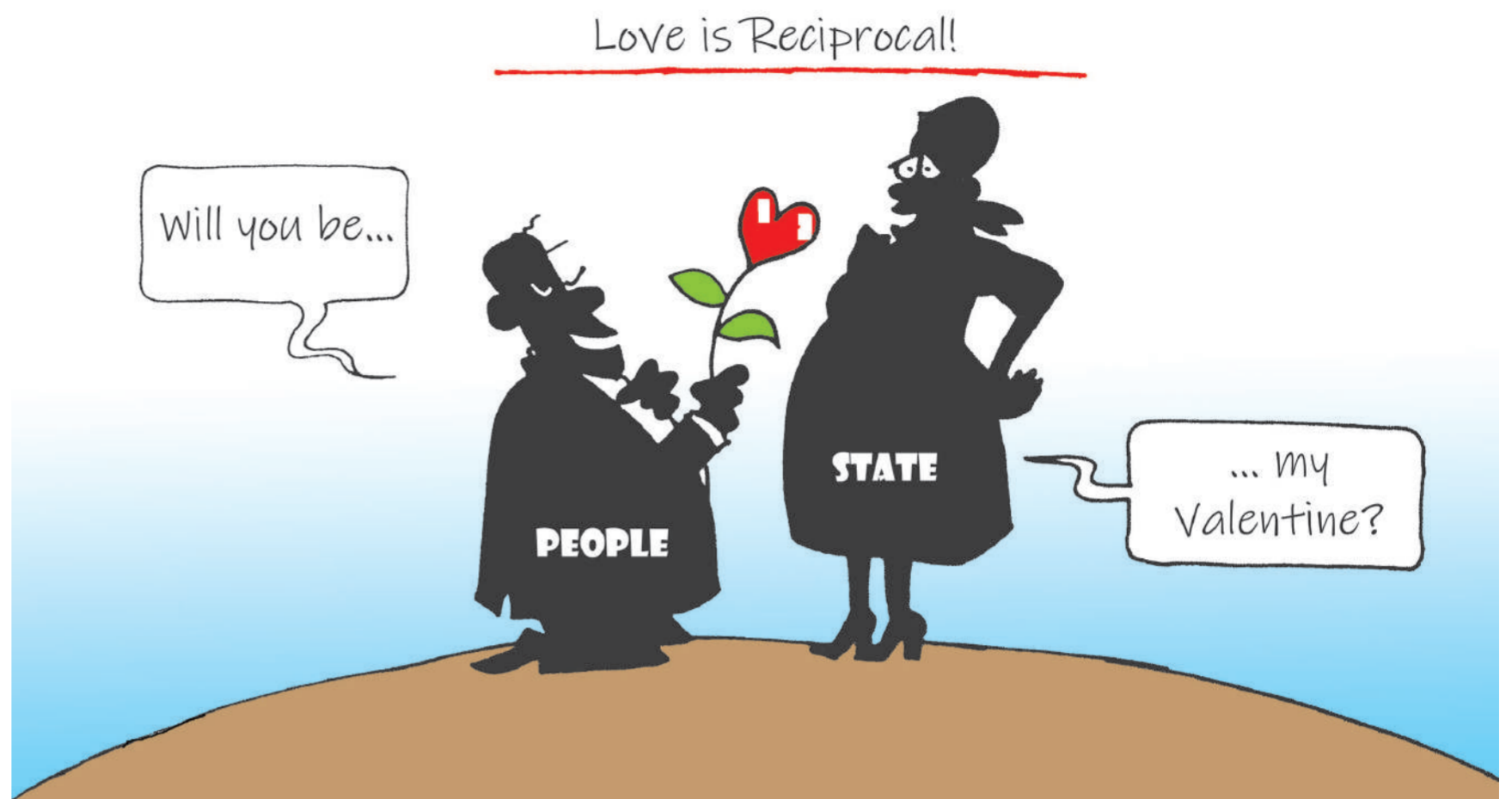
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African politics - return of the military

By Jibrin Ibrahim

THE time has come for Africans to reopen the debate on the best pathways to deepening democracy in our countries.

Post-colonial Africa has seen over 200 coup attempts, with roughly half seeing the head of government successfully removed. The democratic transition of 1989 to 1994 led to a dramatic decline of the unconstitutional seizure of state power. The past two years has however witnessed a new wave of coup d'états on the continent. The current trend is yet different from those of the 1970s and 1980s. Today, we are witnessing the grand entry of politics by the gun.

The military seized power in Burkina Faso on Monday, ousting the country's democratically elected president, Roch Marc Christian Kaboré. I was in a conference on security in the Sahel last November and already at that time, the conversation was that the military had decided to seize power in the country and the only question was when, not if they would. The main issue was the government's failure to stem jihadist attacks that have destabilised broad swathes of Burkina Faso, displaced 1.4 million people, and caused 2,000 deaths last year alone. The general feeling in the country is that the time has come to try an alternative government. The coup leader and president is 41-year old Lt. Col. Paul-Henri Damiba, an infantry officer trained in France and the United States. There are disturbing reports that just last week, he tried to convince President Kaboré to hire the Russian Wagner paramilitary group and failed. What is known is that one of the first persons to congratulate Damiba is Putin's friend and reputed owner of the Wagner Group, Evguini Priggojine, who spoke of, "a new era of decolonisation in Africa". Signalling, I suspect, the substitution of the Russian for the French imperial power.

The Burkinabe coup was, therefore, similar to the one in Egypt in 2013, when the coup was announced on national television months before it happened. The politics of Africa has been changing dramatically in recent years, propelled by the return of the military to power. There had been an abortive coup in Burkina Faso in 2015 that was foiled. This time, there was no impediment. In this newer dispensation, a military coup was staged in Zimbabwe in 2017. This was followed by the 2019 military coup in Sudan and the 2020 military coup in Mali. Military forces were active in assisting power takeovers in Tunisia and Algeria in 2020. The same year, a military coup was aborted in Niger Republic. The military strongman in Mali was not happy with the limited powers he was constrained to in 2020 and did another coup in 2021, giving himself full powers. The same thing happened in Sudan in 2021, as the military staged another coup to take on full powers and break the bonds with its civilian collaborators. In Chad, the 2021 coup was to keep power in the family, following the killing of strongman Idris Deby. In Burkina Faso, Mali and Guinea, civilians have demonstrated in favour of military rule and have been ready to collaborate with them. Clearly, there is a new generation in Africa that has no memory of the terrible impacts of military rule and in its naivety thinks that military rule can be a political solution.

Post-colonial Africa has seen over 200 coup attempts, with roughly half seeing the head of government successfully removed. The democratic transition of 1989 to 1994 led to a dramatic decline of the unconstitutional seizure of state



power. The past two years has however witnessed a new wave of coup d'états on the continent. The current trend is yet different from those of the 1970s and 1980s. Today, we are witnessing the grand entry of politics by the gun. In the Sahel, as well as other parts of Africa, numerous non-military groups have acquired guns and are engaged in armed struggle for power or sometimes just armed banditry. Generalised insecurity has become the order of the day and in many of our countries - Nigeria, Niger, Mali, Burkina Faso, Mozambique, Sudan, the Sahel, Kenya, Central African Republic, Democratic Republic of the Congo and so on, military forces have completely failed to contain armed combatants and reduce insecurity.

Military powers have been complaining in loud whispers that corrupt democratic administrations have not been supplying them adequate weaponry to deal with insurgents, jihadists and armed bandits. The response is that deep corruption has also penetrated the military forces and they often misappropriate the funds given to them to execute wars.

These situations have created two narratives in an emerging blame game. Military powers have been complaining in loud whispers that corrupt democratic administrations have not been supplying them adequate weaponry to deal with insurgents, jihadists and armed bandits. The response is that deep corruption has also penetrated the military forces and they often misappropriate the funds given to them to execute wars. War economies have developed in which officers are massively enriching themselves from war efforts and

thereby sabotaging them. The winner in these situations, as it were, is corruption.

The more profound narrative is that the African situation today is characterised by three types of coup d'état. The first is the constitutional coup, in which serving presidents recklessly tear the normative framework they had themselves developed and engage in tenure elongation beyond constitutional limits, thereby destroying the legitimacy of political systems. The second coup is engaging in massive electoral fraud to change electoral outcomes. There have been at least thirteen African countries in which the leaders have used various legal devices and political manoeuvres to extend their tenures beyond two terms since 2012.

The time has come for Africans to reopen the debate on the best pathways to deepening democracy in our countries... We know from our past experience that the military cannot be the solution to our democratic and developmental needs. What we need to reinforce in our political systems is the early detection of democratic derailment, so we can put the system back on course.

Often, it is the experience of these forms of coup d'état that creates the conditions for the third type, which is the military coup d'état. The result is that Africa's robust normative frameworks for deterring unconstitutional changes of government and for advancing democracy, election and governance have been considerably weakened over time. The norms codified in Article 30 of the African Union Constitutive Act, 2002; and the African Charter on Democracy, Elections and Governance, 2012,

have gradually lost their meaning.

It is for this reason that the condemnation of military coups by the African Union or the Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS) have very little resonance because people always ask what these institutions did when democratically elected leaders were messing up constitutions and/or electoral systems. Democratic culture has therefore been weakened considerably through the anti-democratic practices of ruling parties.

Repeatedly, ECOWAS, the African Union, and the United Nations Security Council have strongly condemned coups and called on military forces to reinstate deposed leaders and restore constitutional rule with no effect. Even the imposition of sanctions has had very little effect on the emerging juntas.

The time has come for Africans to reopen the debate on the best pathways to deepening democracy in our countries.

The contemporary African must learn to read the tea leaves. Apparent democrats win elections with the promise of democratic consolidation and when they get power they work on dismantling the democratic system.

Meanwhile, their colleagues in the African Union and regional organisations watch without comment them and only show concern when the military steps in. We know from our past experience that the military cannot be the solution to our democratic and developmental needs. What we need to reinforce in our political systems is the early detection of democratic derailment, so we can put the system back on course.

District councils' gross financial misconduct rearing its head, fast

MEASURES have lately been taken against five officials of the Masasi Town Council in Mtwara Region for presumed involvement in financial misconduct dating back to the 2020/2021 financial year.

The audit exercise upon which disciplinary measures were taken dates back to May last year, in which case it covers the period ending June 2021, but it takes time for such reports to be digested, then forwarded to higher authorities and action being directed in that regard. More often than not action doesn't actually follow.

At the current sitting of the legislature, Buchosa MP Eric Shigongo at one point demanded when the government will confer or restore powers of district councils to take action on district executive directors when found to be engaged in financial management misdeeds.

The government clarified that it has no intention of conferring such powers but such bodies (councils) can make a request to that effect upon the directors' appointing authority, viz., the presidency. The relevant ministry would thus be consulted.

Errors by financial controllers in district councils are of two types, one being individual misconduct; it is basically what is described as fraud, where an officer engages in private gain by illicit payments in acts of procurement, supervision, etc.

The other type is collective misdeed whereby councilors pressure for certain actions to be taken contrary to directives, through discretionary powers of financial controllers or accounting officers in that case.

Councilors' powers over directors can take this error to huge proportions.

Objections to this comprehension, and hence the rationale for demands that councilors have powers over district executive directors is the shallow view that councilors represent interests of local communities, ignoring the dimension of private interest.

It is the same issue that is ignored in demands for a new constitution, that it ignores private interests for instance in relation to the idea of a weak presidency.

But if no firm guidance from higher authorities is given, private interests make it a 'democratic demand', soon.

When one looks at the current issue, of measures against council officials towards the end of the past financial year, one realizes that this was within the first 90 days of the transition to the sixth phase presidency.

Public officials everywhere appeared to be expecting that the good old days of the third and fourth phase governments - leaving aside the second and first phases as they in the dim past - of using electoral pressure to let things slide in local government finances were being restored.

They started to engage in financial malpractices, hoping that things will be debated here and there, and then forgotten.

We are of course happy that this isn't the situation, and authorities are keen that financial discipline is retained, so projects are finished on the right time at the planned cost framework.

But with pressure rising for wider democratic platforms, if those in government start canvassing for support in a really competitive environment, they may drop the guard. Democracy and corruption are often bosom friends.

START THE WEEK WITH CYNTHIA STACEY

An empty belly begets empty mind: A case for feeding school children

JAMBO for the coming week but right now I'm cheered with the present one because it has touched my heart!

For many years, I've been saddened to see children of various ages, walking long distances by the roadside to schools in the middle of nowhere, as huge buses and Lorries thunder past them. This has long been a normal sight, as the upcountry buses plied their trade with little care for the local children and their terrible journeys to seek out education at any cost.

Well, now something good has happened, and the media have reported that "Satellite schools have been built in Wasiwosi village, in Longido District, Arusha Region, and this has reduced the suffering of 130 students in the area, who were walking 75 kilometers daily, to pursue education in neighboring wards (and even in Kenya) and I hope this is just the start given the history of none compliance in this area. It soon ought to be! But for me, it's a sight I should be used to by now, but I'm not.

OK, good to observe another local headline in the press, telling us "Zanzibar sees slight decline in poverty" which was followed by "Zanzibar leases 10 small islands."

This informs us that investments on outlying islands are a major theme in current policy, but like the issue of Changu Island some years ago, which was illegally "borrowed by the government." It was a very contentious issue which the locals viewed as outright theft since they had to suddenly start paying entry fees on "their own home islands" whenever they wanted to go there. But this has now changed, and the government has apologised, so let's hope the locals are fully involved this time around.

A total of 53 local and foreign investors have been lined up to operate the projects, which promise to include skills and the ability to conserve the environment, biodiversity, cultural heritage and to ensure community development, said President Dr Hussein Ali Mwinyi in a televised speech to the nation recently, which marked 58 years of the Zanzibar Revolution. Wonderful!



For children to concentrate fully on their studies, they must get enough nutritious food while in school. File photo

Three weeks into the new year, when returning here after Christmas, I speculated as to what local pillagers with access to the national coffers might have netted in my absence, in a country where even 'ghost workers' could receive a seasonal bonus!

And a glance through the local papers awaiting me confirmed it. "Revealed: How 60 bn/- was looted from government coffers in 7 days". "Top NSSF executives suspended over embezzlement allegations". "Big firms caught using fake receipts in massive 29.2 bn/-scam," et cetera.

Fast forward to today, and the media have recently reported that five officials have been accused of possible financial misappropriation of 7.63bn/- in at least five councils across the country. And according to the Minister of

State in the Presidents Office (Union and Environment) Selemeni Jafo, the vanished funds form part of the development budgets for the respective district councils.....Shameful!

He's quoted as saying "the ongoing trend where billions of shillings cannot be accounted for at district level is completely wrong, and requires serious measures to halt it".

That's almost an understatement, as this has gone on for decades, and seems to be in the DNA of many public servants. So, how do we 'factor that out' in the same way as social policy initiatives talk of the 'factoring in' of something positive?

Set against this haemorrhage of the nation's economic lifeblood, there are appeals to taxpayers to contribute for all manner of basic items that are lacking in public service, and schools particularly, but if there wasn't so much insider pillaging, would this be necessary?

I returned one year later to a press heading of "Zanzibar official in rallying cry for school desks." This had been the clarion call for decades here, but the voicing of it then under Magufuli with his common sense priorities when accessing the public purse, made it seem inappropriate.

Well, time to go, but in scholarly mode, since pleas for desks are always on-going, let's pose the question: When is a school not a school? And the answer could well be....when it has insufficient classrooms, no desks or seats, and a shortage of teachers.

But it seems that education officials often erect four walls and a roof then announce... "There we are, it's nearly a school...the people can finish it."

I've just remembered something: How much are MPs' daily stipends, and what's their budget for food? Because thousands of school pupils across the land go through the day without any sustenance at all!

And though one MP has started to campaign for school lunches, we should gift those involved with a slogan, something like "An empty belly means an empty mind; feed the nation's school children."

Oh Yeah...O Yeah.

Eyes on the prize: Ramaphosa steps up his second-term bid

By Carien du Plessis

PRESIDENT Cyril Ramaphosa's Sona wasn't only aimed at clawing back votes for the ANC to prevent it from having to govern in a coalition in 2024. The event was also aimed at positioning him for a second term ahead of the ANC's elective conference at the end of this year.

Addressing a joint sitting of Parliament in the Cape Town City Hall on 10 February after a fire gutted the National Assembly last month, Ramaphosa went off script to praise the South African Constitution as "the best constitution in the world".

This was a stab at his detractors, in the main Tourism Minister Lindiwe Sisulu, who has been making jabs at the judiciary and the Constitution as a way of lobbying support to oppose him.

For this reason too his detractors have hailed the alleged parliamentary arsonist, Zandile Mafe, as a hero. Ramaphosa used the fire to pitch himself as someone who will lead renewal in the ANC and in the country.

"There are moments in the life of a nation when old certainties are unsettled and new possibilities emerge," he said. "In these moments, there is both the prospect of great progress and the risk of reversal. Today, we are faced with such a moment."

His choice of guests was also a pointer towards how he is positioning himself ahead of December.

Former speaker Max Sisulu, Lindiwe Sisulu's brother, was among the guests, setting tongues wagging that Ramaphosa was playing the siblings off against each other.

Former deputy president Phumzile Mlambo-Ngcuka, touted as a possible deputy presidential contender, and former president Thabo Mbeki, who has been supporting Ramaphosa's efforts to strengthen government policy, were also guests.

During an ANC Progressive Business Forum breakfast the next morning, ANC treasurer-general Paul Mashatile made it clear that most of the party's energy this year will be focused on its elective conference, but in such a way that would be winning the party enough votes in the 2024 general elections to govern outright.

"Members of the ANC feel very strongly



President Cyril Ramaphosa

that [Ramaphosa] should make himself available for another term to continue this programme of tackling corruption," Mashatile said.

This is the second time that Ramaphosa's leadership has been endorsed explicitly on a public party platform. The first was at the ANC's 110th birthday rally on 8 January in Limpopo.

Mashatile went on to say he reckoned South Africa "is going to become a good country that investors will be attracted to", and that the ANC wanted to ensure "that South Africa is stable and there is good governance in the country".

Mashatile also said it was important for the ANC to get above 50% of the poll

in 2024 because coalitions were "by their very nature unstable".

For this reason it was important to pay attention to better service delivery, fixing the roads and making sure that people have water. Mashatile did not say this explicitly, but many in the party believe that Ramaphosa is the best hope the party has to attract the biggest share of the vote.

Ramaphosa has consistently rated higher than the ANC in public opinion polls.

Minister in the Presidency Mondli Gungubele was also at the business breakfast to explain the thinking behind some of Ramaphosa's speech.

Focusing on the business aspect, where Ramaphosa for the first time acknowl-

edged that "government does not create jobs" but "business creates jobs", Gungubele said getting as many people into employment as possible was an immediate priority, as an employed population was critical for security. "With the little we have, we must go on to create an environment for this," he said.

Gungubele warned that poor conditions could give rise to populism. "In the absence of these interventions, populism will take the charge."

One of Ramaphosa's lobbyists said that the president's "action-oriented" speech showed he was preparing for a second term. With his detractors still struggling to get a single candidate to challenge

Ramaphosa, and with Lindiwe Sisulu's campaign still struggling to gain traction, most of the competition is for the remainder of the positions in the top six.

Mashatile himself is said to be preparing to run for deputy president, but his lobbyists said it's too early for them to comment.

Mashatile is close to Deputy President David Mabuza and is unlikely to challenge him, so he can only run once he has convinced Mabuza to step down.

Mashatile hinted at this when he joked that all six of the officials would be stepping down ahead of December "to allow [ANC] members to elect other people".

This might turn out to be largely true. Ace Magashule is still likely to be ruled out for office in December as his corruption trial would still be ongoing, and a number of contenders have already started putting up their hands for the position of secretary-general.

His deputy, Jessie Duarte, has been suffering from poor health and has indicated that she would be retiring when her term finishes at the end of this year.

The only two positions that are not expected to step down is the president, and ANC chairperson Gwede Mantashe.

Former minister and ANC policy head Jeff Radebe is also reported to have put his hand up for the deputy president's position - he was a contender for the Presidency in 2017 - and was the guest of honour at a Sona viewing event hosted by investors in Cape Town at The Capital 15 on Orange Hotel.

Ramaphosa also addressed security concerns, owing up to the weaknesses in government, after the release of the report of the expert panel into the civil unrest in July last year. "The expert panel found that Cabinet must take overall responsibility for the events of July 2021," he said. "This is a responsibility that we acknowledge and accept."

Despite this, sources say that Ramaphosa is unlikely to effect a major reshuffle in his Cabinet for now.

Police sources have, however, said that he was likely to bring axed Western Cape detective head Jeremy Vearey back into the fold once the process around the suspension of Police Commissioner Khehla Sitole has played out.

Sitole is due to face an inquiry into his fitness to hold office after allegations that he and his lieutenants flouted their duty as police officers by waylaying corruption allegations.

Ramaphosa said announcements would soon be made on "leadership changes in a number of security agencies to strengthen our security structures".

While he was delivering his speech, the president's detractors sent out notices detailing a year of activities celebrating former president Jacob Zuma's 80th birthday. In the flyer, Zuma is styled as the "People's President" and "the Symbol of African Liberation". **DM168**

Honeymoon for Zambia's Hichilema drawing to a close as economic crunch time looms

By Peter Fabricius

ALMOST six months after the high expectations created by his historic landslide victory over Edgar Lungu and his promises of fundamental reform, Zambian President Hakainde Hichilema's halo has begun slipping slightly.

"HH", as he is widely dubbed, secured the top job on his sixth attempt, inspiring embattled democrats across Africa. But governing is proving even more difficult than ousting a deeply entrenched incumbent.

Lungu bequeathed a mountain of problems to his successor, including a national debt of \$14.7-billion, rocketing inflation and a mining sector crippled by toxic relations with private mining companies. He also left rampant corruption and cronyism in the civil service and an authoritarian ethos in which opposition voices were largely suppressed.

HH has certainly addressed the last problem, as Neo Simutanyi, Head of the Centre for Policy Dialogue in Lusaka, told ISS Today. The president engaged the public more, including through social media, responding to its concerns and throwing open the political space. HH's firing of the security chiefs who presided over Lungu's oppressive political system was also praised.

Simutanyi said even Lungu's Patriotic Front (PF) had welcomed two "quite radical" measures. One was the dramatic increase in the Constituency Development Fund, which decentralises much government development spending, from 1.6 million kwacha to 25.7 million kwacha per constituency. The second was HH's announcement that the government would employ 30,000 new teachers and 11,200 new health workers.

Ringsai Chikohomero, a Researcher at the Institute for Security Studies, noted on a recent trip to Zambia that the president had also been applauded for providing more social spending, free education in public schools and support for small businesses and agriculture.

HH's handling of corruption has received more mixed reviews. Simutanyi said his amnesty offer to officials who returned stolen money was impractical and allowed them to duck responsibility. When it comes to public service reform, HH is being criticised for not getting rid of corrupt and incompetent Lungu appointees and for hiring only his loyalists or officials from his stronghold regions.

Ultimately, though, it will probably be his efforts to repair the shattered economy he inherited that will determine how he's judged.



President Hakainde Hichilema declared a "new dawn" for Zambia. (Photo: Salim Dawood)

HH has been widely praised for appointing a strong economic team dedicated to better fiscal and monetary discipline. One of the major economic challenges is sorting out the mess in the mining sector, mainly copper, which is critical to Zambia's recovery and prosperity. Historian and political commentator of Cape Town and Zambia universities, Sishuwa Sishuwa, has praised the new government's better mechanism for collecting mining revenues, which was controversial and unpredictable under Lungu.

However, he noted that HH hadn't yet tackled the nub of the problem – what to do about ownership of the Glencore-operated Mopani Copper Mines (which Lungu's government took over) and Lungu's liquidation of the Vedanta-owned Konkola mines. Will HH return these mines to their previous owners or seek new investors?

This decision goes to the heart of economic policy and even ideology. HH is above all a businessman – and so the

international investment community looks forward to his bringing in free-market economic principles. But mining companies aren't universally popular in Zambia, so he mustn't seem to be bending over backwards to please foreign interests.

The critical debt question remains open too. Last December the government negotiated a provisional \$1.4-billion loan from the International Monetary Fund. This could help pay for the social services increases in the budget and the huge debt.

The loan is conditional though. Among others, it depends on the government maintaining fiscal discipline and negotiating some debt relief under the G20's Common Framework agreed in 2020 to help highly indebted countries like Zambia out of the Covid-19-induced financial crisis.

Chikohomero says HH has yet to inject new life into

the economy, though it's still early days. He notes concerns about how to pay for the vast social spending increases while reducing taxes. "His critics worry that he is relying more and more on the IMF. That would just transfer debt payments from the Chinese to the Bretton Woods institutions. That would be trying to borrow from Peter to pay Paul."

Simutanyi also pointed out that HH hasn't been transparent about all the loan conditions. For example, will it mean reducing subsidies on essentials like fuel, which would push up their prices?

Sishuwa was an outspoken critic of Lungu, who once threatened to arrest him for sedition as a result. But he's begun to lose faith in HH too – partly for his failure to root out corruption and his under-representative cabinet and public service. Sishuwa says these are biased towards loyalists and comprise too few women.

His criticism touches on ethical questions too, where HH had always been seen as a shining light. "Hichilema is slowly becoming a disappointment," he recently tweeted, citing "intimidation of independent media; arrest of critics for 'insulting' the president; use of state institutions to undermine the opposition; weakening of civil society; continued corruption in Govt!"

This refers among others to PF spokesperson Raphael Nakacinda's arrest in December 2021 for insulting the president and the detention of PF supporters who opposed the arrest. Sishuwa also criticised HH for failing to reform laws – like the one criminalising insults to the president – which underpinned Lungu's repressive regime.

So HH, after a promising start, seems to have faltered a little. Chikohomero thinks it's too early to be disappointed and that some of HH's critics aren't considering the political realities he faces in reforming government from the bottom up.

For instance, the president couldn't be expected to fire all the anti-corruption agencies' heads, or they would lose institutional memory and continuity.

Some vigilance is called for though, particularly regarding political freedoms. Everyone expected HH – given his own experience of vicious persecution by Lungu – to get full marks for democracy and battle with substantial economic challenges.

So far he seems to be doing better on the latter than the former. Yet Chikohomero is right – it's too early to judge his performance. **DM**

Gazan chef seeks to spread Chinese food culture in local community

GAZA

IBRAHIM Badwan, one of the most famous Palestinian chefs in the coastal enclave, is leading a new trend in his local community – cooking Chinese food.

For many years, the young Palestinian man used to work at famous and prominent restaurants as he specialized in making various kinds of Arab and international dishes.

Two years ago, Badwan, as well as all Gazans, were forced to stay at home when the Hamas-run local authorities imposed a full lockdown on the region to curb the spread of the COVID-19 coronavirus.

The 30-year-old chef told Xinhua that he decided to invest leisure time in learning new international dishes that he would prepare after the lockdown was over.

"The Chinese dishes were among my new interests. I like this cuisine so much as it contains all healthy ingredients," the chef said, adding "then I came up with an idea to learn more about this new cuisine, mainly as it is a different one from what our people are used to."

The chef explained that the Palestinians thought that the Chinese dishes were mainly based on insects, cockroaches and killed animals like monkeys, donkeys, dogs, and others. The reality is entirely different, he said.

"I found that Chinese food is very nutritional and is also very balanced and provides everything your body and metabolism needs," he added.

Chinese cuisine is rich in vitamins and proteins, as it relies heavily on vegetables, meat and fish, and rice. Vegetables are widely included in most Chinese dishes and they are not fully cooked in order to retain their nutritional benefits and distinctive fresh taste.



Ibrahim Badwan, a chef, displays Chinese dishes at Mzaaq centre for culinary arts education, in Gaza City, Feb. 6, 2022. Xinhua

The young chef was determined to spread the culture of Chinese cuisine among Gazans and joined several online workshops.

"I spent about a year learning my new dishes... Once I finished cooking, I took photos of them and posted them on my Facebook and Instagram with their names and ingredients," the young man said while he was standing at his kitchen ready to prepare a Chinese dish.

"At that time, I have prepared lots of famous Chinese dishes, such as spring rolls, noodles, wonton soup, kung pao chicken, shrimp and fish dishes, as well as many other delicious dishes," he recalled.

When he published his Chinese recipes on Facebook, he received hundreds of comments, with some asking how he managed to integrate them into the Palestinian culture.

"I answered their questions and told them about the benefits of Chinese food, which is very healthy and delicious. The only thing we need is to accept other cultures and try them, then we will taste new food and recognize a new culture without even leaving our area," the man added.

Now, he organizes dozens of workshops to teach others how to prepare Chinese food and adopt it at home to enjoy its rare and unique taste.

Samah al-Masri, a Gaza-based woman in her 30s, was one of the chef's students. She told Xinhua that she was happy to adopt a new recipe on her food table, after finishing her lessons with Badwan.

"Some Chinese dishes are compatible with the Palestinian culture, especially those characterized by spicy taste," the woman said, adding that "the Chinese cuisine is healthier and helps us keep our weights."

The young chef hopes to open a restaurant in Gaza specializing in Chinese cuisine, and have the opportunity to import all Chinese ingredients from broad to let Gazans enjoy its original taste. It is difficult for Gazans to find all the Chinese ingredients in the coastal enclave, which pushes them to find alternatives.

"Gaza is a tourism area and someday we will have a chance to live in peace and we will receive the tourists around the world, then I will let them enjoy these dishes for sure," the chef said.

Xinhua

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RATIBA YA VIPINDI JUMATATU - JUMAPILI

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

Tembelea mitandao ya kijamii ya CAPITAL RADIO



CAPITAL RADIO

Centre for increased vegetable intake to protect human health

By Guardian Correspondent, Arusha

THE World Vegetable Centre has called on residents in East, Central and Southern Africa to increase intake of vegetables in order to protect their health, especially children.

The appeal was made here yesterday by the Centre's Eastern and Southern Regional Director, Dr Gabriel Rugalema, as he talked to reporters and expressed concern on insignificant intake of greens and fruits in this part of Africa. People were unduly missing balanced diets, he said.

"Researches show that Africa produces a lot of starchy foods. The consequence is that our staple foods in this part of Africa are cereals because we grow a lot of them. There is too much starch in our diets while we do not care much about eating fruits

and vegetables. We want urgent behavioural change in this aspect to improve health of millions of people," he said.

African families have no good reasons for failing to eat vegetables because, Dr Rugalema said, on the whole vegetables are readily available in this part of the world. "Our centre's paramount task is to research on, educate and encourage people to eat vegetables in order to protect health, especially children's health." He explained that mere eating of vegetables in the right way and right amounts protects automatically people from getting many diseases related to food nutrients deficiency.

He explained that the centre, started in 1971, undertakes researches on different types of fruits and vegetables, especially eggplants, okra, roselle, amaranth, tomatoes and pep-



World Vegetable Centre's Eastern and Southern Regional Director, Dr Gabriel Rugalema, briefs journalists on the activities done by the centre in ensuring that vegetable and fruit sectors do in strengthening the importance use of improved seeds as well as encouraging the intake of greens and fruits in the region. Photo: Guardian Correspondent.

per so that quality seeds can reach farmers. When farmers will use quality seeds they will get bumper harvests of quality vegetables, flood markets with vegetables and finally families will get vegetables at competitive prices, he explained.

Dr Rugalema said the centre is researching on spices so that farmers can get quality seeds and grow crops for local and foreign markets. "We know the market for spices is big, in and outside Tanzania. We want small and medium entrepreneurs to seize this opportunity and grow their business," he said, adding that serious vegetable growing will inevitably create jobs for millions in the region.

He said the centre enjoys good cooperation from the government and the Southern Agricultural Growth Corridor of Tanzania (Sagcot) in encouraging people to grow vegetables.

Last week Sagcot and the Alliance for a Green Revolution in Africa (AGRA) organised jointly here training for seed stakeholders in which the seed policy and farming laws were reviewed and recommendations made.

By Correspondent Friday Simbaya, Iringa

AI lauds Tanzania for lifting newspaper ban

AMNESTY International (AI) has commended the Tanzanian government for lifting ban of four newspapers, saying the move is to excel media freedom.

AI comments came barely few days when the Minister for

Information, Communications and Information Technology, Nape Nnauye lifted a ban on the four newspapers—Tanzania Daima, Mawio, Mwanahalisi and Mseto.

AI said that on Tanzanian au-

thorities must do more to guarantee media freedom going forward.

"Over the past six years, being a journalist or running a media organization in Tanzania has come with a price. Numerous

newspapers have been targeted and shut down for exposing cases of corruption and human rights violations," said Sarah Jackson, Amnesty International's Deputy Director for East Africa, the Horn and the

Great Lakes.

"Now that the ban on these newspapers has been lifted, the Tanzanian authorities must immediately repeal the Media Services Act to ensure that independent media out-

lets can operate freely, and carry out their work without fear of reprisals. This is essential for the enjoyment of the rights to freedom of expression and access to information."

The Tanzanian authorities have used the Media Services Act and the Newspaper Act to shut down, fine or suspend independent and critical media outlets for publishing or broadcasting allegations of corruption and human rights violations or reporting on general issues of governance.



Govt in drive to curb TB by 50pct in 2025

By Guardian Reporter

THE government is implementing a number of strategies including the Leprosy Strategic Plan to achieve the goals of reducing Tuberculosis (TB) cases by 50 per cent and number of deaths by 75 per cent by 2025.

Other initiatives include revising the TB diagnostic algorithm by incorporating artificial intelligence technology into digital X-rays installed in all regional referral and district hospitals.

Chief Medical Officer Dr Aifello Sichwale made the remarks over the weekend when opening a meeting for reviewing implementation of community-based tuberculosis interventions for eight regions receiving funds from the Global Fund on HIV/Aids, Malaria and Tuberculosis, administered by the World Bank.

Dr Sichwale said the government will by the end of this year introduce 'TrueNat' machines at health centre and dispensaries and strengthen TB and leprosy outreach services through mobile van clinics in all regions, prioritizing vulnerable TB

groups such as small-scale miners, fishermen, prisoners and drug users.

He said the ministry in collaboration with stakeholders has continued to implement its fifth Strategic Plan (HSSP V) which aims at controlling communicable diseases including TB as well as financing the TB and leprosy programme, mobilising fund from different partners inside and outside the country.

The ministry's 2021 data shows that last year a total of 87,119 TB cases were notified and initiated treatment, equivalent to 97 per cent of an expected level of 89,985 TB infection cases, he said.

A total of 445 drug resistant TB cases were diagnosed and placed on treatment, amounting to around 52 per cent of projected cases of that sort, while 13,715 children - around 16 per cent of projections - were diagnosed and placed in treatment, he elaborated.

TB patients who started treatment in 2020 showed 95 per cent being treated successfully, 3.3 per cent succumbing to death, and 1 per cent lost fol-

low up. The failure rate and those who were not evaluated come to less than 1 per cent of total cases, he declared.

The government recognizes the role played by the non-governmental organization, Management and Development for Health (MDH) in the provision of health services through Global Fund support, he stated.

MDH is implementing tuberculosis control interventions in Mara, Kagera, Ruvuma, Mbeya, Shinyanga, Simiyu and Tanga regions.

MDH director David Sando said the agency has helped in identification of new TB cases, as it identified 56 per cent of total TB cases in 2019, 61 per cent in 2020 and 55 per cent in 2021.

With funding from the United States Presidential Fund Against Malaria (PEPFAR) through the Centre for Disease Control (CDC), MDH purchased 'Gene Xpert' machines distributed to health centres in Dar es Salaam, Kigoma, Kagera, Geita and Coast regions, he said.

A total of 1,140 cooler boxes have been distributed, with allowances paid to 1,680 commu-

nity health workers in 56 districts countrywide, he further noted, elaborating that household contact tracing was conducted in 56 districts in seven regions. Working tools were handed to the community health workers and 560 traditional healers, he stated.

MDH faces a number of challenges including shortage of GeneXpert cartridges and sputum containers, while it also requires vehicles for outreach services especially TB diagnosis, he explained.

The Global TB Report 2021 issued by the World Health Organization (WHO) indicates that Tanzania is among 30 countries with a high TB burden, with the 30 countries accounting for 87 per cent of TB patients worldwide. Globally, there were 9.9m new TB patients, with 1.4m patients (14 per cent) dying during the year, it said.

Tanzania is estimated to have 133,000 TB cases, where 85,597 patients were diagnosed and treated in 64 per cent treatment coverage. This contrasts from 82,166 patients treated in 2020, standing at 59 per cent of diagnoses cases, he added.

Financial journalism has a noble role to play in economic growth

By Saidi Ahmed

THERE is a saying that information is power. The notion behind this saying raises so much ambiguity.

It's being described as the ability to influence others based on the control of the dissemination of information and as well as control of the dissemination of information that is important to subordinate, and others yet not otherwise easily obtained.

It's about personal or collective power that is based on controlling information needed by others in order to reach an important goal.

Our society is now reliant on information power as knowledge for influence, decision making, credibility, and control.

The guiding principle for economic growth only considers from increasing the quality and quantity of the factors of production, which consist of four broad types: land, labor, capital, and entrepreneurship for the country to propel economically. These are called the four factors of economic growth, which considers the increase or improvement in the inflation-adjusted market value of the goods and services produced by an economy over time.

Where, statisticians conventionally measure such growth as the percent rate of increase in the real gross domestic product, or real GDP. These statisticians and macroeconomists rely on the stipulated information. Wrong information means incorrect economic growth.

Economically, countries with massive information or data on specific matters of interest have vast ability to economic growth. This goes down to personal economic development. A person with enough information is in good position to develop economically.

In currently globalised world most developed countries rely on information issued on varied platforms that issue substantive information for investment purposes. These include stock exchange markets. Stock markets are venues where buyers and sellers meet to exchange equity shares of public corporations.

However, not all information can useful or proper presented by content creators. This is to say, a specific knowledge is required to affirm the well-articulated content: financial journalism.

According to Carolina Business News Initiative Financial, financial journalism is the part of journalism that tracks, records, analyses and interprets the business, economic and financial activities and changes that take place in societies. It covers topics widely purview of all commercial activities related to the economy.

This area of journalism provides news and feature articles about people, places and issues related to the business sectors. Detailed and in-depth business journalism may appear in publications, radio, and television channels dedicated specifically to business and financial journalism.

Professor in Business Journalism, Jeffrey Timmermans tells that on fundamental level, financial journalism provides information to individuals that helps them make informed economic choices and understand how those choices impact their financial situation within the context of the broader political economy.

Prof. Timmermans adds that in its earliest iterations, in the 16th century, financial journalism consisted of little more than the publication of

prices of commodities or other goods for sale. As trade and commerce expanded over the following centuries, so did the role and content of financial journalism.

According to Amy Borrett, a data journalist once said: "From my experience, financial journalists do a huge range of things depending on where they work and what they cover. The common ground is an ability to take complex facts about the worlds of business, economics and finance and convey that information concisely and accurately to their audience. Often this revolves around things like the stock market and company reports, but there is a money-related angle to most stories when you think about it."

The renowned financial journalists include Marjorie Deane MBE strongly encouraged young people to become financial journalists, where she donated £1 million to launch the Marjorie Deane Foundation. The Foundation offers Financial Journalism scholarships at City, University of London.

Conferring to Prof. Timmermans, the nobility of the financial journalism is its ability to provide reliable information about prevailing business conditions. The financial journalism has developed in a mostly symbiotic, albeit occasionally combative, relationship for hundreds of years.

"The focus of financial journalism is quite consistent no matter what country or language it is published in: broadly defined, financial journalism encompasses news about financial markets, macroeconomic data and trends, government economic policy, corporate news (especially earnings announcements), personal finance, and commentary about all of the above," Prof. Timmermans recounts.

Among the universities offer the financial journalism include the distinguished City, University of London. The university offers courses that develop skills and knowledge needed to work in fast-paced multimedia newsrooms around the world. Further, the course equips professionals from breaking important stories on global finance and writing about consumer affairs to covering some of the largest companies and financial markets and conducting in-depth investigations.

The university offers a unique insight into global business through study trips that help professionals get to grips with global economics and stock markets such as the Hang Seng Index and Wall Street.

The Bloomberg Media Initiative Africa once said: "The reporting of business and financial journalists plays an important role in the economic development of Africa. Their articles inform citizens, investors, business executives, civil society leaders and public officials. Comprehensive, accurate coverage promotes transparency, accountability, and good governance, which contribute to economic growth and greater prosperity."

Therefore, for any society to propel economically we need to have in place a pool of financial journalists who will be able to tell stories basis on comprehensive and accurate in order to contribute to economic growth and greater prosperity of the nation.

Saidi Ahmed is a seasoned writer on development and economic issues. He is among the first delegates who attended the Bloomberg Media Initiative Africa (BMA) Financial Journalism Training (FJT) Program Intake 1 in Tanzania.

Science academies and disciplinary groups have work to do on gender equality

WOMEN remain under-represented in science careers and research all over the world. There are several reasons for this, including stereotypes about what kind of work women "can" or "should" do; patriarchal attitudes; and a lack of support for women pursuing science, technology, engineering and maths (STEM) careers.

This isn't just an abstract concern. Gender equality matters for many sound reasons. For one, it's enshrined in international human rights law and it is one of the Sustainable Development Goals.

It also makes good economic sense for countries to invest in and fully utilise their total populations. Inclusive scientific leadership in which women are equally represented is best suited to the needs of modern society. Plus, valuing diversity and multiple perspectives sparks creativity and innovation. Both are important hallmarks of scientific endeavour.

So, how are the world's science academies and international disciplinary associations doing when it comes to getting - and keeping - women on board as members and leaders.

That's what we set out to examine in our new study. We focused on science academies and disciplinary unions because together, these organisations represent a large proportion of global scientific endeavour. They have the potential to be powerful change-makers and leaders.

The study followed a 2015 survey on gender inclusion in academies. This allowed us to pinpoint whether and how academies had made any progress in certain areas.

There were some encouraging findings: for example, women's membership of academies increased from 13% to 17% and women's leadership on governing bodies from 21% to 29%. Young academies, which generally represent early career scientists, fared far better than their senior counterparts, which is a promising sign for the future.

But there's still plenty for young academies

to do. Most still have less than a quarter women's representation, though there was one bright spot: South Africa's Young Academy of Science is ranked highest in the world when it comes to female membership; 57% of its members are women.

The report sets out several recommendations for furthering gender representation and equality globally. These include developing and maintaining a central repository of gender-related policies and actions as well as working intensively with disciplinary associations where improvement is needed in women's representation.

Key findings
The study was coordinated by GenderInSITE (Gender in Science, Innovation, Technology and Engineering), an initiative aimed at promoting the role of women in these disciplines and demonstrating how the application of a "gender lens" leads to more effective, equitable and sustainable development. It was a collaboration with the InterAcademy Partnership and the International Science Council.

The academies and disciplinary organisations surveyed are all members of the InterAcademy Partnership or the International Science Council. In total, they represent more than 250 unique organisations. That means the results we collected provide important baseline information for taking transformative action at a global level.

Here are some of the key findings:
Young academies are setting the pace when it comes to gender equality. On average, women's share of their membership is 42%; ten young academies are ranked ahead of the highest ranked senior academy in terms of percentage of women members.

The highest ranked senior academy is the Academy of Sciences of Cuba. It increased its share from 27% in 2015 to 33% in 2020.

There are big disciplinary differences in women's representation. This perpetuates fa-



It makes good economic sense for countries to invest in and fully utilise their total populations.

THE GUARDIAN SIMPLE WORD FIT // THE GUARDIAN CROSSWORD --00 223 00--

WORD-FIT

3 letters: USE, SIN, STY,
4 letters: GADS, DUES, DEED, TIPS, UPON, EFTA
5 letters: RUPEE, NUERS, FYTTE, YEARS, A'ASIA, EVICT,
6 letters: STRING,
7 letters: ARDUOUS, DARLING,
8 letters: LILONGWE,
9 letters: LIBERATED, BLIND DATE, LAID PAPER

CROSSWORD

CLUES: Across
1 the festival of christian church celebrating the resurrection of christ
6 someone dejected
7 a small, narrow river
9 intense sorrow
11 the food eaten
12 salary
13 mate and then produce offspring
15 shed tears
17 have a different opinion
20 harmony in opinion or feelings

CLUES: Down
1 achieved without great effort
2 a sudden powerful forward movement
3 messages send electronically
4 Italy's capital
6 Hellenic Republic
8 rub out
10 Paris is the capital city
11 the formal union of a man and a woman
14 barking and howling animal
16 a long, narrow strap attached at one hand to a horse's bit, typically used in pairs to guide or check a horse in riding or driving
18 Yemen's Capital
19 Capital city of Italy

By Magezi : 0755429240 telixmagezi@gmail.com

miliar patterns evident also in women's representation in research fields. For instance, representation was relatively higher in biological sciences (28%) and social sciences, humanities and arts (27%). It was lowest in the mathematical sciences (8%).

The Tanzania Academy of Sciences was among those academies that grew their representation of female scientists the most, increasing from 4% in 2015 to 12% in 2020. The Ethiopian Academy of Sciences now has the lowest representation of women members on the continent, at 9%.

We also found a big divide between actions and words. For instance, 68% of international disciplinary organisations said they were committed to diversity and inclusivity. But only 32% said they were taking action by, for instance, developing policies that would drive diversity and inclusion. Only 16% of these organisations reported that they had a budget for activities related to gender equality.

One of our most disappointing findings was that only six science academies of the 72 that participated last time discussed the 2015 survey report and its recommendations at a strategic planning session. This has prompted us to recommend that the IAP and ISC establish centralised monitoring and evaluation frameworks that require regular reporting of gender statistics by their member organisations.

Recommendations
The new survey contains a number of recommendations, which GenderInSITE, the InterAcademy Partnership

and the International Science Council are committed to taking forward.

One of our next steps is to extend the survey to other global science organisations.

This will contribute to a more inclusive and comprehensive understanding of gender equality in global science. The report also recommends developing and maintaining a central repository of gender-related policies and actions as a way of encouraging those organisations committed to gender transformation to learn from best practice examples.

GenderInSITE, the InterAcademy Partnership and the International Science Council have all committed to using their regional presences to gain insights and advance the gender equality agenda. This is especially so in countries or regions that are lagging. The same sort of work will be undertaken in disciplines that have been found wanting in terms of women's representation.

Our three organisations will also establish centralised monitoring and evaluation frameworks that require regular reporting of relevant gender statistics by our member organisations. This reporting will happen at a high strategic level. In this way, we hope that gender transformation is prioritised.

It's also important to note that we're not merely focusing on numbers, since these are only part of the picture. Science academies and disciplinary organisations are also being encouraged to focus on making diversity and inclusion central to their institutional cultures. The Conversation **IPS**

RADIO One RATIBA YA VIPINDI JUMATATU - JUMAPILI

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BUSINESS



ECB chief Christine Lagarde

Rate hikes pose bigger threat for Europe's debt

LONDON

INVESTORS in European bonds are heading into this rate-hike cycle more vulnerable than they've ever been before, suggesting that the painful selloff of recent weeks could be only the beginning.

Bonds have tumbled this month as the highest inflation in decades spurs traders and bank analysts to outdo each other in betting on ever more hikes from the Federal Reserve and European Central Bank. The latter is now seen taking its key rate back to 0% this year.

Even though ECB chief Christine Lagarde has tried to push back on expectations for the euro zone, sharp moves in long maturity debt from Germany to the likes of Deutsche Bahn AG and Nestle SA are bringing into question the "haven" status of these securities.

The driving force behind this is a metric known as duration – a measure of the sensitivity of bonds to rate hikes. That's jumped after years of cheap borrowing costs and vast liquidity led borrowers to take advantage by extending their maturities.

For European government bonds it's now 8.27 years, more than two years higher than the last time the European Central Bank hiked rates in July 2011, according to Bloomberg index data. The corresponding figure for euro high-grade corporate debt is a year higher at 5.13 years.

"As of now, it's the front-end that has suffered the most in the recent selloff,"

said John Taylor, a portfolio manager at AllianceBernstein who manages \$5.4 billion of funds. "As the focus shifts to the impact of quantitative tightening, the market price will start to price in more of a term premium for longer term debt in the 10s and 30s."

Taylor's funds are increasing cash and other floating rate instruments that are removed from rates and credit market volatility. A key gauge of expected price swings for the bond market – one-year options on two-year volatility – rose to the highest level since 2011 this week. "There isn't a safe haven right now. So staying out of the market for the next month or two isn't the worst thing," he said.

Reflecting Taylor's sentiment, the cash glut in the euro-area economy rose to a record above 4.5 trillion euros (\$5.1 billion) this month.

Amundi SA, Europe's biggest fund manager, has also sounded a warning. In a recent note, the firm recommended that investors maintain a short duration bias since traditional bond benchmarks face the challenges of low yields and high duration risk.

While the rates and investment-grade debt markets are usually the first in line of fire during a hiking cycle, the increase in duration means that this time could be particularly brutal.

"All the assets that have benefited from the extraordinary stimulus have higher duration now and are vulnerable," said Pierre Verle, a high-yield debt portfolio manager at Carmignac Gestion SA, with \$1.5 billion of assets under his purview.

Share of private sector external debt stock up, govt down 2021

By Guardian Reporter

THE share of private sector debt to total external debt grew substantially during the year ending December, signalling increased demand for cash among private firms, as the economy was recovering from the impact of Covid-19 pandemic.

According to the ministry of finance provisional data, the share of private sector grew to \$7.36 billion, which is 26.4% of total external debt in 2021 from revised \$5.49 billion or 22.9% of total debt in 2020.

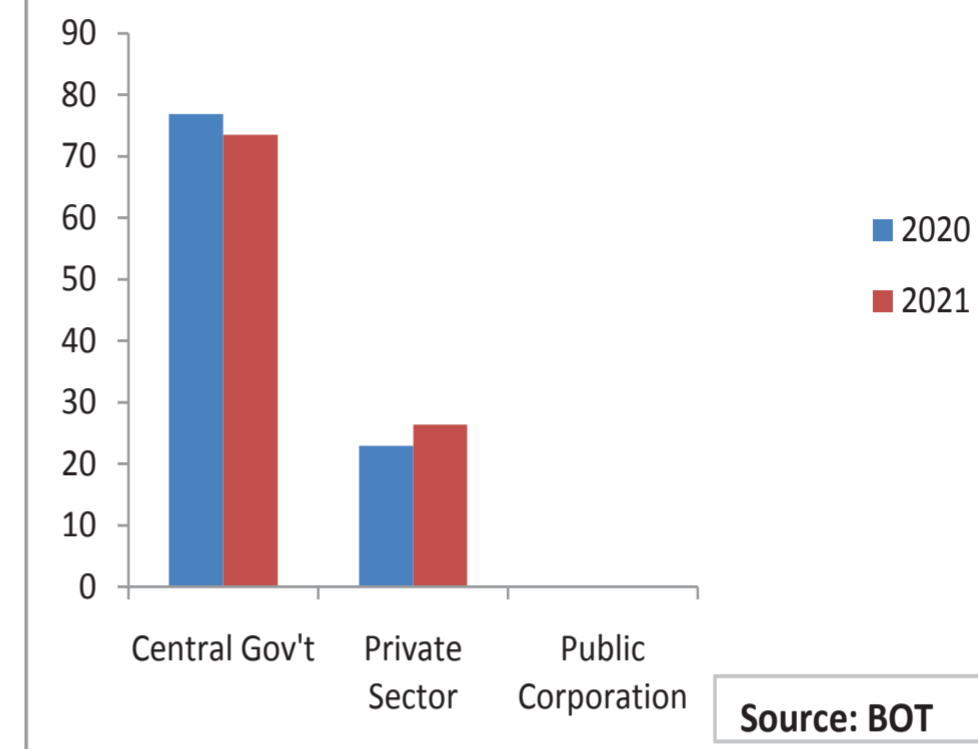
Tanzania's total external debt stock by December 2021 stood at \$27.9 billion from \$24.0 billion recorded 1 December 2020.

The growth also pushed up the share of commercial debt to total external debt to \$9.27 billion or 33.2% in 2021 from \$7.62 billion or 31.8% in 2020.

Nearly all private sector borrowings are from external commercial lenders, which also indicate increased confidences to the recovering economy of Tanzania.

This happened when the share of central government debt stock experienced the decline as report shows during the year 2021 it was 73.5% from 76.9% in December 2020.

The Share of External Debt Stock by Borrowers 2020 and 2021 (in Percent)



Source: BOT

The Bank of Tanzania monthly economic review for January shows that transport and communication accounted for the large share of the use of external

borrowing with 23.1% in 2021, the highest than any other economic activity.

The report shows energy and mining also absorbed the highest share of external

borrowing with 16.1 percent in 2021, higher than 14.4% in 2020.

The share of finance and insurance increased to 5.7% or \$1.43 billion in 2021 from 5.1%

(\$1.10 billion) in 2020.

According to the report, the amount of central government debt increased to \$20.5 billion in 2021 from \$18.4 billion recorded in 2020.

The use of external borrowing by central government debt included social welfare and education with 16.1% and balance of payment and budget support which accounted for 12.3% of total external debt.

The share of external debt to agriculture slowed to 5.3% of total debt in 2021 (\$1.34 billion) from 6.4% (\$1.38 billion) in 2020.

Export credit also recorded growth of nearly half during reported period as the amount went up to \$3.86 billion or 13.8% in 2021 from \$2.67 billion or 11.1% recorded in 2020.

According to ministry of finance, central government sources external debts mostly from multilateral and bilateral of which their shares also slowed during the reported period.

The share of multilateral debt decreased to 44.8% in 2021 from 48.6% in 2020 while those of bilateral slowed to 8.1% from 9.1% respectively.

Bulyanhulu Gold to pay 13.9bn/- to acquire six licences

By Correspondent Geoffrey Nangai

THE Fair Competition Commission (FCC) has received a merger application notification from Barrick Gold's Bulyanhulu Gold Mine to acquire six prospective licenses from the Mineral Industry and Consulting Company Limited (Target firm).

The Licences are located in areas adjacent to the Bulyanhulu mine and have the potential to add significant mineral reserves to Barrick's asset base in Tanzania.

Upon regulatory approval by the FCC, Bulyanhulu will acquire from a 100 per cent interest in six prospecting licenses held by Target firm with the transaction and Private Placement expected finalized in the first quarter of 2022.

Under the terms of the Purchase Agreement, Bulyanhulu is entitled to pay \$6 million (approximately 13.9bn/-

) for the six prospective licensees plus other contingent payments.

Bulyanhulu will also be required to invest a minimum of \$9 million (approximately 20.9bn/-) in the Licence Area over the course of the four years following the closing of the Transaction.

Concurrently with the execution of the Purchase Agreement, Bulyanhulu agreed to subscribe for, on a non-brokered private placement basis, 5,518,764 of common shares of Tembo at a price of \$0.27 per common share. Bulyanhulu Gold Mine is a joint venture between Barrick and the Government of Tanzania, with Barrick having an 84 per cent shareholding while Government owns the remaining 16 per cent shares.

According to a public notice issued by FCC yesterday, the merging firms submitted Asset Purchase Agreement dated December 7, 2021 with

Bulyanhulu expressing its intention to acquire six prospecting licenses from Target firm.

According to the Fair Competition Act, 2003, FCC is mandated to investigate entry into and exit from markets.

FCC's decision will be based on the investigation made ensures that rights and interests of third parties are wholly protected as well as the effect of the merger in the market.

"FCC has begun the review and investigation of the intended acquisition with a view to examine whether it is likely to harm competition," the public notice said.

The FCC called upon the public (petitioners) who deem themselves as having sufficient interest in the merger or have objections to the merger to submit their petitions with a view to assist FCC in reaching just and reasonable decisions with regard to

the intended merger.

"All petitioners are hereby notified to submit their petitions within 14 days from the first publication of the notice," according to the statement.

Bulyanhulu on December 7, 2021 entered into a binding agreement with, Tembo Gold Corp the Mineral Industry Promotion and Consulting Company Limited ("MIPCCCL"), a wholly-owned subsidiary of Tembo, in respect of the acquisition of certain prospecting licenses.

The Barrick president and chief executive Mark Bristow in a statement last year said the acquisition was a significant step forward in the company's strategy of increasing its investment in new growth opportunities in Tanzania and a further demonstration of the value-creation potential of its partnership with the government.



Bulyanhulu Gold Mine site

China's insurance sector reports steady expansion in 2021

Beijing

China's insurance sector has maintained steady expansion and remained solvent last year, according to the country's banking and insurance regulator.

The total assets of Chinese insurers amounted to 24.9 trillion yuan (about 3.91 trillion U.S. dollars) at the end of December, up 11.5 percent from the beginning of 2021, said the China Banking and Insurance Regulatory Commission.

Specifically, the total assets of property insurance companies, life insurance

companies and reinsurance companies went up 6 percent, 12.4 percent and 22.2 percent, respectively.

In 2021, insurers' premium income increased 4.1 percent year on year to 4.5 trillion yuan.

The comprehensive solvency adequacy ratio of insurers, a key metric to measure their ability to meet debt and other obligations, stood at 240 percent at the end of the third quarter of 2021. The average core solvency ratio was 227.3 percent, data showed.

Government collects 11.8tr/- in first half of FY 2021/2022



Finance and Planning minister Mwigulu Nchemba

By Guardian Reporter

The government collected a total of 11.8tril/- during the first half of 2021/22 financial year, which is more than 2tril/- below the estimated 13.08tril/-.

During the current financial year, the government targets to collect revenue, from both central and local government amounting 26.38tril/-.

This means that Tanzania Revenue Authority (TRA) has to put more efforts to collect 16tril/- from January to June this year.

According to the ministry of finance and planning data, central government collected 11.4tril/- during the first half of this financial year, against estimated 12.6tril/-.

The central government planned to collect 25.5tril/- during the 2021/2022 financial year.

Tax revenue also went below the targets as a total of 9.8tril/- collected against estimated 10.2tril/- for the first six months and 20.7tril/- for the whole financial year.

Tax on imports was above estimates as 3.97tril/- collected against targeted 3.8tril/- for six months and 7.7tril/- for the whole

financial year.

Sales Value Added Tax and excise on local goods also fell short of estimated amount during the first half of the financial year as 1.45tril/- were collected against estimated 2.3tril/-.

The amount of VAT and excise on local goods was less than half of estimated collection of 4.6tril/- for the whole financial year.

Income tax collections surpassed the estimated targets for the half year as a total of 3.8tril/- collected against estimated 3.4tril/-.

During 2021/2022 budget, the government planned to collect 7tril/- from income tax.

The reports show collection of other taxes also failed to reach the targeted amount of 657.5bn/- for the half year, as at the end of December last year, only 584bn/- were recorded.

Non-tax revenue also fell short estimated as only 1.5tril/- were collected against estimated 2.3tril/-.

Local government taxes were also below the targeted 445.6b/- as only 411bn/- collected.

In the whole financial year, local government were targeted to collect 863bn/-.

Largest miners to see record profits slip

Sydney

INVESTORS in the world's biggest mining companies will this month be watching for signs that mounting cost pressures and the impacts of slowing Chinese growth could further erode record earnings.

Miners are likely to report a drop in profits. The top-five western diversified mining companies, including iron-ore giants Rio Tinto Group, Vale SA and BHP Group Ltd., may see combined 2021 second-half earnings of \$73 billion, according to analysts' estimates, compared to \$82 billion in the first half.

Although elevated prices for metals mean profits remain robust on a historical basis, the dip is reflective of the headwinds that developed over the period.

"That's going to be a theme: With the bumper profits that they're enjoying, they are rewarding shareholders with dividends rather than ploughing it back into expansion," said David Bassanese, chief economist at fund manager BetaShares in Sydney. "That shows that there's not a lot of confidence" for the longer-term, with uncertainty about China at the forefront of concerns, he said.

Threats to economic growth in the world's largest metals consumer are clouding the outlook for miners -- and especially iron-ore companies.

China's property market, which consumes around a third of the country's steel output, has been cooling -- Bloomberg Intelligence expects new home starts to decline by 5% this year. And Beijing's bid to cling to its Covid-zero status, even as regional outbreaks become more frequent, is the X factor that's likely giving some resource executives sleepless nights.

The pandemic has been a double-edged sword for the mining sector over the six months to Dec. 31. On the positive side of the ledger, the trillions of dollars in stimulus packages ignited demand for commodities like iron ore, copper and aluminum, driving prices sharply higher and sending inflation pressures rippling through the global economy.

On the negative: rising operating costs are set to be a feature of the latest set of reports. Labor shortages are becoming an increasing challenge to ore producers in the Pilbara region of Western Australia, a state which remains subject to strict borders controls to keep the Covid-19 out. Supply chain bottlenecks have also seen global shipping rates ratchet higher.

BHP and Rio have said that a lack of workers in key roles are having an impact on their operations. Fortescue Metals Group Ltd., the world's No. 4 ore producer, reported last month that its costs had risen 20% over the past 12 months driven primarily by rising fuel prices and labor shortages.

Vale is expected to have offset volatile ore prices by selling down its stockpiles and getting some cost relief last quarter. Still, the market will be wary of the potential for increased provisions for remedial action following the Samarco dam disaster.

Saudi Arabia transfers \$80bn Aramco stake to wealth fund

Riyadh

SAUDI Arabia transferred a stake worth about \$80 billion in state oil giant Aramco to the kingdom's wealth fund as part of plans to boost its assets under management to over \$1 trillion in four years.

The transfer of 4% in Aramco to the Public Investment Fund would also help restructure the country's economy, state-run Saudi Press Agency reported, citing de facto ruler Crown Prince Mohammed bin Salman. The government will still be the largest shareholder in Aramco, with a more than 94% stake.

The move follows people familiar with the matter saying last week that Saudi Arabia held talks with advisers on a potential second offering of Aramco stock, which could bring in more than its initial IPO. Aramco's 2019 initial public offering -- in which it sold about 2% of its stock on the Riyadh bourse -- raised almost \$30 billion.

The money was transferred to the sovereign wealth fund and was meant to support investments to shift the biggest Arab economy away from a reliance on oil sales.

The soaring price of oil



as the global economy reopens after the impact of the coronavirus pandemic has helped lift Aramco's share price from a low of 27.8 riyals in March 2020 to 37.3 riyals, giving it a market capitalization of almost \$2 tril-

lion. Aramco is the world's biggest oil company and is helping finance Prince Mohammed's plan to transform and diversify the Saudi economy -- an initiative dubbed Vision 2030.

He said in an interview last year that they may transfer a stake to the wealth fund, but he didn't say how much or when it could occur.

The wealth fund, also chaired by the Crown Prince,

has outlined a plan to grow its assets under management to about \$1.1 trillion by 2025, while investing \$40 billion annually into Saudi Arabia's economy.

The wealth fund is a key lever for the kingdom's efforts to

revive growth after a recession caused by the coronavirus pandemic and lower oil prices. Since 2015, the PIF has grown assets under management to \$500 billion from about \$150 billion.

Brewery plan to recruit more young scientists

By Guardian Correspondent

YOUNG male and female science graduates have something to smile, after Serengeti Breweries Limited announced plan to recruit dozens of them in its workforce through STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics) Apprentice Program.

Furthermore, SBL's ambitious program is aligned with the government's campaign to increase the number of young

females who pursue scientific careers by expanding the number of science schools for girls across the country. The company has said in a press statement issued today.

A statement issued by the brewery said the program involves recruitment a large number of ambitious young females to join the company for twelve months with a Bachelor's degree/higher diploma or equivalent in the fields of

electrical engineering, electronics engineering, mechanical engineering, mechatronic engineering, food science and technology.

Saraphina Mwamaso, SBL brand change manager says STEM program has so far recruited ten young female scientists from different colleges in Tanzania.

She said the program has also uplifted and enlightened young females through men-

torship and coaching.

"Our aim is to improve and strengthen gender diversity in SBL especially in supply by having inclusive talent pipeline," she said.

A graduate student in Electronics and Telecommunication from Dar Es Salaam Institute of Technology (DIT), Flora Munuo, who has benefited from STEM apprentice said "It is critical to recognize the contributions of women and

girls in science because greater diversity fosters greater innovation.

"There are a large number of us who are capable of discovering new concepts and application. I am extremely grateful that SBL recognized my potential and accepted me into the program," she said.

Rukia Tezura, a University of Dar es Salaam graduate with a degree in Telecommunications Engineering said "from

where I'm standing today, I believe any brilliant young female in science can do the same thing."

She added "we must have the confidence to take advantage of opportunities like these, which will allow them to chart a new course for themselves in the STEM fields in the future. Come out and show up what you can," is my pledge to all of the young women who will hear this."



China's industrial economy begins Year of the Tiger with vigour

BEIJING

With motors rotating and machines roaring, China's industrial firms started the first week after the Chinese Lunar New Year holiday full of vim and vigor.

Facing multiple challenges in 2022, Rong Juchuan, founder of the Beyond Group, a textile company headquartered in Ningbo, east China's Zhejiang Province, said the company "can't just wait, but should take the initiative."

In 2022, the company will prioritize improving its digital capabilities and leveraging new sales channels such as live-streaming platforms to lower operating costs and tap into potential demand, said Rong.

Recent economic data has echoed such enthusiasm for business. The purchasing managers' index (PMI) for China's manufacturing sector, a key economic barometer, came in at 50.1 in January, staying in

the expansion territory for three months in a row.

In particular, manufacturing companies' confidence was on the rise, with the sub-index for production and operation activity expectations at 57.5, up 3.2 percentage points from a month earlier.

China's economic performance in the first quarter is expected to beat market expectations, said Li Chao, chief economist of Zhesang Securities, citing a PMI remaining above the boom-bust line for three consecutive months and steady credit growth.

The resilience of China's industrial economy was also reflected in other barometers, including the total consumption of electricity.

One of the country's industrial powerhouses, east China's Jiangsu Province, saw its total electricity use rise 18.27 percent year on year during the holiday, while Hubei, a key manufacturing base in China, reported a 36.45-percent year-on-year increase in power use.



A staff member works in a textile factory at the integrated industrial park in Moyu County of Hotan, northwest China's Xinjiang Uygur Autonomous Region. (Xinhua/Ding Lei)

According to an estimate of the China Electricity Council, the country's total electricity consumption will rise by 5 percent to 6 percent year on year in 2022.

In the face of headwinds such as high commodity prices and supply chain challenges, China has prioritized stable growth for industrial development in 2022, which is the "ballast stone" of

the macroeconomic market.

Xiao Yaqing, minister of industry and information technology, said in a previous interview with Xinhua that ensuring stable industrial growth, particularly a

good start in the first quarter of 2022, should be set as the most important task.

To ensure a stable expansion, multiple measures have been rolled out including boosting

the development of small and medium-sized enterprises, enhancing supply chain resilience, and giving full play to the role of emerging sectors like new energy vehicles (NEVs).

The ministry aims to incubate about 3,000 "little giant" firms this year, referring to small enterprises in their early stage of development and focusing on high-end technologies.

"In 2022, more importance will be attached to promoting collaboration and innovation among small, medium-sized and large enterprises," said Xu Xiaolan, vice-minister of industry and information technology.

The NEV market could be another driving force shoring up China's industrial growth. The country's NEV sales ranked first globally for a seventh straight year in 2021.

Looking forward, China aims to further facilitate the growth of this booming sector by relieving chip shortages, improving supporting facilities such as battery swapping stations, and carrying out the recycling and utilization of NEV power batteries.

Big oil books biggest cash flow since 2008

WASHINGTON

The world's five supermajors booked \$37 billion in combined cash flows for the fourth quarter as disciplined spending combined with rallying oil prices to take Big Oil's cash flow to the highest since 2008.

ExxonMobil, Chevron, BP, Shell, and TotalEnergies also booked combined adjusted net earnings of \$31 billion for Q4 2021—the highest for any quarter in more than nine years, according to Bloomberg's estimates.

All supermajors reported very strong earnings and cash flows for Q4 and 2021, as oil and gas prices rallied and global demand returned after the initial slump in the pandemic in 2020.

Exxon posted its largest quarterly profit for Q4 in seven years, while its full-year 2021 cash flow from operating activities jumped to the highest since 2012. Chevron reported for 2021 a record-high free cash flow and its best annual earnings since 2014, thanks to rallying oil and gas prices and the economic rebound last year. BP announced this week what was its highest annual net profit in

eight years.

"And certainly, it's possible that we're getting more cash than we know what to do with," Murray Auchincloss, BP's chief financial officer said on the earnings call.

"For now, I'm going to be conservative and manage the company as if it's \$40 oil. Anything we could get above that just helps, obviously," Auchincloss added.

In the fourth quarter of 2021, Brent prices averaged just below \$80 a barrel, while Brent averaged \$96 per barrel the last time the five supermajors had generated so much cash flow—\$40 billion for the first quarter of 2008, Bloomberg notes.

Thanks to rallying energy commodity prices, the majors accelerated or announced additional share buybacks and raised dividends throughout 2021 to return more cash to shareholders.

The bumper profits, especially of UK-based Shell and BP, rekindled calls in the UK for a so-called "windfall tax" on profits of energy companies to be used to mitigate the blow to consumers from soaring energy prices.



UK economy rebounds with fastest growth

LONDON

The UK economy rebounded last year with growth of 7.5% despite falling back in December due to Omicron restrictions, official figures show.

It was the fastest pace of growth since 1941, although it came after a dramatic 9.4% collapse in 2020 as the pandemic forced parts of the economy to shut.

In December, the economy shrank 0.2% as Omicron restrictions hit the hospitality and retail sectors.

Chancellor Rishi Sunak said the economy had been "remarkably resilient".

The Office for National Statistics (ONS) figures showed that in the last three months of 2021 growth was 1%, which ONS director of economic statistics Darren Morgan said was "pretty healthy" given Omicron's spread and the introduction of some restrictions.

The figures were stronger than expected, and Mr Morgan told the BBC the expansion in 2021 showed the UK was the fastest growing economy in the G7 group of nations. However, he urged caution about making

strict comparisons.

"The growth in 2021 comes from a low base in 2020, when the economy fell sharply," Mr Morgan said. "And if you look at where the UK economy is now, compared to its pre-pandemic level... the UK is middle of the pack, compared with the G7."

He said using this comparison, the US, Canadian and French economies were above the UK's, while the UK was above Italy, Germany and Japan.

The worst of the overall pandemic economic hit is now behind us but the aftershocks remain.

Downing Street is unlikely to avoid the opportunity to boast about 2021. During its hosting of the G7, the UK is now confirmed as the fastest growing economy of these major nations.

But that comparison needs a dollop of context.

The 7.5% growth the UK economy recorded in 2021 is the highest of the G7 major economies and that does indicate a strong bounceback.



Table with TV schedules for Monday 14 Feb, Wednesday 16 Feb, Friday 18 Feb, Sunday 20 Feb, Tuesday 15 Feb, Thursday 17 Feb, and Saturday 19 Feb. Includes program titles and times.

WORLD

Afghan central bank calls for reversal of US decision on frozen assets



People walk past Da Afghanistan Bank building in Kabul on Oct 10, 2021. File photo

KABUL

AFGHAN central bank on Sunday issued a statement, calling for the reversal of the US government's decision on splitting the frozen Afghan assets in the United States.

The Da Afghanistan Bank (DAB)'s statement came after US President Biden signed an executive order on Friday to free \$7 billion out of more than \$9 billion frozen Afghan assets, splitting the money between humanitarian aid for cash-

strapped Afghanistan and a fund for 9/11 victims.

"DAB considers the latest decision of USA on blocking Foreign Exchange (FX) Reserves and allocating them to irrelevant purposes, injustice to the people of Afghanistan and will never accept if the FX reserves of Afghanistan is paid under the name of compensation or humanitarian assistance to others and wants the reversal of the decision and release of all FX reserves of Afghanistan," the bank said.

"As per the law and relevant regulations, FX

reserves of Afghanistan are used to implement monetary policy, facilitate international trade and stabilize financial sector," the statement read.

The real owners of these reserves are people of Afghanistan. These reserves were not the property of governments, parties and groups and is never used as per their demand and decisions, the bank's statement added.

Mohammad Naeem, the spokesman of the Taliban political office in Qatar, on Friday criticized the decision on splitting the frozen Afghan assets in the United States.

"Stealing the blocked funds of Afghan nation by the United States and its seizure is indicative of the lowest level of human and moral decay of a country and a nation," Naeem wrote on Twitter.

Australia ruling party set for upset in state by-elections

LONDON



AUSTRALIAN Prime Minister Scott Morrison's Liberal Party suffered a major upset in New South Wales state's by-elections, preliminary reports indicated on Sunday, presenting a challenge for his ruling coalition ahead of federal elections due in May.

Liberal Party leaders at both state and federal level have come under pressure in recent months over their handling of the latest wave of the COVID-19 pandemic, as cases and deaths soared following the arrival of the Omicron variant.

Official tallies of the four by-elections won't come for weeks until mail-in votes are counted, but New South Wales Premier Dominic Perrottet has conceded the Liberals will lose a seat which has never been won by the opposition Labor Party.

The loss of the regional seat of Bega, in the state's south, has pushed Perrottet's government further into minority. It has also sent a potential warning to Morrison who must call federal election by May 21.

Perrottet said the government of New South Wales, Australia's most populous state, will take lessons from the "disappointing" results.

"There (are) certainly messages for us to look at in terms of what we are doing on the ground," Perrottet said at a news briefing.

The Liberals also suffered a swing against them in former state Premier Gladys Berejiklian's seat. Anthony Albanese, the leader of the Labor party, called the results "outstanding."

Keith Pitt, Australia's resources minister, played down the implications of results for the Morrison government, telling Sky News on Sunday that "these things don't reflect into a federal result."

A January poll showed Morrison's Liberal-National coalition government took a hit after their handling of the Omicron-driven coronavirus outbreak fueled a backlash, putting Labor into a leading position.

US has the best claim to 'master of coercion' title - China

BEIJING

IN response to US Secretary of State Antony Blinken's claim that China coerced Australia by economic means, a Foreign Ministry spokesperson said on Friday that no one has a better claim to the title of "master of coercion" than the United States.

Spokesperson Zhao Lijian told a daily press briefing that the US government forced the military government of Haiti to step down in 1994, and referred to that as "a textbook example of coercive diplomacy."

In 2003, the United States explicitly characterized \$30.3 billion additional military expenses for "coercive diplomacy" as incurred expenses, Zhao added.

The US government went all out to hobble competitors like Huawei

of China, Alstom of France and Toshiba of Japan and used coercion to force the Taiwan Semiconductor Manufacturing Co, Samsung and other companies to provide chip supply chain data, said the spokesperson, adding these are textbook examples of economic coercion.

Reiterating that China always proceeds from the lawful rights and interests of domestic industries and the safety of consumers and adopts appropriate measures on imported products in strict compliance with Chinese laws and regulations as well as WTO rules, Zhao said this is fully justified, lawful and beyond reproach.

The label of "economic coercion" cannot be pinned on China, Zhao said, adding all attempts to gang up with others to misrepresent facts and resort to malicious hype-up are bound to fail.

Xinhua



This undated photo shows the building of China's Foreign Ministry in Beijing. (PHOTO PROVIDED TO CHINA DAILY)

UN chief says ocean faces climate crisis, admonishes world to 'change track'

UNITED NATIONS

UNITED Nations Secretary-General Antonio Guterres on Friday called on the international community to "change track" in protecting the ocean from climate crisis.

Global warming, biodiversity loss and pollution are a triple crisis facing the planet, said the UN chief at the One Ocean Summit, warning that the ocean "shoulders a great deal of the burden."

As the ocean serves as a giant carbon and heat sink, it is becoming warmer and more acidic, affecting its ecosystems. "Polar ice is melting and global weather patterns are changing," the UN chief said in his video message to the conference, which took place this week in the northern French coastal city of Brest.

The communities who rely on the ocean are hurting as well, he added. "More than 3 billion people depend on marine and coastal biodiversity for their livelihoods."

He painted a grim picture of dwindling marine species; bleached coral reefs; coastal

ecosystems that are dumping grounds for sewage; and nutrient-poor seas choked by debris.

Additionally, fish stocks are under threat from overfishing, destructive fishing practices, and illegal, unreported, and unregulated fishing. "We must change track," underscored the secretary-general.

It is 40 years since the signing of the UN Convention on the Law of the Sea. "The importance of legal certainty in the ocean is paramount," said Guterres.

He said that the second UN Ocean Conference, which will be held in Lisbon from June 27 to July 1 this year, is "an opportunity to cement the role of the ocean" in global efforts to achieve the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and implement the Paris Agreement on climate change.

The UN chief emphasized the need to intensify efforts to protect the ocean, saying a "sustainable blue economy can drive economic progress and job creation" while protecting the climate.

"We need more, and more effective partnerships, to address land-



based sources of marine pollution... urgency in the deployment of offshore renewable energy, which can provide clean power and employment, and... (less) fossil fuels in the ocean economy," he said. In his remarks, Guterres praised the "encouraging steps" taken by some countries, including France, to end single-use plastics and urged others to follow suit.

About 90 percent of world trade is transported by sea, he said, which contributes to nearly three percent of global greenhouse gas emissions. "The shipping sector needs to contribute to the necessary 45 percent cut in emissions needed by 2030, and zero emissions by 2050, in the effort to keep alive our hopes of limiting global temperature rise to 1.5 degrees Cel-

sus," the UN chief said.

A breakthrough on adaptation and resilience for coastal communities whose lives, homes and livelihoods are at risk is also imperative. "We must capitalize on the opportunities that nature-based solutions, such as mangroves and seagrasses, provide," he added.

Warmer temperatures mean melting sea ice, increasing ocean temperatures, and warmer water - affecting ecosystems and global weather patterns.

The secretary-general stressed the need for global partnerships and investment in order to promote a sustainable ocean economy, along with increased support for ocean science "so that our actions are informed by the knowledge and understanding of the ocean."

"Too much remains unmapped, unobserved and unexplored," he said. Throughout the UN Decade of Ocean Science for Sustainable Development, Guterres encouraged concerned citizens everywhere to "deliver on our collective promise of a healthy blue planet for future generations." Xinhua

Moscow to react soon to West's response on security proposals, says Kremlin aide

MOSCOW

MOSCOW will consider the views that US President Joe Biden expressed in a phone call with Russian leader Vladimir Putin when working on a reaction to the United States and NATO's response to its proposals on security guarantees, Kremlin Aide Yuri Ushakov told reporters on Saturday.

"The two presidents agreed that Moscow will carefully study the views that Biden expressed and if possible, take them into account when working on a reaction to the documents on the US and NATO's positions," he pointed out.

Putin said during the phone call that Russia had almost completed "interagency consultations on the possible steps and an announcement will be made in the near future," Ushakov said. "We will soon inform our partners and the public of our reaction," he added.

According to him, Putin mentioned the history of relations between the US, NATO and Russia, pointing out that "during the Cold War, the Soviet Union and the US were clearly adversaries but in the 1990s, for instance, we seemed to be friends, though even then, the policy that the US and NATO pursued towards Russia was far from constructive."

The Kremlin aide noted that "this is when practical steps to expand NATO's scope of activity began, this is when new countries were granted membership and the alliance came close to Russia's borders." "Later, in the 2000s, the security situation in the Euro-Atlantic region dramatically deteriorated and it was about our country's security," Ushakov stressed.

US President Joe Biden pointed out in a phone conversation with Russian President Vladimir Putin on Saturday that Moscow and Washington remain opponents, but they need to do their best to maintain global stability and security, Ushakov told. Ushakov explained that during the conversation, the US president even referred to the experience of their predecessors, who did everything in their power during the Cold War to avoid the disaster, a major conflict between the two states.

"He (Biden - TASS) said that our two great powers are still rivals now, but they must do their best to maintain stability and ensure security throughout the world," Ushakov said.

According to the Kremlin official, Biden also emphasized that it was necessary to do everything possible to avoid the worst scenario in the current crisis around Ukraine.

The West and Kiev have recently been spreading allegations about Russia's potential 'invasion' of Ukraine. Kremlin Spokesman Dmitry Peskov castigated these claims as "empty and unfounded", serving as a ploy to escalate tensions, pointing out that Russia did not pose any threat whatsoever to anyone. Agencies

Beijing Winter Olympics mirror of positive, prosperous, open China

THE international community has been full of praise for China's arrangements and preparations for the Beijing Olympic Winter Games, and believes that from the grand sports event it sees a colorful, three-dimensional and comprehensive China in the new era and understands better China's openness, confidence, courage and sense of responsibility.

"The Olympic Winter Games Beijing 2022 was well organized and the opening ceremony was splendid. The Year of the Tiger symbolizes courage, strength and determination, all of which are excellent qualities displayed by the Chinese people," said Grand Duke Henri of

Luxembourg.

Noting that China has overcome the difficulties brought by the pandemic to host the Olympic Winter Games Beijing 2022, Kyrgyz President Sadyr Zhaparov said that the opening ceremony of the Games, which was so beautiful, has demonstrated the true Olympic spirit and will bring the world more solidarity, friendship and hope.

Through the Beijing 2022, the world sees the positive mentality of China, which makes friends and guests from every corner of the world feel warmly welcomed.

Ahead of the opening ceremony of the Beijing Winter Olympics, residents

of Beijing and north China's Hebei province performed square dance at the National Stadium, or the "Bird's Nest", in Beijing, to welcome guests from across the globe. It's believed that the special pre-show of the opening ceremony vividly manifested the vitality and vigor of the Chinese people in their daily life.

From the modern technological elements in the performances of the opening ceremony and the big smiles on the faces of Olympic volunteers to Chinese athletes' impressive performances in competitions and Chinese people's great enthusiasm for ice and snow sports, China's spirit of struggle and positive mentality can be seen ev-

erywhere.

The Beijing 2022 serves as a window on a prosperous China. The opening ceremony of the 2022 Winter Olympics was splendid and exceptional, fully demonstrating the strength and influence of the great China, pointed out Egyptian President Abdel-Fattah el-Sisi, who was present at the opening ceremony.

Organizing comprehensive sports events tests the comprehensive strength of a country. Although the lingering COVID-19 pandemic has created hurdles for the organization of the Beijing 2022, the international community has always had confidence in China's

ability to host a successful Winter Olympics.

A series of achievements made by China, including securing major strategic results in epidemic prevention and control, leading the world in both economic development and COVID-19 containment, winning the battle against poverty on schedule and building a moderately prosperous society in all respects, have cemented the international community's confidence in China.

The high technology behind the Beijing Winter Olympics, which signals China's development and progress, has become a hot topic in the international community. The opening ceremony of

the Winter Olympics shows the world a combination of technology, environmental protection and sports, and demonstrates China's strength in utilizing advanced technology, according to Martin Garcia, general manager of Chilean Ski and Snowboard Federation.

China's independent innovation and capability to leverage scientific and technological means in the organization of the Olympics are marvelous, and its achievements in promoting modernization reflected in the Olympics have deeply impressed the world, said former Thai Deputy Prime Minister Korn Dabbaransi.

People's Daily

Russia to optimize its diplomatic staff in Ukraine - Foreign Ministry

MOSCOW

RUSSIA has made a decision to optimize the staff of its diplomatic missions in Ukraine amid possible provocations from the Kiev regime or third countries, Russian Foreign Ministry Spokeswoman Maria Zakharova said in a statement released on Saturday.

"In this situation, in the wake of possible provocations by the Kiev regime or third countries, we have, indeed, made a decision on some optimization of the staff of Russian overseas missions in Ukraine. We want to highlight that our embassy and consulates will keep performing their basic functions," the statement says.

"Considering the substantial influence that Washington and London have on Kiev and, generally, their role in governing the processes in Ukraine - let us just mention the efforts of beefing it up with weapons and instructors - we can make a conclusion that our American and British colleagues, apparently, know about some violent acts being prepared in Ukraine that can considerably complicate the security situation," Zakharova stressed.

The diplomatic missions of various countries located in Ukraine have been



lately reporting that they are evacuating their staff from that country or are considering this possibility over the escalation of tension there.

The Russian embassy in Kiev earlier said that it was considering the temporary departure from Ukraine of its non-essential staff.

The West and Kiev have recently been spreading allegations about Russia's potential 'invasion' of Ukraine. Kremlin Spokesman Dmitry Peskov castigated these claims as "empty and unfounded," serving as a ploy to escalate tensions, pointing out that Russia did not pose any threat whatsoever to anyone.

However, Peskov did not rule out the possibility of provocations aimed at justifying such allegations and warned that attempts to use military force to resolve the crisis in southeastern Ukraine would have very serious consequences.

Zimbabwean president launches campaign for by-elections

HARARE

ZIMBABWEAN President Emmerson Mnangagwa on Saturday launched the ruling ZANU-PF party's campaign for the hotly contested legislative and municipal by-elections scheduled for March 26 and outlined ZANU-PF's development roadmap.

There will be 133 by-elections due for National Assembly and local authority seats, most of which fell vacant following the recall of Members of Parliament and councilors by the opposition MDC-T party.

The ruling party, led by Mnangagwa, will square off against the main opposition Citizens Coalition for Change led by Nelson Chamisa and other small parties.

Addressing thousands of his supporters at a rally in Epworth, south of the capital Harare, Mnangagwa promised the residents of the informal settlement that the government will grant title deeds for their properties, adding that a more orderly process will be arranged for the issuance of the documents.

Some residents in the impoverished settlement had been living in the area for decades with no proper documentation.

"Once you get hold of your title deed, you have security for your land. It becomes your inheritance. This will ultimately do away with land barons. So we are in this process of regularizing settlements as well as issuing title deeds,"

Mnangagwa said.

A lack of proper planning had hampered development and the provision of basic amenities such as water, sewers and power in Epworth. In its 2018 electoral campaign, the ZANU-PF promised to deliver at least 1.5 million affordable housing units in five years.

Mnangagwa applauded his government's efforts in reviving the industry, saying up to 75 percent of products in the country's supermarkets are locally made.

In addition, he said his government was pursuing various development programs across the countryside, mentioning a dam construction and a solar-powered borehole for clean water and food security.

Furthermore, Mnangagwa said the country is moving towards total use of a local currency, saying no country has ever developed by adopting other countries' currencies.

A Harare resident, 35-year-old Ephraim Chizola, expects the ZANU-PF to win resoundingly in the coming elections as he believes that the ruling party is fulfilling its development goals.

"If you look in any direction you are positively going to see an activity that the government is doing. It's either there is a school being built. It's either there is a hospital that is being opened," he said. ZANU-PF is aiming to wrestle urban constituencies from the opposition which has a huge following there.

Xinhua

Canada protesters defy court order to clear key border bridge

WINDSOR, Ontario/WASHINGTON

PROTESTERS opposing pandemic restrictions flouted a court order and emergency rules, continuing to occupy a vital Canada-US trade corridor early on Saturday, hours after a judge granted an injunction to end the blockade that has crippled North America's well-knit auto industry.

Prime Minister Justin Trudeau has promised US President Joe Biden quick action to end the crisis, and on Friday a Canadian judge ordered an end to the four-day-long blockade of the Ambassador Bridge, North America's busiest land border crossing.

The order came into effect at 7 pm Eastern Time (0000 GMT), but five hours after the deadline, some 100 protesters were milling around the entrance to the bridge, waving Canadian flags.

While the number of protesters and police dropped as the night progressed, demonstrators continued to block the bridge with trucks and pick-up vans, preventing any flow of traffic in either direction.

Protesters sang the Canadian national anthem and midnight, and some shouted "Freedom!"

Police, who started to gather in a parking lot a few blocks away from the protesters, began handing out pamphlets that outlined penalties under Ontario's emergency order, which took effect at midnight.

Trudeau earlier told reporters that no action was off the table.

Companies have diverted cargo to stem losses amid production cuts by companies including Ford.

Superior Court Justice Geoffrey Morawetz on Friday approved the request by auto industry associations and Windsor city authorities hoping to end the protests. Occupying access roads leading to the bridge on Friday, protesters voiced defiance and there was little sign of them backing down.

The "Freedom Convoy" protests, started by Canadian truckers opposing a vaccine-or-quarantine mandate for cross-border drivers, are also occupying areas outside government buildings in the national capital Ottawa and have blocked two smaller US crossings.

The protests have inspired similar convoys and plans in France, New Zealand, Australia and the United States, whose US Department of Homeland Security is working to ensure that a "Freedom Convoy" event due in early March in Washington, DC, "does not disrupt lawful trade."

Agencies

Japan to extend quasi-emergency measures on COVID-19

TOKYO

THE head of the Japanese government's coronavirus advisory panel on Thursday announced the extension of quasi-emergency restrictions in place in 13 prefectures that are set to expire on Sunday.

Shigeru Omi, the Japanese government's top COVID-19 adviser, told press that there was "no point" in only relying on COVID quasi-emergency measures to combat Japan's rampant coronavirus crisis.

"Places of infection are now spreading beyond dining establishments, to homes, workplaces, and other locations," Japan's public broadcaster NHK quoted Omi as saying.

"There's no point in only requiring measures for restaurants and bars," Omi said, stressing the need to implement wider-ranging restrictions.

The quasi-emergency measures, which when extended will affect 36 of the nation's 47 prefectures, merely allow for local governors to request restaurants and bars to curtail operating hours and refrain from serving alcohol, and citizens being urged not to travel across prefecture borders.

Experts on the matter have said the quasi-emergency measures have done little in the past to significantly combat the outbreak of COVID-19 cases in Japan, with the highly-transmissible Omicron variant of the virus allowed to reach record highs nationwide including in the capital.

The government has been again widely criticized for exacerbating the nation's COVID-19 crisis as it remained too slow to roll out vaccines, most recently the booster jabs.

In addition, while the government's emergency antiviral measures have predominantly been targeting those



in their 20s and 30s likely to visit bars and restaurants, experts including Omi have said that the biggest "at-risk" populations are in fact children and the elderly.

"Infections are now leveling off or going down among people in their 20s and 30s," said Omi, adding that "the elderly and younger people are now the two main groups being affected, with some of them becoming seriously ill."

He stressed there was a need to focus more on the elderly, who are at a "higher risk of developing serious symptoms." Omi also said that experts on the panel had called for deliberations on an exit strategy, including the lifting of the potentially ineffective quasi-emergency measures.

"We need to continue with our efforts to reduce the burden on the health care system," Daishiro Yamagiwa, who is in charge of the government's COVID-19 response taskforce and also serves as the country's economic revitalization minister, told the panel meeting.

"Our focus with the measure should be on preventing a halt to social and economic activities as much as we can," he added.

The government also plans to place the western prefecture of Kochi under the emergency measures from Saturday until March 6, as the nation continues to grapple with the rampant spread of the Omicron variant-driven

COVID-19 crisis.

Japanese Prime Minister Fumio Kishida will formalize the decision later in the day. While he has said that the pace of increase in new cases has been "clearly slowing," virologists warned that Japan's sixth wave of infections has not yet peaked.

The country is now likely to face a surge in cases as hay fever season will soon kick-in, as many people will be prone to coughing and sneezing in public places, increasing the probability of virus being transmission and infectious diseases, experts have said.

Japan is also struggling with a sub-variant of the highly-transmissible Omicron variant, currently known as the BA.2 version, Takaji Wakita, an expert who sits on a health ministry's advisory panel, said Wednesday.

Xinhua

Beijing 2022 ice master Remy Boehler: The world will see spectacular competitions

REMY Boehler, a French ice expert, together with his Chinese colleagues, has endeavored to create ideal ice surfaces in the Capital Indoor Stadium in Beijing that can both satisfy the needs of short track speed skaters and figure skaters from various parts of the world, as figure skating and short track speed skating competitions of the Beijing 2022 Winter Olympics have been arranged to be staged on the same rink in the venue.

In 1992, Boehler, who was 16, received his first Olympics assignment: driving ice resurfacer for the 1992 Winter Olympics in Albertville, which was also the first time that he had engaged in ice-making work, Boehler told People's Daily during an interview.

Since then, Boehler has served many major winter sports events, including Winter Olympics and world championship, accumulating rich experience in ice-making, according to the expert.

After finishing ice-making work for figure skating and short track speed skating competitions at the 2018 PyeongChang Winter Olympic Games, Boehler was invited by the Beijing Organizing Committee for the 2022 Olympic and Paralympic Winter Games (BOCOG) for the ice-making work at the Capital Indoor Stadium, and then quickly joined the preparations for the Games.

While figure skaters prefer softer ice surface which enables them to better perform jumps, short track speed skaters favor harder ice surface because it allows them to skate fast, Boehler explained.

For the goal of delivering a splendid Winter Olympics, Boehler has cooperated closely with Chinese team for nearly four years.

The biggest challenge in the ice-making work at the Capital Indoor Stadium is that figure skaters and short track speed skaters need differ-



Remy Boehler (C) a French ice expert in charge of the ice-making work of the Capital Indoor Stadium in Beijing for the Beijing 2022 Winter Olympics, works with his colleagues at the venue. File photo

ent ice surfaces, according to Boehler, who added that the ice-making team needed to carry out meticulous study to create perfect ice surfaces for both events.

While figure skaters prefer softer ice surface which enables them to better perform jumps, short track speed skaters favor harder ice surface because it allows them to skate fast, Boehler explained.

If short track speed skaters can glide very fast and figure skaters can jump high in competitions, then the ice-making work of the team is successful, Boehler said.

To make sure the temperature of the ice surface is

within the optimum ranges required by figure skating and fast track speed skating competitions every day, the team adjusts the condition of ice surface and changes protective pads several times a day, and the ice master works closely with Chinese engineers in charge of machinery and equipment to keep close control over the temperatures of the air, water, and the refrigerating system of the rink, according to Boehler.

Completed in 1968, the Capital Indoor Stadium is the first modern stadium built in China after the founding of the People's Republic of China, and has

China's first artificial indoor ice rink. "It feels amazing to watch the place change every day," said Boehler.

His cooperation with the ice-making team of the venue is a very exciting and enjoyable experience, the ice master said. Every member of the team works in unison and always solves problems actively, which is precious, according to Boehler. "As a matter of fact, every colleague has shown great enthusiasm for ice-making work," he said, noting that it was exactly their passion for ice sports that brought these team members together.

The experience of working at the Capital Indoor

Stadium makes him confident about the ice rink of the venue and the success of the Beijing 2022, Boehler said.

On Feb. 4, the venue hosted the first figure skating competition of the 2022 Olympic Winter Games. On the next day, China won the first-ever Olympic short track speed skating mixed team relay gold medal at the Capital Indoor Stadium, which was also the first gold medal claimed at the venue during the Beijing 2022.

"It's beyond all doubt that the world will see spectacular competitions on this ice rink," Boehler said.

People's Daily

Libyan prime minister urges holding elections to end crisis

TRIPOLI

LIBYAN Prime Minister Abdul-Hamid Dbeibah on Saturday stressed the importance of holding elections as soon as possible to end the country's current crisis.

"The solution to the current crisis, as well as peace and reconciliation in the country, can be achieved by holding elections soon," Dbeibah said in a speech during the National Reconciliation Forum in the town of Riqdalin, some 120 km west of the capital Tripoli.

"There is a political class that took over Libya in the past years and seeks to extend (the mandate) and bring back war and conflict," Dbeibah said, noting that he had started consultations with local parties to come up



with a plan to hold elections and a referendum on the constitution.

Dbeibah also accused the House of Representatives (parliament) of falsely issuing resolutions and "being responsible for the conflict and

bloodshed."

The House of Representatives on Thursday unanimously voted for Fathi Bashagha, the former Interior Minister, as the country's new prime minister, replacing Abdul-Hamid

Dbeibah. Shortly after the vote, Bashagha said that he is "confident that Dbeibah's government will hand over power and adhere to the democratic path."

However, Dbeibah confirmed that his government will remain in office until elections are held, and he will only hand over office to an elected government.

The Libyan parliament withdrew confidence from Dbeibah's government in September and kept it as a caretaker government.

General elections in Libya had been scheduled for Dec 24, 2021, but were postponed indefinitely over technical and legal issues, according to the High National Elections Commission.

Xinhua

The Guardian

SPORT



Los Angeles Lakers forward Anthony Davis (3) defends against a 3-point shot by Golden State Warriors guard Klay Thompson (11) during the first half of an NBA basketball game in San Francisco, Saturday, Feb. 12, 2022. (AP Photo)

Thompson has season-high 33, Warriors edge Lakers 117-115

SAN FRANCISCO

KLAY Thompson scored 16 of his season-high 33 points in the fourth quarter, Stephen Curry made a clutch layup with 46 seconds remaining, and the Golden State Warriors held off the Los Angeles Lakers 117-115 on Saturday night, spoiling another scoring milestone by LeBron James.

Curry finished with 24 points and eight assists, while Andrew Wiggins scored 19 points to help the Warriors end a two-game losing streak. Golden State has not lost three in a row all season.

Thompson's big night came in front of his father, former NBA player Mychal Thompson, who works on the Lakers radio broadcast.

"It meant something special to do it for my dad," Thompson said. "I don't think he's seen me play for a few years. I know he was proud of me, and that's always fun."

James had 26 points, 15 rebounds and eight assists, but missed the first free throw after Curry fouled him attempting a 3-pointer with 2.4 seconds left. He made the second and missed the third intentionally but couldn't chase down the rebound in time to get a shot off.

"This one hurts," Lakers coach Frank Vogel said. "We were up six with a few minutes to play. Just one of those nights where a lot of bad bounces didn't go our way."

Earlier in the night, James extended his streak of 25 points or more to 22 games and passed Kareem Abdul-Jabbar for most points scored in the NBA combining the regular season and post-season with 44,157. James tied Abdul-Jabbar's mark of 44,149 in the first half, then surpassed it with a 3-pointer early in the third quarter.

Abdul-Jabbar still owns the career record for regular-season games with 38,387 points, considered the more prestigious of the two scoring milestones. James, with 36,526, is closing in on that one, too.

"We had an opportunity to win a big game tonight," James said. "But in all my career, any time I've been linked with some of the greats, I've always just been in awe."

Thompson, who returned this season after missing 941 days with a pair of serious leg injuries, shot 12 of 22 and made four 3s, three in the fourth quarter.

"Just took over the game at a time when we desperately needed him," Warriors coach Steve Kerr said. "With our offense kind of struggling to find a groove he got hot and took over the game. Klay is special. It goes beyond making shots. He brings an electricity to the building that's hard to quantify."

It was Thompson's most points since putting up 43 against the Knicks on Jan. 8, 2019.

The Warriors needed it on a night when Curry struggled from the perimeter. The NBA's 3-point king was 1 of 8 beyond the arc but made up for it by going 9 for 9 on free throws.

Jonathan Kuminga added 18 points and nine rebounds for the Warriors.

Russell Westbrook returned after missing a game and broke out of his scoring slump with 19 points, seven rebounds and five assists for the Lakers.

The Warriors led by 15 on Thompson's corner 3 and Otto Porter Jr.'s layup before the Lakers closed the gap and got within 65-62 at the half following Avery Bradley's 3-pointer.

Curry and Kuminga combined for 33 points in the first half on 12-of-19 shooting.

Austin Reaves chased Thompson down from behind and blocked a potential layup during the Lakers' run to open the fourth quarter. It's the ninth block of the season for the 6-foot-5 rookie guard.

"He just has a look on his face, a bounce in his step and you can feel it coming," Kerr on watching Thompson during his fourth-quarter spree.

Meanwhile, in Dallas, Luka Doncic was unstoppable at the end instead of the beginning in the rematch with the Los Angeles Clippers.

The Dallas superstar couldn't quite do enough to get one of these teams an elusive sweep in their repetitive two-game sets.

Reggie Jackson scored 24 points and the Clippers held off the Mavericks in the final minute for a 99-97 victory Saturday night for another split between the teams.

Doncic had 23 of his 45 points in the fourth quarter two nights after scoring 28 of his career-high 51 points in the first of Dallas' 112-105 win. Doncic had 15 rebounds and eight assists.

The LA victory in the rematch meant splits in all three two-game home sets over two regular season for teams that have met in the first round of the playoffs the past two years. The Clippers won both of those series.

"I just want to win. I don't care if he had 90," LA coach Tyrone Lue said. "Hats off to him for playing great, but I thought our team did a hell of a job. We know he can dominate the game with his passing and his scoring. We wanted to try to limit him to being a scorer, and he did it again, unfortunately, but we were able to weather the storm."

Terance Mann had 21 points and nine rebounds, and Marcus Morris Sr. scored 20 as the Clippers ended a three-game losing streak.

2022's Kilimanjaro Marathon 5km race's registration still on

By Guardian Correspondent

ORGANIZERS of the 20th edition of Kilimanjaro Premium Lager Marathon 2022 have confirmed that registration of the Grand Malt 5km Fun Run is still on through Tigo Pesa.

A statement issued in Dar es Salaam yesterday said entries for the Kilimanjaro Premium Lager 42 Km and Tigo 21Km Half Marathon are already full and registration closed since February 7, 2022.

"We have closed registration for the two races as the entries are already full but registration for the 5km Fun Run is still on by dialing *149*20# for easy registration to avoid last minute rush," the organizers noted in the statement.

The organizers added in the statement that the 5km Fun Run entries will also be available at the race number collection centres in Dar es Salaam, Arusha and Moshi.

"We are however appealing to participants to register online to make it easy for them," the statement stated.

Meanwhile, according to the statement, preparations for the



Runners take part in a recent 5km-Fun Run, which is part of the Kilimanjaro Marathon held in Moshi.

Kili Expo (The People's Expo) where sponsors and other stakeholders will get the chance to showcase their products and services for three days from February 24-26, 2022 at the MoCU ground are in top gear.

"The expo is meant to give the public a true Kili Marathon experience and we will also have number collection this time happening at MoCU and not Keys Hotel as it

used to happen in the previous years," the organizers stated.

Sponsors for this year's 20th Anniversary event include Kilimanjaro Premium Lager- Main sponsor, Tigo- 21km, Grand Malt -5km.

Absa Tanzania, Unilever Tanzania, TPC Sugar, Simba Cement, and Kilimanjaro Water are water table sponsors.

GardaWorld Security, Keys Hotel, Kibo Palace Hotel, Surveyed

Plots Company Ltd, Tanzanian Tourism Board and CMC Automobiles are the races' official suppliers.

The Kilimanjaro Premium Lager Marathon, which will be held on February 27, 2022 at the Moshi Co-operative University (MoCU) venue, is organized by the Kilimanjaro Company Limited and locally coordinated by Executive Solutions Limited.

Simba SC goalkeeping coach confident of duo's success

By Correspondent Nassir Nchimbi

SIMBA SC's new goalkeeping coach, Tyron Damons, has stated each of his squad's shot stoppers has his own style of play.

Damons, a South Africa national, stated so after having assessed the keepers' playing style and trend.

Unlike the eyes of many who watch goalkeepers either save shots or finish a game without conceding goals, the tactician disclosed the shot stoppers contribute in build-up.

Damons said nowadays football has changed, goalkeepers are assigned to launch an attack, so they need to anticipate quickly and their eyes have to see the chances that can be created.

"I enjoy the standards of my goalkeepers, we have been working on a number of approaches that I believe will make them better, the goalkeeper is not just the one who needs to understand what the game needs, he can be the source of the decision," the coach disclosed.

Football has nowadays changed in terms of goalkeeping role, 75 per cent is playing with the ball on the shota stopper's feet while the remaining 25 per cent lies on reflexes and saves.

"When the ball is in the hands you have to know where you are going to put it next, doing so will make it



Simba SC's keepers, Beno Kakolanya (L), and Ally Salim, warm up before their squad locked horns with Dar City FC in 2021/22 Azam Sports Federation Cup's Round of 32 encounter in Dar es Salaam last month. PHOTO: COURTESY OF SIMBA SC

easier for the team to attack, but having late decisions gives the opponents a chance to line up and mark the ball from higher to lower lines."

Commenting on Beno Kakolanya and Aishi Manula, who regularly play for the club, the coach noted they are two

different types of goalkeepers and they possess different abilities to read the game.

"Beno is very good when the team makes a surprise attack, he plays with the minds of the attackers, Manula has great potential to start attacks from the back," Tyron re-

vealed. Every team seems to view playing out from the back as the best way to keep possession and launch attacks from deep.

Watching Manula launch an attack by spotting an opportunity to pass the ball to a fellow

player in Simba SC's clash versus Dodoma Jiji FC that led to Maddy Kagere's goal from half way was to say the least refreshing.

However Manula, the six-time Premier League golden gloves' winner, is good at launching attacks from the back.

The shot stopper is endowed with a better understanding that a good goal kick with a low trajectory can catch opposing squads' defenders out of position and give attackers a great chance to score a quick goal.

The 43-year-old Damons holds Diploma C and Diploma D coaching licenses of the Confederation of African Football.

The gaffer has also participated in various sponsorship courses such as KVBN, SAFA and Evolution Conference held in the UK.

Prior to joining Simba SC he was the goalkeeping coach of Chippa United in South Africa's Premier Soccer League. He also coached the league's clubs, TS Galaxy in 2018/19 season and Bidvest Wits.

Judge in Russian Olympic doping worked on Sharapova case

BEIJING

ONE of the lawyers that will judge Russian figure skater Kamila Valieva's doping case at the Beijing Olympics on Sunday is an American who was once picked by Maria Sharapova's legal team for her appeal over a similar performance-enhancing drug.

Jeffrey Benz was named Saturday by the Court of Arbitration for Sport to sit on the three-judge panel for the urgent case of Valieva, a 15-year-old Russian who tested positive for a banned heart medication at an event in December.

The verdict from Benz and his fellow judges, who are from Italy and Slovenia, is expected Monday and will decide if the sport's new star can compete a day later at the start of the women's individual

event. She would be favored to win gold on Thursday.

The panel for the closed-door, video-link hearing was picked by the court, known as CAS, from a select group of nine judges made available for special duty at the Beijing Olympics.

Neither side in the Valieva case was allowed to pick a preferred judge – as they would in a typical case outside the Olympics – but the Russians might be happy with the American.

Benz was an elite figure skater, competing in ice dance at the national level in the United States, and has been picked for several cases involving Russian sports as one of the most in-demand judges at CAS.

In Sharapova's appeal at the Switzerland-based court in 2016,

Benz was chosen on behalf of the Russian tennis star to serve on the three-judge panel. She had been banned for two years after testing positive for the banned heart medication meldonium at the Australian Open. CAS ruled she was not entirely at fault and her ban was cut to 15 months.

Valieva tested positive for another banned heart medication, trimetazidine.

Another skating case at CAS in 2017 saw Benz picked by the Russian national federation and RUSADA, the anti-doping agency which is a party in the Valieva hearing on Sunday.

That time, Benz and his fellow judges extended the ban for Russian short track speedskater Alexandra Malkova. She served a 20-month ban instead of three months.

The Valieva case is also not the first involving Russian athletes and Benz as a judge for Olympic eligibility.

A group of 67 track and field athletes took a fast-track case to CAS in July 2016 amid fallout from the Russian doping scandal and frenetic legal activity ahead of the Rio de Janeiro Olympics. The judges upheld the rules of track's governing body, which excluded the Russians.

On Sunday, the CAS judges will examine an appeal – filed by the IOC, World Anti-Doping Agency and International Skating Union – to have Valieva excluded from the women's competition. They argue RUSADA's ruling on Wednesday to lift an interim ban on Valieva was wrong.

AP

SPORT

Chelsea complete
Abramovich's quest to be
world's best

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Union SC prolongs losing streak in DC T10 Saifee Cup tournament



By Guardian Reporter

UNION Sports Club has prolonged its losing streak in the 2021 Dar es Salaam Cricket (DC) Saifee Cup T10 showdown, conceding a four-wicket loss to Caravans B squad last weekend.

Caravans B team won the toss and elected to bowl in the T10 match, restricting Union Sports Club to 101 runs dropping five wickets in the 10 overs.

Opening batsman, Danish Unia, top-order batsman Seif Khalifa, and low order cricketers, Sameer Mussa and Ahmed Virjee, were the cricketers that put meaningful contributions at the crease during the club's innings.

Unia was ultimately the crick-

eter with most runs, given the performer recorded 25 runs which consisted of a boundary and two sixes.

The squad endured a setback early on as a key performer, Athumani Kakonzi, made his way back to the pavilion after a brief spell, recording mere four runs.

Caravans B's Jayaraj Malayil frustrated an effort by Kakonzi to flex his muscles at the crease, sending the latter back after five knocks.

Khalifa stepped at the crease and somewhat boosted his squad's total with his 21 runs whilst clearing the boundary on four occasions.

There was yet another short stint that one of the key per-

formers Ali Rehemtulla, experienced, chipping in with three runs, which to some extent slowed the team's tempo.

Mussa and Virjee put their experience to show and wound the innings with a bat in hand saw to it Union Sports Club ends with a respectable total.

Skipper Mussa registered 17 runs not out, Virjee ended with 14 runs not out.

Kishwabi Ngozi was Caravans B outfit's bowler with most wickets, as he took two wickets giving away 27 runs in 2.0 overs.

With an achievable target of 102 runs in their sight, the Caravans B squad solidly mounted a successful chase, notching 104 runs dropping six wickets in 9.2 overs to come out victorious.

The opener, Sunil Adiyodi, was in good form at the crease and steered the side to the win with his 36 runs which comprised two boundaries and four sixes.

Adiyodi's solid knocks had the squad reaching 52 runs after 4.2 overs, his presence at the crease was brought to an end by Union Sports Club's bowler Abbas Sayed.

Much as they experienced a letdown, in which the other opening batsman Praveen Puthanpurayil was dismissed for duck, Caravans B squad kept on pursuing victory zealously.

Promising cricketer Issa Safari saw to it Caravans B team is in control with solid displays, ending with 27 runs.

There was as well notable contribution by top-order cricketer, Wilbert Martin, given the performer chipped in with 15 runs.

Malayil kept Caravans B squad within reach of the target with his 12 runs clearing the boundary once.

Youthful cricketer, Karim Athumani, made certain of victory, posting four runs not out.

Sayed posted two wickets

The DC has supervises the T10 Saifee Cup tournament, with Huzeifa Tools & Hardware being the showdown's

title sponsor.

The tournament has brought together 15 clubs that have been put in three groups.

According to the organizers, the top two clubs in each group, as well as two third-place finishers, will book a place in the last eight.

Group B leader, Estim A, has all but qualified for the quarter-finals, coming out victorious in all three ties the squad featured in.

Aga Khan SC, K&P Constructions outfit, Caravans B side, and Patel Brotherhood A side as well look to have what it takes to secure progression to the knockout stage given they have showcased scintillating showing.

Annadil Burhani Club hosts the showdown to celebrate the birthday of spiritual leader, Syedna Mohammad Burhanuddin Saheb.

The DC pointed out Annadil Burhani Club has done a good job in making the competition a success.

The side, the association noted, has been seeing to it the venue is in good shape despite the adverse weather in the past two weeks.

The tournament's matches have as a result been played at the highest level of competition.

TONIGHT @ 9:00

EATV MONDAY

11:00 DADAZ LIVE
14:00 Wanawake Live (r)
14:30 Bongo Hits
15:00 Funguka
15:30 Copa Coca-Cola (r)
16:00 Akili & Me (r)
16:30 #HASHTAG
17:00 SSELECT
17:55 Kurasa
18:00 eNewz
18:30 Music/Soap
19:00 EATV SAA 1
19:45 MJADALA
20:00 DADAZ (r)
21:00 UJENZI
21:30 SPORTS LIVE
22:30 Bongo Hits

TONIGHT on EATV
Find out how using glass blocks from Canghui Traders Limited can improve your home decor

And Tanfix Quality Choice has an innovative solution for wall fungus

It's all on Ujenzi at 9PM

eastafrica 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 The Cruise

88.1FM DAR ES SALAAM

National judo squad set for East Africa tourney

By Correspondent Ismail Tano

THE national judo team is expected to travel to Uganda in April this year to take part in an East African tournament.

Judo Association of Tanzania (JATA)'s Secretary-General, Innocent Mallya, said the squad that comprises 17 players was to be made public last weekend and will enter the camp to prepare for the tournament.

"We look forward to going to Uganda to participate in this major tournament in the East African region believing it is important for us to raise the standards of our players before participating in the Commonwealth Games," he said.

Mallya said they want to make a selection of players who will do well in the next month's tournament to represent the country in the Commonwealth Games.

Judo is one of the sports that have been allowed to be part of the global sporting showdown to be held in England in Birmingham from August this year.

So far more than 20 nations have confirmed their participation in the Games which will feature more than 15 sports.

The sporting disciplines include boxing, netball, judo, swimming, cycling, hockey, basketball, and more.

The Birmingham 2022 Commonwealth Games will be held in venues across Birmingham and the West Midlands from 28 July until 8 August 2022.

Sitting in the heart of the UK, Birmingham is perfectly positioned to host the 2022 Commonwealth Games.

It will be the third time England has hosted the Games, following on from London in 1934 and more recently Manchester in 2002.

One of the youngest cities in Europe, Birmingham is vibrant and richly diverse.

It is well known for always offering a warm welcome to visitors from around the world.

The most dedicated, highly trained, and determined athletes from across 72 nations and territories will come together for the Birmingham 2022 Commonwealth Games in a momentous celebration of sport, competition, and community.

From diving and wrestling, to table tennis and judo, explore the sports that will feature in the Birmingham 2022 Commonwealth Games.

The Birmingham 2022 Commonwealth Games is a West Midlands Celebration with Birmingham at its heart.

The venues being used for the Games stretch from Coventry and Royal Leamington Spa in the east to Cannock Chase Forest in the northwest of the region.

Para Power Lifting Association appeals for financial backing for National Championships



Tanzania's Para Powerlifter, Yohana Mwila, trains in Dar es Salaam recently to prepare for Commonwealth Games, which will take place in Birmingham from July 28-August 8.

By Correspondent Joseph Mchekadona

TANZANIA Para Power Lifting Association (TPPA) has disclosed that it needs more than 300m/- to hire equipment which will be used at this year's National Championships slated for the end of this month in Dar es Salaam.

The championships will take place at Ununio Beach on February 26 and it will involve powerlifters that will compete in 55kg, 59kg, and 65kg for men while the women's event will have competitors take part in 55kg, 65kg, and 70kg.

Yohana Mwila, TPPA secretary-general, said the association needs 2.5kg, 5kg, 10kg, and 20kg weight plates.

The championships will be used to identify new talents which will represent the country at next year's Africa Games in Ghana and the 2024 Paris Paralympics.

"We are asking well-wishers to help us with the money to hire the plates which will be used at the coming Para Powerlifting Championships," Mwila revealed.

"The support we are looking for does not exceed 500, 000/-, other costs will be paid for by Tanzania Paralympic Committee (TPC) and other stakeholders," he said.

Mwila is the only Tanzania Para Power Lifter who will represent the country at the coming Commonwealth Games in the United Kingdom (UK).

In the Tanzania Paralympic Committee annual general meeting, held in Dar es Salaam early this year, he hailed the government for its support to all athletes in the country.

He said the government's decision to help all athletes to prepare well for the Games is a good development that will make them work hard.

"I thank the government for its support to all athletes, for the first time athletes with disabilities will have a camp ahead of the Commonwealth Games."

"We will as well get all other necessities and privileges like any other athletes who will represent the country at international games," he said.

Para Powerlifting is a strength sport that consists of three attempts at maximal weight on three lifts, squats, bench press, and deadlift.

As in the sport of Olympic weightlifting, it involves the athlete attempting a maximal weight single-lift effort of a barbell loaded with weight plates.

Powerlifting evolved from a sport known as "odd lifts", which followed the

same three-attempt format but used a wider variety of events, akin to strongman competition.

Eventually, odd lifts became standardized to the current three.

In competition, lifts may be performed either equipped or un-equipped typically referred to as 'classic' or 'raw' lifting in the International Power Lifting Federation (IPF).

Equipment in this context refers to a supportive bench shirt or squat/deadlift suit or briefs.

In some federations, knee wraps are permitted in the equipped but not un-equipped division, in others, they may be used in both equipped and un-equipped lifting.

Weight belts, knee sleeves, wrist wraps, and special footwear may also be used, but are not considered when distinguishing equipped from un-equipped lifting.

Competitions take place across the world. Powerlifting has been a Paralympic sport (bench press only) since 1984 and, under the IPF, is also a World Games sport.

Local, national, and international competitions have also been sanctioned by other federations operating independently of the International Power Lifting (IPF).

Flexibles by David Chikoko

