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TANZANIA SATURDAY 5 FEBRUARY, 2022

POACHING



PARAMILITARY CONSERVATION UNITS GET OWN PLATE NUMBERS PG 3

ENVIRONMENT



ISSUE WASTE COLLECTION PERMITS IN 45 DAYS, NEMC TOLD PG 6

MINING



GOVT SAYS IT WILL AMEND LAW, REGULATIONS ON USING MERCURY PG 7

BLUE ECONOMY



'SEAWEED FARMING IN ZANZIBAR A CHANCE FOR RAPID GROWTH' PG 11

BUSINESS Cross-border trade in exports increases by 500bn/- in 2021

Oil closes in on \$100 a barrel despite cyber attack

Facebook loses users for the first time in its history

Banks still face bad loans problem, Moody's says

Page 13

“
The information I have is that police officers were allegedly involved in the killing of a businessman in Mtwara and they (police) have since formed a team to investigate ...

Nine-member team to probe Kilindi and Mtwara killings



President Samia Suluhu Hassan addresses residents of Lamadi in Busega District yesterday while on her way to Mara Region, where she is expected to grace today's climax of week-long celebrations to mark the 45th birth anniversary of the ruling CCM. Photo: State House

By Guardian Reporters

THE government yesterday formed a nine-strong committee to probe the circumstances behind recent killings in Mtwara Region this January 5 and in Kilindi District, Tanga Region, 25 days later - on January 30.

The team has been detailed to swing into business today and complete its report on the matter within 14 days - ready for submitting it to Prime Minister Kassim Majaliwa.

The Guardian reliably learned yesterday evening that the committee, formed on orders from President Samia Suluhu Hassan earlier yesterday, comprises members representing the President's Office, the Prime Minister's Office, the Attorney General's Office, the Prevention and Combating of Corruption Bureau, and the Office of the Director of Public

Prosecutions.

President Samia demanded the urgent formation of an independent body to investigate murder and other criminal cases against police officers so that the law enforcers do not carry out the task themselves as has happened previously.

Addressing residents of Magu District in Mwanza Region while on her way to Mara Region, the President directed Prime Minister Kassim Majaliwa to form the team so that justice is done and seen to be done.

In her directive, she said that the team should start probing the recent killing of a mineral dealer in Mtwara Region with respect to which seven police officers have since been charged in court for allegedly murdering the 25-year-old man.

The president was em-

TURN TO Page2

Samia fires 4 council directors for 'swindling' Covid-19 cash

By Guardian Reporter

PRESIDENT Samia Suluhu Hassan has sacked the directors of four councils over the misappropriation of funds meant to ease the impact of Covid-19 pandemic.

Director for Buchosa, Iringa, Mbeya district councils and Singida municipal director have been rendered jobless for, according to the president, misusing funds meant for the implementation of various Covid-19 economic relief projects.

Speaking in Magu District, Mwanza Region yesterday, the president warned the Geita district council director whose fate she said was not concluded but was under investigations for the same reported misappropriation of public funds.

"I warned earlier that whoever wants to see my true colours should play with public money but surprisingly, I have information of misuse of funds by some council directors and I hereby relieve culprits of their duties with immediate effect," she said. The Minister of State in the President's Office (Regional Administration and Local Governments), Innocent Bashungwa, earlier said that he had received information about cases of misuse of funds in Buchosa and other districts. He said his Office was also investigating the decline in revenue collection in the Mbeya

TURN TO Page2

Proposed law changes bar charging petty offenders before investigation



The Guardian newspaper's managing editor, Wallace Mauggo (R), briefs United Bank for Africa (UBA) Tanzania Ltd managing director/CEO Gbenga Makinde (L) on newspaper production during the latter's familiarisation tour of The Guardian Ltd (TGL) - publishers of The Guardian and Nipashe daily newspapers - in Dar es Salaam yesterday. Others are TGL director Joyce Luhanga (2nd-R), printing manager Balasubramanian Venkadachalam (2nd-L) and Finance manager Samuel Orgeness. More photos on page 4. Photo: Correspondent Miraji Msala

By Getrude Mbago, Dodoma

THE Criminal Procedures Act Cap. 20 is set for amendments which among others, seek to ban arraignment of petty offenders before prosecuting authorities complete their investigation.

This is meant to reduce congestion of inmates in Tanzanian prisons, ease backlog of cases in courts and enhance utilisation of other options such as plea-bargaining.

The bill is among nine laws contained in the "Written Laws (Miscellaneous Amendments) number 7 which is scheduled for tabling in the National Assembly next week for the second reading.

The amendment proposes to add a new section 47A which authorises police officers to engage in undercover operations for the purpose of prevent-

ing commission of offences.

The part also proposes amendment to section 91 to prevent re-arrest of an accused person who has been released after the Director of Public Prosecutions (DPP) enters nolle prosequi, unless there is sufficient evidence and reason to do so.

The proposed new section 131A intends to prevent filing of charges for minor offences before completion of investigation. Sections 174, 265 and 285 that provide for court assessors are proposed to be amended or as the case may be, repealed in order to make the presence of assessors in proceedings instituted in the High Court optional.

Other laws which are lined up for amendment include the College of Wildlife Management Act, (Cap. 209),

TURN TO Page2

Finland avails 20bn/- for grooming women leaders

By Francis Kajubi

THE government of Finland has donated USD 9 million (over 20bn/-) to UN Woman-Tanzania to be used to mentor women leaders within local government authorities.

To be implemented under Strengthening Women and Girls' Meaningful Participation, Leadership and Economic Rights at Local Levels in Tan-

zania, the programme will benefit 18 district councils with the least number of women leaders for a period of four years (2022/2026).

Speaking shortly after the signing ceremony of the agreement in Dar es Salaam yesterday, UN Women - Tanzania Representative Hodan Adou said that the 18 districts are in six mainland Tanzania regions: Arusha, Dar es Salaam, Coast, Lindi, Mtwara

and Singida.

"Our analysis shows that there is gender inequality in leadership at local government authorities in these regions mainly attributed to social norms and economic differences," she said.

"The programme seeks to advance women's leadership and participation in decision-making processes at the local levels. It further aims to enhance

women and girls' economic rights to support the operationalization of the government's commitments made last year at the Generation Equality Forum."

According to Addou, even at the national level, women continue to be underrepresented in leadership and decision-making positions mostly due to discriminatory social and cultural norms, unfair division of labour and

everyday practices that make it difficult for women to take up leadership positions and participate equally in their communities.

"Women are also mostly held down by poverty hence are less likely to have access to information and technology which in turn affects their chances of participating in

TURN TO Page2



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Nine-member team to probe Kilindi and Mtwara killings

FROM PAGE 1

phatic that it doesn't make legal sense that police officers are the accused persons and it is their colleagues who are carrying out investigations.

"The information I have is that police officers were allegedly involved in the killing of a businessman in Mtwara and they (police) have since formed a team to investigate their colleagues. This is simply unacceptable," she said.

She called upon Home Affairs minister Hamad Masauzi and the top leadership of the Tanzania Police Force to "assess themselves in the light of recent cases of crime".

The seven police officers were charged with the killing of Mussa Hamisi, who was reportedly beaten to death on January 5 this year and his body dumped in the bush.

Official reports said that before his disappearance and subsequent death, the businessman went to Mtwara Central Police Station to collect his 33.75m/- which some officers had taken from his residence during a search.

Mtwara Regional Police Commander Marck Njera confirmed that the man went missing until his body was found dumped in Mtwara municipality's Mjengo suburb.

Eight officers were arrested in connection with the incident but one "hanged himself to death while in a police cell" before being taken to court.

The seven accused persons charged are Superintendent Gilbert Kalanje, District Head of Investigation Charles Onyango, Mtwara Officer Commanding Station (OCS) Nicholas Kisinza, and Mtwara Region Criminal Intelligence Officer John Msuya Mganga.

Others are the Chief of Mtwara Police Dispensary, Assistant Inspector of Police Marco Mbuta, Inspector of Police Shirazi Mkupa and Corporal Salimu Juma Mbalu.

The seven suspects remain remanded at Mtwara municipality's Lilungu Prison in Mtwara since because the case they are facing is not bailable and the police team has been continuing with investigations.

Meanwhile, reports reaching us as we went to press had it that Prime Minister Majaliwa had ordered Inspector General of Police Simon Sirro to suspend several police officers in Kilindi District and Mtwara Region with immediate effect "to pave the way for the probe team the PM has just formed to go about its investigations".

The reports said among those targeted for suspension are the Mtwara Regional Police Commander, the Mtwara Regional Crimes Officer, the Kilindi OCD and the Kilindi District Crimes Officer.



Vice President Dr Philip Mpango (C) is met by Ethiopian Foreign Affairs minister Birtukan Ayano at Addis Ababa's Bole International Airport yesterday shortly after jetting into the Ethiopian capital to represent President Samia Suluhu Hassan at the two-day 35th Ordinary Session of the African Union Assembly for Heads of State and Government scheduled to open today. Photo: VPO

Samia fires 4 council directors for 'swindling' Covid-19 cash

FROM PAGE 1

year, which attributed largely to embezzlement. He said preliminary investigations show that there are elements of misappropriation of public money in the district, adding that a team has been dispatched there to carry investigations into the matter.

He said reports of misuse of funds in Geita District were raised by legislator Joseph Kasheku, adding that investigations were under way to establish the truth.

Bashungwa revealed that authorities were also conducting investigations in Singida and Iringa district councils where there were also reports of possible embezzlement of funds.

Tanzania recently received 1.3trn/- as Covid-19 relief package from the International Monetary Fund (IMF), with the government announcing plans to implement a score of projects financed with

the amount in a move it said would help with the private sector's liquidity. The strategy is meant to back the economy which had slowed down due to reduced demand which in turn reduced production, stagnating the whole economy. This funding will catalyse activities in the economy as businesses are able to borrow to fund their operation.

Tanzania's economic outlook has deteriorated due to the impact of the Covid-19 pandemic. With the collapse in tourism in the wake of travel restrictions, the economy decelerated to 4.8 percent growth in 2020, and growth is expected to remain subdued in 2021.

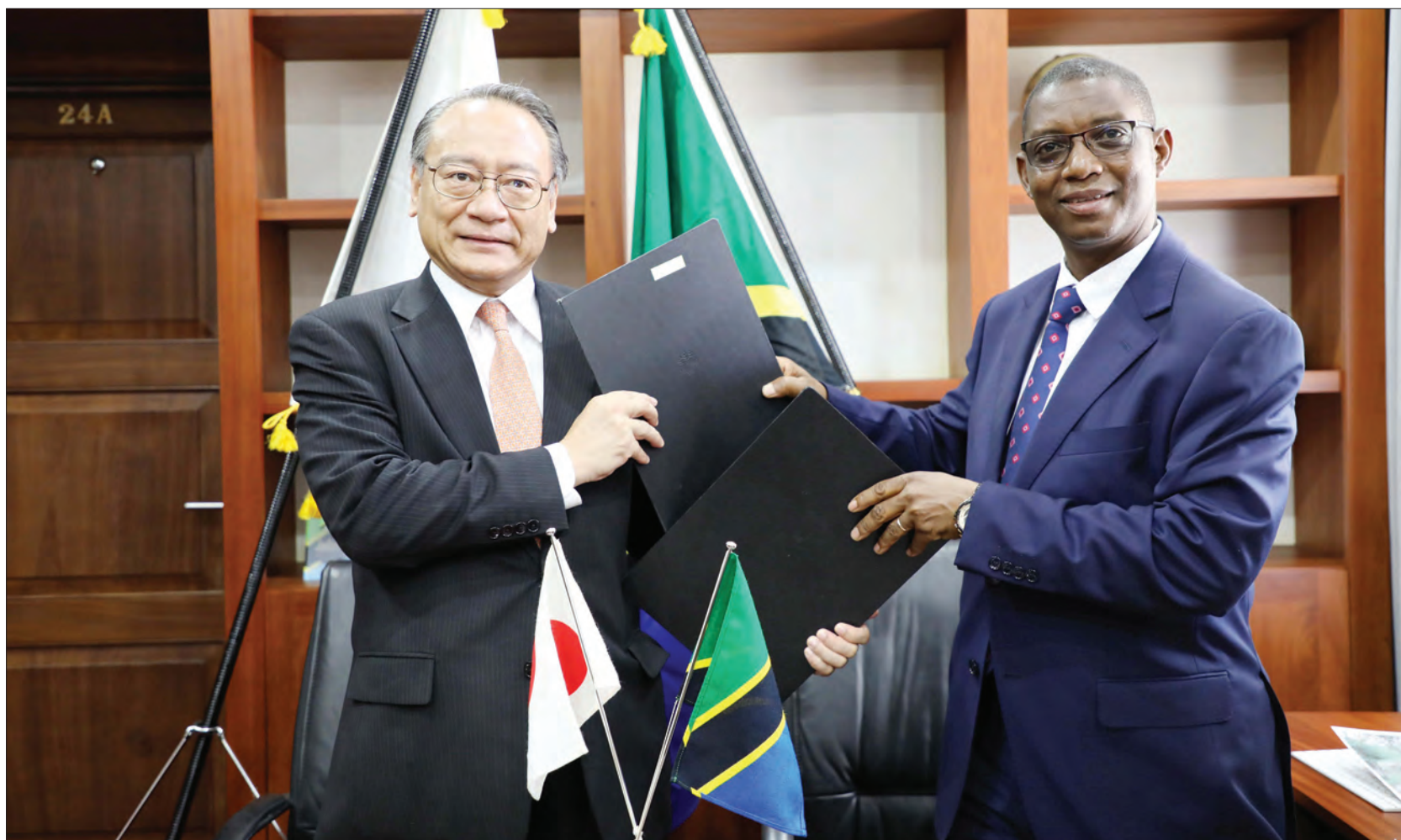
The country faces an urgent balance of payment of about 1.5 per cent of GDP as the authorities implement a comprehensive plan to mitigate the effects of the pandemic. The pandemic has negatively impacted Tanzania's macroeconomic outlook, and the health and wellbeing of its population with the government distributing the IMF funds into various sectors.

every stage of implementation. Riitta Swan, Finland's Ambassador to Tanzania, said that the holistic approach and strategies to be employed until the project's conclusion in 2026 will include promoting gender-responsive norms, behaviours and practices within communities.

"The programme will also focus on enhancing collection and use of sex and disability responsive data and enhancing women's economic rights, including piloting innovative measures such as childcare services as a way of addressing the disproportionate share of unpaid care work undertaken by women and girls," she said.

The envoy added that women and girls with disabilities are also recognised as a key stakeholder group whose participation and economic empowerment must be strengthened.

"Following the signing of the agreement, consultations at local government levels will be organized and their results will be unveiled during the official launch of Women's Leadership and Economic Rights project in April this year"



Finance and Planning ministry permanent secretary Emmanuel Tutuba (R) and Japan's Ambassador to Tanzania, Shinichi Goto, pictured in Dar es Salaam yesterday exchanging documents shortly after signing an agreement on a 761.8bn/- loan for the rehabilitation of the eastern and northern gates of Kigoma port, Zanzibar water infrastructure upgrades and Arusha-Holili road construction. Photo: Finance ministry

Finland avails 20bn/- for grooming women leaders

FROM PAGE 1

leadership and leverage the economic opportunities and social capital which many of their male counterparts have easier access to," she said.

Addou added that through this programme, the Embassy of Finland and UN Women- Tanzania will seek to address the highlighted challenges in collaboration with the Ministry of Community Development, Gender, Women and Special Groups; Local Government Authorities and other relevant government institutions as well as women and men who are agents of change at the district, ward and village levels.

Central partners and beneficiaries of the programme are female local government officers, elected councillors and leaders of women's groups and networks.

Local ownership and tailoring of the programme and its intended results are critical at local levels. The programme has therefore been designed to ensure inclusive and participatory actions at

every stage of implementation.

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Ministry set to sign pact for erecting 90 telecoms towers

By Getrude Mbago, Dodoma

The Ministry of Information, Communications and Information Technology will this month sign an agreement for construction of 90 telecommunication towers chiefly in rural areas.

Deputy Minister Kundo Mathew told MPs yesterday that the minister, Nape Nnauye, will sign the agreement meant to facilitate greater access to telecommunication services country.

Through the Universal Communication Services Access Fund (UCSAF) the government was making initial steps for announcing tenders for upgrading infrastructures for existing communication towers so as to provide better services.

He did not go into details over costs, areas to be covered and schedule implementation until the signing is conducted.

Various MPs had raised concerns over the challenge of telecom services in numerous rural areas.

Hawa Mwaifunga (Special Seats, CHADEMA) had earlier wanted to know when the government will complete improvements to telecom systems in Tabora Urban constituency, particularly for outlying wards.

She also demanded specifics on erecting telecom towers to address communication challenges at Iteemia ward.

Responding, the deputy minister said the UCSAF unit has conducted an assessment of the area and identified that 12 wards are in need of improved telecom services.

Through the fund, communication services were extended to Kabila, Kalunde and Uyui wards, he said.

Meanwhile, the construction of towers for 2G/3G and 4G network services was ongoing at Ndevela, Tumbi and Iteemia wards, being implemented by Halotel, a network service provider.

Assessments continue for six other wards for improving communication services, he stated.

Proposed law changes bar charging petty offenders before investigation

FROM PAGE 1

the Copyright and Neighbouring Rights (Cap. 218, the Economic and Organized Crimes Control Act (Cap. 200), the National Prosecutions Service Act (Cap. 430), the National Sports Council of Tanzania Act (Cap. 49), the Penal Code (Cap. 16), the Universal Communications Services Access Act, (Cap. 422), and the Veterinary Act, (Cap. 319).

For the National Prosecution Service Act, Cap. 430, the amendment to section 4 intends to provide for functions of the Deputy Director of Public Prosecutions to align it with the instrument establishing the National Prosecution Service. In addition, section 27C is proposed to be amended in order to set a mechanism for the election of chairman of District Criminal Justice Forum where the District Prosecuting Officer is

absent. The bill proposes to amend the Economic and Organized Crimes Control Act, Cap. 200 whereby section 3 is amended by setting a pecuniary jurisdiction of not less than 1bn/- for offences to be tried by the Corruption and Economic Crimes Division of the High Court. Section 29 is proposed to be amended in order to confer power of granting bail to subordinate courts in offences whose value is not less than 300m/-.

As for the College of Wildlife Management Act, (Cap. 209), it is proposed to amend section 2 in order to eliminate from the Act definitions of certain terms which are no longer applicable in the Act.

Other definitions are amended to align them with the amendments proposed in the substantive provisions.

Further to that, the Act is amended generally to replace the designation "Principal" with the designation "Rector" in order to comply with the standards set out by NACTE.

Similar amendments have been recommended in sections 6 and 7 whereby it is proposed to drop the use of designation "Deputy Principal" to "Deputy Rector". Section 3 is amended in order to empower the college to award degrees and to widen the scope of functions of the college to include provision of research and consultancy services in tourism and allied disciplines.

Section 5A is proposed to be added so as to provide for establishment of branches, campuses, faculties, departments, units and sections. The aim of the amendment is to enable extension of the college's services. Section 6

is further amended in order to recognise the Rector as the accounting officer of the college.

The bill proposes to amend the National Sports Council of Tanzania Act (Cap. 49), whereby section 6A is proposed to be added for the purpose of establishing the Sports Development Fund. According to the proposed amendments, the objectives of establishing the Sports Development Fund is to facilitate and promote sports development by financing various sports activities, to enhance collection of funds and ensure accountability in the use of such funds, facilitate training to sportsmen and women, and facilitate procurement, construction and maintenance of sports equipment and infrastructure. Further, it is proposed to empower the minister in charge of the

docket to make regulations prescribing for matters relating to management and operations of the fund.

For the Penal Code, Cap. 16, various provisions of the Act are proposed to be amended in order to increase the amount of fine that does not correspond to the current economic trends in order to enhance deterrence against commission of offences under the Act.

For example, section 62 is set to be amended to increase punishment for unlawful drilling from seven to 14 years' imprisonment, section 114(2) to increase punishment for an offence of contempt of court from one month to six months, section 297 to decrease the punishment of burglary from 14 years to seven years and section 319 to decrease punishment for an offence of arson from life imprisonment to 30 years.



Former Prime Minister Frederick Sumaye (2nd-L, foreground) feeds Manyara regional commissioner Charles Makongoro Nyerere a piece of cake at a CCM 45th birth anniversary ceremony held in Babati on Thursday. Photo: Correspondent Jaliwason Jasson

'Higher education loans being increased each year'

By Getrude Mbago, Dodoma

THE Government has assured the public that it will be increasing the loans budget for higher learning students so that more Tanzanian youths achieve their university education dreams.

Omary Kipanga, the Deputy Minister for Education, Science and Technology, issued this assurance in the National Assembly yesterday, when responding to Oscar Kikoyo (Muleba South).

The MP sought for the government's strategy to ensure that all youth applying for higher learning education loans are being supported, where the deputy minister explained that the government was making that effort.

It has continued financing provision of students' loans by observing existing laws, procedures and regulations, he stated.

"It's the government's objective to ensure that every student at higher learning education has access to a loan to pay for their studies," he said.

The government has been increasing the budget for the Higher Education Students' Loans Board (HESLB) each year, he said, noting that in the 2021/22 financial year the government has allocated 570bn/- for the loans scheme, up from 464bn/- the previous year.

With this increase, the number of loan beneficiaries rose in the 2021/22 financial year to 176,617 students, up from 149,389 beneficiaries the previous year, he explained.

In simplifying application and access to loans, HESLB in recent month announced that it will enrol a total of 70,396 beneficiaries into its digital credit payment system that will allow them to receive payments within 24 hours.

Paramilitary conservation units get vehicles, own plate numbers

By Polycarp Machira, Dodoma

THE government has introduced specific registration numbers for vehicles and equipment owned by wildlife and forest conservation services paramilitary forces.

Dr Francis Michael, the permanent secretary in the Ministry of Natural Resources and Tourism, told a press conference here yesterday that the government has been doing a lot to empower the paramilitary

forces since 2018 when they were formed. Introducing the new number plates is part of development plans for the force, he said.

The specialised paramilitary units were launched on 17th November, 2018 at Fort Ikoma in the Serengeti national park, at a ceremony officiated by then Vice-President Samia Suluhu Hassan.

The forces comprise of units handling security in wildlife, forestry and other conservation

resources, placed under the Tanzania National Parks (TANAPA), the Tanzania Wildlife Management Authority (TAWA) and the Tanzania Forest Services (TFS) agency.

The forces' number plate registration are numbered CC 01 for NCAA, CC 02 for TANAPA, CC 03 for TAWA and CC 04 for TFS where the core number stands for conservation commissioners, he explained.

Registration numbers for other vehicles and equipment used

by the special forces are 01 JU 0001 for NCAA, 02 JU 0001 for TANAPA, 03 JU 0001 for TAWA and 04 JU 0001 for TFS, he explained.

"After the formation and launch of the forces in 2018, the ministry has prepared equipment and working tools that goes along with duties of paramilitary forces," he stated.

This has involved setting up general orders curriculum for conservation paramilitary training colleges and special vehicles

and equipment registration number, he said.

During the event, the PS also launched and handed over 15 vehicles to the Tanzania Forest Services, bought by the government as part of initiatives to strengthen conservation of forest resources and bees.

He said the new vehicles will be distributed to Mlele, Mpanza, Songea, Tunduru, Longido, Rombo, Serengeti, Manyoni, Bahi, Mvomero, Kibaha, Mufindi and Chunya districts, appreciat-

ing efforts by President Samia to improve tourism, conservation of forests and wildlife in addition to other natural resources.

"We are proud of her support as we conduct our duties," he declared, noting that the paramilitary forces shall work professionally, with patriotic zeal to achieve government expectations.

Members of the public need to accord the forces due cooperation as they work to achieve outlined duties and targets, he

said.

TFS chief executive officer Prof Dos Santos Silayo commended the government for the gesture, saying it was a positive step to strengthen forest conservation. The new additions are part of 34 vehicles and equipment worth 5bn/- ordered by the agency last year, he said.

"We are proud of government support to strengthen forestry in the country and we promise to rightfully use the vehicles towards that goal," he vowed.

Minister: Govt now capable of allocating civil servants faster

By Guardian Correspondent, Dodoma

THE government has created an electronic system for the verification of the human resources situation enabling it to get correct data on the number and allocations of officials in public institutions.

Jenista Mhagama, the Minister of State in the President's Office (Public Service Management and Good Governance) said in a press briefing that the aim is to find solutions to challenges regarding the shortage of staff affecting service delivery to members of the public.

"Experience shows that some public institutions have been submitting applications for staff requirement without conducting proper analysis to find out real staff requirements.

"This ends with some institutions having more staff than actual needs or with fewer staff than required," she stated, noting that the situation causes staff congestion at one centre and shortages of staff elsewhere.

Electronic allocation will help in preparing the actual human resources needs in public institutions, where the government will have correct information and statistics on staff present and others needed.

Top officials of public institutions must oversee the implementation of the exercise to be conducted during this month, she emphasised.

"Make sure you implement the exercise to find out the actual staff requirements without bothering public officials as the government has invested adequately in financial resources," the minister underlined.



Finland's Ambassador to Tanzania, Riitta Swan (L), and UN Women's Representative in Tanzania, Hodan Addou, pictured in Dar es Salaam yesterday signing a US\$9 million agreement relating to the implementation of a four-year programme on the promotion of women's leadership and economic rights in Tanzania. Photo courtesy of UN Women

Kairuki Hospital memorial starts free eye camp, cancer scanning

By Correspondent Joseph Mwendapole

KAIRUKI Hospital has organized a free medical camp to commemorate the founder of Kairuki Health and Education Network (KHEN), the late Professor Hubert Kairuki.

The two days medical camp set for the Kairuki Polyclinic today and tomorrow at Mbezi Luis Magufuli Terminal is being organized in collaboration with the Hubert Kairuki Memorial Univer-

sity (HKMU).

Professor Kairuki who died 23 years ago was born in 1940 and died on 6th of February 1999, with Kairuki Hospital and HKMU organizing free medical camps to commemorate his passing and eulogise his contributions in the health and education sectors.

Assery Mchomvu, the Kairuki Hospital director, listed services that will be provided during the medical camp as breast cancer diagnosis plus

prostate cancer diagnosis by using modern technology.

Eye cataract diagnosis especially for bus drivers will also be offered, as well as checking high blood pressure, diabetes and weight. There will be blood donation sessions in collaboration with the Damu Salama Department in the Ministry of Health, aside from vaccination facilities to stem severe Covid 19 infection.

As for the eye diagnosis, bus drivers are target-

ed because of the nature of their job, entrusted with the safety of so many people each day, he said. "We would like to see many drivers come during the camp to obtain assurances on their eyes," he said, noting that despite that anyone will be diagnosed drivers are principally targeted.

Tomorrow the commemorative climax will see the launching of the Kairuki Polyclinic around the Magufuli Terminal. "We decided to go there so that surrounding communities can get health

services close to them," he said.

A charity walk where KHEN staff and students will participate shall cover the distance from Goba kwa Robert to the Magufuli bus terminal, he said.

In March and April the network shall be launching centres for invitro fertilization (IVF) at Bunju A Mianzini and the medical drugs manufacturing plant at the Kibaha Zegereni industrial area, he added.

UBA Bank CEO tours IPP media outlets based in Dar



United Bank for Africa (UBA) Tanzania Ltd managing director/CEO Gbenga Makinde holds yesterday's copies of The Guardian and Nipashe daily newspapers when exchanging ideas with senior editorial and other executives of The Guardian Ltd (TGL), publishers of the two titles, during his familiarisation tour of TGL facilities in Dar es Salaam yesterday. Others (from-L): TGL director Joyce Luhanga, Nipashe newspaper deputy managing editor Epton Luhwago, IT manager Balaj Gopalakrishnan, finance manager Samuel Orgeness, commercial director Ajay Goyal and printing manager Balasubramaniyan Venkadachalam. All photos: Correspondent Miraji Msala



The Guardian's managing editor, Wallace Mauggo (gesturing), briefs the UBA chief executive (2nd-L) on newspaper production in the TGL Newsroom. Right is long-serving graphic designer David Kijole.



TGL printing manager Venkadachalam takes the UBA guest through the basics of newspaper printing.



East Africa Television (EATV) broadcast manager Lydia Igarabuza (L) briefs the guest on operations at the station.



ITV/ Radio One managing director Joyce Mhville (gesturing) briefs the visiting CEO on operations in one of the tw-station's studios.



Radio One sports editor Amri Massare (C) introduces the guest to operations in one of the station's radio studios.



ITV producer Rajabu Dizomba (R) briefs the UBA guest on operations in one of the station's TV studios, with ITV/Radio One MD Joyce Mhville close by.



UBA (Tanzania) CEO Makinde seated in an ITV studio as the station airs its news bulletin. His host is the head of station's IT Department, Moses Fumbuka.



INVITATION FOR EXPRESSION OF INTEREST – PREQUALIFICATION OF CONTRACTORS FOR THE SUPPLY AND DELIVERY OF SAND CEMENT BLOCKS TO GEITA GOLD MINE LIMITED (GGML) TANZANIA

I. INTRODUCTION

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

The Company is in the process of Procuring sand cement blocks and is, therefore, inviting interested eligible suppliers to submit Expression of Interest for the supply of items as detailed below.

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

Scope of work:

REFERENCE NUMBER	SERVICE DESCRIPTION
GGME01379	SUPPLY AND DELIVERY OF SAND CEMENT BLOCKS

II. INFORMATION REQUIRED

PRE-QUALIFICATION REQUIREMENTS	20%
COMMERCIAL	
Company Profile	1.54%
Company Code of Conduct	1.54%
Company Code of Ethics	1.54%
Copy of registration/Incorporation Certificate	1.54%
Copy of Valid Tax Clearance Certificate (TCC)	1.54%
Copy of 2021 BRELA search Registration Documents	1.54%
Copy of Company Memorandum and Article of Association	1.54%
Copy of Latest BRELA Application of Annual Returns	1.54%
Copy of TIN Certificate of Firm/company and VRN	1.54%
Copy of Current Business Permit/Trade license.	1.54%
Company Shareholding Structure (ownership of shares in percentage (%), Share certificates and Passport/Voter or National ID card for Management & Shareholders	1.54%
List of Directors	1.54%
Compliance with the Mining (Local Content) Regulations, 2018 by having Local Content plan - Approved by mining Commission	1.54%
FINANCIAL POSITION & TERMS OF TRADE	
Audited & certified financial statements (2019-2020)	2.5%
At least 1 reference from the applicant's banker regarding supplier's credit position	2.5%
SAFETY AND ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT SYSTEMS	
OSHA Compliance Certificate	1.25%
Workers Compensation Fund Certificate/ any proof of compliance	1.25%
Environmental Management Plan / Programme / Policy	1.25%
Health and Safety Programme	1.25%
OTHER POLICIES	
Gifts / Hospitality / Sponsorship Policy / Procedure	1%
Policies / Procedures dealing with Forced and Child Labour	1%
Policies / Procedures dealing with Abuse, Discrimination and Harassment	1%
Grievance Procedure	1%
Human Rights Policy / Procedure / Programme	1%
PAST EXPERIENCE	
At least 3 names of the applicant's clients, value and duration of the contracts entered with the clients in the past two years (must be listed)	1.7%
Signed contracts/LPOs (proof of the above)	1.7%
Provide at least 3 recommendation letters from different clients	1.7%
TECHNICAL CRITERIA (GGME01379)	
Proof of TANROAD Quality Test Certificate for B.S. 6073; type A; with Load bearing and Compressive Strength 10.0 N per square millimeter and 25MPa compressive strength.	15%
Proof of ownership of manufacturing plant and machinery with capacity of 3000 blocks per day in Geita Town	25%
Proof of ownership of two trucks with capacity of 7.5Ton>	20%
Total	100%

Interested bidders must submit their expression Letters of Interest ("LOI") by quoting the **SERVICE DESCRIPTION AND REFERENCE NUMBER (GGME01379)** of the service they intend to express interest on **THE SUBJECT OF THE EMAIL** together with supporting information to GGML, which states the full name, address, telephone and e-mail address of the bidder, name of the principal contact, and signed by an authorized representative. The LOI must outline a statement of firm capability to provide the relevant Services, including similar contracts undertaken over the past three years. All LOIs and support documentation must be received by the GGML Office via e-mail at geita.eoi@anglogoldashanti.com not later than **8.30AM 18th February 2022** (the "LOI" Submission Deadline). EOI submissions should not exceed 10MB per email. In case the size of the email exceeds 10MB, please split the submissions into more than one email.

=END OF ADVERTISEMENT=

166913



INVITATION FOR EXPRESSION OF INTEREST – PREQUALIFICATION OF CONTRACTORS FOR THE SUPPLY AND DELIVERY OF GEAR: FINAL DRIVE; OK3712319/1CA5415700 TO GEITA GOLD MINING LIMITED (GGML), TANZANIA

I. INTRODUCTION

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

The Company is in the process of procuring Gear: Final drive; OK3712319/1CA5415700 and is, therefore, inviting interested eligible suppliers to submit Expression of Interest for the supply of this equipment as detailed below.

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

Scope of work:

REFERENCE NUMBER	SERVICE DESCRIPTION
GGME01393	SUPPLY AND DELIVERY OF GEAR: FINAL DRIVE; OK3712319/1CA5425700 TO GGML

II. INFORMATION REQUIRED

PRE-QUALIFICATION REQUIREMENTS	20%
COMMERCIAL	
Company Profile	1.54%
Company Code of Conduct	1.54%
Company Code of Ethics	1.54%
Copy of registration/Incorporation Certificate	1.54%
Copy of Valid Tax Clearance Certificate (TCC)	1.54%
Copy of 2021 BRELA search Registration Documents	1.54%
Copy of Company Memorandum and Article of Association	1.54%
Copy of Latest BRELA Application of Annual Returns	1.54%
Copy of TIN Certificate of Firm/company and VRN	1.54%
Copy of Current Business Permit/Trade license.	1.54%
Company Shareholding Structure (ownership of shares in percentage (%), Share certificates and Passport/Voter or National ID card for Management & Shareholders	1.54%
List of Directors	1.54%
Compliance with the Mining (Local Content) Regulations, 2018 by having Local Content plan - Approved by mining Commission	1.54%
FINANCIAL POSITION & TERMS OF TRADE	
Audited & certified financial statements (2019-2020)	2.5%
At least 1 reference from the applicant's banker regarding supplier's credit position	2.5%
SAFETY AND ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT SYSTEMS	
OSHA Compliance Certificate	1.25%
Workers Compensation Fund Certificate/ any proof of compliance	1.25%
Environmental Management Plan / Programme / Policy	1.25%
Health and Safety Programme	1.25%
OTHER POLICIES	
Gifts / Hospitality / Sponsorship Policy / Procedure	1%
Policies / Procedures dealing with Forced and Child Labour	1%
Policies / Procedures dealing with Abuse, Discrimination and Harassment	1%
Grievance Procedure	1%
Human Rights Policy / Procedure / Programme	1%
PAST EXPERIENCE	
At least 3 names of the applicant's clients, value and duration of the contracts entered with the clients in the past two years (must be listed)	1.7%
Signed contracts/LPOs (proof of the above)	1.7%
Provide at least 3 recommendation letters from different clients	1.7%
TECHNICAL CRITERIA (GGME01393)	
Ability to supply genuine O&K spares as per OEM specification	10%
Proof of evidence to carry warranties of supplied O&K spares	15%
Ability to provide technical support on O&K supplied spares	15%
Proof of dealership of O&K parts supply	10%
Proof of previous history of O&K genuine parts supply	10%
Total	100%

Interested bidders must submit their expression Letters of Interest ("LOI") by quoting the **SERVICE DESCRIPTION AND REFERENCE NUMBER (GGME01393)** of the service they intend to express interest on **THE SUBJECT OF THE EMAIL** together with supporting information to GGML, which states the full name, address, telephone and e-mail address of the bidder, name of the principal contact, and signed by an authorized representative. The LOI must outline a statement of firm capability to provide the relevant Services, including similar contracts undertaken over the past three years. All LOIs and support documentation must be received by the GGML Office via e-mail at geita.eoi@anglogoldashanti.com not later than **8.30AM 18TH February 2022** (the "LOI" Submission Deadline). EOI submissions should not exceed 10MB per email. In case the size of the email exceeds 10MB, please split the submissions into more than one email.

=END OF ADVERTISEMENT=

166914

Issue hazardous waste collection permits in 45 days, NEMC told

By Guardian Reporter

DECISION makers at the National Environment Management Council (NEMC) must come up with a revamped format for issuance of permit for collection of hazardous waste within 45 days of its being sought, the government has directed.

Selemani Jafo, the Minister of State in the Vice President Office (Union and Environment) issued this instruction to the NEMC board of directors of after launching it, with the board members being handed with various working tools.

The board chairman needs to make sure the new electronic system for issuance of the permits is completed in 45 days, he stated, elaborating that the electronic system for issuance of permits must embody vital required information. "I would be grateful if you work on this and make it successful," the minister remarked.

The board needs to ensure close management and supervision of the National Environmental Policy formulated last year as well as applicable regulations and guidelines.

"We are all aware that the National Environmental Policy 2021 will be launched in February 12. The document provides policy guidelines and solutions to a number of environmental challenges facing our country, he said.

He however urged board members to go through the NEMC structure and its responsibilities to make sure they suit the current situation, and if it enables the council to properly manage the environment.

He directed the board to ensure close monitoring of revenues and expenditures, as the board is an oversight organ working for the Vice President's office.

The ministry is determined to ensure proper supervision of the country's environment and strengthening conservation.

"We recently witnessed water rationing in various areas due to reduced water levels in sources caused by environmental destruction, as it results in drought, thus affecting our rivers and dams," said the minister, noting that



Asser Mchomvu (C), director of Dar es Salaam's Kairuki Memorial Hospital, briefs journalists yesterday on the free medical camp scheduled to start today at the Kairuki Polyclinic at the Magufuli Bus Terminal in the city's Mbezi Luis suburb. It will be in commemorating the 23rd anniversary of the death of the hospital's founder, Prof Hubert Kairuki. He is flanked by the polyclinic's administrator, Azuruni M pate (R), and marketing manager Victoria Tarimo. Photo: Correspondent Joseph Mwendapole

drought hits farming activities and livestock.

Board chairman Prof Esnati Chaggu promised to work on all the minister's directives, noting that the board will strive to wisely advise the government on issues related to environmental conservation.

"It is our responsibility to work tirelessly with

council staff to achieve the targeted goals," she declared.

NEMC was established in 1983 when the government enacted the National Environment Management Act No. 19 of 1983.

It was established with a broad mandate in response to the national need for an institu-

tion to oversee environmental management issues. It was also tasked with implementing the resolutions of the Stockholm Conference (1972), which called upon all nations to establish and strengthen national environmental bodies to advise governments and the international community on environmental is-

suces.

The purpose for which NEMC was established is to undertake environmental laws enforcement, regulatory compliance, reviewing and monitoring environmental impact statements, along with conducting research and working on awareness raising, she added.

By Guardian Reporter and Agencies

WHO: Nearly 10m people died of cancer in 2021

AN estimated 20 million people were diagnosed with cancer, and 10 million died in 2021, according to the World Health Organization (WHO).

These numbers will continue to rise in the decades ahead, it says, elaborating that all cancers can be treated, and many can be prevented or cured while cancer remains one of the world's leading causes of death, and its burden is growing.

Care for cancer, however, like so many other diseases, reflects the inequalities and inequities of our world. The clearest distinction is between high- and low-

income countries, with comprehensive treatment reportedly available in more than 90 percent of high-income countries but less than 15 per cent of low-income countries.

The survival of children diagnosed with cancer is more than 80 percent in high-income countries, and less than 30 percent in low- and middle-income countries. And breast cancer survival five years after diagnosis now exceeds 80 percent in most high-income countries, compared with 66 percent in India and just 40 percent in South Africa.

A recent WHO survey found

that cancer services are ordinarily covered by a country's largest, government health financing scheme in around 37 percent of low- and middle-income countries, compared to at least 78 percent of high-income countries.

This means that a cancer diagnosis has the potential to push families into poverty, particularly in lower-income countries, an effect that has been exacerbated during the COVID-19 pandemic. The theme for this year's World Cancer Day is "closing the care gap".

And fortunately, much is being done to bring quality can-

cer care to countries for which, up until now, it has been out of reach.

Efforts by the UN agency are focused on breast cancer, now the most common cancer along with cervical cancer as it can be eliminated, plus childhood cancer. The focus for each of these initiatives is low- and middle-income countries, where the biggest public health gains are to be made.

These integrated global cancer initiatives are being implemented by more than 200 partner organisations around the world, including development

banks, significantly increasing their investments in cancer research, prevention and care.

Experience has shown the importance of national cancer centres in ensuring a comprehensive approach to cancer treatment.

Ensuring availability of services for prevention, diagnosis, wide ranging treatment and supportive care together in one place makes it easier for patients to navigate services, leading to a greater concentration of expertise and thus better health outcomes. Cancer centres serve as training and research hubs,

helping to build country capacity and expertise. Screening is another important element of comprehensive cancer prevention and control but decisions on what to include in a cancer programme require consideration of a number of complex factors.

To support decision-making on such issues in various countries, WHO has just released a short guide to cancer screening, focusing on increased effectiveness, maximizing benefits and minimising harm.

Radiotherapy is among the most cost-effective, efficient and

widely-used cancer treatments, and may be considered as a treatment option for an estimated half of cancer patients. Despite being a critical component of cancer care, however, worldwide access to radiotherapy is still inadequate, particularly in lower-income countries.

To reinvigorate efforts to address this problem, WHO is joining forces with the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) as it launches 'Rays of Hope.' This new project will prioritize a limited number of high-impact, cost-effective and sustainable interventions in line with national needs and commitment starting in Africa, the agency noted.



Sharik Choughule (R), councillor for Kivukoni ward in Dar es Salaam, symbolically fries fish at the city's Magogoni International Fish market yesterday shortly after handing over 48 modern stoves for use at the facility. Photo: Correspondent Jumanne Juma

Floods kill four, roads damaged

By Guardian Correspondent, Morogoro

FOUR people have passed away after being swept by flooding rain waters in Morogoro and Kilosa districts.

Regional Police Commander Fortunatus Musilimu said the floods were caused by on-going rains in various areas across the region, destroying infrastructures and a range of other properties.

Among the dead are two pupils from Tumaini primary school in Morogoro municipality and two other children who were drowned in a pit latrine at their home in Mkundi ward.

Faudhia Juma (7), a Standard One pupil and Salha Kassim (5) a kindergarten pupil were both from CCT Street in the ward, he said. "Residents at the area experienced strong winds and heavy rains in a short period which resulted in the destruction of various structures. These two children were playing near a pit latrine where they drowned and died," he said.

On January 3, heavy rain with strong winds in Kalengakelu

ward of Mlimba-Kilombero District the region blew away the roofs of 41 houses, including three classrooms of Kalengakelu primary school, leaving many residents without shelter.

Mlimba acting divisional officer Aclay Mhenga confirmed the floods were caused just after New Year, saying that two people were injured in their house as a wall collapsed, appealing to the district's disaster relief committee to find ways to assist the victims.

Ward councillor, Martha Mkula thanked the district authorities for urgent assistance following the disaster, asking for more action towards assisting the victims, and repairing the classrooms.

The Tanzania Meteorological Authority (TMA) issued a weather alert last month saying heavy rains that may lead to floods are expected in the Lake Zone and other regions.

Seasonal rains are expected to continue most of this month, while unseasonal rains may occur in a few areas especially along the Lake Victoria zone, it observed.

Govt allocates 28.2bn/- to finalisework on 564 dispensaries, centres

By Getrude Mbagu, Dodoma

THE government has allocated 28.2bn/- in this financial year to facilitate completion of unfinished buildings for 564 health centres and dispensaries countrywide.

Dr Festo Dugange, the Deputy Minister of State in the President's Office (Regional Administration and Local Governments), informed MPs yesterday that in the last financial

year the government set aside 27.7bn/- for completing the construction of 555 health centres and dispensaries.

So far, 85 per cent of the buildings have been fully constructed, he stated, noting that by end of this year a total of 1,073 health centres and dispensaries will have been fully constructed and the ministry will start sending health staff for operations.

Dugange reminded councils to allocate at

least 40 per cent from their own revenues for completing the construction of unfinished health centres and dispensaries.

Earlier, Elibariki Kingu (Singida West) asked when the government will complete construction of unfinished dispensary buildings for Ufana, Kinyampembe, Mpeti, Misake, Mlandala, Kaugeri and Mtavira in his constituency.

He said the unfinished structures were built by citizens five years ago and needed govern-

ment support to be completed.

The deputy minister said that the government had continued building centres for health service provision, including completing construction of unfinished units.

In the 2021/22 fiscal year the government allocated 28.2bn/- for completing the construction of 564 dispensaries in all districts.

By late last year, the government had disbursed 15.4bn/-, equivalent to 54.6 per cent

of expectations, for district councils to implement the projects.

Out of it, 200m/- was sent to Ikungi district council for completing construction of four unfinished dispensary buildings for Ufana, Kinyampembe, Misule and Makotea area.

Through its own revenues, the council also set aside 50m/- to complete another dispensary in the Kaugeri area.

'Review curriculums to suit cognitively disabled pupils'

By Correspondent James Lanka, Kilimanjaro

THE government has been called upon to review teaching curriculums to suit pupils with cognitive disabilities to facilitate smooth learning for the special group.

Speaking in an interview here yesterday, the chief operations officer for the Toa Nafasi, a non-governmental organisation supporting education for pupils with cognitive disabilities, said such learners have special needs that require attention.

"They may have problems with homework and others so we need teaching curriculums which will be friendly," he said, noting that the NGO trains young women from the local community as tutors for such pupils

and provide medical and psychosocial support.

"In 2019 the project expanded to an additional five schools and was implemented in a further two schools in 2020, making a total of 11 schools," COO Marandu noted.

Challenges facing the education sector as a whole include teaching and learning curriculums which are not suitable for special needs secondary school students and primary school pupils, he asserted.

The sector is not equipped to accommodate individual learning needs of each student. Consequently, students with learning difficulties are often unable to fully participate in and benefit from their education, he further noted.

There are limited resources for stu-

dents with special needs, particularly those whose needs make them misunderstood and perceived as problems rather than as having an actual learning difficulty, he affirmed.

The Toa Nafasi project designed solutions to identify and assess struggling primary school students experiencing learning difficulties.

"Those with learning difficulties are incorporated into a pull out program, (a series of lessons embedded in the main learning course), consisting of lessons based on the Tanzanian national curriculum but modified for one-on-one, group, and peer-to-peer work," he said.

The pull out program for struggling learners is designed to be implemented in any school anywhere in the country, he added.



Biko 'ambassador' Kajala Masanja (L) pictured in Dar es Salaam earlier this week presenting 10m/- to Karim Malisawa Mwema (C) for winning Biko's 'Buku Ninbukuwe' grand raffle. Looking on is CRDB Bank Plc's Palm Beach branch manager, Pendo Kitula. Photo: Guardian Correspondent

Govt: We'll be amending law, regulations on using mercury

By Guardian Correspondent, Dodoma

THE government has stressed intent to continue reviewing and making improvements to existing laws and regulations by inserting sections that will oversee the importation and safe storage of mercury in the country.

Edward Nyamanga, the Deputy Permanent Secretary in the Office of Vice President (Environment), reiterated this position on Wednesday when opening a workshop for environment inspectors.

Reviewing and improving existing law provisions and regulations is aimed at controlling the use of mercury especially among small gold miners.

Tanzania has ratified the Minamata Treaty that calls for control in the use of the chemical, with the government coming up with a five-year national work plan for cutting the use of mercury for small gold miners, he said.

In implementing the plan, the government came up with a five-year project to reduce or completely eradicate the use of mercury in seven regions with many small gold miners.

The project will also be directed at alternative technology, work that involves various researches, and the government will finance results that show promise when applied, he stated.

The government will continue educating the people, small miners in particular on adverse health effects of mercury and on better ways of handling the chemical, by using protective gear.

The three-day workshop involves about 60 environmental and mining inspectors from environment agencies, local government authorities, personnel at the Government Chief Chemist, the Vice President's Office, the Mining Commission, and mining offices from seven regions of Geita, Mwanza, Mara, Shinyanga, Singida, Mbeya and Songwe.

UWT members tour Serengeti, mobilise for domestic tourism

By Guardian Correspondent

MEMBERS of CCM Women's Wing (UWT) have visited Serengeti National Park to help mobilise for domestic tourism and commemorating the party's 45th birth anniversary.

Mary Masanja, the deputy minister for Natural Resources and Tourism, praised UWT for the tour.

"For what you are doing, you have become big tourism ambassadors and we expect more groups will tour our national parks in other areas with tourist attractions," she said.

Through domestic tourism, Tanzania is being advertised within and outside the country as tourists contribute to the nation's income, she stated, expressing relief as

President Samia Suluhu Hassan was at the forefront in advertising the country's tourist attractions.

"I also thank UWT and all participants in their tour in support of the president by visiting the Serengeti National Park," she pursued.

In commemorating the International Women's Day in March, a mobilisation event is expected to bring women countrywide to visit tourist attractions near the areas they live, to make domestic tourism more popular.

UWT national chairperson Gaudensia Kabaka pledged that UWT shall play its role as ambassador to advertise domestic tourism.

"We shall be tourist ambassadors to support President Samia," she said, underlining that her joy will be to mobilise more than 100 women to visit tourist attractions from all regions.

Tanzania women need to change their mindsets in figuring out that tourists must be Europeans who can contribute money to the tourism sector. They should change by exercising a sense of belonging to the country, wishing to know or see more of it, by visiting tourist attractions, thus contributing to national income.

During the UWT tour, sports tourism was launched, where tourists visiting the Serengeti will have the opportunity to participate in various sports including netball, tug of war, and gunny bags race.



INVITATION FOR EXPRESSION OF INTEREST – PREQUALIFICATION OF CONTRACTORS FOR THE PROVISION OF MEALS AND DRINKS SERVICES TO GEITA GOLD MINING LIMITED (GGML), TANZANIA

I. INTRODUCTION

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

The Company is in the process of procuring meals and drinks services to company visitors and GGML employees in Geita town and is, therefore, inviting interested eligible suppliers to submit Expression of Interest for the supply of this service as detailed below.

NB: THE DOCUMENTS REQUESTED BELOW MUST BE SUBMITTED WHEN EXPRESSING INTEREST ON THIS

Scope of work:

REFERENCE NUMBER	SERVICE DESCRIPTION
GGME01390	PROVISION OF MEALS AND DRINKS SERVICES TO COMPANY VISITORS AND GGML EMPLOYEES IN GEITA TOWN

II. INFORMATION REQUIRED

PRE-QUALIFICATION REQUIREMENTS	20%
COMMERCIAL	
Company Profile	1.54%
Company Code of Conduct	1.54%
Company Code of Ethics	1.54%
Copy of registration/Incorporation Certificate	1.54%
Copy of Valid Tax Clearance Certificate (TCC)	1.54%
Copy of 2021 BRELA search Registration Documents	1.54%
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Workers Compensation Fund Certificate/ any proof of compliance	1.25%
Environmental Management Plan / Programme / Policy	1.25%
Health and Safety Programme	1.25%
OTHER POLICIES	
Gifts / Hospitality / Sponsorship Policy / Procedure	1%
Policies / Procedures dealing with Forced and Child Labour	1%
Policies / Procedures dealing with Abuse, Discrimination and Harassment	1%
Grievance Procedure	1%
Human Rights Policy / Procedure / Programme	1%
PAST EXPERIENCE	
At least 3 names of the applicant's clients, value and duration of the contracts entered with the clients in the past two years (must be listed)	1.7%
Signed contracts/LPOs (proof of the above)	1.7%
Provide at least 3 recommendation letters from different clients	1.7%
TECHNICAL CRITERIA (GGME01390)	
Designated food processing zone/ Restaurant.	5%
Health & food hygiene standards.	15%
Food handling requirements including facilities, trained personnel's etc.	10%
Hospitality and Customer's care.	5%
Accessibility, vehicle parking's and Safe workplace.	5%
Total	100%

Interested bidders must submit their expression Letters of Interest ("LOI") by quoting the **SERVICE DESCRIPTION AND REFERENCE NUMBER (GGME01390)** of the service they intend to express interest on **THE SUBJECT OF THE EMAIL** together with supporting information to **GGML**, which states the full name, address, telephone and e-mail address of the bidder, name of the principal contact, and signed by an authorized representative. The LOI must outline a statement of firm capability to provide the relevant Services, including similar contracts undertaken over the past three years. All LOIs and support documentation must be received by the GGML Office via e-mail at geita.eoi@anglogoldashanti.com not later than **8.30AM 18TH February 2022** (the "LOI" Submission Deadline"). EOI submissions should not exceed 10MB per email. In case the size of the email exceeds 10MB, please split the submissions into more than one email.

=END OF ADVERTISEMENT=

SATURDAY 5 FEBRUARY 2022

Taking A New Look
At The News
ESTABLISHED IN 1995

With horticulture reshaped, refined we will cut joblessness appreciably

BEING without a job - or call it unemployment, if you wish - can be hugely humiliating or dehumanising experience.

This is why, as a country, we need to make deliberate efforts to explore the possibility coming up with whatever can stand as options promising decent ways out the mess.

While many may not see agriculture in its various forms as one of the most approachable potential 'saviours' in this regard, and this mainly for historical reasons, the fact is that it indeed is.

In that we are principally agricultural economy, we are one of the countries in the world grappling hardest with the impact of climate change where traditional cultivation heavily dependent on rains is no longer a sustainable option.

Part of the answer could be found in garden cultivation, or horticulture, which by its very nature encourages the adoption of some form of irrigation.

The holding of agricultural and related expositions would likely see horticulture's value chain benefit from the various opportunities brought about by international participants ranging from manufacturers, processors, input dealers, the packaging industry and exporters.

However, unless we do have something of value to offer these potential partners, we would take part in these events and leave empty-handed as our colleagues from other countries cut lucrative business deals.

In this matter of food production for job creation, Tanzania should not allow itself to play the docile observer role.

Africa's youth population is said to grow faster than that of any other region in the world. The UN Food and Agriculture Organisation (FAO) meanwhile projects that some 74 million jobs will have to be created in Africa in the next ten years or so to prevent the continent's youth unemployment from ballooning.

Some African countries are al-

ready taking horticulture seriously, and are already seeing the results - with Ethiopia's horticulture a top income-generation sub-sector for the Horn of Africa nation.

The International Society for Horticultural Science (ISHS) meanwhile says Kenya is poised to lead the way in creating the 74 million jobs Africa needs, thanks to her tight embracing of horticulture.

It says horticulture has emerged as the most important sub-sector in Kenya's agriculture, providing not only food and foreign export earnings but also many new jobs.

Some Kenyan universities are also said to have established departments of horticulture and appreciably boosted undergraduate enrolments in horticultural sciences.

Therefore, it would be valid to seek, to establish the extent to which we in Tanzania have gone towards making horticulture a bigger and more important source of food and jobs than it currently is.

The first status report on urban and peri-urban horticulture in Africa released by FAO in 2012 highlighted how commercial production of fruits and vegetables provides livelihoods for thousands of the continent's urban dwellers, and food for millions more.

It's worth noting for the benefit of Tanzanians that many young people in neighbouring countries are becoming entrepreneurs in horticulture. This group includes university graduates having pursued various disciplines, many of which are unrelated to agriculture generally and horticulture in particular, as well as middle-upper middle class urban youths.

The good thing about horticulture is that in many countries it has managed to rid itself of the misplaced 'dirty job' tag for long associated with smallholder farming.

That is why many urban educated youths embrace it. It is the future, so let's go for it. But are we ready for the daunting challenge this adds up to?

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HAPPY BIRTHDAY



@Msamba
2022

What's working globally to save journalism?

By Ryan Lee

TWO years into the Covid-19 pandemic, news organisations large and small continue to face serious challenges: shaky revenue streams, changing reader behaviours and brazen government crackdowns.

As the pandemic lingers on, the effects of emergency relief and long-term sustainability efforts - whether successful or not - have begun to play out for the journalism industry globally.

In a new report published by the German Konrad Adenauer Foundation, "Saving Journalism 2: Global Strategies and a Look at Investigative Journalism", we dove into interventions that have made progress and the needs or obstacles still remaining.

The report builds on research from 2021 that analyzed the initial rollout of numerous interventions to support journalism, ranging across philanthropy, new business models, taxes on tech platforms, and public subsidies.

Here are some takeaways and comments from industry leaders interviewed for the report. One is Australia's legal precedent requiring that tech platforms pay news outlets.

In February 2021, Australia passed the News Media Bargaining Code, requiring tech companies - particularly Meta, Facebook's parent company, and Google - to pay outlets for news content published on their platforms.

The official agreements have been kept secret but Rod Sims, chair of the Australian Competition and Consumer Commission, estimated that media outlets in Australia received at least A\$200 million.

Despite considerable lobbying and threats from the two tech giants to close shop in the country, Australia Institute chief economist Richard Denniss said that the News Media Bargaining Code worked.

"Google and Facebook didn't quit Australia as they threatened. A lot of money has changed hands and a lot of journalism jobs have been advertised. This proves that the sky didn't fall," he said.

The Code, however, did not benefit all news organisations equally, Denniss noted, elaborating: "There is nothing egalitarian about the Code at all. Google and Facebook were forced to negotiate, and bigger outlets are getting a lot more money than the smaller ones."

This discrepancy reflects a lingering tension between larger, established outlets and smaller, more niche organisations.

While journalism funding has increased in recent years, bigger and traditional companies have often benefited more from these new programmes or policies.

A key challenge to designing effective public policies is addressing the wide-ranging - and occasionally competing - needs across major outlets and smaller, local media.

Beyond Australia, the threat of new legal measures pushed Facebook and Google to commit further funds to journalism in countries seeking to adopt their own versions of Australia's Code.

In France, Google agreed to pay more than US\$76 million to 121 French news publishers over three years, in addition to a US\$593 million fine for not negotiating in good faith with news publishers.

In Canada, Meta announced a three-year CA\$8 million investment to support Canadian journalism in addition to partnering with 18 news organisations on an initiative to "contribute to the long-term sustainability of journalism in Canada".

Acknowledging that these payments from



Meta and Google were better than no payments at all, experts interviewed asserted that a tax on tech would be a more effective approach than Australia's flawed Code.

They said further taxes on these companies, or online advertising with some revenues earmarked to support quality and civic-minded journalism would offer more transparency and independent oversight over these funds.

"A tax on Google and Facebook would have been better, but the Conservative government will not tax Google and Facebook," said Denniss, adding: "We had a unique opportunity to force their hand globally."

Alternatively, instead of government taxes, The Conversation's Andrew Jaspas proposed "a voluntary agreement with Google and Facebook to pay a 'levy' to an independent fund" which would address market failures. Among these would be coverage of rural or regional news, courts, police, local governments, and specialised reporting on topics like science, health, and the environment.

In France, the government passed a one-time tax credit in July 2020 for new subscribers to shore up the declining media industry with additional revenue.

However, the credit did not go into effect until May 2021, nearly ten months later. It complemented a wider array of emergency measures, cross-cutting economic efforts, and a recovery plan adding up to €483 million.

While the measures have indeed helped to sustain the struggling news industry, a French Senate report called for philosophical change in the industry to adapt to shifting reader habits and to mitigate continued dependence on public funding as a risk to media independence.

Before the recovery plan, public aid to the news industry already represented more than 20 per cent of the sector's revenue - six-point increase over the last decade.

As the report emphasized, a major evolution is necessary to prevent

public aid to the news industry from becoming an increasingly vital revenue source that masks deeper structural issues of declining distribution and an overemphasis on print rather than digital news.

In Indonesia meanwhile, as my colleague Matthew Reysio-Cruz reported, the government announced a journalism stimulus in July 2020 with tax credits and direct subsidies.

The policies abolished the value-added tax for print news, suspended electricity charges for the media, cut corporate taxes by 50 per cent, and exempted income tax for employees earning up to 200 million rupiah (US\$14,000) annually.

Additionally, the government subsidised media outlets with direct payments, conditioned to the monthly publication of a certain number of Covid-19 stories, such as on social distancing, handwashing and mask-wearing.

These policies were controversial. While some credited them with saving the pandemic-era journalism industry, others objected to the direct government influence on what subject matter was covered.

M. Taufiqurrahman, editor in chief of The Jakarta Post (Indonesia's largest English-language daily), was of the view that the cash infusion in return for content was helpful for the news outlet. "Organisationally, it helped us get through the pandemic," he said.

On the other hand, from the perspective of Alliance of Independent Journalists former chairman Abdul Manan, the government subsidies were "not healthy" for the news industry.

"Government and media are two different entities with different roles. It's very important to have a clear separation," he said.

While more funding is necessary, it is not sufficient alone to sustain quality independent journalism. The most important dimension of a thriving media ecosystem must be respect for freedom of expression.

"Without respect for fundamen-

tal rights and media freedom, no amount of funding or focus on the future will ensure genuinely independent journalism," a recent report by the Forum on Information and Democracy explained.

Large investments are needed to scale any business; journalism is no different. Effective, publicly supported programmes are not easy, and there must be sufficient public recognition of the need for journalism as a public good.

In the US, New Jersey brought together a group of public universities and foundations to create a Civic Information Consortium - the first of its kind in the country - to dedicate public funding towards addressing news deserts and misinformation in the state.

After providing US\$500,000 in grants in 2021, the consortium will increase its funding in 2022 in continuation of efforts to transform journalism from the ground up.

For Democracy Fund associate director Angelica Das, building trust and providing readers information they truly need is critical.

"There is not a single tool or process to save or transform journalism, but rather a need to flip the script and look from the ground up," she said.

She elaborated: "Are you earning trust? Are you inclusive? Are you culturally relevant? Are you meeting basic information needs? If you are not meeting the basic needs of daily life, then you cannot build an audience for news or generate revenue."

A dispatch by the International Journalists' Network (IJNet), a project of the Washington-based International Centre for Journalists. Ryan Lee is a Master's candidate studying media, technology and security at Columbia University's School of International and Public Affairs in the US, where he serves as Editor in Chief of The Morningside Post.

Drugs 'stolen' owing to weak internal controls, not proximity of pharmacies

AUTHORITIES at the recently restructured Health ministry are literally racing against time as they seek to find a cure for the chronic thefts of drugs in public hospitals.

They have begun by moving to ensure that private pharmacies are based - and operate from - a safe distance from the hospitals.

Going by what Health minister Ummy Mwalimu has said, having the hospitals and private pharmacies so close makes it easy for hospital staff to know where to dispose of the stolen drugs.

It is that this makes street purchases of drugs normal - that, with the pharmacies nearby, patients and their relatives don't have to ask where they may get prescribed medicine, as they just check if they can afford them.

To be sure, the minister isn't just seeking to relocate the pharmacies but also to improve the availability of drugs in the public health system.

That is where a hiatus comes up, for when the drugs are either removed from hospitals or redirected when being purchased at the government's Medical Stores Department, no one can see what is happening.

It isn't a matter of lifting a box of drugs and hauling it away to a private pharmacy, in which case putting it at a 'safe' distance will discourage the person out to relocate the box.

Drugs are more affordable than they would otherwise be, chiefly in public hospitals, on account of eliminating middlemen in procur-

ing prescription drugs from outside the country to MSD and when delivering them to hospitals, dispensaries and health centres.

Therefore, the Health ministry is better placed to ensure the 90 per cent level of availability of prescription drugs within hospital premises as affirmed by minister Mwalimu.

It means that pharmacies remain largely with cosmetic medication, as most prescriptive drugs will be available in hospitals - and at the right time.

This laudable intention comes with a paradox in that, if the minister will actually succeed in ensuring that drugs are as available as expected, the ministry would first have succeeded in controlling the unexplained disappearance of drugs from major health facilities.

Most pharmacies would soon be driven down, pushed into relying mainly on sales of mild drugs rather than prescription ones. Few people will go to buy drugs there just because they are near the health centres where the prescription has been made.

By contrast, if the ministry is less than successful in ensuring availability of drugs prescribed by doctors at hospital counters, people will have to seek out where a particular medicine is found.

That might see a rise in bribery cases, calling for enhanced vigilance by law-enforcement agencies and the other relevant authorities. It's food for thought for all concerned.

THE LAW & YOU

The burden of proof: Who carries it in criminal and civil proceedings?

By Telesphor Magobe

YOU might have heard of people who are caught red-handed, committing an alleged offence (for instance, those caught with stolen property) or in possession of property obtained illegally.

You might also have heard of people who, after catching a person red-handed committing an alleged offence, ask themselves: "What more evidence do we need for this?" or "Why waste time investigating what is obvious, while we have all evidence?"

Such people have already made their own judgment and what they want is to see such a judgment being implemented as they see it and whether they are right or wrong, it doesn't matter.

Well, this could be a layperson's view which has no legal effect or basis at all. Of course, in the eyes of a layperson, when they see "a person caught red-handed" is sufficient evidence to incriminate that person and what follows is for the person to be subjected to punishment.

This, in most cases, leads to mob justice (taking the law into one's own hands) that, of course, puts each one of us in a precarious situation of being condemned unheard as a criminal offender even if the accusers are wrong.

But even if they may be right, each one of us must follow what the law says when a person commits an offence in his or her presence. If each one of us is just left to face the whims of kangaroo courts who will be safe then?

In law, allegations or claims are not taken for granted, assuming that every person, including the court, knows and sees it in the same way for "he or she who alleges or claims must prove".



Mind you, our legal system is adversarial, meaning that parties to a dispute must present their case before an independent and impartial judge who, before the determination of the case, has to weigh the evidence presented before him or her and will only award judicial relief based on nothing else, but on the weight of evidence as manifestly and undoubtedly presented to him or her.

What works in law is that "Justice should not only be done, but should manifestly and undoubtedly be seen to be done". This legal

principle has its genesis in a seminal English case of *R v Sussex Justices; Ex parte McCarthy* [1924], thanks to Lord Gordon Hewart, then Lord Chief Justice of England from 1922 to 1940.

The principle was then adopted by US Supreme Court Chief Justice William Howard Taft and was incorporated into the American Bar Association (ABA)'s first model judicial code after which the ABA Canons of Judicial Ethics "emphatically announced the overarching principle governing the judiciary—judges

must not only do justice but must appear to do justice." In 1954, Justice Felix Frankfurter in *Offutt v United States* held that "justice must satisfy the appearance of justice."

In his book *The New Despotism*, Lord Hewart is quoted to have said "the idea of justice contemplates at least an independent and impartial judge, whose judgment is found on evidence and reason." For him, the rule of law includes: "(1) an identified judge accountable for his decisions, (2) public court proceedings, (3) impartial application of recognised legal principles, and (4) a full and fair hearing."

That is, when an issue is brought before the court for determination, it must be clearly shown how it was done or committed so that an independent and impartial court is persuaded by such evidence beyond reasonable doubt (if the issue brought before the court is a criminal charge) or it is proved by a preponderance of probability (if the issue brought before the court is a civil suit).

So, in the eyes of the law, it is not sufficient to allege or claim that so-and-so were caught red-handed, committing an alleged offence, this allegation or claim must be proved - that is, evidence must be brought before the court and in this case it is upon the party that alleges or claims to have seen an alleged offender committing an offence or a civil wrong to prove it.

This is a legal duty called "the burden of

proof". Section 110(1) of the Evidence Act, 1967, as amended until 2009, states: "Whoever desires any court to give judgment as to any legal right or liability dependent on the existence of facts which he [or she] asserts must prove that those facts exist."

In criminal cases, the burden of proof lies on the prosecution to prove beyond reasonable doubt that the charges alleged against the defendant are true and happened as alleged.

In civil proceedings, the burden of proof lies on who alleges or claims the commission of a civil wrong was to his or her detriment.

Section 3(2) states that: "A fact is said to be proved when - (a) in criminal matters, except where any statute or other law provides otherwise, the court is satisfied by the prosecution beyond reasonable doubt that the fact exists; (b) in civil matters, including matrimonial causes and matters, its existence is established by a preponderance of probability."

If it happens that the court determines an issue without regard to the evidence provided (*ultra vires*), it amounts to a miscarriage of justice because in this case, there is no party given a right to be heard.

Today's proverb: "A clear conscience laughs at false accusations."

The author is a lawyer based in Dar es Salaam. He can be reached at tmagobe@gmail.com

Mauritius murder case further highlights Africa's urgent need to safeguard whistleblowers

By Ufrieda Ho

On 18 October 2020, the half-charred body of a man was discovered in the sugarcane fields alongside a stream near the village of Moka in Mauritius. This incident was initially dismissed as just another senseless killing on the idyllic island.

However, as the investigation proceeded, the victim was identified as Soopramanien Kistnen, a construction contractor and former member of the Mouvement Socialiste Militant – the majority in the country's ruling coalition.

The police initially ruled the death as suicide, but after further investigation and pressure by civil society, it was determined to be a murder. It later emerged that before his death, Kistnen was about to expose a corruption scandal involving the government's purchase of public protective equipment. So it appears that Kistnen's death may not have been a senseless crime, but rather an indication of the dangers faced by anyone willing to blow the whistle on corruption (or any other type of crime).

Transparency International defines whistleblowing as "the disclosure of information about a perceived wrongdoing in an organisation, or the risk thereof, to individuals or entities believed to be able to effect action." The importance of whistleblowers in shedding light on complex crimes such as corruption, organised crime and terrorism cannot be overstated. They provide information crucial for law enforcement to detect and investigate these crimes, especially given their often concealed nature.

The risks that whistleblowers face vary. Some are fired and left without an income; others receive threats to themselves and their families. More severe cases include violence and, as in the case of Kistnen, death. These risks are heightened when the information divulged implicates prominent people. The latter often have the wealth and influence to harm whistleblowers and their relatives or interfere with legal processes.

Given the risks and often deadly consequences of whistleblowing, it can be a huge decision that whistleblowers have to take when exposing corruption. They provide information to the authorities and become involved in the legal case against the accused as key witnesses. Witness protection is therefore critical.

Despite their crucial role in uncovering complex crimes and the risks they expose themselves to, limited attention has been paid to protecting whistleblowers across Africa. Few measures have been put in place to ensure the safety of whistleblowers or witnesses. These include going into hiding, relocating or changing identities, and providing ongoing police protection that forms part of witness protection programmes.

The importance of witness protection is emphasised in international instruments such as the United Nations Convention against Corruption (Uncac) and the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime (Untoc) and its protocols. Both conventions request states to "provide effective protection from potential retaliation or intimidation for witnesses".

Although the protection of whistleblowers is one of the foundations of an effective crim-



inal justice system, witness protection programmes are almost entirely absent in Africa. South Africa became the first country on the continent to develop a comprehensive witness protection law in 1998. Yet events such as last year's killing of Babita Deokaran, a provincial health department official who was a crucial witness in a corruption case, bring the efficacy of the country's whistleblower system and policies into question.

Although Mauritius ratified Untoc in 2003 and Uncac in 2004, the country doesn't have whistleblower protection legislation. The only reference to a form of such protection is found in section 49 of the Prevention of Corruption Act 2002, which provides the whistleblower with immunity from civil or criminal liability. The result is that whistleblowing happens at people's own risk, as demonstrated in the Kistnen case.

Developing and adopting comprehensive legislation on whistleblower protection and

implementing comprehensive strategies would be a clear signal from the Mauritian government that the declarations to rid the country of corruption carry weight.

Using the Uncac Technical Guide on Articles 32 and 33 as a foundation or framework could help lawmakers develop the law. Elements of the South African Protected Disclosures Act of 2000 may also be relevant to the Mauritian context.

Key aspects to consider include clarifying terms such as 'witness', 'expert', 'relatives' and 'persons close to the witness'; the sectors, entities and departments the law will cover; the provision of adequate physical protection from potential retaliation or intimidation; and arrangements with other states for whistleblowers' relocation.

The state would need budgetary allocations to provide adequately for the protection of witnesses. In addition to legislation, a comprehensive framework and system for

dealing with whistleblowers need to be established and institutionalised within government.

There are certain requirements when building a witness protection programme. These include a process and structure where people are (and feel) free and safe to come forward with information, and a process and structure through which they can seek protection. Also needed are standard operating procedures to ensure effective physical and psychological protection, and a ministry or agency responsible for their protection (this could be the police or prosecuting authority or a joint effort).

The responsible agency requires appropriately skilled teams with adequate funding to discharge its duties effectively. An independent unit must be established to oversee the practices and ongoing positive results of this programme – this will build the programme's credibility and increase trust in the state's commitment to penalising corruption. A manual should be developed to guide the public sector to interpret the relevant legislation and implement related policies.

To further encourage whistleblowers to come forward, it is essential to offer some form of incentive for individuals to expose corrup-

tion, organised crime or other wrongdoing. This could be a monetary reward allocated from recovered funds due to the whistleblower's disclosure. Other incentives could include recognition (dependent on their consent and safety) or promotion at work.

It is essential for countries like Mauritius, often perceived as one of Africa's best-governed nations, to protect current and future whistleblowers. A first step is undoubtedly adopting appropriate legislation. Following that could be implementing comprehensive institutionalised protection systems to prevent others from needlessly losing their lives. **DM**

China-Europe trade shows resilience with strong performance in 2021

ROME

TRADE between China and European countries saw robust growth in 2021, exhibiting vigor and resilience in their economic cooperation in spite of a weak global recovery hobbled by the unabated spread of COVID-19. Official data showed China's trade with the European Union (EU) in 2021 amounted to 828.1 billion U.S. dollars, up 27.5 percent year on year. China remained the EU's largest trading partner, while the EU was China's second largest trading partner.

SOURCE OF VIGOR

As the world is still going through a hard time amid the pandemic, China has been making persistent anti-virus efforts at home while sustaining economic recovery, boosting the growth of China-Europe trade.

Projections show that the total trade volume between China and Germany is likely to reach a new record, thus making China Germany's largest trading partner for the sixth year in a row, said Juergen Friedrich, chairman and chief executive at Germany Trade & Invest, in a written interview with Xinhua.

Supply bottlenecks and the Omicron variant wave have slowed down economic recovery, said a note published by the Liechtenstein-based VP Bank Group on its website in January.

Thomas Gitzel, chief economist at VP Bank, said that given the recovery of the supply chains and logistics between Germany and its major trading partners, especially China, he is optimistic about the growth prospect of the German foreign trade.

John McLean, chair of the Institute of Directors for the City of London, said China is Britain's third largest trading partner and up to the second quarter of 2021, it accounted for 7.6 percent of Britain's overall trade, a year-on-year increase of 8.6 percent.

Italy's trade with China grew 34.1 percent in 2021, data from China Customs showed. The Chinese economy "has kept growing in the last years despite the pandemic," said Massimiliano Tremitterra, head of the Italian Trade Agency (ITA) office in southern China's Guangzhou City.

"Therefore, the Chinese market is considered a market of primary importance for a country like Italy with a strong export orientation," he said.

ANCHOR OF STABILITY

As the world's largest trading nation, China has served as an anchor in a turbulent global market disrupted by supply chain bottlenecks and inflation.

The China-Europe freight train service, as an important pillar for the Belt and Road Initiative, has helped stabilize global supply chains and offer a lifeline for the distribution of anti-virus materials.

By the end of October, the China-Europe freight trains plying along 73 routes reached 175 cities in 23 European countries with more than 50,000 kinds of goods.

The number of China-Europe freight train trips rose by 22 percent year on year to hit 15,000 in 2021, according to China State Railway Group Co., Ltd.

March 1 this year will mark one year since the China-EU agreement on geographical indications (GI) came into force, a treaty inked to improve bilateral trade of agri-food products and strengthen China-EU economic ties.



Aerial photo taken on Aug. 12, 2020 shows a China-Europe freight train leaving for Milan, Italy with 45 compartments of anti-epidemic supplies from the Xinzhu Railway Station in Xi'an, northwest China's Shaanxi Province. Xinhua

Wolfgang Burtscher, the European Commission's director-general for agriculture and rural development, noted that both the EU and China are rich in GI resources, and the implementation of the agreement has great significance for both sides to strengthen GI protection, improve market recognition of related products and create greater added value.

Co-chairing virtually a meeting of the China-EU Joint Committee on Geographical Indications in January, Burtscher said the EU is ready to work with China to expand bilateral trade in agricultural products, benefit enterprises and consumers on both sides and boost the rural economy.

CATALYST FOR NEW DEVELOPMENT

China and Europe have great potential for cooperation in

such areas as clean energy, digital economy and service industry, as well as in combating global challenges.

China remains one of the world's most important markets that see growth, and "an important partner for overcoming global challenges such as the COVID-19 pandemic and climate change," Friedrich said. Noting German companies import more goods from no other country than from China, Friedrich added that German companies in China "continue to express investment intentions, including the localization of production and research and development" in China.

McLean said the growing trade in manufacturing, telecoms, and pharmaceutical products has "strengthened the trade bridge" between Britain and China, and has "acted as a catalyst for both countries to develop closer collaboration on the

global issues of health, climate, aging and biodiversity."

Italian fashion, design, and lifestyle sectors as well as producers of medical supplies and machinery components will particularly benefit from trade between Italy and China, said Italy-China Foundation President Mario Boselli. Looking into the future, Boselli wrote in a report that innovation and increasing digitalization are going to be the main drivers of China's economic growth in the next years, and that Italian companies will have to make adjustments in order to stay competitive.

Xinhua

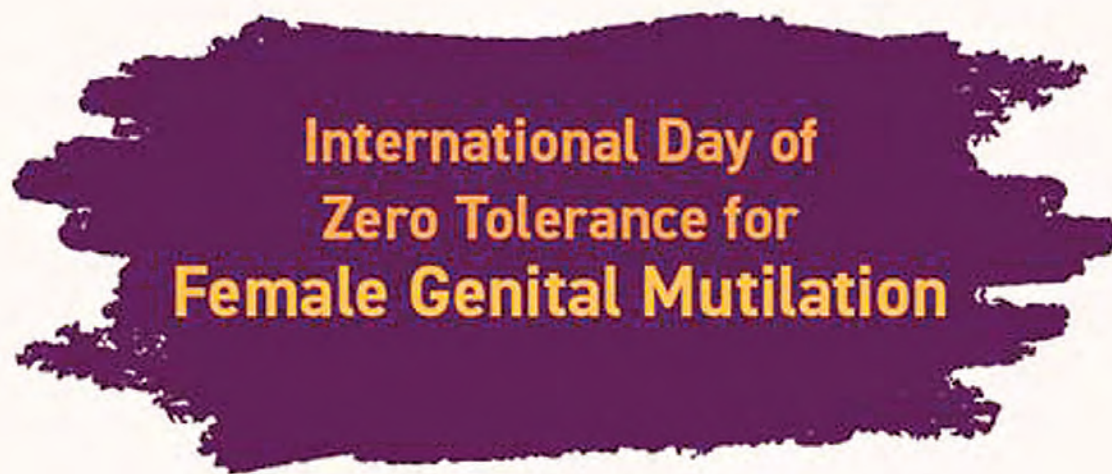
Increased investment vital to ending female genital mutilation as COVID-19 rages

NEW YORK

“MULTIPLE overlapping crises are putting millions of girls at increased risk of female genital mutilation. "Countries already grappling with rising poverty, inequality and conflict are seeing the COVID-19 pandemic further threaten years of progress to end the practice, creating a crisis within a crisis for the world's most vulnerable and marginalized girls.

"Even before COVID-19, 68 million girls were estimated to be at risk of female genital mutilation between 2015 and 2030. As the pandemic continues to shutter schools and disrupt programmes that help protect girls from this harmful practice, an additional 2 million additional cases of female genital mutilation may occur over the next decade.

"Rapid population growth in some countries is expected to further increase the number of



girls at risk, adding urgency to the global effort to eliminate the practice by 2030 as set out in the Sustainable Development Goals.

"Female genital mutilation harms girls' bodies, lives and futures. It is also a violation of their human rights. Only united, concerted and well-funded action can end the practice everywhere.

"As the global community adopts programmes to reach girls and women impacted by the pandemic, there is an urgent need to accelerate investment to end female genital mutilation. Some \$2.4 billion are needed to eliminate this practice in 31 high-priority countries. Specifically:

- Investment in the empowerment of girls and women, and in adequate services and response for those affected and at risk of female genital mutilation
- Investment in building

partnerships and mobilizing allies - including men and boys, women's groups, community leaders and even former practitioners of female genital mutilation - to help eliminate the practice.

• Investment in developing and enforcing national-level laws and strengthening institutions.

"So far, progress has been clear and measurable. Today, girls are one third less likely to be subjected to female genital mutilation than 30 years ago, and in the last two decades, the proportion of girls and women in high-prevalence countries who oppose the practice has doubled.

"Those gains now face an unprecedented challenge. Global efforts must keep the momentum moving forward and build on years of progress to end this harmful practice completely."

IPS

CAPITAL RADIO

RATIBA YA VIPINDI JUMATATU - JUMAPILI

MONDAY TIME PROGRAMME	TUESDAY TIME PROGRAMME	WEDNESDAY TIME PROGRAMME	THURSDAY TIME PROGRAMME	FRIDAY TIME PROGRAMME	SATURDAY TIME PROGRAMME	SUNDAY TIME PROGRAMME
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 UMUJAVYO 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

Cabo Delgado closer to abyss as violence converges with cyclones

GENEVA.

A recent surge in violence in Mozambique's Cabo Delgado province has displaced thousands of people and left them with precarious access to medical care.

Mozambique, one of the most at risk for extreme weather events is heading into its annual tropical storm cycle, facing an increased risk of life-threatening disease outbreaks.

Displaced people living without shelter, clean water, or proper sanitation are especially vulnerable to diseases like malaria and diarrhoea. The first tropical storm of the season—Ana—made landfall in Mozambique's Nampula and Tete provinces last week.

Doctors Without Borders, also known as Médecins Sans Frontières (MSF) is responding to the new waves of forced displacement by providing basic health care, mobile clinics, and much needed household and shelter items.

"Violent attacks and ongoing insecurity in several districts of central Cabo Delgado have driven thousands of people from their homes with nothing but what they can carry at the very moment the cyclone and rainy season is setting in," said Raphael Veicht, head of

MSF's emergency unit.

"This is a very dangerous combination. We are extremely concerned about the protection of civilians within this acute and escalating conflict."

Jean-Jacques Mandagot, MSF project coordinator said that in Mitambo, where MSF conducted mobile clinics and food distributions, the situation was very tense as more and more displaced people arrived in the village. "Some were sleeping in fields while others were sheltering in thatched-roof houses left empty by residents who had already left for somewhere safer. Some people stayed for one night and moved on looking for safer areas, while others stayed longer because they lacked the means to keep going."

"Each day, our team provided more than 200 medical consultations, and we treated more than 2,000 patients in a single week," he said.

He narrated prolonged sight of a lot of people with malaria, coughs, fevers, and diarrhoea. Many patients also have physical pains in their legs and backs from their harsh journeys fleeing danger. "One man told me he had lost all his possessions—his house, his stores of food—leaving him with nothing. He said



he was now forced to beg for food, and that he no longer wanted to be near his village or anywhere that would remind him of the life he had lost."

There is no permanent health centre in Mitambo, so residents have to travel to a health centre in a nearby village to receive care. With the current insecurity though, people have had to travel much further and at greater risk—while some people could not access health

care at all because they could not afford to travel or were unwilling to take those risks. Thus in late January MSF's mobile clinics in Mitambo were very busy.

The current crisis in the region is concentrated in the centre of the province, particularly in Meluco and southern Macomia districts. Local authorities there have reported more than 20 attacks on four villages in the past two

weeks, with 2,800 homes damaged or destroyed by fire.

Since late January, more than 14,000 people have been forced to leave their homes and are now in search of safety and the basic means of survival.

Many displaced people have now congregated in small villages and towns, such as Mitambo, Ancuabe, and Nanjua, where MSF teams have been running mobile clinics and distributing

food, shelter, and hygiene kits for 800 families since late January.

These villages lack the basic infrastructure to sustain so many people, especially clean water, shelter, and access to medical care.

It is absolutely crucial that medicines and medical supplies can be imported speedily, without bureaucratic delays, so that MSF can scale up the provision of lifesaving health care, he added.

Ethiopia, Kenya, Tanzania...East Africa's recovery, growth machine

By Special Correspondents

Back in 2019, East Africa housed three of Africa's fastest rising economies - Ethiopia, Rwanda and South Sudan. Then two major events upset the regional appellation. While 2020 will be remembered by many as an annus horribilis, for East Africa the stars were brighter.

First, the Covid-19 pandemic, which by 2 April had entirely shut down local and international flights. Tourism contributes around 17% to export earnings, accounting for around 10% per cent of regional GDP. And then war broke out in Ethiopia,

sending shockwaves throughout the region.

"We have emergency response plans as an airline, but we didn't anticipate this level of disruption", said Allan Kilavuka, the CEO of Kenya Airlines, speaking at our online Africa CEOs Forum event in September. "We stopped flying passengers on the whole, so we needed to increase our capacity for cargo and repurpose some of our planes. We managed to repurpose two of our Dreamliners into cargo planes."

In Tanzania, leading manufacturer MeTL ploughed on, benefiting from Tanzania's relative

lack of Covid-related closures. "Tanzania didn't really have a lockdown, so our operations weren't affected dramatically. Certain sectors like tourism did take a hit, but we didn't," MeTL director of marketing Fatema Dewji told the CEO Forum.

Others were less fortunate. Hotels on the Swahili Coast had to lay off staff or shutter, from Tanzania up through Kenya. Small tour operators went out of business. Cancellations piled up at safari and guide businesses.

Hillpark Hotel in Nairobi was one of several to acquire a new clientele as a quarantine

centre. "We had to reduce our normal room prices to over 50 per cent discount," said Joseph Ndunda, the general manager, in research commissioned by the Kenyan government. "All Covid-19 suspects paid uniform charges regardless of the room checked in. Though giving a 50 per cent discount was a huge decision, it helped us to manage employee salaries and operational costs of the hotel." The hotel also provided meals to local hospital workers.

But the year had not finished its regional shakedown. In November, a vicious, ethnically tinged conflict pitted the Tigray

region - home of many of those who were piloting Ethiopian growth - against the federal government. In the prior decade, the World Bank clocked Ethiopia's economic growth at nearly 10 per cent. The war will have a huge hit on a country that was becoming a regional economic juggernaut.

The effects of the war are wide and deep for Ethiopia. Tigray is home to a significant portion of the country's manufacturing and mining activity, and inflation has doubled the cost of food in the capital, Addis Ababa. The effects are also being felt throughout East Af-

rica. Djibouti's finance minister, Ilyas Dawaleh, told reporters that GDP growth had been cut in half, due largely to the slowdown in trade from Ethiopia, as Djibouti is a logistics hub for its landlocked neighbour.

With the region's challenges, East Africa recorded a GDP growth of 0.7 per cent in 2020. The African Development Bank predicts growth of 3 per cent in 2021 and 5.6 per cent in 2022.

The bounce-back is already underway and is perhaps a testament to the region's digital focus. "We saw a lot more cashless, mobile banking solutions," says Darshan Chandaria, the group

CEO of Chandaria Industries. "Touching money was deemed a hygiene risk across Africa. It's given us a better idea of risk management and sustainability going forward."

For MeTL, the pandemic highlighted new opportunities. "In Tanzania, there were traditional forms of marketing, and there were digital, as some people don't have access to those platforms. However, now things are changing. They do have access to it, and we are taking that into account. We are looking into app development to provide products straight to the consumer, like Amazon," the direc-

'Seaweed farming in Zanzibar vital chance for rapid growth'

By Guardian Reporter and Agencies

Hadija Nassor Mwalim was introduced to seaweed farming from an early age. Born and raised on the shores of Zanzibar, a Tanzanian archipelago on the frontlines of climate change off the coast of East Africa, she's been around seaweed for as long as she can remember.

That's in part because, as a coastal community, Zanzibar is highly reliant on seaweed as one of its top exports. The aquaculture industry is estimated to employ more than 25,000 people on the island, 80% of whom are women.

One of these women was Mwalim's auntie, Zanaib, who would regularly bring the young Hadija Nassor to the seaweed plantations while she worked. There, the ocean and shorelines were her playground, and soon enough—her inspiration.

For women like Zanaib, the island's growing seaweed business offered an opportunity for self-sustenance and financial and economic independence. And that, in turn, led Hadija, who watched her auntie working in the fields, to ask herself: "Why not me?"

But she soon realized that simply farming the seaweed was not the profitable self-sustaining business she had expected. So, in 2015, she joined Mwani Zanzibar, a non-profit turned private corporation creating macroalgae and plant-based skincare products.

At Mwani, Mwalim was given the

opportunity to expand her skills set to not only farming the seaweed, but to processing and producing the products—like body butters, skincare oils, and Mwalim's personal favorite to make, soaps—that come from it as well.

The learning process at Mwani takes about three years of training in order for the farmers to transition to a farmer-artisan status.

Since joining the non-profit, Mwalim's financial standing has changed drastically as she now makes eight times more in income compared to what she was earning when she worked independently, including receiving protections and benefits.

Mwalim is just one example of how Mwani Zanzibar's mission to empower community members, financially and through the development of business know-how, is changing lives.

As cofounder Klaartje Schade, said, seaweed farming accounts for only 25 per cent of the work here at Mwani Zanzibar. "We are the only company that actually processes the seaweed before it leaves our shores."

And Mwalim's newfound financial freedom and independence have not only benefited herself as an individual—but her family as well.

In addition to being a farmer-artisan, Mwalim is a wife and mother of four. Like many working mothers around the world, her mornings begin early. On a typical day, Mwalim



wakes up around 5:00 a.m. to do her morning prayer (Mwalim is a practicing Muslim as the majority of locals living on the island are). She then feeds her four children, Salahia, Mousaina, Arouduat, and Talmiha, before sending them off to school.

Later at Mwani, Mwalim joins her honorary family members, lovingly known in Zanzibar as the Mwani Mamas, which literally translates to Seaweed Mamas.

The mamas embody the concept of Mtu ni Watu, a Swahili proverb meaning a person is people. The proverb is used to remind people of the importance of collaboration and community—exemplified by the close teamwork carried out by the Mwani Mamas. The farming itself can only be done at low-tide. In the meantime, the mamas work in the production and processing of Mwani's skincare products.

Seaweed farming is an intergenerational practice in Zanzibar. And Zanaib and Mwalim's story is shared by many other local families. It's a dream that extends to Mwalim's children: that they follow in her footsteps like she did her auntie's. Yet, eco-grief and fear for the land are a constant consideration.

It's not easy to stay optimistic. "Maybe the island will vanish," Mwalim tells me. She wonders how future generations will find a way to live on the land—"unless they all turn into fish since there'll be water everywhere," she said.

The ever-changing environmental circumstances leave little room for certainty. But one thing is true: in a world where female ecological knowledge so often drives urgently-needed climate solutions, the Mwani Mamas provide some hope for the future. Mwalim is painfully aware of the rising sea levels, yet she chooses to set her sights above the horizon, aspiring to one day open a seaweed production business of her own.

Scholar spotlights early role of rastafari women

BY SWAN

THE Rastafari movement, which began in Jamaica during the 1930s, has become internationally known for its contribution to culture and the arts, as well as for its focus on peace and "ital" living. Major icons include reggae musicians Bob Marley, Peter Tosh, Bunny Wailer and Burning Spear, with the movement overall projecting a very male image.

But women have contributed significantly to the development of Rastafari, as Jamaican-born historian Daive Dunkley has shown through his research. Rastafari women were particularly active in the resistance against colonial rule in the first half of the 1900s, and they created educational institutions for young people and helped to expand the arts sphere in the Caribbean, among other work.

These contributions are highlighted in Dunkley's latest book, *Women and Resistance in the Early Rastafari Movement*, an essential addition to the history of Rastafari – which scholars generally see as both a religious and social movement. US-based Dunkley, an associate professor in the University of Missouri's Department of Black Studies and director of Peace Studies, spoke to SWAN about his research, in an interview conducted by email and videoconference.

SWAN: What inspired your research on women's role in the early Rastafari movement?

Daive Dunkley: There is a story here. My inspiration for writing about women's role in the early Rastafari developed from research I had been doing since 2009 on Leonard Howell, one of the four known founders of the movement. I quickly realized that women were a significant force in the group that became known as the Howellites and were critical to all their considerable initiatives. These included developing the first self-sufficient Rastafari community, known as Pinnacle.

Hundreds of women joined the estimated 700 people of the Pinnacle community in 1940, located in the hills of St. Catherine, Jamaica. I realized too that the women had been part of establishing the Ethiopian Salvation Society (ESS) in 1937 and were members of its governing board. They were secretaries and decisionmakers, including Tenet Bent, who

married Howell. Bent was one of its leaders and financial backers. She also had connections in middle-class Jamaica that proved critical to the development of the ESS as a benevolent Rastafari organization.

Interestingly the ESS created a constitution written chiefly by women who called it a "Christian charity." And some of its first outreach programs were also clearly determined by women, such as providing relief in the form of food and clothing to survivors of natural disasters in several parts of Jamaica in the late 1930s. In 2014, I decided to focus my research on the activities of the early women, who came predominantly from the peasantry. The colonial government and newspapers largely ignored the activism and leadership of these women in the development of the Rastafari movement.

SWAN: Were you surprised by the information you discovered?

D.D.: I was not surprised by my information about women's political, economic, and cultural activism within the early Rastafari movement. My earlier research on the antislavery activities of enslaved people included research on women. Despite slavery, these women remained active in the resistance – undermining, escaping, or abolishing slavery altogether. I found out that women's role in the early Rastafari encountered silencing by the colonial system. We helped maintain this silencing in later writing about the early movement. What I read in terms of secondary scholarship was largely androcentric. I learned the names of the four known founders and some other prominent men. They engaged the colonial system unapologetically as



Rastafari leaders. I read nothing similar about women, which I found pretty strange.

Moreover, when women were portrayed, including by British author Sheila Kitzinger in the 1960s, it was essentially to reflect on how marginal they were in the movement. By the way, for me, the early Rastafari movement dates from the 1930s to the end of the 1960s. Women in the 1960s were members of the early action, and many joined from the 1930s through the 1950s. In other words, early women were members of Rastafari during and after the colonial system. This system was far more devastating in its attitudes towards Rastafari than the early postcolonial government of Jamaica that took over with the island's political independence in 1962.

Rastafari obtained a male-dominated image from the mid to late 1950s with devastating consequences for all the movement's women. The colonial system successfully imposed a veil of silence on women, resulting in our ignorance of these women. More research using interviews with and about women and closer reading of the colonial archives, including

the newspapers, helped me uncover some of the hidden histories of the women in the early movement. I was inspired to continue searching for these stories because I knew that Black women were never silent in the previous history of the Caribbean or before the genesis of Rastafari in 1932.

SWAN: What was the most striking aspect of this story?

D.D.: This question is a difficult one to answer because all these stories involving women were fascinating or striking. But if I were to venture an answer to the question, I would say that the story about the women who petitioned the government for fairness and justice in 1934 stands tall among the most striking. I've written elsewhere about this story in a blog for the book published by LSU Press. I said that the women who petitioned the government for justice and fairness showed their awareness of the power of petitions in the history of the Black freedom struggle in Jamaica and the Caribbean.

These women organized themselves to defy the colonial police, justices of the peace, and resident magistrate. These entities had dedicated themselves to silencing Rastafari women and men. The women submitted their petitions to the central government. They did so in a coordinated fashion to ensure that the colonial officials did not ignore the pleas.

You will have to read the book to get a fuller sense of what happened due to these petitions. I will say that engaging with the government showed an effort not to escape from the society but rather to transform colonial Jamaica into a just and fair society. The women wanted the island's Black people to see themselves improving. They wanted Jamaica to reflect their aspirations. The activities aimed at accomplishing this wish were among the most significant contributions of early Rastafari women. They were not escapist. They were radical transformationalists if we want a fancy term.

SWAN: How important is this particular segment of history to Jamaica and the world, given the international contributions of the Rastafari movement?

D.D.: Rastafari's early history is critical to understanding both the history of Jamaica and the African diaspora at the time. People like to think of the internationalization of the Rastafari movement as starting from the 1960s and growing from there. However, my research on early Rastafari women has confirmed that this is not true. Rastafari was formulated with an international perspective and established ongoing connections with the global Black freedom struggle from its very beginning. The women also helped establish relations with Ethiopia on a political level that included fundraising, organizing, and participating in protests against fascist Italy's aggression and subsequent occupation of Ethiopia in 1936-1941.

In addition, women protected the Rastafari's historic theocratic interpretations of the coronation of Emperor Haile Selassie I and Empress Menen Asfaw in 1930. The coronation event was critical to inspiring the genesis of the Rastafari movement. Women such as the previously mentioned Tenet Bent maintained the correspondence with the International African Service Bureau (IASB) through one of its founders, George Padmore, the Trinidadian Marxist based in London. The women knew that the organization evolved out of the International African Friends of Abyssinia formed in London in 1935 to organize resistance against Italy's attempts to colonize Ethiopia.

In 1937, Padmore created the IASB with help from other Pan-Africanists from the Caribbean and worldwide, including CLR James, Amy Ashwood Garvey, ITA Wallace-

Johnson, TR Makonnen, Jomo Kenyatta, and Chris Braithwaite, the Barbadian labor leader. The early Rastafari women preserved the history of Rastafari's attempts to engage with the global Garvey movement from 1933, though disappointed by Garvey's unwillingness to meet with Rastafari founder Leonard Howell.

Women, however, helped preserve the movement's links to Garvey's Back nationalist ideology to maintain the Pan-African political consciousness of the African diaspora. Women also read and discussed the literature of Pan-Africanist women writers such as Amy Bailey. The newspapers of Sylvia Pankhurst, the British socialist and suffragist, also kept the early Rastafari women abreast of developmental initiatives in Ethiopia.

Undoubtedly, the 1960s onwards brought further development of this international focus, especially with the development of Reggae and primarily through the touring by Bob Marley and the Wailers in the 1970s. However, much of the success of Reggae was due to its Rastafari consciousness developed in the 1930s. This consciousness centered on the African origins of humans and empowered Reggae with a message of morality, peace, and justice that appealed to people worldwide.

SWAN: From a gender standpoint, how significant would you say the research is for Jamaica, the Caribbean?

D.D.: The early history of Rastafari women revealed some crucial developments in the story of gender and its dynamics in the modern history of the African diaspora. The early women challenged gender disparity inside and outside the movement from the 1930s' inception of Rastafari. Many of these women had been part of empowered women congregations in the traditional churches, namely the Baptist church.

Still, they felt that Rastafari focused more on their African ancestry and therefore was more relevant to their social uplift. Among the gender discussions initiated by women was equality between the emperor and empress of Ethiopia, whereas men saw the emperor as the returned Messiah. The women proposed that the empress and emperor were equal and constituted the messianic message of the coronation event in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia, in 1930.

Women also ensured that they participated in preaching the Rastafari doctrine on the streets of Jamaica from the early 1930s. They defended men arrested and tried for their involvement in Rastafari. Many women also ended up imprisoned for their defense of the movement and its use of cannabis. Women were present during the court proceedings as witnesses and supporters. Their willingness to engage the justice system revealed to colonial officials that the male focus in suppressing Rastafari would continue to fail unless they paid attention to women.

The women carried on the Pinnacle community in the 1930s through 1950s when the police arrested the men. As my book discusses, women were at the center of initiating the most significant Rastafari organization of the late 1950s, the African Reform Church of God in Christ. One of its two founders was Edna E. Fisher. She was prosecuted for treason-felony and did not attempt during the trial to hide the fact that she was the owner of the land on which they built their organization. Fisher considered herself the brigadier of the movement. However, scholars have named the events and the trial after her partner and future husband, Claudius Henry. Still, Fisher was instrumental in the leadership and creating the organization's cultural and political objectives.

IPS

THE GUARDIAN SIMPLE WORD FIT // THE GUARDIAN CROSSWORD --00 217 00--

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

WORD-FIT

3 letters: BUA, KAA, BEN, TRY, ONE, AIL, DUE, ADD
 4 letters: ROBE, NOUN, MAST, LEER DELE
 5 letters: ROGUE, ABEAM, AGENT, THANA BEMBA, ENEMY, YOUNG, ASIDE STAIN,
 6 letters: GRABBY, LUGGER, HOMAGE, BOTTLE
 7 letters: TAMALE,
 8 letters: GRABBLE, KATANGA, ONESELF,

CROSSWORD

CLUES: Across
 1 First president of Kenya
 5 Tripoli is her Capital
 8 behave uncontrollably and disruptively
 9 a fertile spot in a desert
 11 set the value of a tax
 13 assert to be the case
 16 progress through life
 17 the sixth month of the year
 19 United Nations University
 21 indicating the point in space or time at which a journey starts
 22 someone who does surprise attack on people
 24 a derogatory term for a white man
 25 crush with a sharp blow from a flat object
 26 matt

CLUES: Down
 1 highest mountain in Africa
 2 mountain where Moses saw the promised land from afar
 3 gather
 4 tempt sexually
 5 a defeat in sport
 7 a friendly form of address in India
 10 the religion of the Muslims
 12 direct vehicles in a correct side
 14 listlessness and dissatisfaction arising from boredom
 15 a brass musical instrument
 18 give property to
 20 Union of European Football Associations
 23 mouse

SOLUTIONS

U H U R U F R E E M A N D E L A M
 Z N O V O Y E M O A
 E L E V E N O E S H A R I A B A N I
 S A V A M E N C S U N B L A I T
 C U R I O U S N O R A N G E T L
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By Magezi: 0755429240 telixmagezi@gmail.com

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

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

BUSINESS



Facebook loses users for the first time in its history

WASHINGTON

FACEBOOK parent Meta's stock suffered its biggest single-day loss yet as the company refocuses on the 'metaverse'.

Facebook parent Meta's quarterly earnings report on Wednesday revealed a startling statistic: For the first time ever, the company's growth is stagnating around the world.

Facebook lost daily users for the first time in its 18-year history – falling by about half a million users in the last three months of 2021, to 1.93 billion logging in each day.

The loss was greatest in Africa, Latin America and India, suggesting that the company's product is saturated globally – and that its long quest to add as many users as possible has peaked.

Meta's stock price had plummeted more than 26 percent by Thursday afternoon, shaving \$220 billion off its market value and costing the company the biggest one-day loss in its 18-year history.

The company is facing challenges on multiple fronts, as competitor TikTok booms, federal and international regulators scrutinize its business practices, and it begins a lofty transition to focus on the "metaverse."

Meta's stock price tumbled more than 20 percent on Feb. 2, after the company confirmed that Facebook's global user growth has stagnated for the first time.

Investors on Thursday appeared to punish the company for a combination of factors, including the slower growth numbers, a lower revenue forecast for the coming months, failure to generate advertising revenue from Reels, its short-video TikTok copycat on Instagram, as well as costs related to changes to Apple's operating system that prevent ad-tracking, which hurts companies like Facebook.

FRL, the company's hardware division that builds the Oculus Quest headset, lost \$3.3 billion in the quarter, despite bringing in \$877 million in revenue.

But even that figure is a tiny fraction of Facebook's total revenue – \$33.67 billion last quarter – primarily derived from targeted advertising on its main social network.

The company has made significant investments toward its aspiration of becoming a hardware giant, including hiring over 10,000 people and rebranding itself to Meta. But that transition is still in its early days.

(Washington Post)

Cross-border trade in exports increases by 500bn/- in 2021

By Guardian Reporter

TANZANIA cross border exports trade gained by 500bn/- during the period of one year ending September 2021, with Lake Zone moving nearly 80 percent of total value of exported goods and services.

The Bank of Tanzania (BOT) consolidate zonal economic performance report for Q3,2021 has shown that during the period, total cross border exports trade value was projected at 2.3 tril/-, against 1.8 tril/- recorded in 2020.

The increase pushed up cross border trade balance to a surplus of projected 1.9 tril/- in 2021 from a surplus of 1.5 tril/- recorded during the year ending September 2020, according to BOT and Tanzania Revenue Authority (TRA).

Lake zone, it was due to increase in export of livestock; fish and fish products; cotton seed cake, food items and other consumer goods.

Lake zone accounted for 64.5% share of the export value, followed by northern zone



of Tanzania, which is bordering Kenya with 32.1% and the remaining share were injected South eastern (0.1%) and southern highlands with 3.3%.

Lake Zone, which borders Uganda, Rwanda, Burundi and Kenya had the highest value of cross border exports trade amounting a projected 1.49 tril/- in 2021, an increase of 44.1% from 1.03 tril/- recorded in 2020.

The increase of the value was due to

increase in export of livestock; fish and fish products; cotton seed cake, food items and other consumer goods.

The trade balance for the zone which comprise of Mwanza, Kagera, Geita and Mara region also wet up from a surplus of projected 900bn/- in 2020 to a surplus of 1.3 tril/-, an increase of 48.3%.

Northern region was the best performer on exports with projected 742bn/-, although recorded a slowdown from

754bn/- recorded in 2020, which is 1.6 percent decline.

Northern zone, which comprises of Kilimajaro, Arusha, Manyara and Tanga, bordering Kenya accounts for 32.1% share of Tanzania's cross border trade. Trade balance also slowed to a projected surplus of 573bn/- from 615bn/- in 2020, equivalent to 6.9%.

South Eastern zone export performance was also positive as a projected total export value of 2.1bn/- recorded in 2021 from 2.0bn/-, while trade balance remained flat at 1.8 bn/- during the period reviewed.

Southern highlands zone, bordering Zambia, Malawi, DRC exports valued 77bn/- in 2021 from 64bn/- in 2020, while trade balance moved out from a deficit of 12.8bn/- in 2020 to a surplus of 0.7bn/- in 2021 due to an increase in the export of maize flour and other consumer goods.

The report shows the cross border imports value increased by 14.6% from 350bn/- in 2020 to 402bn/- in 2021, with northern zone being top importer with 169bn/-, followed by Lake Zone with 156bn/-.

Oil closes in on \$100 a barrel despite cyber attack

LOS ANGELES

Brent Crude oil (BZ=F) continued its push to \$100 (£74) a barrel on Friday despite a string of cyber attacks on European storage sites this week.

Oil prices were more than \$92 in early trade, a rise of 1.3%, pulling up oil majors such as Shell (SHEL.L) and BP (BPL).

Both companies climbed 3% on the day to the top of the FTSE 100 just a day after Shell

reported that annual profits quadrupled last year.

The climb meant that Brent was at its highest level in more than seven years, since October 2014.

As oil prices head for their seventh weekly gain, West Texas Intermediate (WTI) also hit a fresh seven-year high as it neared \$91 a barrel. It is on track for a jump of more than 4% this week.

Edward Moya, senior market analyst at OANDA, said:

"WTI crude surged over the \$90 level after an Arctic blast made its way to Texas and disrupted some oil production in the Permian Basin."

It came as two German fuel storage firms were hit by a ransomware software known as Black Cat this week, adding to the pressures on crude supply.

Mabanfaft and Oiltanking are believed to have been hacked by attackers linked to the Russian group that also targeted the Colonial Pipeline

in the US last year.

Other sites across Europe also experienced IT issues, including SEA-Invest in Belgium, a site in Malta and Evos in the Netherlands. However, it has not been confirmed if these are related to the German attacks.

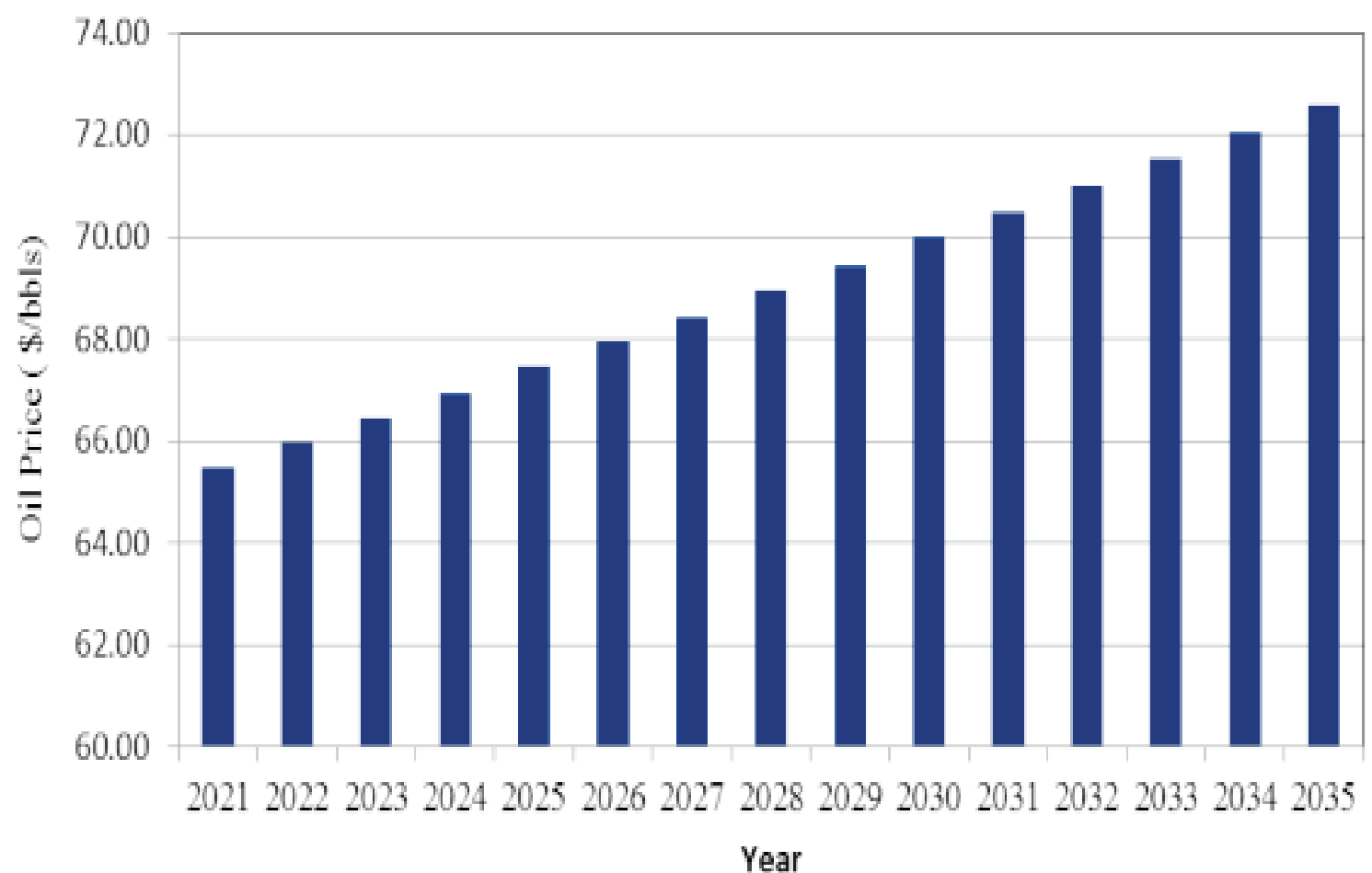
Belgian prosecutors say they are investigating the cyber-attack that's affected SEA-Invest terminals including the company's largest in Antwerp, called SEA-Tank.

"Some types of malware scoop up emails and contact lists and use them to automatically spam malicious attachments or links, so companies with shared connections can sometimes be hit in quick succession," Brett Callow, threat analyst at cyber-security company Emsisoft, said.

"This is why you sometimes see sector-based or geographical-based clusters of incidents."

(Yahoo Finance)

Oil Price Prediction (IMF and World Bank)



Banks still face bad loans problem, Moody's says

Nairobi

BAD loans will continue to be the biggest challenge facing local banks this year, global ratings agency Moody's says, keeping provisioning levels at a higher level compared to the pre-pandemic period.

The quality of banks' loan books improved in the last nine months of 2021, with the default rate falling to 13.1 percent of total credit disbursements in

December from a peak of 14.6 percent in March 2021.

Moody's estimates that this will continue to fall over the next 12 to 18 months, but remain above the 12 percent ratio the lenders recorded at the end of 2019.

The jump in bad loans in 2020 and early last year was a result of massive job losses and businesses struggling to survive because of local and international restrictions meant to curb

the spread of coronavirus.

"Problem loans will likely remain high, a reflection of long-term issues such as corporate governance weaknesses in certain large family-owned conglomerates, government payment arrears and a high average lending rate (12.1 percent as of September 2021)," said Moody's.

"We expect the banks' loan-loss provisioning coverage of non-performing loans (NPLs) to remain

strong at close to 70 percent (June 2021: 72 percent), up from around 60 percent pre-pandemic."

The level of provisioning banks make has a direct impact on their profitability. The funds set aside to cover bad loans directly hit the bottom line and also have the effect of eroding the capital base.

Higher provisioning in the aftermath of the pandemic in 2020, alongside reduced interest earnings, meant that

lenders' profits dropped sharply. But there has been a recovery in the past year with the sector's cumulative gross profits rising by 66 percent to a record Sh178.8 billion in the 11 months to November 2021.

Moody's is therefore bullish on banks' profitability and capital strength in the next 12 to 18 months, and their ability to provide capital.

"High levels of capital, the result of strong earnings, will allow banks

to grow and finance new lending opportunities in Kenya and the region," said the agency.

It also expects the sector's return on assets – a measure of profitability – to remain healthy at around 2.7 percent in the period, boosted by broadening digitalisation, stable margins, the economic rebound and lower loan-loss provisioning needs.

(Agencies)

Forum wants further cuts in bank lending rates

By Correspondent Geoffrey Nangai

FARMERS forum in Tanzania want banks to go extra mile in reducing lending rates, to boost agricultural financing.

Agriculture Non-State Actors Forum (ANSAF) made the remarks recently, after CRDB Bank Plc announced the cut of lending rate to farmers from 20% to 9%, a major milestone in the history of Tanzania banking.

Speaking to The Guardian, the ANSAF Executive Director Audax Rukonge said banks need to take a more proactive approach by revising the agricultural loans terms and conditions in a bid to change the equilibrium and ensure that more farmers take up loans.

Currently, the overall banks lending rates averaged at 16.40%, according to the Bank of Tanzania



Agriculture minister Hussein Bashe

monthly economic review for December 2021, with agriculture credit contracted by 12% by November 2021.

"Reducing the lending rate to single digit

alone cannot attract smallholder farmers to take bank loans. For the move to be fruitful, banks should revise the terms and conditions of the loans to reflect the

needs," he cautioned

He said banks also need to consider an inclusive agricultural loans approach that addresses the productivity gaps by considering vulnerable groups in the agriculture value chain that include women and youths. "I take this opportunity to thank the Bank of Tanzania (BoT) for spearheading this initiative through its stimulus plan announced last year. I also thank CRDB for taking a bold move in the right direction and it's our expectation that other banks will follow suit soon," he added.

Rukonge noted that the smallholder farmers for a long time have had an outcry to commercial banks to lower their interest rates but many banks had turned a blind eye.

He urged that banks need to empower smallholder farmers with the necessary financial literacy to enable them make informed de-

isions and where possible offer some other incentives to enable them to operate efficiently.

"Investing in capacity building won't only enable banks to get more clients but will also improve banks-clients relationships. Banks should not view lenders as potential defaulters but rather should treat them as business partners," Rukonge said.

CRDB Bank Plc managing director Abdulmajid Nsekela announced the move by noting that the bank's aim was to stimulate agricultural production by availing affordable loans for the purchase of farm inputs and implements to small scale farmers.

Nsekela, who doubles as the Tanzania Bankers Association (TBA) Chairperson, noted that for a long time, higher lending interest rates have been discouraging people from applying for loans from banks.

Biggest Crypto Exchange in Africa sets sights on US expansion

JOHANNESBURG

AFRICA'S largest cryptocurrency exchange is looking for a foothold in the U.S., the latest international platform to try and tap one of the world's biggest populations of digital-asset investors.

Owned by conglomerate Digital Currency Group Inc., Luno is assessing regulatory regimes in all 50 states to allow for its rollout in the course of the year, Marius Reitz, its general manager for Africa, said in an interview.

"It is more complex than launching in an individual market because of the different states and different regulations within each of these states, so there's lots of moving parts," Reitz said. "But it is a company focus for us for 2022."

A number of fast-growing cryptocurrency exchange brands -- such as FTX and Binance -- have been moving into the U.S. market.

The world's biggest economy is home to more than half of the world's crypto unicorns, according to CB Insights. A unicorn is a private startup that's achieved a valuation of at least \$1 billion.

Founded in 2013, Luno has 9 million users from Asia to Africa. It currently offers trading in tokens including Bitcoin, Ethereum and Ripple -- and could soon add new coins chosen from the world's 10 most liquid cryptocurrencies, Reitz said.

"A lot of the operation time goes into security and custody" when choosing a coin, he said.

Digital Currency Group was the earliest investor in Luno and acquired it entirely in 2020, going on a year later to achieve a \$10 billion valuation when it raised \$700 million in a transaction led by SoftBank Group Corp.

Luno's other early backers included Cape Town-based technology investor Naspers Ltd., Africa's biggest listed company.

The spread of cryptocurrencies in Africa has so far centered on Nigeria and South Africa, where nearly a fifth of the population own some form of digital assets. That compares with the global average of just over 10%, according to the latest data from Finbold. Luno has also identified opportunities in East Africa, where it already has operations in Uganda, Reitz said.

About 16% of Americans have invested in, traded or used cryptocurrency, a recent Pew Research Center survey showed.

In South Africa, Luno is awaiting new regulations that Reitz says are "imminent" and will likely boost consumer protections. The changes should allow platforms including Luno to pull in institutional investors currently sitting out of the market.

The rules could also make possible the listing of more sophisticated products. Reitz said that, in a year or two, he anticipates offerings such as cryptocurrency exchange-traded funds, which allow investors to hold a basket of coins without having to purchase them.

South Africa's stock exchange operator JSE Ltd. has rebuffed efforts to list crypto ETFs before, citing a lack of a regulatory framework in the country.

(Bloomberg)

Airtel Africa reports improved results

LAGOS

AIRTEL Africa PLC on Friday reported improved nine-month and third-quarter numbers as its network and distribution expansion plans drove growth in its voice, data and mobile-money operations.

The Africa-focused telecommunications company--which started the week by joining the FTSE 100--said that third-quarter pretax profit was \$297 million compared with \$200 million a year prior, and underlying revenue was \$1.22 billion from \$1.03 billion.

Underlying earnings before interest, taxes, depreciation and amortization came in at \$605 million for the quarter ended Dec. 31 compared with \$485 million a year earlier.

For the first nine months of fiscal 2022, underlying revenue was up 23% at \$3.50 billion and pretax profit was \$864 million, 79% higher on year.

Nine-month revenue in Nigeria was up 29%, in East Africa it was 24% higher, and in Francophone Africa up 19% on a constant-currency basis.

Revenue growth for the period benefited from a weaker performance in the first quarter of the prior year during the peak period of Covid-19-related restrictions in the region, it said.

The on-year constant currency revenue growth rate for the third quarter was below that of the nine months, primarily due to softer comparatives in the previous year's first quarter.

Net finance costs for the nine months decreased by \$27 million as a result of lower foreign-exchange losses and a one-time \$12 million gain.

Airtel Africa expects to develop further opportunities in its mobile-money operations after its November agreement to operate a payment-service-bank business in Nigeria.

The license enables it to provide financial services in the country, such as accepting cash deposits and carrying out payments, issuing debit and prepaid cards, as well as operating electronic wallets. Airtel Nigeria is working with the central bank to secure final approval for the license.

"We are now working closely with the central bank to meet all its conditions to receive the final operating licenses and commence operations. This will enable us to expand our digital financial products and reach the millions of Nigerians that do not have access to traditional financial services," Chief Executive Segun Ogunsanya said.

(dowjones)



European stocks fall after mixed batch of US tech earnings

WASHINGTON

EUROPEAN equities dropped on Friday, as traders ramped up their bets of impending interest rate rises by the region's central banks, while rapid swings in sentiment towards big tech stocks looked poised to continue driving volatility in the US.

The regional Stoxx 600 index lost 0.7 per cent, after closing 1.8 per cent lower on Thursday, which also marked the worst day on Wall Street for almost a year.

Futures markets implied some respite for US technology stocks on Friday, after the sector sold off heavily in the previous session, with Facebook-owner Meta shedding more than \$230bn of its stock market value in an unprecedented single-day loss for a public company.

Contracts that wager on the direction of the Nasdaq 100 rose 0.8 per cent, after the tech-focused index dropped 4.2 per cent on Thursday.

Shares in Amazon jumped 13 per cent in pre-market trading in response to the e-commerce group raising prices for its popular Prime subscription service. Snap, a social media group, rose 48 per cent after losing 24 per cent on Thursday.

Analysts warned that stock markets would remain volatile as global central banks respond to high inflation by rolling back the ultra-loose monetary policies they implemented to insulate financial markets from the shocks of the coronavirus pandemic.

"You've got a perfect storm of a sharp re-valuation of the interest rate outlook from central banks, right in the teeth of an earnings season with a big discrepancy between winners and losers," said UBS's head of global and European equity strategy Nick Nelson.

The US Federal Reserve last month signalled a rapid cycle of interest rate rises this



year. Higher rates reduce the present value of companies' future profits in investors' models.

Markets have priced in around five US rate rises this year, a major shift from expectations at the end of 2021 which has knocked the heady valuations of many tech groups that benefited from coronavirus lockdowns.

On Thursday, the Bank of England bumped

up its inflation forecast to an April peak of 7.25 per cent, citing soaring energy prices and bottlenecks in global supply chains disrupted by coronavirus shutdowns.

Traders also now expect the European Central Bank to lift its main deposit rate close to zero by the end of the year. The ECB introduced negative interest rates in 2014 in an effort to stimulate

lending and spending. But eurozone inflation hit a record 5.1 per cent in January.

Daily reversals in stock market mood have been common this year, while the general trend has been lower, with the FTSE All-World index having dropped almost 5 per cent so far in 2022.

(Google News)

“It is more complex than launching in an individual market because of the different states and different regulations within each of these states, so there's lots of moving parts,” Reitz said. “But it is a company focus for us for 2022”

Global food prices rise in January

Rome

THE gauge for world food prices went up in January, largely catalysed by supply-side constraints for vegetable oils, the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO) reported yesterday.

The FAO Food Price Index averaged 135.7 points in January, 1.1 percent higher than in December. The Index tracks monthly changes in the international prices of commonly-traded food commodities.

The FAO Vegetable Oils Price Index led the rebound in January, increasing by 4.2 percent month-on-month and reversing its December decline to reach an all-time high.

Quotations for all major oils rose, also supported by rising crude oil prices.

Palm oil prices were largely underpinned by concerns over a possible reduction in export availabilities from Indonesia, the world's leading exporter, while soy oil prices were supported by robust import purchases, particularly from India, rapeseed oil prices were pushed up by lingering supply tightness, and sunflowerseed oil quotations were impacted by supply tightness and



surging global import demand.

Referring to the latest vegetable oils price increase, Boubaker Ben-Belhasen, Director of FAO's Markets and Trade Division said: "Reduced export availabilities on top of other supply-side constraints, especially labour shortages and unfavourable weather, largely pushed vegetable oil prices up to an all-time high. There is a concern the impacts of these constraints will not ease quickly."

The FAO Dairy Price Index increased by 2.4 percent, its fifth consecutive monthly rise, with the steepest increases registered

for skim milk powder and butter.

Reduced export availabilities from Western Europe and below-average expectations for milk production in Oceania in the months ahead contributed to the tightening in global dairy markets, as did processing and transportation delays linked to COVID-19-related labour shortages.

The FAO Cereal Price Index in January increased marginally, by 0.1 percent, from December. Maize export prices rose by 3.8 percent during the month, spurred by worries about persistent drought conditions in

South America, while world wheat prices declined by 3.1 percent on the back of large harvests in Australia and Argentina.

Lower harvests and steady purchases by Asian buyers led to a 3.1 percent monthly increase in international rice prices.

The FAO Meat Price Index increased slightly in January, with world bovine meat prices reaching a new peak as global import demand exceeded export supplies, while ovine and poultry meat prices softened as exportable supplies outstripped import demand. Pig meat quotations rose slightly, in part due to rising input costs dampening global supply.

The FAO Sugar Price Index was the only sub-index to post a decrease in January, down 3.1 percent from the previous month due to favourable production prospects in major exporters India and Thailand, as well as improved rains and lower ethanol prices in Brazil.

FAO also updated its forecast for world cereal production in 2021, now standing at 2.793 million tonnes, a 0.8 percent increase from the previous year.

Global wheat output in 2021 is expected to be on par with 2020, while the production of coarse grains is projected to be 1.3 percent larger and that of rice to grow by 0.7 percent, according to FAO's latest Cereal Supply and Demand Brief, also released today.

(Relief Web)

Qatar takes centre stage in LNG export business

Doha

WHEN Qatar escalated an already ambitious LNG expansion programme in 2019, record volumes of production from other global participants were already coming online, raising doubts about the need for more supplies when prices were already depressed.

Just three years later, with spot prices near record highs, the Middle East producer could be having the last laugh.

Qatar Energy minister Saad al-Kaabi has met with officials from Pakistan, the UK, the EU and Italy in recent months as demand gets a boost from the threat of supply disruptions due to Russia-Ukraine geopolitical tensions and fears of a cold winter in Europe.

The country's ruling emir also met US President Joe Biden in Washington Jan. 31 amid the developments.

After meeting with the EU's Energy Commissioner Kadri Simson, Kaabi said Feb. 1 that Qatar stands ready to support gas partners "in times of need."

"Qatar, as one of the world's largest LNG exporters, is getting attention, but the fact is that, like the US and Australia, they do not have significant spare capacity to boost absolute supply," said Luke Cottell, team lead, EMEA LNG, at S&P Global Platts Analytics.

"The high spot environment at present may help them sign additional long term oil indexed contracts if end-users seek to remove exposure to volatile, high spot prices. But a prolonged period of high prices could also lead to gas's role in the Asian energy mix being called into question due to uncompetitive economics, and thus subdue potential long term demand growth," he added.

Telkom surrenders half of its sales to Safaricom

NAIROBI

TELKOM Kenya has revealed that it pays over half of its revenues to Safaricom #ticker:SCOM and rival operators as costs for handling its calls, condemning the firm to a loss-making territory.

The firm says it has been unable to compete due to the current mobile termination rates (MTR) and fixed voice termination rates (FTRs) -- charges levied by telecoms operators for handling rivals' calls on their network.

The Communications Authority of Kenya (CA) cut the charge to Sh0.12 per minute from the current Sh0.99 per minute after a six-year freeze, drawing legal action from Safaricom that earns the most from MTR due to its large voice market share of 68.9 percent.

Telkom Kenya and Airtel have thrown their weight behind the regulator, arguing that the drop in MTR is long overdue.

Telkom Kenya reckons that the reduction of MTRs and FTRs will promote competition in the market and lower calling rates for the benefit of consumers.

"Telkom had previously raised concerns that over 50 percent of its mobile communications revenue is paid to other telecommunications operators in settling expenses associated with MTRs and FTRs costs," Stellar Wawira, head of public policy and regulatory affairs at Telkom Kenya, told a tribunal hearing the Safaricom suit against the CA.

"I believe that CA's determination to reduce costs of MTRs and FTRs is in the interest of the consumers whom the CA has an obligation to protect."

She did not provide figures to back the claims.

A smaller operator tends to pay more in mobile termination rates because its users are likely to spend more time on other networks than its own.

Airtel's market share stood at 29 percent while Telkom Kenya had a two percent stake. The two firms remain in losses while Safaricom is the region's most profitable firm with profits of Sh68 billion for the year to March.

The lower termination rates could benefit subscribers grappling with reduced spending power due to the adverse effects of the Covid-19 pandemic.

Mobile operators recently adjusted the cost of calls to other networks to reflect the recent change in excise taxes.

Airtel now charges Sh2.78 to make calls to other networks per minute while Safaricom and Telkom Kenya charge Sh4.87 per minute and Sh4.30 to call rival networks respectively.

The mobile termination rate was in 2012 cut to Sh1.44 per minute from Sh2.21 and subsequently to Sh0.99 in 2015.

Then-President Mwai Kibaki had in 2011 stopped further cuts after operators said their business was under threat from sliding revenues.

Operators like Telkom Kenya and Airtel are set to be the main beneficiaries of the plan along with consumers. "I believe that CA's determination to reduce costs of MTRs and FTRs is in the interest of the consumers whom the CA has an obligation to protect," Telkom Kenya said.

Safaricom earns an estimated Sh6.5 billion annually from MTR while paying out Sh2.6 billion to rivals, leaving it in a profitable position while competitors remain in a net losing trade.

The operator has filed an appeal at the Communications and Multimedia Appeals Tribunal seeking to quash the regulator's decision while arguing that the charges should instead rise to reflect the true cost of doing business.

(Agencies)



ITV

SATURDAY 5 Feb

- 5:30 Uwanja wa Mazoezi
- 6:00 HABARI
- 6:40 Kumekucha
- 7:00 Habari
- 8:00 Al Jazeera
- 9:00 Watoto wetu
- 10:00 Shika Bamba 5
- 10:30 Mjue Zaidi rpt
- 11:10 Chetu ni chetu rpt
- 11:50 Hawavumi lakini wamo
- 12:50 Korean: Jumong
- 13:30 Soap: Love to Death rpt
- 15:45 Igizo: Mizengwe
- 16:15 Igizo: Rebeca
- 17:00 Shamsam za Pwani
- 18:00 Jiji Letu
- 18:30 Kipindi Maalum: Huru Talk Show
- 19:00 Jungu Kuu
- 19:30 Shika Bamba
- 20:00 Habari
- 21:00 Igizo: Rebeca
- 21:30 Art and Lifestyle
- 22:00 ITV TOP 10
- 22:45 Hawavumi lakini wamo
- 23:45 Soap: Uzalo rpt
- 01:15 DWTV

SUNDAY 6 Feb

- 5:30 Uwanja wa Mazoezi
- 6:00 HABARI
- 6:40 Kumekucha
- 7:00 Habari
- 8:00 Al Jazeera
- 09:00 Watoto Wetu
- 10:00 Soap: Uzalo rpt
- 11:35 Bongo Movie rpt
- 14:00 Tamasha la Michezo
- 15:30 Mwangaza
- 16:30 ITV Top 10
- 17:20 Kipindi cha kikristo
- 18:00 Jiji Letu
- 18:15 Mapishi
- 18:30 Matukio ya wiki
- 19:30 Igizo: Rebeca
- 20:00 Habari
- 21:00 Kipindi maalum: Biko
- 21:05 Kipindi Maalum: Reflexology
- 21:10 Mizengwe
- 21:30 Mjue Zaidi
- 22:15 Bongo Movie:
- 00:00 Soap: Love to Death rpt
- 02:05 Al Jazeera

MONDAY 7 Feb

- 5:30 Uwanja wa Mazoezi
- 6:00 HABARI
- 6:40 Kumekucha
- 7:30 HABARI
- 8:00 Kumekucha Michezo
- 8:55 Habari za saa
- 9:00 Kumekucha Kishindo
- 9:30 Soap: Uzalo
- 9:55 Habari za saa
- 10:00 Watoto wetu
- 10:55 Habari za saa
- 11:00 ITV Top Ten

- 11:55 Habari za saa
- 12:00 Al Jazeera
- 12:30 Kipindi Maalum: Huru Talk Show rpt
- 12:55 Habari za saa
- 13:00 Mjue Zaidi
- 13:45 Art and Lifestyle rpt
- 13:55 Habari za saa
- 14:00 Art and Lifestyle rpt
- 14:15 Soap: Love to Death
- 14:55 Habari za saa
- 15:00 Meza Huru
- 16:30 Watoto Wetu
- 17:00 The Base
- 17:10 Jiji Letu
- 18:10 Albu yako rpt
- 18:15 Mapishi
- 18:30 DWTV: Kesho leo
- 19:00 Aya ya Jamii
- 19:30 Soap: Uzalo
- 20:00 Habari
- 21:05 Dakika 45
- 22:00 Kipindi Maalum: Bundesliga na DW
- 22:15 Soap: Love to Death
- 23:00 Habari
- 23:30 The Base
- 00:30 Al Jazeera
- 02:00 DWTV

TUESDAY 8 Feb

- 5:30 Uwanja wa Mazoezi
- 6:00 HABARI
- 6:40 Kumekucha
- 7:30 HABARI
- 8:00 Kumekucha Michezo
- 8:55 Habari za saa
- 9:00 Kumekucha Kishindo
- 9:30 Soap: Uzalo
- 9:55 Habari za saa
- 10:00 Watoto wetu
- 10:25 Jagina rpt
- 10:55 Habari za saa
- 11:00 The Base rpt
- 11:55 Habari za saa
- 12:00 Al Jazeera
- 12:30 Aya ya jamii
- 12:55 Habari za saa
- 13:00 Ripoti Maalum rpt
- 13:30 Shika Bamba rpt
- 13:55 Habari za saa
- 14:00 Soap: Love to Death
- 14:55 Habari za saa
- 15:00 Meza Huru
- 16:30 Watoto wetu
- 17:00 The Base
- 18:00 Jiji Letu
- 18:10 Yu wapi
- 18:15 Igizo: Mizengwe rpt
- 18:30 Uchumi na biashara
- 19:00 Jarida la wanawake
- 19:30 Soap: Uzalo
- 20:00 Habari
- 21:00 Kipindi Maalum: Reflexology
- 21:10 Kipindi Maalum: Maisha ni Nyumba
- 21:45 Chetu ni chetu
- 22:20 Soap: Love to Death
- 23:00 Habari
- 23:30 The Base
- 00:30 Al Jazeera
- 02:00 DWTV

WEDNESDAY 9 Feb

- 5:30 Uwanja wa Mazoezi
- 6:00 HABARI
- 6:40 Kumekucha
- 7:30 HABARI
- 8:00 Kumekucha Michezo
- 8:55 Habari za saa
- 9:00 Kumekucha Kishindo
- 9:30 Soap: Uzalo
- 9:55 Habari za saa
- 10:00 Watoto wetu
- 10:25 Uchumi wetu
- 10:55 Habari za saa
- 11:00 The Base rpt
- 11:55 Habari za saa
- 12:00 Al Jazeera
- 12:30 Jarida la wanawake
- 12:55 Habari za saa
- 13:00 Dakika 45 rpt
- 13:55 Habari za saa
- 14:00 Soap: Love to Death
- 14:55 Habari za saa
- 15:00 Meza huru
- 16:30 Watoto Wetu
- 17:00 The Base
- 18:00 Jiji Letu
- 18:15 Mapishi
- 18:30 Igizo: Rebeca
- 19:00 Ijue Sheria
- 19:30 Soap: Uzalo
- 20:00 Habari
- 21:00 Albu Yako
- 21:05 Kipindi Maalum: Tanesco
- 21:35 Ripoti Maalum
- 22:10 Soap: Love to Death
- 23:00 Habari
- 23:30 The Base
- 00:30 Al Jazeera
- 02:00 DWTV

THURSDAY 10 Feb

- 5:30 Uwanja wa Mazoezi
- 6:00 HABARI
- 6:40 Kumekucha
- 7:30 HABARI
- 8:00 Kumekucha Michezo
- 8:55 Habari za saa
- 9:00 Kumekucha Kishindo
- 9:55 Habari za saa
- 10:00 Watoto wetu
- 10:25 Shamba lulu
- 10:55 Habari za saa
- 11:00 The base
- 11:55 Habari za saa
- 12:00 Al Jazeera
- 12:30 Ijue sheria rpt
- 12:55 Habari za saa
- 13:00 Shamsam za pwani
- 13:55 Habari za saa
- 14:00 Soap: Love to Death
- 14:55 Habari za saa
- 15:00 Meza huru
- 16:30 Watoto Wetu
- 17:00 The Base
- 18:00 Jiji Letu
- 18:15 Igizo: Mizengwe rpt
- 18:30 Jagina
- 19:00 Usafiri wako

- 19:30 Soap: Uzalo
- 20:00 Habari
- 21:00 Malumbano ya hoja
- 23:00 Habari
- 23:30 The Base
- 00:30 Al Jazeera
- 02:00 DWTV

FRIDAY 11 Feb

- 5:30 Uwanja wa Mazoezi
- 6:00 HABARI
- 6:40 Kumekucha
- 7:30 HABARI
- 8:00 Kumekucha Michezo
- 8:55 Habari za saa
- 9:00 Kumekucha Kishindo
- 9:55 Habari za saa
- 10:00 Watoto wetu
- 10:25 Usafiri wako
- 10:55 Habari za saa
- 11:00 The Base rpt
- 11:55 Habari za saa
- 12:00 Al Jazeera
- 12:30 Kipindi Maalum rpt: Tanesco
- 12:55 Habari za saa
- 13:00 Kipindi Maalum: Maisha ni Nyumba rpt
- 13:30 Chetu ni Chetu rpt
- 13:55 Habari za saa
- 14:00 Chetu ni Chetu rpt
- 14:15 Igizo: Rebeca rpt
- 15:00 Meza Huru
- 16:30 Watoto Wetu
- 17:00 The Base (DJ Show)
- 17:30 Kisiam
- 18:00 Jiji Letu
- 18:15 Korean: Jumong
- 19:00 Shamba lulu
- 19:30 Soap: Uzalo
- 20:00 Habari
- 21:05 Kipima Joto
- 23:00 Habari
- 23:30 The Base
- 00:30 Al Jazeera
- 02:00 DWTV

SUNDAY 13 Feb

- 5:30 Uwanja wa Mazoezi
- 6:00 HABARI
- 6:40 Kumekucha
- 7:00 Habari
- 8:00 Al Jazeera
- 09:00 Watoto Wetu
- 10:00 Soap: Uzalo rpt
- 11:35 Bongo Movie rpt
- 14:00 Tamasha la Michezo
- 15:30 Mwangaza
- 16:30 ITV Top 10
- 17:20 Kipindi cha kikristo
- 18:00 Jiji Letu
- 18:15 Mapishi
- 18:30 Matukio ya wiki
- 19:30 Igizo: Rebeca
- 20:00 Habari
- 21:00 Kipindi maalum: Biko
- 21:05 Kipindi Maalum: Reflexology
- 21:10 Mizengwe
- 21:30 Mjue Zaidi
- 22:15 Bongo Movie:
- 00:00 Soap: Love to Death rpt
- 02:05 Al Jazeera

CAPITAL

Sat 05 Feb

- 08:00 Al Jazeera
- 09:00 Rev rpt
- 09:30 Turning the Spotlight rpt
- 10:00 Culinary delight rpt
- 10:30 Innovation rpt
- 11:00 Out n'about rpt
- 11:30 Sports Gazette rpt
- 12:00 Shamba Lulu rpt
- 12:30 Our Earth rpt
- 13:00 Business edition rpt
- 13:30 Korean Drama rpt: Emperor Of The Sea

14:30 Telenovela rpt: Lover her to death

- 17:15 Tanzania Yetu rpt
- 17:45 Bundesliga kick off
- 18:15 Capchat rpt
- 19:15 Mizengwe
- 19:30 The Decor
- 20:00 Korean Drama: The Sling Shot
- 21:00 Out n' About
- 21:30 Movie: Are U Ready for Love? (tape no:7139)
- 23:00 Series rpt: Beats of Love
- 01:00 Al Jazeera

Sun 06 Feb

- 08:00 Al Jazeera
- 09:00 In good shape
- 10:00 Capchat rpt
- 11:00 Sports Gazette rpt
- 11:30 Korean Drama rpt: The slave hunter
- 12:00 Jagina rpt
- 12:30 Bundesliga Kick Off rpt
- 13:00 In good shape rpt
- 13:30 Series rpt: Beats of Love
- 15:15 Albu yako



WORLD

All in a day: Zuckerberg loses \$29b, Bezos set to pocket \$20b

MARK Zuckerberg lost \$29 billion in net worth on Thursday as Meta Platforms Inc's stock marked a record one-day plunge, while fellow billionaire Jeff Bezos was set to add \$20 billion to his personal valuation after Amazon's blockbuster earnings.

Meta's stock fell 26 percent, erasing more than \$200 billion in the biggest ever single-day market value wipeout for a US company. That pulled down founder and Chief Executive Officer Zuckerberg's net worth to \$85 billion, according to Forbes.

Zuckerberg owns about 12.8 percent of the tech behemoth formerly known as Facebook.

Bezos, the founder and chairman of e-commerce retailer Amazon, owns about 9.9 percent of the company, ac-

ording to Refinitiv data. He is also the world's third richest man, according to Forbes.

Amazon's holiday-quarter profit surged, thanks to its investments in electric vehicle company Rivian; and the company said it would hike annual prices of Prime subscriptions in the United States, sending its shares up 15 percent in extended trading and readying it for its biggest percentage gain since October 2009 yesterday.

Bezos' net worth rose 57 percent to \$177 billion in 2021 from a year earlier, according to Forbes, largely from Amazon's boom during the pandemic when people were highly dependent on online shopping.

Zuckerberg's one-day wealth decline is among the biggest ever and comes



This combination of file photos shows Amazon founder (left) and CEO Jeff Bezos and Meta CEO Mark Zuckerberg. (PHOTO / AFP)

after Tesla Inc top boss Elon Musk's \$35 billion single-day paper loss in November.

Musk, the world's richest person, had then polled Twitter users if he should sell 10 percent of his stake in the electric carmaker. Tesla shares have yet to recover from the resulting selloff.

Following the \$29 billion wipeout, Zuckerberg is in the twelfth spot on Forbes' list of real-time billionaires, below Indian business moguls Mukesh

Ambani and Gautam Adani.

To be sure, trading in technology stocks remains volatile as investors struggle to price in the impact of high inflation and an expected rise in interest rates. Meta shares could very well recover sooner rather than later, with the hit to Zuckerberg's wealth staying on paper.

Zuckerberg sold \$4.47 billion worth of Meta shares last year, before 2021's tech rout. The stock sales were carried out as part of a pre-set 10b5-1 trading plan, which executives use to allay concerns about insider trading.

Putin arrives in Beijing for talks with Xi Jinping, participation in Olympics opening

MOSCOW

RUSSIAN President Vladimir Putin arrived in Beijing. This is Putin's first visit to China since the beginning of the coronavirus pandemic.

According to Presidential Aide Yuri Ushakov, Putin's visit schedule is planned for one day.

The Russian leader will take part in Russian-Chinese talks, then have a vis-a-vis meeting with Chinese leader Xi Jinping during a working lunch. Later that day, Putin will attend the opening ceremony of the 24th Winter Olympics.

The upcoming talks are expected to cover key issues of bilateral, regional and global agenda.

According to Ushakov, after the talks, the sides are expected to sign a hefty package of inter-governmental, inter-agency and commercial documents - about 15 of them - and all of them "will facilitate further development of relations between Russia and China in various areas."

The two leaders also plan to adopt a joint statement on international relations in the new era, as well as global sustainable development, which "will reflect the common views of China and Russia on the most important global issues, including security issues."



European nations further ease virus curbs despite harsh situation

BERLIN

THOUGH surging cases are still weighting on the long-strained health systems in Europe, multiple European countries have decided to scrap COVID-19 restrictions, relying on vaccination to reach "collective immunity."

Starting from Feb 2, certain COVID-19 related restrictions were lifted in France, French Prime Minister Jean Castex announced on Jan 20 during a press conference.

The caps on the number of people allowed in indoor and outdoor events will be lifted. Masks will no longer be required outdoors. Teleworking will no longer be mandatory, but still encouraged. Starting from Feb 16, standing in bars, concerts and the opening of nightclubs will be allowed.

The Finnish government also decided to ease the restrictions on restaurants from Feb 14. Restaurants can serve drinks until 11 pm and remain open until midnight.

An official with the Italian government told local media that Italy would abandon most of the COVID-19 restrictions at the end of Febru-



A girl is inoculated against coronavirus COVID-19 during a children's vaccination action in the Red City Hall in Berlin, Germany. File photo

ary, and would not extend the state of emergency at the end of March.

Starting Feb 5, restaurants and shops will be allowed to open in Austria until midnight. Besides, rules effectively barring unvaccinated people from restaurants and stores will be phased out.

Starting Feb. 19, people without proof of vaccination or recent recovery will be able to visit restaurants and tourist attractions using a negative coronavirus test result.

The Dutch government has decided to further relax its COVID-19 policy, reopening all restaurants, cafes, cinemas, museums and theaters under certain conditions.

Malta, where outdoor mask-wearing has not been mandatory since mid-January, will no longer request vaccination certificates for entry into restaurants, snack bars and social clubs from Feb. 7. From Feb. 14, certificates will not be requested for access to bars, gyms, spas, pools, cinemas and theatres.

After France's decision to facilitate travels with Britain, the British government as well will proceed to ease entry restrictions.

Race to send vaccine, medical aid as virus reaches Pacific islands

JERUSALEM

PACIFIC island nations that are some of the last places in the world to be hit by the coronavirus pandemic are recording a growing number of COVID-19 cases, prompting a rush to provide vaccines, medical teams and food aid.

Concern about the detection of the coronavirus in tsunami-hit Tonga, where one new case was recorded on Friday, has been heightened by thousands of infections sweeping neighbouring Pacific islands.

In the Solomon Islands, where riots, not connected to the pandemic, saw buildings in the capital, Honiara, burn in November, an outbreak of the Delta strain with 2,357 cases has overwhelmed the health system, aid agencies say.

Australia has sent four defense flights to the Solomon Islands over the past two weeks with a medical team, vaccines, and emergency food for hospital patients and tens of thousands of households.

Katie Greenwood, head of delegation for the International Federation of Red Cross Pacific, said cases had taken off rapidly in the Solomon Islands, where just 11 percent of the population was fully vaccinated.

"People are scared and it's affecting everyone," she said. "Fragile health systems get overwhelmed very quickly."

The Solomon Islands government has reported 21 deaths from COVID-19, and imposed restrictions on movements.

Solomon Islands National University professor Transform Aqorau said Honiara has been shut off, causing a scarcity of fresh food, and he had been eating from one plant in his garden.

He credited essential workers for keeping the power and water running, despite increasing numbers of staff testing positive and needing to isolate.

The rush for vaccination had also caused crowding with "a high level of lack of obedience to social distancing", he said.

Vaccination sites closed from Wednesday to prevent the spread of the virus to health workers and the public, the health ministry said in a statement, adding it would "re-strategize" distribution.

An Australian medical team has also been sent to Kiribati, which has 913 cases after allowing a flight with returning nationals to land in January, its first outbreak since lifting border restrictions.

Palau, where 99 percent of the population of 18,000 is vaccinated, recorded 2,115 COVID-19 cases in a month.

Tonga recorded its first community transition of COVID-19 on Tuesday, after two workers at a cargo wharf were infected. There are now five cases.

An influx of tsunami aid brought by foreign navy ships has been delivered without contact with Tongan people, and pallets are quarantined for 72 hours.

Australia

COVID-19 hospital admissions have shown signs of a stabilizing outbreak in Australia's two worst-hit states, despite hundreds of school staff testing positive.

The state of New South Wales (NSW) recorded 10,698 new coronavirus cases and 31 deaths on Friday. Compared to the state's COVID-19 figures last week, hospitalizations went down by around 200 to 2,494.

Agencies

N. Ireland first minister quits over post-Brexit trade rules

LONDON

NORTHERN Ireland's First Minister Paul Givan resigned on Thursday, as part of the protest staged by his party, the Democratic Unionist Party (DUP), against the post-Brexit trade arrangements known as the Northern Ireland Protocol.

"Today marks the end of what has been the privilege of my lifetime," Givan told reporters as he resigned, a day after one of his ministers tried to halt the inspection of goods arriving from British mainland, a move that violated the Northern Ireland Protocol and angered the European Union.

The Northern Ireland Protocol, as part of the agreed rules following Britain's departure from the EU, means goods between Northern Ireland and the Republic of Ireland could continue to be sent seamlessly across the border which is now the only EU frontier within the British Isles.

However, a de-facto border was created down the middle of the Irish Sea, which has long been heavily criticized by the DUP and



First Minister of Northern Ireland Paul Givan

businesses saying it has made it more difficult to send goods to Northern Ireland from the British mainland.

"Our institutions are being tested once again. And the delicate balance created by the Belfast and St Andrews agreements has been impacted by the agreement made by the United Kingdom government and the European Union which created the Northern Ireland protocol," Givan said.

His resignation means Deputy First Minister Michelle O'Neill, of Sinn Fein party, with whom he shared power, automatically resigns from office. It's understood that other ministers in the Northern Ireland executive will remain in office place to implement previously agreed policy but can take no new decisions.

In response, Sinn Fein leader Mary Lou McDonald has called for an early election for the Northern Ireland Assembly.

"I want to be clear, we cannot stagger on in the months ahead without a functioning executive. Sinn Fein will not facilitate this," she said.

China maps five-year plan for transportation development

CHINA outlined a modern comprehensive transportation system over the 14th Five-Year Plan (2021-2025) period in a circular recently issued.

According to the circular, by 2025, China will have generally realized integrated transportation development, achieved breakthroughs in pursuing intelligent and green transportation, and made prominent improvements in overall capability, service quality and efficiency of the transportation sector. By that time, China will have made a further step on its road to build a world-class transportation system.

The circular says, between 2021 and 2025, China's railway operation mileage will increase by 19,000 kilometers, highway operation mileage by

302,000 kilometers, and high-level inland river waterways by 2,400 kilometers. China is also aiming to have over 270 civil airports and a total mileage of urban transit of around 10,000 kilometers by 2025.

Besides, more than 95 percent of cities with a population of over 500,000 will be connected to the country's high-speed railway network, and a modern airport system will be basically completed. This will continue contributing to the improvement in the size, capability, quality and efficiency of the country's comprehensive multidimensional transport network.

According to the circular, China will strive to make secondary-level highways and above occupy 70 percent of its national highway system in the western region, and connect over 85 percent of unincorporated villages and groups with a large population to hardened roads. The country will also build around 100 rural logistics service brands by 2025.

The circular says China will improve the collection and distribution system of transportation hubs. By 2025, over 70 percent of major coastal ports will be connected with railways, and more than 80 percent of aviation hubs connected with rail transit.

The circular urges the country to continue optimizing transportation structure and improve the efficiency of the comprehensive transport network. The country will normalize price management in new businesses and models of the transport sector, and implement measures of tax and fee reduction for logistics enterprises.

The circular estimates that by 2025, the annual revenue of China's courier industry will exceed 1.8 trillion yuan (\$283.67 billion), and around 150 billion parcels will be handled on a yearly basis. The industry will have an annual growth rate between 10 percent and 11 percent, which is twice of that

of the country's GDP.

According to the circular, China will enhance its ability to offer equalized universal postal services during the 14th Five-Year Plan period to make courier services more convenient, more accessible and more reliable, said Zeng Junshan, director of the policy and regulation department, State Postal Bureau of China.

Besides, the country will make smart parcel lockers and other devices in urban areas better meet the diversified demands of the people, and extend direct collecting and shipping services to basically all incorporated villages, Zeng said, adding that all bor-

der villages will be covered by postal services.

By 2035, the National 1-2-3 Travel Circle and the Global 1-2-3 Logistics Circle will take initial shape, basically making China a country with a strong transportation network.

The National 1-2-3 Travel Circle refers to one-hour commute time in cities, two hours' travel time within city clusters and three hours to travel between major domestic cities.

The Global 1-2-3 Logistics Circle means one-day delivery to destinations within China, two-day delivery to neighboring countries, and three-day delivery to major global cities, according to the document.

People's Daily

US raid in Syria: Guterres concerned over civilian casualties

AMMAN/WASHINGTON/
UNITED NATIONS

UN Secretary-General Antonio Guterres on Thursday expressed concern over the civilian casualties in a US raid that led to the death of Islamic State leader Abu Ibrahim al-Hashimi al-Quraishi.



Asked for the secretary-general's comment on the US operation in Syria against al-Quraishi, Farhan Haq, Guterres' deputy spokesman, said: "We've taken note of the announcement by the US president of the death of Abu Ibrahim al-Quraishi, the leader of Da'esh. We note with concern reports of civilian casualties."

Da'esh is the Arabic acronym of the IS terrorist group. "We continue to call on all the parties to take all necessary measures to protect civilians and civilian infrastructure in line with their obligations under international humanitarian law," said Haq.

In the case of trying to determine responsibility for casualties from attack, it would be important to have an investigation, he said.

"Da'esh has committed heinous crimes and brought tragedy and death to thousands of men, women, and children. And we want to take this moment to remember the victims and families of victims of terrorism everywhere in the world. And, of course, as you know, the UN system as a whole has been very united in efforts to act against Da'esh. So any successes against them are to be welcomed," he said.

THE OPERATION

The IS leader died when he blew himself and family members up during a US military raid in Syria. President Joe Biden said on Thursday, dealing a blow to the jihadist group's efforts to reorganize as a guerrilla force after losing large swathes of territory.

Abu Ibrahim al-Hashimi al-Quraishi, had led Islamic State since the death in 2019 of its founder Abu Bakr al-Baghdadi, who was also killed when he detonated explosives during a raid by US commandos.

As US forces closed in on Quraishi in northwestern Syria overnight, he triggered a blast that also killed members of his own family, including children, according to Biden and US officials.

The blast was so big it hurled bodies out of the three-storey building where Quraishi was and into surrounding streets in the town of Atme, US officials said, blaming Islamic State for all civilian casualties.

"Thanks to the bravery of our troops, this horrible terrorist leader is no more," Biden said in remarks at the White House.

A senior White House official said the blast was believed to have killed Quraishi, his two wives and a child on the third floor, and likely a child who was on the second floor with Quraishi's lieutenant and his wife, who were killed after firing on US forces. Two additional fighters were killed after firing on US helicopters, the official said.

Quraishi had been using the house and an unwitting family living on the first floor as a "protective shield," a factor that complicated planning for the raid, the official added.

The official was unable to explain the discrepancy between those numbers and those provided by Syrian rescue workers, who said at least 13 people were killed, including four women and six children.

"It's very clear from reviewing the operation in real time that the massive explosion on the third floor is what really caused the casualties," the official said.

Quraishi's death is another setback for Islamic State nearly three years after its self-declared caliphate was dismantled and its fighters defeated by US and Iraqi forces.

Since then, Islamic State, also known as ISIS, has waged insurgent attacks in Iraq and Syria. The most recent was last month when its gunmen stormed a prison in northeastern Syria housing Islamic State suspects.

Quraishi, a 45-year-old Iraqi, had remained largely in the shadows since succeeding Baghdadi who led the group when it launched a lightning expansion in 2014 that shocked the world. He was injured and lost a leg in a 2015 US air strike, the US official said. ISIS took control of large areas of Syria and Iraq, imposing strict Islamic rule over millions and inspiring attacks in the West.

Biden and US officials described Quraishi as the "driving force" behind the 2014 genocide of minority Yazidis in northern Iraq, and said he oversaw a network of Islamic State branches from Africa to Afghanistan. "Last night's operation took a major terrorist leader off the battlefield and has sent a strong message to terrorist around the world: We will come after you and find you," Biden said.

Agencies

Russia, China urge all countries to build dialogue, trust – statement

BEIJING

RUSSIA and China call on all states to strengthen dialogue and mutual trust, according to a joint statement adopted by the two countries yesterday.

"The sides call on all States to pursue well-being for all and, with these ends, to build dialogue and mutual trust, strengthen mutual understanding, champion such universal human values as peace, development, equality, justice, democracy, and freedom, respect the rights of peoples to independently determine the development paths of their countries," the statement says.

Moscow and Beijing also stress the need "to protect the United Nations-driven international architecture and the international law-based world order, seek genuine multipolarity with the United Nations and its Security Council playing a central and coordinating role, promote more democratic international relations, and ensure peace, stability, and sustainable development across the world," the statement says. Agencies

'Unique' opening ceremony to raise curtain on Games

BEIJING

THE chief director of Beijing 2022's opening ceremony has told fans to expect a unique experience - including a "groundbreaking" cauldron lighting method - at the Bird's Nest stadium yesterday.

Zhang Yimou also directed the opening and closing ceremonies for the 2008 Games, making the 71-year-old the first person to direct both the Summer and Winter Olympics ceremonies as Beijing makes history as the first city to host both editions.

"It's a great honor to direct the opening ceremony for the second time," Zhang said. "I hope to make a good impression and create some wonderful moments that will go down in history."

A renowned Chinese filmmaker, Zhang has been nominated three times for the Academy Award for best foreign language film.

The scintillating opening ceremony of the 2008 Games added to his prestige. He also masterminded Beijing's eight-minute handover performances at Athens 2004 and Pyeongchang 2018.

Zhang said he never thought of taking the easy option and merely repeating the highly rated 2008 masterpiece. We

"I think a lot of classics cannot be duplicated," he said. "They happen only once. Of course, we know that we cannot repeat Beijing 2008, so we are striving to be different from it."

Besides incorporating characteristics of the Winter Olympics and winter sports in the opening ceremony, Zhang said the theme will not be the same as the 2008 show

"In 2008, the Olympics were a brilliant stage and a chance for our country to show ourselves," he said. "In fact, there are plenty of pages across our 5,000-year history that we would like to present to the world - our civilization, our history and how we got to where we are today."

"It's different now. China's status in the world, the image of the Chinese and the rise of our national status - everything is totally different now."

"In the wake of the pandemic, the world needs a new and strengthened vision, and that is people of the world coming together to face difficulties and looking forward to a bright future."

That is reflected in a change to the Olympic motto, with "Together" added to "Faster, Higher, Stronger".

Zhang said he is determined to present a "different and unique" opening for the 2022 Games. "The era is different, and so is the public's perspective," he said.

SIMPLICITY THE KEY

The opening ceremony will be in keeping with Beijing's



The Beijing 2022 opening ceremony will be in keeping with efforts to stage "simple, safe and splendid" Games. XINHUA

efforts to stage "simple, safe and splendid" Games.

The number of performers has been cut from 15,000 in 2008 to 3,000; the ceremony will last less than 100 minutes due to the cold weather and the pandemic.

However, the quality will not be affected by the reduction in quantity

"Being simple, just as in martial arts films, is like a master's sword," Zhang said. "All his spirit is focused on the tip of the sword, and the power of his stab is different. It looks like a very simple stab, but with fateful power."

One of the most anticipated parts of the opening ceremony is the lighting of the main cauldron. Zhang said his team has come up with "a bold idea" for this element of the show

"This time, the lighting method will certainly be different," he said. "It's a ma-

ior reform of the opening ceremony. It will be unprecedented in the 100-year-plus history of the Olympic Games."

Zhang hinted that the design was in line with the concept of environmental protection and low-carbon emissions.

"I think it's totally innovative, and people will be surprised," he added.

FOR THE PEOPLE

Zhang said the public's participation is "a major goal" of hosting the Games and, therefore, is also important for the opening ceremony.

"Not just athletes and professionals winning gold medals and achieving amazing things, but getting more people to participate in sports," he said. "It's always about the people."

In the seven years since Beijing's successful bid, China has fulfilled its promise to engage 300 million people in win-

ter sports.

The opening ceremony will also be characterized by diversity, with some performers coming from schools and grassroots arts groups.

"I think the expressions of happiness, health, spirit, self-confidence and inspiration are very important," Zhang said. "We also emphasize participation in many ways this time."

Zhang said the pandemic has brought about changes in the world, with China facing a new and complicated international situation. That's why he hoped to present the genuine thoughts and feelings of the Chinese people on the Olympic stage.

"What the Winter Olympics show is the Chinese people's confidence, pride, love and affection for the people of the world," Zhang said.

"If we can showcase that in an artistic, emotional and subtle way through the opening ceremony, people can see the real inner thoughts of Chinese people. That will be very meaningful."

Xinhua

China's first-generation ski track rescue doctors ready for Beijing 2022

ALPINE skiing is a sport that requires both speed and skills. In competitions, alpine skiers can go as fast as 140 kilometers per hour. If athletes get injured in skiing competitions, medical workers must arrive at the scene within four minutes to quickly finish assessment, emergency rescue and transfer of the injured, according to a medical guide issued by the International Ski Federation (FIS).

However, before China's successful bid to host the Beijing 2022 Olympic and Paralympic Winter Games, the country didn't have an alpine skiing course that could meet the standards of Winter Olympics, let alone a dedicated medical support team.

In January 2018, the Beijing Organising Committee for the 2022 Olympic and Paralympic Winter Games (BOC-WOG) organized a double-board skiing skills test for medical workers in Beijing and north China's Hebei province, which gathered 232 medical workers from 45 hospitals.

Bai Peng, a post-80s doctor of the anesthesiology department of Peking University Third Hospital in Beijing, got the highest score in the men's group at the test. Following the test, Bai and more than 70 other doctors formed China's skiing medical support "dream team" for the Winter Olympics, thus becoming the first-generation ski track rescue doctors in China.

As a veteran ski enthusiast, Bai has enjoyed skiing at ski resorts of different sizes across the country. "I once spent over 40 days in ski resorts in a winter, usually on weekends," he said. He has obtained the Level 2 ski instructor certificate from Canadian Ski Instructors' Alliance and an occupational qualification certificate for social sports ski instructor from China's Ministry of Human Resources and Social Security.

Bai is also a member of the Peking University Third Hospital Ski Club. Led by Zhou Fang, executive president of the Peking University Third Hospital Yanqing Branch, the club has organized many lectures on on-site medical rescue for skiers and ski resort rescue drills, and held China's first seminar on medical treatment for winter sports injuries.

These activities have made the ski club well-known in the winter sports industry. Medical rooms of ski resorts often ask the club for help when they encounter problems they can't handle.

Balance is an essential part of skiing.



Bai Peng, a doctor of the anesthesiology department of Peking University Third Hospital. (File photo)

However, it is not easy for medical workers to maintain balance on skis when carrying more than 10 kilograms of rescue pack and automated external defibrillator (AED) on the back and drugs in the arms. Members of the "dream team" often fall down and get injured in training, and several members suffered spinal and ankle fractures and ligament injuries.

First aid on ski track is even more challenging. The main ski run of the Xiaohaituo Mountain in the Yanqing competition zone of the Beijing 2022, where the alpine skiing, bobsleigh and skeleton and luge events will be held, has a total length of 2,950 meters and a vertical drop of 894 meters, which, together with the cold weather, steep slope, and variable wind direction, has made medical rescue in the mountain rather difficult.

To provide better medical services for skiers during the Beijing 2022, members of the "dream team" practiced cardio-pulmonary resuscitation (CPR) on their knees in the snow and lay prostrate and even on their side on steep slopes to try trachea cannula under a temperature of minus 20 or 30 degrees Celsius. They often couldn't feel their hands and feet after the practice.

Besides high-intensity training in the snow during the day, the team members also spent long hours in the night improving their first-aid plans and work procedures for various contingencies, including rescue operation for

patients with chest injuries, emergency treatment for patients with head injuries, as well as emergency airway management for patients with sports trauma.

Athletes with disabilities are different from able-bodied athletes in sports equipment, the ways in which they get injured, and injury examination and treatment.

In the past, the team members didn't have the faintest idea how to deal with sit-skis used by athletes with lower limb disabilities, according to Bai.

After a great deal of communication with Chinese alpine skiing national team of athletes with disabilities, the team gradually developed a set of effective methods and work procedures for treatment for injuries of alpine skiers with disabilities in ski tracks, Bai disclosed.

"I never expected that a hobby could one day become so useful. It's all worth it, no matter how hard the job is," Bai said with pride.

Since he became a member of the "dream team", Bai has made every endeavor to practice extra hours every snow season in addition to the centralized training arranged for the team. Sometimes he even got bleeding blisters on his legs because of high-intensity practice.

In September 2021, when nearly 10 core members of the team were selected to take part in rope rescue training, Bai, who suffered wrist injury at that time, finished all the training courses with the

Africa needs to ramp up COVID-19 vaccination six-fold, says WHO

BRAZZAVILLE

WITH only 11 percent of the population fully vaccinated in Africa, the vaccination rate on the African continent needs to increase six times to meet the 70 percent target set for mid-2022, warned Thursday the World Health Organization (WHO).

"The world has finally heard our calls. Africa is now accessing the vaccines it has demanded for far too long."

"This is a dose of hope for this year," said Matshidiso Moeti, WHO regional director for Africa, during a virtual press conference held by WHO regional office for Africa, based in Brazzaville, capital of the Republic of the Congo.

As Africa has received more than 587 million vaccine doses, 58 percent through the COVAX Facility, 36 percent from bilateral deals and 6 percent through African Vaccines Acquisition Trust (AVAT) of the African Union, increasing deliveries have eased shortages and turned the spotlight on the need for Africa to rapidly ramp up vaccine rollout, highlighted WHO via a statement released Thursday.

However, African countries are still lagging far behind the rest of the world, as only 11 percent of the African population is fully vaccinated, and a troubling 85 percent have not received a single dose, pointed out Moeti.

Although Mauritius and Seychelles have already met the 70 percent target and seven African countries have vaccinated 40 percent of their population, vaccination rates on the continent remain low.

Twenty-one countries on the continent have fully vaccinated less



Matshidiso Moeti, WHO regional director for Africa

than 10 percent of their populations, while 16 have vaccinated less than 5 percent and three have fully vaccinated less than 2 percent, according to WHO.

"Currently, countries are vaccinating only about six million people a week. It's the largest vaccination campaign in the continent's history, but it's not enough."

That number needs to increase exponentially, to 36 million a week, to put countries on the path to beating this pandemic," said Moeti.

The continent is now emerging from its fourth pandemic wave driven by the Omicron variant. Cases have declined for the third straight week.

Over the past week, cases dropped by 15 percent compared with the week before, while deaths fell slightly by 5 percent.

Despite the overall decline in deaths in the continent, North Africa reported a 25 percent rise in weekly fatalities. So far Africa has recorded over 10.8 million cases and over 239,000 deaths cumulatively.



However, African countries are still lagging far behind the rest of the world, as only 11 percent of the African population is fully vaccinated, and a troubling 85 percent have not received a single dose

The Guardian

SPORT



Waluguru Original Music Band's artists put their skills to show at the troupe's past show that took place in Morogoro.

Waluguru Original Music Band, Super Kamanyola Band to feature in contest

By Correspondent Sabato Kasika

MOROGORO'S Waluguru Original Music Band and Mwanza's Super Kamanyola Band are expected to flex their muscles in a special awards contest, known as 'Cheza Kadansi', that will take place in Mwanza tomorrow.

Waluguru Original Music Band Director, Deogratius David 'Killer Boy', disclosed yesterday that the band has been invited to the contest that will involve Super Kamanyola Band.

"The competition is a quest for talent including the Best Rapper of the Year, Best Female Singers, Best Performers and Best Soloist, some of our musicians are to participate."

David noted his troupe's rapper Greyson Semsekwa will feature in the contest alongside the troupe's female singer, Amina Remmy, contesting for the Best Rapper and Best Female Singer. "Our troupe's guitarist, Kinde Makengele, is to contest for the Best

Composer."

"Makengele will also be vying for the Best Soloist honour. We believe we can emerge victorious as our band has some great musicians with great potential in the profession," he said.

David, who is as well the troupe's vocalist, said it will be the first time the band has staged show in Mwanza.

He stressed that the troupe's musicians are determined to show their edge to impress music lovers and beat Super Kamanyola Band.

"Participating in the competition is a unique opportunity for us to showcase our edge as one of the ways to get more shows in the Lake Zone region," he said.

David revealed the troupe is lately promoting its album titled 'Kikao cha Wahenga', featuring six tracks.

They are 'Morogoro Yetu', 'Mwanza wa Mapenzi', 'Cha Kupewa', 'Ngalile Mwanangu Ndole', 'Supu' and 'Nataka Nilewe'.

Azam FC U-20 squad wins Dar competition

By Correspondent Joseph Mchekadona

AZAM FC's U-20 squad emerged as winner of a special youth tournament that took place at JMK Youth Park in Dar es Salaam on Wednesday.

The triumph is Azam FC U-20 squad's second in a period of two months. The youngsters are as well the defending champions of the Chipukizi Cup which was held in Arusha last December.

To emerge the champions, Azam FC U-20 edged JKT U-20 4-3 in the final which was entertaining as the youngsters put their talent to show.

Ashraf Malolo put Azam FC U-20 1-0 up in the seventh minute of the game as he connected a corner kick taken by George Chande.

The goal was a wake-up call for JKT U-20, as they pressured Azam FC U-20 and the former's efforts yielded good

results as Vicent Bundala scored two goals.

They both made some substitutions and the second half resumed. Azam FC U-20 put more pressure on JKT U-20 and the approach was a success after Zuberi Mkombozi equalized for his side. Azam FC U-20 scored two goals via Cyprian Kachwele who took the pitch in the second half.

To reach the finals Azam FC U-20, in the preliminary stage, beat Ruvu Shooting U-20 2-1, later notched 3-1 victory against Magnet Youth, settled for 2-2 draw with Kaptain FC.

In the semi-finals, Azam FC U-20 beat Simba SC U-20 1-0. Azam FC in its official website page congratulated the outfit's youths for the win.

"We are the champions, congratulations for the job well done," part of the message noted.

transfer window.

The Tunisian coach pointed out he is keen on seeing to it the young goal getter fights for Mayele's position.

Mayele has scored six goals for Yanga, which has netted 23 goals in Premier League. Nabi said apart from Ngushi's scoring virtuosity, the promising attacker can also competently take on defenders as he is as strong as Mayele.

"We have been using him as a substitute, he is doing well, but I have seen a different quality in his approach, I think moving the footballer to the position could make him score," the coach noted.

"What I like is that he is a young player who is as strong as Mayele. I think with the scoring skills he possesses, the player can have the best time and help the team."

The tactician noted he believes if Ngushi

challenges Mayele, the Congolese will improve his game on the pitch so he cannot lose his spot to his team mate.

The approach will as a result ensure Yanga score more goals and lift the domestic top flight's top honour.

Ngushi stated he was happy with Nabi's statement, adding he will give his all and perform as per the tactician's instructions.

"Nabi is a great person, so if he sees something from me all I have to do is work on it and plan for that change and I believe it aims to make me do better," the forward disclosed.

Since joining Yanga, Ngushi has yet to show his goal-scoring prowess. The youthful goal getter scored three goals for Mbeya Kwanza FC.

Ngushi netted one of thrilling goals in the Premier League, connecting home an assist from team mate with a scissor-kick from close

Yanga to assess defensive errors in Premier League tie against Mbeya City FC

By Correspondent Nassir Nchimbi

YANGA's head coach Nasreddine Nabi notes he is pleased to see his team continue to thrive in order to achieve the goals which include garnering victory in an NBC Premier League tie against Mbeya City FC which will be played at Benjamin Mkapa Stadium in Dar es Salaam in the evening.

Nabi says his calculations towards the game are going on well and every player seems ready to help the team win.

However, the Tunisian coach said his players need to be more alert following some of the incidents he has seen while in training because he knows their opponents are also organized.

He said their main goal is to make sure they win the title this season so for them every match they play is treated as a final.

"The main thing we need is victory, to get good results, we have to win our game. The competition is fierce and every team is working hard to score points, the work is great and the players will make sure they implement what we instruct the players in practice," Nabi stated.

He said their opponents have had a stronger squad this season and are prepared to face stiff competition in the match due to changes made in their squad.

"We need three points, I have prepared my squad for good re-



Young Africans SC, alias 'Yanga'.

sults, there are no normal fixtures, no modest sides, this league is tough, the main thing is to sharpen our squad, when we are in possession and when we are defending," the tactician said.

The tactician will have opportunity to choose to play either of his two keepers, Abdultwalib Msheri and Djigui Diarra against Mbeya City FC.

This decision will be vital during the match against Mbeya City FC before confronting Biashara United in the round of 16 games of the Azam Sports Federation Cup

slated for February 12-17.

Nabi did not hesitate to state that on the training ground he had rectified the mistakes they had made in previous matches and made sure they did not recur.

"There are areas where we made mistakes in our previous games, we will focus on correcting them before future matches and improve so we can perform well, our mind and strength is now on a match against Mbeya City FC."

"After taking on Mbeya City FC and realizing what we have gained intelligence and strength, we will

move to next games which will see our side face Biashara United and Mtibwa Sugar."

The Jangwani Street squad will be missing Feisal Salum, who is suffering from thigh pain and will be out for a month, Abdallah Shaibu, Yacouba Sogne and Kibwana Shomary.

Yanga leads the NBC Premier League standings with 35 points without losing a single game.

Mbeya City FC sits third with 22 points, having played 13 games so far.



Tanzania's wheelchair basketball participate in drills at Jakaya Kikwete Youth Park's courts in Dar es Salaam on Friday. PHOTO: CORRESPONDENT JUMANNE JUMA

Nabi targets to improve Yanga's forwardline

By Correspondent Ismail Tano

YANGA's head coach Nasreddine Nabi has sought to improve his squad's striking force by lining up newly signed forward, Crispin, as a supporting attacker for Congolese, Fiston Mayele.

The tactician noted he is pleased with the quality of Mayele, Yanga's leading goal score this season, but has decided to add another striker to the squad.

Nabi believes Ngushi will be an efficient forward alongside Mayele, a situation which will turn his outfit's forwardline into fearsome attacking force.

According to Nabi, Ngushi will be handed a central striker spot, playing alongside Mayele. Yanga's Congolese forward, Heritier Makambo, will be back up.

Ngushi moved to Yanga from NBC Premier League's Mbeya Kwanza FC during the mini

range, as Mbeya Kwanza FC held Mbeya City FC to 2-2 draw last year.

Yanga's leadership has said the squad's fanatics should rejoice, considering the team has what it takes to emerge as Premier League's winner.

The Jangwani Street club is currently enjoying the driver's seat in the Premier League with 35 points, setting up seven-point margin with age-old rival, Simba SC, currently holding second position.

Yanga's spokesperson, Haji Manara, he said that for now the club's supporters should be happy with the ability shown by the team's players, insisting the footballers will catapult the team to success.

"Yanga has the right people in the technical bench, coach Nabi is great and the players' performance is tremendous, we have a squad boasting of depth and competence."

"Every player, who makes it to the first team, has what it takes to help the squad get good results, that's why you will see we won the encounter with Mbao FC whilst fielding players that did not play for our squad in a Premier League victory over Polisi Tanzania," the leader stated.

Yanga will, after locking horns with Mbeya City FC in Dar es Salaam at night, come up against Biashara United in the Federation Cup's round of 16's match.

Mtibwa Sugar will host Yanga in a top-flight duel in Morogoro on February 23 and the latter will then end the month with a top-flight match against Kagera Sugar in Dar es Salaam on February 27.

Nabi insisted: "The biggest task in all matches is to seek victory no matter where we play and which opponent we are facing."

Milan giants face off with title dreams on the line

MILAN

THE San Siro awaits one of the biggest Milan derbies in years as champions Inter host their local rivals hoping to maintain a solid lead at the top of Serie A.

Inter are four points ahead of Milan heading into Saturday evening's clash, which could be a turning point in Simone Inzaghi's quest to retain the Nerazzurri's title in his first, so far hugely impressive, year as coach.

His team are unbeaten in the league since mid-October, a 15-match run which contains just four draws, including one against Milan in the first derby of the season back in November.

It is the start of a big fortnight for Inter, with the visit of Roma in the Italian Cup on Tuesday followed by a trip to second-placed Napoli next weekend before Liverpool come to Milan for the first leg of an intriguing Champions League last-16 tie.

For Milan, Saturday's match represents a key moment in their bid for a first Scudetto in over a decade. A defeat would leave them seven points back having played a game more, with Inter's abandoned match with Bologna from January to be rescheduled for later this month.

Stefano Pioli's side sit third, level on 49 points with Napoli who can take advantage of whatever result the Milan giants rustle up at Venezia on Sunday.

After their miserable stalemate with Juventus before the international break, Pioli said that his team need to win at the weekend if they want to "be close to Inter right to the end".

Pioli is almost certain to be without starting centre-back Fikayo Tomori and Zlatan Ibrahimovic, with the latter still feeling the effects of an Achilles tendon injury.

- Crowds return -

The match will be one of the first to be played in front of a maximum half-full stadium after a couple of rounds with just 5,000 fans.

Stadium capacities have been a sticking point between Italy's football authorities and the government all season, but last month health undersecretary Andrea Costa suggested that by the spring, Italian stadiums would be free to fill up.

Other disagreements within Serie A led president Paolo Dal Pino to resign on Tuesday.

AFP

Old friends Nagelsmann and Tedesco reunited as Bayern host Leipzig

MUNICH

BAYERN Munich boss Julian Nagelsmann will be reunited with his former car-pool pal Domenico Tedesco as the Bundesliga leaders look to maintain their grip on the top of the table against RB Leipzig today.

"It's always special when you're up against your old club," said Nagelsmann, who coached Leipzig for two years before leaving to take over at Bayern at the end of last season, at a press conference on Thursday.

The reunion will be all the more special this time around, as it pits Nagelsmann against his old friend and current Leipzig boss Tedesco.

Nagelsmann and Tedesco know each other well from their time together at Hoffenheim in 2015 and 2016, when they were both considered the rising stars of German coaching.

The pair used to share lifts to the sport school where they were studying for their coaching badge, and the Bayern coach admitted with a grin on Thursday that Tedesco got slightly better marks than he did.

But it is Nagelsmann who goes into Saturday's clash as strong favourite, with Bayern six points clear at the top of the table.

Leipzig, meanwhile, are hoping to reestablish themselves among the top four after a recent resurgence under their new coach.

Since taking over from Jesse Marsch in December, Tedesco has stabilised a floundering RB side and led them out of mid-table and up to sixth.

"Domenico always gives his teams a very good structure, and Leipzig are much more controlled now," said Nagelsmann.

The Bayern coach also insisted that their past friendship would not give either of them the edge in Saturday's duel.

"The nice thing about Domenico is that you can talk to him about other stuff. It's not like we spent all our time in the car talking about football. It's also a few years ago now, so we both still have our trade secrets," he said.

Leipzig travel to Munich without US international Tyler Adams, who picked up an injury in Sunday's World Cup qualifier against Canada.

Bayern, meanwhile, are still without Canada's Alphonso Davies, who has been out for several weeks with a heart muscle inflammation.

On Thursday, Nagelsmann said Davies was "feeling good", and would be doing further tests in the coming weeks.

Saturday's clash is not the only top-of-the-table battle this weekend, with second-place Borussia Dortmund set to take on third-place Bayer Leverkusen on Sunday.

AFP

Salah and Egypt beat Cameroon on penalties to reach Cup of Nations final

YAOUNDE

MOHAMED Salah's Egypt are through to the final of the Africa Cup of Nations after beating hosts Cameroon 3-1 on penalties at the end of a goalless 120 minutes in Yaounde on Thursday.

Goalkeeper Mohamed Abou Gabal was the Egyptian hero, saving from both Harold Moukoudi and James Lea-Siliki in the shoot-out at the Olembe Stadium before Clinton Njie blazed wide with Cameroon's last chance to keep their dream alive.

Salah, usually the fifth penalty-taker for his country, was not needed as Egypt advance to a final showdown against Senegal back at the Olembe Stadium on Sunday.

That will see Salah come up against his Liverpool teammate Sadio Mane, with the Pharaohs chasing a record-extending eighth African crown while Senegal continue their search for their first title.

"We are very proud of our achievement today but there is one more step to go," said Egypt assistant coach Diaa al-Sayed, speaking after coach Carlos Queiroz was sent off during the match.

Cameroon see their hopes of AFCON glory on home soil ended in cruel fashion, and they must still get through a third-place play-off against



Egypt's Mohamed Salah, center, and teammates celebrate during the African Cup of Nations 2022 semifinal soccer match between Cameroon and Egypt at the Olembe stadium in Yaounde, Cameroon, Thursday, Feb. 3, 2022. (AP Photo)

Burkina Faso this weekend. "We are sad, and so are 27 million Cameroonians, but that's football," said coach Toni Conceicao.

Just 10 days had passed since the disaster at the stadium, when eight people were killed and 38 injured prior to Cameroon's last-16 win against the Comoros.

The Confederation of African Football had temporarily shut the venue pending an investigation into the events, stripping

it of a quarter-final before giving it the green light to reopen here.

Many fans were clearly put off returning to Olembe so soon after the tragedy, with just 24,371 present in the 60,000-seat venue -- many more could have attended even with Covid restrictions limiting crowds to 80 percent of capacity.

The lack of fans was a shame in what is a football-mad country, and Cameroon and Egypt are the

two most successful sides in Cup of Nations history -- the Indomitable Lions' tally of five titles is bettered only by the Pharaohs.

- Queiroz sees red -

The Egyptians had a score to settle as they sought revenge for their 2-1 defeat at the hands of the Indomitable Lions in the 2017 final, when Vincent Aboubakar came off the bench to score the winner.

An impact substitute then, Aboubakar is now

Cameroon's captain and the top scorer at this tournament with six goals.

So confident was he before this game that he dismissed the threat of Salah in a radio interview, and the Egyptian captain was peripheral here, too often an isolated figure on the right wing.

He did, however, pass up a glorious chance to open the scoring early in the second half when a dreadfully short back-pass by Mar-

tin Hongla sent him clear. Cameroon goalkeeper Andre Onana came out to make the save.

Aboubakar also struggled to make an impact, although the hosts had dominated the first half and almost went ahead in the 18th minute when Michael Ngadeu rose to head a corner off the woodwork.

Samuel Oum Gouet also saw a long-range piledriver clip the left upright in the second half.

Meanwhile the Egyptians went down at every opportunity, regularly looking to eat up time and frustrate their opponents.

Usually they eventually stood up again unscathed, and they ended the game with 11 players but coach Queiroz -- who was already missing one of his assistants to a ban -- was shown a red card at the end of normal time for losing his temper on the touchline.

This was Egypt's third extra time in as many knockout ties, after they needed penalties to beat the Ivory Coast in the last 16 and an extra half-hour to overcome Morocco in the quarter-finals.

Extra time passed with penalties always seeming inevitable, and Aboubakar was the only successful taker for Cameroon as they go out. **AFP**

New-look Barcelona attack takes on Atlético's shaky defense

BARCELONA, Spain

BARCELONA'S revamped attack will host an Atlético Madrid side seeking to restore its once vaunted defense on Sunday in the Spanish league at Camp Nou.

Struggling to score since the exits of Lionel Messi and Antoine Griezmann last summer, Barcelona went shopping during the January transfer window and brought in three forwards from the English Premier League.

In came former Arsenal striker Pierre-Emerick Aubameyang as a free agent. Adama Traoré came back to his boyhood club on loan from Wolverhampton, and Ferran Torres was secured on a transfer from Manchester City.

Torres has already played three matches for Barcelona, while Aubameyang and Traoré could make their debut against Atlético.

"I hope on Sunday I can show all my talent on the field," said Traoré, who came up through Barcelona's youth academy.

"I have grown physically, I have more experience, and I have played in another league that is more physical and faster. But I have never lost the essence of Barça."

Now it falls on coach Xavi Hernández to figure out how to fit his new players into an already large squad that earlier in the season featured Memphis Depay and Ansu Fati in attack before they were injured.

Barcelona is used to dueling with Real Madrid for the league's most potent attack but ranks seventh for scoring this season.

Xavi has had to be creative in forming his front lines.

Depay, who leads Barcelona with eight goals, and the 19-year-old Fati, the player the club is hoping can be a future star, are both out with nagging muscle injuries. In their place have



FILE - Arsenal's Pierre-Emerick Aubameyang takes a shot at goal during the English Premier League soccer match between Brighton and Arsenal at the Falmer stadium in Brighton, England, on Dec. 29, 2020. Barcelona's revamped attack will host an Atlético Madrid side seeking to restore its once vaunted defense on Sunday at Camp Nou. Barcelona has struggled to produce goals since the exit of Lionel Messi. So in the winter transfer window the club brought in Pierre-Emerick Aubameyang, Adama Traoré and Ferran Torres from the Premier League. Atlético also acquired versatile midfielder Daniel Wass from Valencia and left back Reinildo Mandava from Lille. (AP Photo)

been a mix of youths from Barcelona's reserve team including Ferran Jutglà, Abde Ezzalzouli and Ilias Akhomach and the scarcely used Luuk de Jong.

De Jong took full advantage of finally getting a chance to play, scoring three goals in four appearances.

Even so, the club wanted to give Xavi more weapons up front, especially after contract renewal negotiations broke down with star signing Ousmane Dembélé.

Xavi hoped to rely heavily on Dembélé until the winger and club fell out over his refusal to accept its offer of a new contract before his current deal expires in June. The club told Dembélé

to seek a transfer during January but he declined

all offers. Now Xavi has to decide whether to play a

player who looks certain to leave come summer.

Gwiji by David Chikoko



SPORT

Salah and Egypt beat Cameroon on penalties to reach Cup of Nations final

PAGE 19

Simba SC to take on ASEC Mimosas in Benin



Simba SC midfielder, Hassan Dilunga (L), speeds past Red Arrows FC midfielder, Alassane Diarra, when the clubs faced off in 2021/22 CAF Confederation Cup's Additional Second Preliminary Round' first leg, which took place in Dar es Salaam on November 28 last year. PHOTO: COURTESY OF SIMBA SC

By Correspondent Nassir Nchimbi

TANZANIA'S representatives in the CAF Confederation Cup, Simba SC, will have to travel to Benin for the second round of the group stage match against Ivory Coast's ASEC Mimosas.

According to the Confederation of African Football (CAF) statement, Simba SC will be forced to move to Benin instead of the Ivory Coast, which is the home of ASEC Mimosas, due to the challenge of the stadium.

The CAF statement disclosed ASEC Mimosas will use Benin Stadium, following the outfit's venue Robert Champroux Stadium's failure to meet the requirements of the confederation.

Other Ivory Coast football stadiums are undergoing renovations, as part of preparations for the 2023 AFCON finals.

According to Simba SC's assistant coach Suleiman Matola, the club's first Group D match of the showpiece against ASEC Mimosas of Ivory Coast is not easy, but he has assured Simba SC fans of good results in Dar es Salaam.

Matola knows ASEC Mimosas well because he was one of the

footballers making Simba SC which confronted the outfit in the CAF Champions League in 2003.

The former Simba SC midfielder noted ASEC Mimosas are not a modest opponent, considering the West African side is as well determined to make sure it gets off a good

start.

On February 13, Simba SC will host the Ivorians in a match to be played at Benjamin Mkapa Stadium in Dar es Salaam from 4 pm.

The tactician pointed out that he remembers the opponent, insisting the club ought to be respected.

He said they have started

tracking the side by watching its games to determine how to deal with the squad.

Matola said they have now had less time to watch the opponent as their minds are set on Sunday's Premier League tie against Mbeya Kwanza FC.

"Our international game is very important, as we want to start the group matches well, but for now we are keeping our eyes on the league," Matola, who hinted after Sunday's match Simba SC will start concentrating on the ASEC Mimosas tie, noted.

Matola stated: "These guys are very good, it is a game that will be competitive, but we believe we will win with the preparations we continue with."

Simba SC is competing in this season's CAF Confederation Cup after crashing out of CAF Champions League.

Botswana's Jwaneng Galaxy knocked Simba out of the tournament with an away goal advantage after an aggregate 3-3 draw.

In the CAF Confederation Cup Group Stage, Simba SC will start at home against ASEC Mimosas of Ivory Coast on February 13.

Simba SC will then travel to Niger to face Union Sportive Gendarmerie Nationale (USGN) in the second Group Stage match and then play against RS Berkane of Morocco.

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

UJENZI

Tonight on EATV
Find out how using glass blocks from Canghul 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

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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

Former Simba SC leader sheds light on outfit's current predicaments

By Correspondent Ismail Tano

FORMER Simba SC Chairman, Ismail Aden Rage, has disclosed a string of less impressive results the outfit currently experiences in this season's NBC Premier League is normal.

Before Thursday's NBC Premier League tie pitting Simba SC against Prisons, played in Dar es Salaam, Simba SC had not won in three consecutive games.

Simba SC conceded a 1-0 loss to Mbeya City FC, the former then settled for a 0-0 draw with Mtibwa Sugar and later lost 1-0 to Kagera Sugar.

The NBC Premier League defending champion eventually ended up posting one point.

Rage said the predicament which is now facing Simba SC in the top-flight is normal, and he believes it is part of football.

The outspoken former leader disclosed: "An outfit can't participate in a 16-team tournament and then look forward to coming out victorious in every fixture."

"If you want such a trend, then you have to start your league in such a way that whenever you play, you emerge victoriously."

Simba SC bounced back with a hard-fought 1-0 victory over Prisons in the Thursday tie.

Forward Meddie Kagere converted a penalty kick in the second half and saw the defending champions notch three points.

The victory has propelled Simba SC to 28 points, with the squad holding the second spot.

Simba SC management stated the team's winger, Peter Banda, will be part of the squad preparing for Premier League assignments and the CAF Confederation Cup tie against ASEC Mimosas of Ivory Coast.

The footballer was featuring for Malawi in African Nations Cup finals hosted by Cameroon.

Simba SC is in Group D along with RS Berkane of Morocco, US Gendarmerie Nationale of Niger, and ASEC Mimosas.

ASEC Mimosas will confront Simba SC in the opening tie of the group stage in Dar es Salaam on February 13.

Simba SC's Information Department's official, Ally Shatry, revealed: "We expect our winger Banda to join the squad after completing his national team duties, he had not reported as of Wednesday."

"We hope he will join the squad immediately after our game against Tanzania Prisons, the player will be part of the preparations for our next two games, especially the CAF Confederation Cup against ASEC Mimosas."

Azam FC gaffer aims at having free-scoring team

By Correspondent Nassir Nchimbi



Azam FC's footballers feature in training at Dar es Salaam's Azam Complex recently ahead of forthcoming NBC Premier League matches. PHOTO: COURTESY OF AZAM FC

AZAM FC head coach, Abdihamid Moalin, has made it clear that he wants to see each of his team's players score goals to reduce the dependence on strikers.

Moalin joined Azam FC as a youth development coach for the outfit's U-17 footballers.

The gaffer later secured a three-year contract to replace Zambian gaffer, George Lwandamina, who was sacked after a run of poor performance.

"There is a day when the strikers are not at a good level, now as a coach you have to look at an alternative way to get you to win, so what I am doing is equipping each of them to score," Moalin stated.

Azam FC will also benefit from Zimbabwean forward Prince Dube who was taking part in this year's AFCON finals despite his country's national team's poor performance in the showpiece.

Dube represented Zimbabwe in the continental tournament's Group B with Senegal, Guinea, and Malawi and finished bottom with three points.

"We were in a tough group with big and experienced players most of them play in big European teams, so there are things you find yourself imitating from what they do in practice to the match," Dube noted, adding he hopes to pick up from where he left off.

"I started the season badly due to injuries. I was very hurt because the goal was to help the team but thankfully I came back and I am ready for that."

Moalin revealed: "Dube is a striker that every coach would want to have in his outfit."

In the 2020/21 season, Dube finished with 14 goals for his outfit.

To make sure that happens, tactician Omar Abdikarim Nasser will assist Moalin after the former had signed a three-year deal this week.

Commenting on the arrival of Nasser, Moalin said he had recommended it therefore it is time to work together to achieve the club's goals.

"I was with him throughout the Mapinduzi Cup but there were several procedures that were not completed, but now everything has been clarified by the leadership so the responsibility before us is to work," Moalin stated.

Nasser and Moalin seem to be compatible in various aspects of football as despite being of Somali origin, they have a great ability to analyze matches.

Before Moalin was appointed as head coach he was doing match analysis.

Nasser has also done the job at Qatar's Al Sadd Club's U-23 squad before taking over the same role with the country's side, Al Dhail.

Al Sadd is one of the biggest teams in Qatar that was previously coached by former Spain international Xavi Hernandez who now coaches Barcelona.

Despite being of Somali origin, Nasser took English citizenship and served as an assistant coach of Somalia's national team last year.

Flexibles by David Chikoko

