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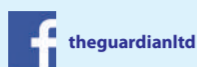
FRIDAY 22 APRIL 2022

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## TRANSPORT



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# Govt probing suspicious rare ruby now displayed in Dubai

## CAG: 500bn/- big markets, bus stands unprofitable

By Guardian Reporter

AUDITS conducted on the management and performance of markets and bus stations countrywide has found no profit in using more than 530bn/- for the projects.

Charles Kichere, the Controller and Auditor General (CAG) says in his 2020/2021 annual report that the deficiencies arose from lack of seriousness when conducting feasibility studies for such projects, numerous cases of unsatisfactory work environments, lack of offices for market supervisors and lack of rental agreements with stall operators.

The report tabled in the National Assembly and open to public scrutiny says that regulations task local governments to manage and control markets and all bus stations. The cited deficiencies include land conflicts arising from lack of title deeds when the land was being taken over, and involvement of persons not working for local authorities. There was no profit in 533.68bn/- of public investments in markets and bus stations which were not operating, while others were operating only partially, he said, citing Chuno Market that was built under the strategic urban projects programme using up 54bn/- and was earning 138.1m/- annually. The market had 237 stalls that were vacant for more than four months and accrued 32.11m/- revenue loss, the report noted, highlighting that Skoya and Chiyangu markets plus Chipuputa

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Zanzibar President Dr Hussein Ali Mwinyi bids farewell to the UK Prime Minister's Trade Envoy to Tanzania, Lord Walney John Woodcock (L), after talks held at Zanzibar State House yesterday. Photo: Zanzibar State House

## MPs object to massive civil servants shortage

By Felister Peter, Dodoma

A COMPREHENSIVE strategy is needed on the part of the government to tackle the chronic shortage of civil servants in different cadres, members of the National Assembly have declared

They expressed these concerns yesterday when contributing to debate on budget estimates for the President's Office (Public Service Management and Good Governance) for fiscal 2022/2023, asserting that public service is vital to national life but it is grappling with a shortage of servants

in most crucial areas.

Prof Kitila Mkumbo (Ubungo) said the public service is an engine for implementation of government policies, law enforcement and realization of development plans; hence it has to have the right staffing levels to do the work.

He said the public service faces challenges but critically it is shortage of staff nearly everywhere, with the demand for primary and secondary

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## A rare 2.8kg gemstone whips up a James Bond atmosphere in Minerals, Natural Resources and Foreign Affairs ministries

By Polycarp Machira, Dodoma

THE government has said it is investigating whether a rare 2.8kg gemstone now making headlines globally comes from the Winza mining location in Mpwapwa District, Dodoma Region.

Minerals deputy minister Dr Stephen Lemomo Kiruswa made remarks to this effect in the National Assembly here yesterday.

This comes in the wake of recent reports in social media that the gemstone, owned by a California resident in the United States, was at the Dubai market and was set to be auctioned at least after the Muslim Holy month of Ramadhan.

Online profiles say Winza village is known for ruby mining, as it is technically in the Usagaran Belt, a metamorphic geological zone, with rubies discovered in the area in 2007.

The government is thus seeking to establish if one of the world's biggest rough rubies that is set for auction in Dubai originated from Tanzania, as it has so far no idea how it left the country.

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## Dairy board taps city, to regulate milk trade

By Correspondent James Kandoya

TANZANIA Dairy Board officials are engaging authorities in Dar es Salaam Region on how to work together to control what its experts say is unregulated business of selling unprocessed milk.

Sylvester Kato, an inspection officer with the board, told this paper yesterday that the move aims to identify centres where milk will be



helping the board to ensure that the milk sold in Dar es Salaam and its suburbs is tested and certified to be fit for human consumption.

sold, underlining that the government loses revenues from the unregulated business so efforts are needed to check

the situation. Up to 5000 litres of milk are sold daily in different places of the city, he said, citing

Ubungo Riverside as a key centre for this unregulated business, raising the issue of city authorities "helping the board to ensure that the milk sold in Dar es Salaam and its suburbs is tested and certified to be fit for human consumption."

The number of milk distributors or middlemen stands at 150 with 20 centres registered by the board so far, he stated, expressing the board's projection that

in future those in the business "be equipped with knowledge to sell processed milk and not raw produce."

Steven Michael, the private sector coordinator at the Ministry for Livestock and Fisheries, said that while Tanzania has competitive advantage of a large livestock sector, opportunities within the dairy sector are still underutilised.

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# MPs object to massive shortage of civil servants

FROM PAGE 1

school teachers standing at 433,992 at present, with 258,291 teachers employed, at just over half of the demand, of 175,701 that is equivalent to 40 per cent of needs.

The health sector employs 98,987 medics and nursing staff against the requirement of 208,232 such employees, a shortage of 109,295 placements or around 52.5 per cent of total requirements, he stated, noting that this affects provision of services in dispensaries and health centres.

More than 70 per cent of the population receives medical treatment in these establishments, he said, citing the demand for health professionals as standing at 131,547 but just 48,579 are employed.

Agriculture needs around 20,000 extension officers but it only disposes of 6,600 officers, with employment gaps taken together totaling over 1.2m 'missing' civil servants, he stated, urging the formulation of a strategy to tackle the shortage of workers especially in crucial areas.

He described the 30,000 public servants to be employed next fiscal year as far too few compared to stated requirements. There is need for a national audit of civil servants to bring about efficient use of government manpower, the former academic observed.

The government must continue to improve the business environment for the private sector to set up more private schools which will employ available teachers, he stated, pointing out that just three per cent of schools countrywide are privately owned.

Ester Bulaya (Special Seats-Chadema) said the demand for public servants is extremely acute, citing Bunda town council with over 900 staff placements not done. The district has 38 local government executives while it is supposed to have 80, while primary school teachers placements reach 1,252 but just 738 teachers are so far been employed.

Similarly, the district council needs 48 extension officers but it so far has 34 and 184 health department staff as opposed to 402 professional staff needed, she stated. "We have a serious shortage of science and mathematics teachers where 162 are needed but we have 68 such teachers," she elaborated.

Leah Komanya (Special Seats) urged the government to prioritize allocating newly employed servants to districts with serious shortages, pointing at Meatu District as facing acute shortages. Within five years 232 civil servants have been transferred and 156 others retired, mostly without replacements.

"We need 930 teachers for primary schools and 199 for secondary schools. The demand for health workers in Meatu is 675, but we have 68 such officers," she stated, highlighting that each of the eight dispensaries has a single qualified health practitioner.

Jenista Mhagama, the minister, had asked for 851bn/- to be used in fiscal 2022/23, where 670.08bn/- is for recurrent expenditure and 181bn/- is meant for development projects. The government set out 30,000 new employment positions, 120,210 promotions and repositioning of 8,080 civil servants.

About 120.7bn/- will be used for the 30,000 new recruits, 42.3bn/- for higher payments of promoted staff and 2.2bn/- for those changing cadre, she said.

She said that 103.8bn/- has been set aside for payment of arrears for civil servants after the verification exercise is done, noting also that the government will strengthen the work of agencies responsible for national security and the fight against corruption.

The President's Office shall similarly emphasise ethics for government officials and other public employees, with intent to enhance productivity to realize the goals of national development, the minister affirmed.

The government will also prioritize supervision of utilization of human and financial resources by emphasizing inclusiveness, with structural reforms for improvement of public sector outputs, she said, pointing out that during fiscal 2020/22 the Tanzania Social Action Fund (TASAF) conducted a verification exercise on beneficiaries in 186 districts.

A total of 886,724 households were verified where 781,342 qualified to continue in the second phase of the scheme, while 105,382 households recording positive economic progress graduated from the plan, she added.



Finance and Planning minister Dr Mwigulu Nchemba (C, front row) pictured in Washington, DC, yesterday attending a World Bank Governors Conference at which a report on the implementation of the bank's activities was tabled. Making the presentation was Dr Taufila Nyamadzabo, bank's executive director in charge of the First Group of African Countries. Photo: Finance ministry

# Dairy board taps city, to regulate milk trade

FROM PAGE 1

Productivity remains the biggest challenge in the sector limiting potential growth, particularly for smallholders, he said, noting that the value chain faces pressures of producer productivity and insufficient consumption, putting processors under pressure and enabling

informal trading. Tanzania's dairy sector comprises primarily of small-scale producers producing low volumes of milk for domestic consumption, with the dairy value chain being semi-structured, most of the milk sold informally with few aggregators and processors, he explained. Weak consumption plus insuffi-

cient raw milk input supply leads to poor processor utilization, driving down profitability, he further stated, highlighting that despite prices being low, unprocessed milk retailers have higher margins due to limited transport and storage costs. He suggested that policy interventions and viable programmes can drive sec-

tor growth and improve beneficiation. "It is necessary to address value chain inefficiencies, including incentivizing processors to invest back into the value chain, while promoting ancillary service investments," he declared. A survey conducted by the board had shown that Tanzania currently produces 2.7bn litres of milk per year but

only 10 per cent of it is processed, which the board says is responsible for stagnation of the subsector. Tanzania is second in cattle numbers after Ethiopia with 32.5m cattle but consumption of milk stands at 49 litres per person annually, compared to 200 litres recommended by the World Health Organization (WHO).



Zanzibar First Lady Mariam Mwinyi (3rd-R, in all-black) leads a march to the venue of iftar hosted on Tumbatu Island yesterday for the elderly and widows on Tumbatu Island. To her right is Jongowe village chairperson Miza Ali Sharif and to her left is Zanzibar Widows Association director general Tabia Makame Mohamed. Photo: Zanzibar State House

# Govt probing suspicious ruby displayed in Dubai

FROM PAGE 1

The government had initiated communications with the said owner of the 2.8-kg gemstone, who is now in California, with the Natural Resources and Tourism ministry initiating investigations to establish its origin and its value.

The Tanzanian Embassy in the United Arab Emirates has been detailed to find out how the precious stone was obtained.

The deputy minister made the remarks when responding to a supplementary question from Mkinga legislator Dunstan Kitandula, who said that there were unconfirmed reports that the 2.8-kg ruby was at the Dubai market and was expected to be auctioned off anytime soon.

"How do we benefit as a country

because reports have it that it is from Tanzania," the MP queried, to which the deputy minister said that last Thursday (April 14) the government obtained information that the gemstone was in the Dubai market and was set to be auctioned.

The 8400-carat gem, which Dubai auctioneers have reportedly nicknamed Burj Alhamal, is being informally valued at US\$120 million (over 240bn/-), Kiruswa noted.

He said the government had initiated communications with the ruby's current owner, adding that the government is looking for important documents regarding the gemstone's ownership.

If it is established that it originated from Tanzania, "we will make sure that the country benefits from its purchase", he declared.

Media reports say that the rough ruby was mined in Winza and it will make its first public appearance in the market at the Waldorf Astoria in the Dubai financial centre, unveiled by the event's expected guest of honour, Hollywood actor Tamer Hassan.

"The launch of the Callisto collection in Dubai represents a groundbreaking moment for the company in its journey to becoming one of the world's leading metals and mineral assets management firm, holding four billion dollars in assets, in exclusive gemstones and gold," a top executive stated.

SJ Gold and Diamond managing director Patrick Pilati said on Tuesday that it was the first time the firm was introducing its crown jewel of the collection.

"Unveiling this one-of-a-kind

stone to the public for bidding is a clear continuation of our dedication to showcasing the best of the best in the UAE," the event's organiser remarked.

The Callisto collection, named after the famous Arcadian nymph of Greek mythology, includes millions worth of hand-picked white and yellow cut and uncut diamonds along with 12 unique rubies weighing 236,000 carats.

The Tanzanian stone was not heated, meaning that it has not been treated and so it is natural and that is why it is precious, he said.

It remains unclear when the gemstone was obtained, but the event's organisers have suggested that the variegated purplish-red rough ruby might have been mined at Winza in central Tanzania.

# CAG: 500bn/- big markets, bus stands unprofitable

FROM PAGE 1

Bus Stand in Mtwara-Mikindani municipality were not operating for a whole year, occasioning a total of 131.1m/- revenue loss. Mkuti Market in Masasi had 68 stalls that were not rented and could have earned 12.84m/- during the year, while in other districts some markets and bus stands that were not operating as they lacked the necessary records, the report noted, citing Mangaka town bus station, Mbagala Kuu market, Kijichi market and its shops line up

Mangaka town in Nanyumbi District had a completed bus stand incorporates commercial installations for shops, pharmacies, restaurants and bars, but only 14 such units were rented, with 31 spaces vacant. Mbagala Kuu market and Kijichi shop frames in Temeke municipality were financed by the Dar es Salaam Metropolitan Development Projects (DMDP), where Mbagala Kuu market costing 1.19bn/- had 141 vacant stalls out of 180 available, a 78 per cent vacancy rate.

"The entire Kijichi market that cost 765.01m/- had no renters, while its shop frames costing 1.73bn/- were vacant as well, the report intoned. Makangarawe Market had 147 stalls vacant out of 186 installed spaces, with 14 shop frames out of 19 similarly vacant. Two butchery spaces and a big shop frame were not rented as well

At Kilole bus station in Korogwe town in the fiscal 2017/18 audit and the 2019/20 exercise a huge number of stalls were not rented, causing an estimated loss of 357.63m/-, the report added.



Apolinary Lyambiko (3rd-L), general manager of Barrick's North Mara Gold Mine, presents to Mara regional commissioner Ally Hapipi (3rd-R) earlier this week high-level disease detection systems donated by Barrick to two hospitals in the region. The equipment constituted part of a support programme meant to boost Tanzania's capacity to combat and contain Covid-19 and other infectious diseases. Photo: Guardian Correspondent

## Bashungwa lifts ban on Bodaboda in Dar's CBD

By Polycarp Machira, Dodoma

MINISTER of State in the President's Office (Regional Administration and Local Government - PO-RALG), Innocent Bashungwa has directed authorities in Dar es Salaam to rescind a ban on motorcycle taxis (bodabodas) from entering the central business district.

Speaking yesterday in Parliament, Bashungwa said though the intention to ban bodaboda and tricycle (Bajaj) taxis from operating in the central business district was good, its implementation would take a lot of young Tanzanians out of employment.

"Of course the intention is good, but the flaw lies in addressing the issue itself. The sixth phase administration recognizes and values the role of bodaboda and bajaj taxis in the creation of employment for Tanzanian youths. They regard it as their official employment," he said, calling upon the Dar es Salaam Regional Commissioner Amos Makalla to oversee the implementation of a reversal of the ban.

Initially, the ban was meant to start on April 20, 2022.

Ukonga legislator Jerry Silaa (CCM) moved a motion to ask the House to debate bodabodas and bajaj as a matter of urgency.

"You shall recall Madam Speaker that whenever you go to your constituency, you are welcomed by a group of youths riding bodabodas and in other areas, we seriously depend on

them. In Dar es Salaam however, there has been a lot of uncertainty surrounding this group," he said.

However, the Speaker said the motion could not be debated but instead, she asked the Prime Minister, who is the leader of government business in Parliament, to work on the issue and issue directives on how bodabodas and bajajis should operate across the country.

"The Prime Minister is here with us. We ask you to take this topic and issue directives, including on how they should operate so that people can know," she said.



**Of course the intention is good, but the flaw lies in addressing the issue itself. The sixth phase administration recognizes and values the role**

## 14 higher education institutions to benefit from \$425m-HEET project

By Polycarp Machira, Dodoma

FOURTEEN higher education institutions in both mainland and Zanzibar are set to benefit from the \$425million Higher Education for Economic Transformation project (HEET), deputy minister for Education, Science and Technology, Omar Kipanga said yesterday.

The parliament was told

that the aim to strengthen the learning environment, ensure greater alignment of priority degree programs to labor market needs, and improve the management of the higher education system.

The deputy minister was responding to a supplementary question asked by the Chumbuni MP, Ussi Salum Pondeza (CCM) who had wanted to know if higher educa-

tion institutions in Zanzibar benefit the loan programme funded by the World Bank.

The deputy minister explained that the Isles have been allocated over \$20m/- for improvement of infrastructure and building capacity.

Through HEET, participating universities will add or modernize over 260 academic programs within priority areas, with

over 100,000 students benefiting from direct interventions to enhance learning.

Earlier in the main question, the Chumbuni MP had also wanted to know when the government would build ministry of Education, Science and Technology's office in Zanzibar in order for higher education students in the Isles get services easily. He also argued by rent-

ing office in Zanzibar, the ministry was spending a lot of money.

The deputy minister told the House that ministry of Education and Vocational Training in Zanzibar own a building that hosts the higher education department under leadership of a director, aim being to ensure students get services.

He said that there are also higher education in-

stitutions that provide services to students at the College of Business Education (CBE), Open University of Tanzania (OUT), The State University of Zanzibar (SUZA) and Higher Education Students Loan Board.

Others are Mwalimu Nyerere Memorial Institute, Karume Institute of Science and Technology, Institute of Marine Sciences (IMS) and Tanzania Com-

mission for Science and Technology (COSTECH).

"The government continues building offices at different places due to demand and availability of funds" said the deputy minister.

He expressed the commitment to move education services closer to people and that the aim is to ensure every public learning instructions have own offices.

KATIKA MAHAKAMA KUU YA TANZANIA MASJALA NDOGO YA TEMEKE (TEMEKE KITUO JUMUISHI HUDUMA ZA MAHAKAMA MIRATHI NA NDOA) MIRATHI NA. 66 YA MWAKA 2022. MAOMBI YA BARUA ZA USIMAMIZI WA MIRATHI YA MAREHEMU ERNST GROB BRIGITTE ERIKA GROB.....MWOMBALI TAARIFA YA KAWAIDA (Kanuni ya 75) Watu wote wanaodai kuwa na haki ya marehemu aliyetajwa hapo juu wanafahamisha kufika na kuangalia mashauri haya katika jalada kama wanafahamisha kabla ya kutotawala kwa utibitisho wa barua za usimamizi wa mirathi kwa mwombaji hapo juu. Mpingamizi yoyote kuhusu maombi haya yawe yameandikishwa mnamo au kabla ya tarehe 11 mwezi wa Mei, 2022. Imesalinwa Dar-es salaam, leo tarehe 08 mwezi wa Aprili, 2022.



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### VACANCIES ANNOUNCEMENT

Breakthrough ACTION Tanzania is a new, three-year (2022-2025) cooperative agreement between the United States Agency for International Development (USAID) and the Johns Hopkins Center for Communication Program (CCP). Breakthrough ACTION Tanzania is a social and behavior change (SBC) activity that aims to catalyze opportunities for Tanzanians to improve their health status by transforming socio-cultural norms and supporting the adoption of healthier behaviors. The activity will provide technical assistance to the Government of Tanzania (GoT) to improve the policy and implementation framework around SBC activities, and design, implement and monitor specific SBC interventions at the sub-national level as required. Breakthrough ACTION Tanzania will promote integrated SBC approaches to support family planning/reproductive health, maternal, neonatal, and child health (including nutrition), HIV, malaria, TB, risk communication and community engagement (RCCE) and other infectious diseases as needed.

CCP is currently inviting job application for qualified individuals to fill the following vacancies

1. Chief of Party
2. Deputy Chief of Party
3. Director of Finance and Operations
4. Director of Monitoring, Evaluation, and Learning
5. Director of SBC Coordination and Capacity Strengthening
6. Technical Advisor for Coordination and Capacity Strengthening

Please visit <https://ccp.jhu.edu/about-us/careers/> for full job descriptions and instructions how to apply.

The deadline for application submission will be on May 4, 2022 at 12:00 noon



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### EXPRESSION OF INTEREST

#### PROVISION OF CONSULTANCY SERVICES TO IMPLEMENT COMMUNITY-BASED MALARIA SBC ACTIVITIES FOR INSECTICIDE TREATED NET DISTRIBUTIONS IN TANZANIA

##### 1. Background and project description

The Johns Hopkins Center for Communication Programs (CCP), Baltimore USA, receives funding from the United States Agency for International Development (USAID), under the Breakthrough ACTION Tanzania project to implement social and behaviour change (SBC) interventions designed to improve malaria outcomes among priority populations and areas in Tanzania.

As one of several malaria control projects in Tanzania, Breakthrough ACTION Tanzania works with the Government of Tanzania, the Ministry of Health, Community Development, Gender, Elderly and Children National Malaria Control Program and other malaria stakeholders to improve adoption and uptake of malaria interventions among individuals, families, communities, and health workers through evidence-based and contextually appropriate SBC activities.

In Tanzania, malaria remains a major disease burden. Almost all the population is estimated to be at risk of the disease, with children and pregnant women at the greatest risk. While malaria remains a significant public health concern, in the past two years the country has also been grappling with COVID-19, which has brought challenges to the health system and malaria prevention is even more important now than ever. The distribution of insecticide treated nets (ITNs) has been ongoing in Tanzania.

##### 2. Purpose of the consultancy services

This RFP seeks to identify a qualified local organization to conduct community and media based malaria social and behaviour change activities around the upcoming targeted net distribution campaigns including the school net program (SNP) in different parts of Tanzania. This is part of a national campaign, led by the NMCP, intended to distribute lifesaving ITNs to eligible households in targeted areas.

##### 3. Timeframe

Work will commence after the execution of the agreement by both CCP and the Consultant. All deliverables should be completed within the agreed timeframe of the execution of the agreement.

##### 4. Required Experience

Previous experience in social and behaviour change activities (SBCs) in the health facility, community, and school-based is highly desirable.

##### 5. Application Requirements

Interested applicants may request a full RFQ document. To [BATanzania.opps@gmail.com](mailto:BATanzania.opps@gmail.com) and the deadline for requesting the RFQ document is **26th April 2022 at 5 pm**. The deadline for application submission will be on **3rd May 2022 at 12:00 noon**.

# Health sector to employ over 7,600 civil servants

By Polycarp Machira, Dodoma

THE government has said it will start deploying health officials at different medical facilities countrywide following the recent announcement of over 32,000 jobs in which the health sector was given a permit to employ 7,612 public servants.

Deputy Minister of State in the President's office, Regional Administration and Local Government, Festo Dugange told the National Assembly yesterday that Itaka Health Centre located in Mbozi District, Songwe region is among the facilities that will be considered during the deployment of staff.

The deputy minister was responding to a question by Special Seats legislator, Juliana Shonza (CCM) who had sought to know when the government would deploy medics at the Itaka health centre which she said was facing shortage of staff thus derailing medical services at the area.

In response Dugange said: "The government continues to employ and deploying health officials to different health centres countrywide and during the 2020/2022 Mbozi District Council was given 17 medics out of which two were employed to offer services at the Itaka health centre."

A fortnight ago, the government officially announced 32,604 new employment opportunities with the health and education sectors getting the highest number of employees.

The new jobs up for grabs completes a total of 44,096 which was pledged by the government during the 2021/2022 financial year, according to the Minister of State in the President's Office (Public Service Management and Good Governance), Jenista Mhagama.

The minister said the process to recruit 32,604 kicked off on April 12, 2022 and by the end of June 30, 2022, all the positions will have been filled.

In hiring the new staff, the government plans to spend 26.3bn/- every month, an equivalent of 315.6bn/- per year. According to Mhagama, the education sector would be given 12,035 positions out of which 9,800 will be for hiring primary and secondary school teachers and that the recruitment exercise would be done by the ministry of State in the President's Office Regional Administration and Local Government (PORALG).

Also she added higher learning institutions would be given 2,235 for hiring lecturers for universities and trainers at other colleges under the ministry of education, science and technology and that the ministry in collaboration with the employment secretariat would coordinate the exercise.

In the new jobs, the ministry of health was given 10,285 positions out of which 7,612 public servants would be employed in hospitals, health centres and dispensaries which are under the regional administration and local government.



Saida Chitime of Mbagala in suburban Dar es Salaam (C) visibly delighted as Biko 'ambassador' Kajala Masanja (L) presented her with 10m/- in prize money for winning a Biko raffle grand draw conducted on Sunday. Looking on is CRDB Bank Plc's Premier Public branch manager, Samia Karim. Photo: Guardian Correspondent

# Rice farmers to benefit from new seeds resilient to climate change

By Guardian Correspondent, Morogoro

RICE farmers in the country will no longer have to face certain challenges including the effects of climate change that cause drop in the production of the crop following researchers' decision to continue making trials on new seeds expected to be introduced shortly.

The observation was made here yesterday by Climate-Smart African Rice Project coordinator, Prof Susan Msolla at a three-day meeting that discussed on achievements realised in the implementation of the project in the past two years.

She said many rice growing areas in the country face floods challenges causing many farmers fail to harvest their crops.

She added that the project will provide a solution in regard to challenges

rice farmers face many of them caused by the effects of climate change.

"We are trying to look for a new type of rice seed that will answer floods challenges as well as effects of climate change," said Prof Susan.

She said already, in Asian countries including the Philippines, they have tried the new seeds and have shown to withstand these challenges and trials done in

Tanzania have shown good results.

Prof Susan further said the project will involve the provision of short term training for postgraduate students including 100 science students from various countries involved in the project.

"The project aims to learn various modern methods in rice production and how to store crops after harvest," said Prof Susan.

For his part, Deputy Vice Chancellor at Sokoine University of Agriculture (SUA) from Research and Professional Advice Department, Prof Maulid Mwatawala said the project is being implemented by the university in collaboration with the International Rice Institute (IRRI) and Tanzania Agricultural Research Institute (TARI). Prof Mwatawala said the aim is to get quality

rice seeds that can withstand floods and effects of climate change that contribute to the increase of sodium carbonate in the rice fields.

He added that the project will assist in coming up with new types of rice seeds that can withstand climate change as well as empowering researchers to obtain research equipment and infrastructures.



## ADVERTISEMENT

### REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS (RFP)

TradeMark East Africa (TMEA) is an aid-for-trade organisation that was established in 2010, with the aim of growing prosperity in the region through increased trade. TMEA operates on a not-for-profit basis and is funded by the development partners from: Belgium, Canada, Denmark, European Union, Finland, Ireland, Netherlands, Norway, United Kingdom and United States of America. TMEA works closely with regional inter-governmental organisations, including the African Union (AU), East Africa Community (EAC), Common Market for East and Southern Africa (COMESA), Southern African Development Community, national governments, the private sector, and civil society organisations.

TMEA wishes to invite interested qualified and reputable firms/consortiums to participate in the following tenders:

- **Consultancy Service to Provide Long Term Technical Assistance on Kenya AFCFTA Negotiations, Implementation of AFCFTA Strategy and Communication Plan [Tender Number: PRQ20210796];**
- **Long Term Technical Assistance to Support the State Department for Trade and Enterprise Development to Implement Category C Measures of the World Trade Organization Trade Facilitation Agreement [Tender Number: PRQ20210797]; and**
- **Provision of Managed Secure SD-WAN and Internet Services [Tender Number: PRQ20210837];**
- **Construction Of Women's Market In Nimule, South Sudan [Tender Number: PRQ20210795]**

The Request for Proposals (RFP) documents for each tender can be obtained at <https://www.trademarka.com/procurement/>. All queries quoting the above Tender Title and Number should be emailed to [procurement@trademarka.com](mailto:procurement@trademarka.com). The closing date for submission of this tender is on or before **16 May 2022 (4.00 P.M. Kenya Time)** as stipulated in the tender document.

Interested and qualified firms/consortium MUST submit separate technical and financial proposals via TMEA procurement mailbox at the address [procurement@trademarka.com](mailto:procurement@trademarka.com). The maximum size of each email with attachments should not exceed 5 MB.

**TMEA cannot answer any query relating to this tender 7 days or less prior to the submission deadline.**



NMB Bank Plc chief internal auditor Benedicto Baragomwa (2nd-R) pictured yesterday presenting chairs and tables to Joseph Mkumbo (L), headmaster of Coast Region's Mwanalugali Secondary School, during the school's first Form Six graduation ceremony. With them: NMB Kibaha Branch manager Festo Issango (R) and the school's board chairperson, Joyce Mori (2nd-L). Photo: Guardian Correspondent

# Sweden pumps in 17billion/- to support LHRC's strategic plan

By Correspondent Mary Kadoke

THE Swedish government has pumped in 17bn/- to support the Legal and Human Rights Center (LHRC) to finance its strategic plan (2019-2024) and complementary operational plan (2022-2024).

This was revealed on Tuesday in Dar es Salaam, when the two parties that signed the deal involving the Swedish Ambassador Anders Sjöberg and LHRC executive director Anna Henga.

The Swedish envoy said the agreement came from the fact that LHRC has been the relevant, leading organization and a watchdog on human rights in Tanzania.

"The agreement signed covers a core support of the remaining three years of the LHRC strategic plan 2019

to 2024 hence 2022 to 2024 with a total budget of 36Msek (12msek/year) that amount to a total support under the current agreement from the embassy to 17 bn/-," he said.

"The work of LHRC and the Swedish support has expanded much since then. Therefore the current mission is to strive to empower the public and promote, reinforce and safeguard human rights and good governance in Tanzania through legal, civic education and information."

Anna thanked the Swedish government for its financial and technical contribution over the years and reaffirmed LHRC commitment to deliver on its envisioned results and equitable society in Tanzania.

LHRC sustainable and compliance manager, Ritha Mchaki noted some of the strategic plans that will comply

with the support as offering legal aid to the underserved such as watchmen employed in different companies.

"As part of the team we are so honored. Am quite sure this agreement will support LHRC core activities in accordance with the strategic plans," she said

"It is through different organization initiatives or advocacy the atmosphere has changed advocating capacity building in media, gender based violence without forgetting the media space for example, you can clearly state that that LHRC has done a lot."

She added that within the strategy human right monitors and paralegals countrywide that save on LHRC behalf help in offering legal aid to the under saved or the voiceless on the other hand that intensively advocate human rights in many aspects."



National Assembly Speaker Dr Tulia Ackson (L) has an audience with Brenda Msangi, CEO of Dar es Salaam's CCBRT Hospital, in Dodoma city yesterday. Photo: Guardian Correspondent

## WHRDs urged to forge links with parliament, networks

By Beatrice Philemon

WOMEN Human Rights Defenders (WHRDs) have been urged to strengthening partnerships with Parliament and other networks such as Tanzania Women Parliamentary Group (TWP), Tanzania Women Judges Association (TAWJA) to support reforms of legislation and policies.

UN Women Country Representative, Hodan Adou made the remarks yesterday when speaking at the launch the Coalition for Women Human Rights Defenders Tanzania (CWHRDs) five-year strategic plan.

Hodan said some of the policies have been a thorny as it bars them from freedom of association, assembly, and expand the room of civic space.

She said strengthening partnerships is crucial to easily address hurdles prevent WHRDs from exercising their rights to political participation.

She also advised them to build strong relationships with the Commission for Human Rights and Good Governance (CHRAGG), such as conducting joint gender-sensitive analyses on national legisla-

tion, policies and programmes to ensure compliance with the state's international human rights obligations.

Other issues includes strengthening capacities on the administration of justice to ensure effective access to justice by WHRDs, developing protection protocols and to act as referral channels to report cases of intimidation, threats and reprisals against WHRDs.

UN Women as a part of the UN System in Tanzania strongly believes that the significant role of Defenders of women's rights in bringing about positive development outcomes must be recognized and supported.

It is on this basis that in 2020, UN Women developed a guidance note on -Supporting Women Human Rights Defenders which provides a model of integrated action to guide our collaboration with, and support to WHRDs.

She was pleased to note that the new UN Sustainable Development Cooperation Framework for Tanzania plays an important role in strengthening engagement with civil society organizations

and WHRDs.

As national, regional, and international human rights protection mechanisms can offer remedies and protection for violations or threats. "I encourage you to actively participate in these mechanisms, particularly through the preparation of shadow reports to human rights reporting processes such as the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women (CEDAW) and the Universal Periodic Review (UPR).

CHRGG's chairman, Judge (rtd) Mathew Mwaimu noted that his commission is working tirelessly to promote and protect the rights of human rights defenders.

So far, he said that the commission in collaboration with the Network of African National Human Rights Institutions (NANHRI) have conducted a baseline assessment to 13 Tanzanian Mainland ministries, departments, National Institutions and Agencies especially those in one way or another encounter with human rights defenders in their day to day activities.

## Embrace Mwalimu Nyerere's legacy, Palestine envoy tells global leaders

By Guardian Reporter

AMBASSADOR of the State of Palestine Hamdi Mansour AbuAli has called upon global leaders to embrace the courage of Tanzania's first president, Julius Nyerere in standing out for human solidarity and a peaceful and just world.

The envoy was speaking yesterday during a press conference in Dar es Salaam yesterday where he said the late Nyerere was among few leaders who was known for standing for human solidarity and all other oppressed peoples of the world.

"If world leaders can embrace his

courage on issues of global peace and co-existence, several conflicts currently undergoing could have been solved," he said.

According to the envoy, it was Nyerere's courage which led to the opening of the Palestine Embassy in Dar es Salaam in 1973.

He said Nyerere provided the moral leadership to the rest of Africa on the Palestinian.

Ambassador AbuAli said if the world's pressure which was put on Russia for starting war in Ukraine was also done on the Palestine-Israeli conflict, a solution could have been found.



**BANK OF BARODA (TANZANIA) LTD.**

### INVITATION FOR TENDER

Bank of Baroda Tanzania Limited entered Tanganyika way back in 1956 and remained till nationalization of financial institutions up to February 1967. The bank had come back to play its role in the economic development of the country and well-being of the people of the United Republic of Tanzania in October 2004. Presently the Bank has 04 branches at Dar es Salaam, Arusha, Kariakoo and Mwanza. The Bank is providing full-fledged banking operations and serving the people in all walks of life.

The Bank is **interested in conducting a customer feedback survey** with the help of a well-established Tanzanian firm having similar kind of experience in past. We request companies engaged in providing similar services to submit a Proposal including proposed cost to the bank within 07 days from today to following email id : [dmd.tanzania@bankofbaroda.com](mailto:dmd.tanzania@bankofbaroda.com) . For any further clarification the same email id can be approached also.

#### ALSO

The Bank is **interested in procurement of an Online Customer grievance/complaint redressal module** from a well-established Tanzanian firm having similar kind of experience in past. We request companies engaged in providing similar services to submit a Proposal including proposed cost to the bank within 07 days from today to following email id : [dmd.tanzania@bankofbaroda.com](mailto:dmd.tanzania@bankofbaroda.com) . For any further clarification the same email id can be approached also.

**Note: The management of Bank of Baroda Tanzania Limited reserves the rights of shortlisting and only shortlisted company will be contacted for further discussion. The bank may cancel or select any proposal on its discretion.**

**VisionFund**  
TANZANIA  
MICROFINANCE BANK LTD

## VISIONFUND TANZANIA MICROFINANCE BANK LTD

### VACANCIES

VisionFund Tanzania Microfinance Bank Ltd (VFT MFB) formerly known as SEDA is a fast growing and reputable **Micro Finance Bank (MFB)**, that has a loan book of approximately TZS. 20 billion and more than 30,000 client base, more than 5,000 of whom are small holder farmers.

VFT-MFB is seeking to employ a dynamic and committed Tanzanian young man or woman who has a passion for people's economic development to fill in the vacant positions detailed here below:

**Work Reference No. 005/22**  
**Position: Recovery Manager**  
**Reporting to: Chief Operations Officer (COO)**

**Responsibility:**

- To ensure an efficient performance of the Recovery Unit and direct supervision of the recovery officers and other stakeholders in the recovery activities chain.

#### Main tasks (Not Exhaustive):

- Ensures efficient performance of the Recovery Unit
- Coordination of the Recovery Unit work with other units/departments or agents
- Coordinates Recovery Unit personnel plan
- Direct supervision of the recovery officers
- To exchange information with the Recovery Officers, Regional Managers, Business Center Managers and other stakeholders in the recovery activities chain.
- To take part on the recruitment of Recovery Interns and Debt Collectors
- To develop Recovery Plans in consultation with Chief Operations Officer
- To prepare reports to be submitted to the Chief Operations Officers and other Heads of department as the need may arise.

#### Education/Experience

- Bachelor Degree in: Business Administration, Accounting, Finance and Economics
- A good background in legal knowledge and practice in recovery matters is an added advantage
- Very good analytical & reporting skills
- 5 years' experience in credit management and loan recovery experience
- Experience of at least 5 years in working direct with Saving Groups, 2 of which must be at the Managerial/Supervisory position.

**Work reference no. 006/22**  
**Position: Recovery Officer**  
**Reporting to: Recovery Manager**

**Responsibility:**

- Responsible for Assisting/ supporting the Recovery Manager in facilitating all recovery related issues in accordance with VFT - MFB's policies.

#### Main tasks

1. Ensure proper documentation for loan recovery
2. Ensure collection of outstanding non-performance loan past 90 days
3. Ensure collection of outstanding written off loans.
4. Monitoring and coordination of all debt collector's activities
5. Ensure compliance of Loan Officers & BCM on proper procedures in recovery
6. Reporting

#### Education/Experience

- Bachelor Degree in: Business Administration, Accounting, Finance and Economics
- 3 years' work experience in recovery activities in the Banking and Financial Institutions
- Very good knowledge on analyzing financial information
- Very good analytical & report writing skills
- Proficient in Microsoft office application
- Model and demonstrate effective Christianity maturity.

#### About our working environment & remuneration.

VisionFund Tanzania Microfinance Bank has a calm and harmonious working environment where staffs are highly valued. Good work is recognized and rewarded accordingly and there is an opportunity to grow professionally and spiritually.

#### Mode of Application:

- Interested and suitably qualified individuals should:
1. Forward their application letter, attaching certified copies of their academic and professional certificates; detailed CVs with three referees to [vftHRstaff@vftz.co.tz](mailto:vftHRstaff@vftz.co.tz).
  - OR:
  2. Physically send their applications through the postal address below:

**VisionFund Tanzania Microfinance Bank Limited,**  
**AICC Building, Serengeti Wing, 5th Floor**  
**P.O. Box 1546,**  
**Arusha, TANZANIA.**

3. All applications should be addressed to:

**The Chief Executive Officer,**  
**VisionFund Tanzania Microfinance Bank Limited**  
**P.O. Box 1546,**  
**Arusha, TANZANIA.**

4. The position should be the subject of the email application.
5. The deadline for the application is on **4th May, 2022.**

**N.B. Only short-listed candidates will be contacted.**

#### Disclaimer

VisionFund Tanzania Microfinance Bank would like to inform the general public that it has not engaged any consultant/agent to conduct recruitment on its behalf.



THE AGA KHAN UNIVERSITY

## Part-Time Counsellor

#### Introduction:

Chartered in 1983, Aga Khan University (AKU) is a private, autonomous and self-governing international university, with 13 teaching sites in 6 countries over three continents ([www.aku.edu](http://www.aku.edu)). An integral part of the Aga Khan Development Network ([www.akdn.org](http://www.akdn.org)), AKU provides higher education in several disciplines, carries out research pertinent to the countries and operates 7 hospitals (soon 8) and over 325 outreach clinics, all at international standards. It has almost 2,500 students and 14,000 staff. The University is both a model of academic excellence and an agent of social change. As an international institution, AKU operates on the core principles of quality, relevance, impact and access.

The position will be based in Dar es Salaam

#### Position Overview:

The incumbent will provide an effective counselling service for students at the Aga Khan University in Tanzania; will offer workshops for student's development; s/he will be responsible for self-referrals and referrals from other staff within the University.

#### Areas of responsibilities:

- Increase personal awareness through Psycho-educational sessions, counselling sessions
- Enhance coping strategies through Psycho-educational sessions, counselling sessions
- Identification of students needing counselling support.
- Identification of environmental stressors that have impact on students' emotional well-being

#### Reporting Relationships

Reports to: Assistant Registrar, Tanzania

#### Requirements:

- Honors Degree in Psychology/ Counselling Psychology/ Educational Psychology;
- Post graduate Doctoral level training in Clinical, Counselling or Educational Psychology;
- With 4 years of experience as a Counsellor with administrative and substantial experience of offering Cognitive Behavior Therapy [CBT], Cognitive Analytic Therapy [CAT] or another cognitive approach, preferably in a comparable setting.
- Substantial experience of working with adults and/or children/ adolescents and their families or have transferable skills from the Health and Social Care sector or Education Sector;
- Knowledge of psychology, lifespan developmental psychology, models of psychopathology, mental health, cognitive impairment, psychometrics, and psychological therapies relevant to this specialism;
- Ability to use complex methods of psychological assessment intervention and management frequently requiring sustained and intense concentration good attention to details and ability to work fast (but without mistakes)
- Ability to maintain a high degree of professionalism in the face of highly emotive and distressing problems.

#### How to Apply

If you meet the requirements of this position, please send your application package which should include an application letter, an updated CV to [hr.university@aku.edu](mailto:hr.university@aku.edu) not later than **8<sup>th</sup> May 2022**

Only short-listed candidates will be contacted. For further information, please visit <http://www.aku.edu>



Jerry Silaa, legislator for Dar es Salaam's Ukongo constituency, contributed to debate in the National Assembly in Dodoma city yesterday. He appealed to House Speaker Dr Tulia Ackson to allow room for MPs to discuss the standing order barring motorcycle and Bajaj taxi riders from venturing into downtown Dar es Salaam. The Speaker, in turn, called on the relevant authorities in the city to deal with the matter. Photo: Correspondent Ibrahim Joseph

## SIDO out to improve products' packaging, branding, labeling

By Correspondent Christina Mwakangale

THE Small Industries Development Organization (SIDO) has brought together packaging entrepreneurs as well as manufacturers of packaging industries, to discuss the opportunities and challenges involved in packaging including branding and labeling.

Speaking during the opening of the meeting in Dar es Salaam yesterday, SIDO director of marketing and investment, Shoma Kibende said the organization has found that there are major challenges in the areas of packaging; branding and labeling that make Tanzanian products fail to gain competitiveness in the market.

"What removes the attractiveness of a product in the market includes how it has been branded, there is a packaging challenge for entrepreneurs as many of them use similar packages, something that fails to brand them and confuse customers. This is due to the scarcity or lack of access to the right packaging materials," Kibende said.

Kibende said there is huge demand for packaging materials in Dar es Salaam due to shortage of factories to produce enough and quality packaging materials.

"I urge entrepreneurs to use SIDO to get quality packaging tools. We have brought 11 industrialists from Coast Region so as for them also to share experience and see how to address this challenge, we want Tanzanians products to be quality and penetrate to other markets in Africa and abroad," he explained.

Coordinator at SIDO Packaging Services Center Antonia Masoy said the

majority of entrepreneurs and traders have been importing packaging materials from neighboring countries due to scarcity of the materials in Tanzania.

"Any product that wins the market is the one that is packed in a quality material and looks attractive. Putting a product in a unique packaging material attracts more customers as they create trust and sometimes think that the specific product is from abroad. Entrepreneurs are still complaining that locally produced packaging materials are poor and they decay faster than those from outside the country," she said.

Antonia said the organization was working to establish a special network which will bring together entrepreneurs and producers of packaging materials so that they can discuss and increase quality of the materials and improve the penetration of the country's products locally and in international markets.

Acting manager from Nampack Tanzania, Benjamin Mutua said the company is engaging in the production of metal packaging materials inducing bottles for storing foods such as cashew nuts and processed foods.

He, however said, currently they have stopped producing the materials due to high competition in the market where a lot of packaging materials are imported and sold at a very low price thus killing the locally produced ones.

"Metal packaging tools are quality and firm, but we are now facing challenges in the market. Increase of low price packaging tools has killed our efforts," he asserted.

## ESRF wants laws to help young firms sail through competitive markets

By Correspondent Theresia Victor

THE Economic and Social Research Foundation (ESRF) Principal Research Associate Prof Samuel Wangwe has called on government to come up with friendly laws that would make young companies to sail through competitive markets.

Prof Wangwe made the call in

Dar es Salaam when speaking during the launch of report on a comparative baseline study on establishing a start-up policy in Tanzania dubbed: "Inclusive and constructive business environment to start up ecosystem".

Prof Wangwe said start-ups create jobs which mean more employment which leads to improved

economy.

"Specific policies and legislation be passed on startups which will set standards and procedures that must be followed by all stakeholders but also create a mechanism to nurture start-ups," noted Wangwe.

He further noted that the law should have clear provisions on the definition of startups to avoid

overlapping and multiplicity of roles and functions.

"The law should have a general provision on the entitlement of tax incentives for startups with specific incentives provided under the finance Act.

According to him, the Tanzania Commission for Science and Technology (Costech) Act 1986 was

amended to ensure there are provisions in the general framework of administration and coordination of the start-up ecosystem.

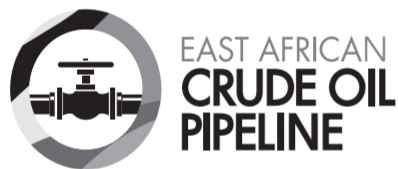
Ambassador of Netherland to Tanzania Wiebe de Boer said that the Embassy has been working together with Tanzania Startups Association (TSA) to strengthen the entrepreneurial ecosystem

particularly to support creating a business friendly environment for start-ups to flourish and to attract national and foreign investment.

TSA Board of Directors Vice Chairperson Lulu Ng'wanakilala, thanked the government and partners who were involved in preparation of

developing the study.

Responding on the same note the Deputy Permanent Secretary from the Ministry of Investment Industry and Trade, Dr Hashil Abdullah said that the government is working hard in making sure that the country's current economic development improves.



### REQUEST FOR EXPRESSION OF INTEREST FOR SALARY AND COMPENSATION SURVEY SERVICES IN UGANDA AND TANZANIA: REFERENCE: 10007678

East African Crude Oil Pipeline (EACOP) Limited (COMPANY), is mandated with the construction and operation of a buried, cross-border pipeline to transport crude oil from the Lake Albert area in Uganda to the eastern coast of Tanzania for export to international markets. The pipeline will run from Kabaale in Hoima District, Uganda, to Chongoleani, Tanga Region, in Tanzania. It shall be 1,443 kilometers (km) long, of which 296 km will be in Uganda occupying a 30-meter-wide corridor. The company plans on recruiting a number of personnel in the organization over the coming months and as such it requires review and setting up a salary and compensation structure that meets the industry standards in both Uganda and Tanzania. East African Crude Oil Pipeline Limited invites experienced and reputable service providers to express their interest in providing Salary and compensation survey services in Uganda and Tanzania.

#### BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE SCOPE OF THE SERVICES:

- The Company is seeking prospective service providers with adequate experience and expertise to provide Salary and compensation survey services in Uganda and Tanzania the contractor will be tasked with but not limited to the following.
- Undertake a comprehensive review and evaluation of the existing salary structure while considering the basic concept of equal pay for an equal value of work while at the same time at par with the industry acceptable standards and locations of both Uganda and Tanzania.
  - Conduct a salary and compensation survey, targeting at least five (5) to seven (7) comparator organizations in Uganda and Tanzania to confirm the salaries, allowances, and entitlements/benefits offered. And as much as possible match the existing EACOP compensation components with those of the comparator organizations to facilitate an accurate determination of the salary levels for the various positions and Job groups.
  - Prepare a consolidated report with recommended pay scale structure and benefits and correlate them to match the existing job grade and positions in EACOP Co. and also indicate the total cost of employment for each position.
  - Develop a comprehensive report briefing, executive summary, and presentation that provide justifications and rationale behind the thinking, analysis, and recommended solutions.

#### MINIMUM REQUIREMENTS:

- Service providers expressing interest are requested to submit the following documents:
- At least 10 years of experience in conducting salary and compensation surveys and developing salary scales for different organizations in the different companies. Previous experience in the Oil and Gas sector (Upstream and Midstream) and extractive industries will be an added advantage.
  - Vast knowledge and experience in human resource management including application of best practices in the development of a clear salary and compensation strategy.
  - Legal entity documentation including a certificate of incorporation and registration, license, certification to undertake salary and compensation services.
  - Proof of registration with the Uganda Revenue Authority (URA) or Tanzania Revenue Services (TRA) and current Tax Clearance Certificate.
  - Brief description of experience, expertise, capacity to deliver required scope of services.
  - Organisation profile (or brochure) detailing services provided, organisation chart, key clientele, and proposed key personnel that will work with the respective Project team and their relevant experience in providing similar services.
  - Proof of registration on the National Supplier by the Petroleum Authority of Uganda or an equivalent in Tanzania for the Oil & Gas sector.
  - Adequate Financial Capacity.

Interested organizations with the ability, capacity, and resources to provide any of the services listed above should express their interest by sending (together with the documents stated in the above section) and email to [procurement.tz@eacop.com](mailto:procurement.tz@eacop.com) (max. email size 10Mb) on or before 1600 hours East African Time (EAT), Friday 6<sup>th</sup> May 2022.

**Note:**The EACOP.Co will review and assess the documents provided by the interested companies to derive a list of prequalified companies. Only prequalified companies will receive, subject to the signature of a Non-Disclosure Agreement (NDA), an invitation to submit a proposal in furtherance of the Request for Proposal process. All Expressions of Interest should be submitted in the English Language.



### RE-ADVERTISED: REQUEST FOR EXPRESSION OF INTEREST: PROVISION OF PROFESSIONAL OVERSIGHT IN THE FORM OF ERW QUALITY ASSURANCE AND QUALITY CONTROL TO IMAS STANDARDS SPECIALIST ADVISORY SERVICES FOR EACOP REFERENCE NO: 10007568

East Africa Crude Oil Pipeline (EACOP), an Oil and Gas company, invites experienced and reputable organizations to express their interest in Provision of EOD (Explosive Ordinance Disposal) Quality Assurance and Quality Control Services to the East African Crude Oil Pipeline (EACOP) project. The EACOP project involves the construction and operation of a buried, cross-border pipeline to transport crude oil from the Lake Albert area in Uganda to the eastern coast of Tanzania for export to international markets. The pipeline will run from Kabaale in Hoima District, Uganda to Chongoleani, Tanga Region, in Tanzania. The length of the pipeline is 1,443 km, of which 1,147 km will be in Tanzania. Parts of the project area are affected by ERW (Explosive Remnants of War) which require clearance prior to project construction works. As part of the service there is a requirements for professional oversight in the form of Quality Assurance and Quality Control to IMAS standards (International Mine Action Standards). The role is 100% field based. In addition, there may be a requirement for magnetometer datalogging services to be conducted.

#### BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE SCOPE OF THE SERVICES :

The Company is current looking for the Company which shall provide the following services:

- Provision of IMAS QA/QC services
- Optional, but highly desirable, capability to conduct Magnetometer datalogging services
  - Data capture
  - Data analysis
- Complete support services to enable team to be self-sufficient during field deployment including:
  - Full on site mobile medical support (Paramedic & Vehicle)
  - Community liaison team as detailed by EACOP
  - Survey Capability to achieve Sub-1m accuracy for recording purpose & GIS mapping data

#### MINIMUM REQUIREMENTS:

Companies expressing their interest are invited to document their request with:

- Proof of IMAS Qualified QA/ QC Officer:
  - Qualified by Internationally recognised EOD training establishment to L3 IMAS Standard
  - Proven experience in instruction of IMAS subjects to L3 standard
  - Minimum 10yrs EOD Experience
  - Comprehensive knowledge of IMAS reporting systems and mapping
  - Recognised First Aid Qualification
- Proof of previous experience in provision of Mine Action/ EOD Services in Africa.
- Proof of experience working on projects with high levels of local engagement and liaison
- Proof of business registration and business license for Tanzania.
- Registration with the Tanzania Tax Revenue Authority.
- Proof of Tanzania Tax Clearance Certificate for the latest year available.
- Proof of registration/application to Local Supplier Service Provider (LSSP) database at the time of submission of the response to this expression of interest is strongly recommended.
- Compliance with Petroleum (Local Content) Regulations, 2017 and Local Company definition for Tanzania

Companies which have the ability, capacity and resources to implement the activities listed above should express their interest by sending (together with the documents stated in the above section) through an email to [procurement.tz@eacop.com](mailto:procurement.tz@eacop.com) (max. email size 20Mb) on or before 15:00 hours East African Time (EAT), on Friday 29<sup>th</sup> April 2022. Email subject should be 10007568

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

**Brot  
für die Welt**

## Christian Social Services Commission (CSSC) Terms of Reference – End line Evaluation



# Improved Quality and Accessibility of Education and Health Service Delivery by the Churches in Tanzania Project– phase II

### 1. Project Overview

The Improved Quality and Accessibility of Education and Health Service Delivery by the Churches in Tanzania Project – phase II is being implemented by Christian Social Services Commission (CSSC) through financial support from Bread for The World (BFTW). This is a 3 years (January 2020 to December 2022) project which aims at improving access to quality education and health services by the underserved communities across five CSSC zones targeting all regions in mainland Tanzania and Zanzibar. The project is working towards creating a favorable environment through advocating for the review, development, and adherence to policies, laws, and guidelines as well as the Service Agreement on the provision of education and health care services; promoting partnership with development partners to address health and education services challenges; strengthening the leadership/governance in FBOs hospitals; promoting dialogue between the Government and FBO through Public-Private Partnership Forums, reviewing of some policies/guidelines related to the provision of Primary, Secondary and University education and improving quality of the health care services by supporting the health facilities through Safe –Care approach.

Despite the invaluable contributions of churches' facilities in the delivery of health and education services, these facilities continue to face immense challenges, are constrained by unfavorable policies and guidelines, insufficient understanding of government legal/policy frameworks, inadequate Church policy frameworks, weak management systems (financial, HR), and inadequate teaching and learning environment. Churches' health facilities are also faced with a number of serious challenges such as poor adherence by the government to Service Agreements, resulting in decreased access to public resources (funds, personnel, medical supplies); Delays in the introduction of National Universal Health Insurance, creating an over-dependence on minimal out-of-pocket payments of a predominantly resource-poor rural population; Insufficient understanding of government legal / policy frameworks; Inadequate capacity of the Church facilities to employ and retain qualified health staff; Inadequate quality of services (especially for lower-level facilities); Fragile financial sustainability as well as Weak capacity of Church health training institutions.

Progress towards reducing financial dependency and enhancing the sustainability of Churches-owned health and education facilities are substantially slower following the introduction of Direct Facility Financing (DFF) and the ongoing development of infrastructures in both the health and education sector. CSSC has worked closely with the government at the national, regional, and district levels to ensure the delivery of high-quality health and education services is sustained.

### 2. About Christian Social Services Commission (CSSC)

Christian Social Services Commission (CSSC) is an ecumenical body jointly established by the Tanzania Episcopal Conference (TEC) and the Christian Council of Tanzania (CCT) in 1992 to facilitate social services with the main focus on education and health services provided by the churches. The Commission was registered with the Ministry of Home Affairs in 1993 under the category of a not-for-profit faith-based organization. It is mandated to chart out a common action within the policies and legal framework of the Government of the United Republic of Tanzania aimed at expanding and improving the provision of social services, Education and Health. CSSC initiate, improve and strengthen cooperation with the Government, NGOs, and other stakeholders sharing and bearing the same aspiration and dedication to the provision of social services. The Christian Social Services commission is currently implementing its 3rd strategic plan with the overall goal to contribute to the improvement of quality of- and access to education and health care services in Tanzania with four strategic objectives:

1. The government – at the national, regional, and council level – has improved the development of- and adherence to policy and legal frameworks that promote effective engagement of Church health and education facilities in service delivery.
2. The government, development partners, and Church facilities increasingly recognize, involve, and partner with CSSC to improve health and education services in Tanzania.
3. Church health and education facilities have improved the quality of their service delivery.
4. A strong and professional CSSC, capable of delivering quality support to church-owned health and education facilities

**CSSC's Vision:** A society in which all people have access to quality education and health services.

**CSSC's Mission:** To strengthen the delivery of health and education services by Church institutions through advocacy, capacity building, coordination and partnerships inspired by the compassion and love of Christ.

### Facilities under the Mandate of CSSC:

Around Forty percent (40%) of all health services and twenty-eight percent (28%) of all education services in Tanzania are provided by Faith-Based Organisations (FBOs). The majority of these FBOs are organized within the framework of the Christian Social Service Commission (CSSC). By December 2021, there were 900 Health facilities under CSSC mandate. These include 105 hospitals whereby 3 are Referral & Consultant Specialized hospitals; 10 Referral Hospital at Regional Level, 37 District/Council Designated hospitals (D/CDH), 53 Voluntary Agency hospitals (VAH); 104 Health Centers, and 694 Dispensaries. In addition, there are 65 middle health cadres' health training schools, 3 Universities, and Constituent Colleges and Centres. In the education sector, the commission coordinates a total of 1,223 education facilities (404 pre-primary schools, 268 primary schools, 423 secondary schools, 10 teachers' colleges, 96 Vocational Training Centres, and 22 Universities and colleges and centers. Furthermore, CSSC manages different health and education programs supported by donors in the areas of HIV/AIDS, RMNCAH, TB, and violence against children, Non-Communicable Diseases, and Health Systems Strengthening.

### 3. Evaluation Overview

A final evaluation will be conducted across all five CSSC zones. The primary objectives of this evaluation are as follows:

- To review the progress made by CSSC towards the implementation of a 3-years operation plan 2020-2022.
- To assess the extent to which the implementation of a 3-years operational plan has contributed to the achievement of the CSSC strategic plan.
- To assess the impact of the project's achievements vis-à-vis the project's overall intended outcomes, referencing baseline results;
- To assess the project's performance vis-a-vis the DAC Criteria for Evaluating Development Assistance: relevance, effectiveness, efficiency, impact, and sustainability
- To review lessons learned and good practices, and subsequently generate specific recommendations to inform future project operational plans, management, and design
- To identify any unexpected outcomes of the project, both positive and negative

Christian Social Services Commission and the donor (BFTW) will be the primary users of the endline data. In addition, key stakeholders in Tanzania such as government line ministries/departments, partner NGOs, local authorities, and communities are interested parties in the findings.

### 4. Evaluation Methodology

The Final Evaluation will be a summative evaluation, employing a quasi-experimental design (towards a pre-post analysis of the difference in differences). All CSSC five zones and selected FBO facilities are recommended to be involved in the evaluation of the three years operational plan. Mixed methods (qualitative and quantitative) should be used to collect data for the evaluation and due to the diversity and complexity of the activities undertaken by the CSSC, data, and information should be obtained through the following sources and channels or means:

- Document review (SP 2016-2022), three years Operations plans (2020-2022), Annual work plan for FY 2020, FY2021, FY2022, and annual progress reports for FY2020, FY2021, etc.)
- Semi-structured interviews: to be conducted with the different key stakeholders in the Education and Health sectors including the Ministry of Health (MoH), Ministry of Education Science and Technology (MoEST), the President's Office Regional Administration Local Government Authority (PORALG), POPS, Ministry of Finance, Owners of the health and education facilities, Heads of the health and education Facilities, and Staff of Facilities. Others include Development Partners, APFHTA, CSOs as well as CSSC staff which include but are not limited to Zonal Managers from 5 CSSC zones, Director of Health Services, and Director of Education Services. Also, the chairpersons for Zonal Policy forums (ZPF) are recommended to be included in the list of key informants.
- Focus groups discussions: Focus group discussions are also recommended to be held with a few selected beneficiaries/clients receiving services from the network of both health and education facilities and with selected technical and supporting staff.

The Consultant is expected to develop data collection tools appropriate for meeting the evaluation objectives, with the expectation that these will be participatory in nature and should include both quantitative and qualitative methods (i.e., focus group discussions, case stories, key informant interviews, etc.). With consideration of the project's scope, overall objectives, expected outputs and outcomes, and target population(s), the Consultant is expected to clearly outline a sampling approach (strategy, sample sizes) and respondent groups for all qualitative methods in the proposal.

### 5. Evaluation Criteria

The following key questions will guide the Final Evaluation's assessment of the project against the *DAC Criteria for Evaluating Development Assistance*:

- **Relevance:** *The extent to which the project was suited to the priorities of the target beneficiary group(s), stakeholders, and to the donor.*
  - o To what extent are the objectives of the project still valid?
  - o Was the project relevant to the identified needs?
  - o Are the activities and outputs of the project consistent with the overall goal and the attainment of its objectives?
  - o Are the activities and outputs of the commission consistent with the intended impacts and effects?
  - o Were the inputs and strategies identified, and were they realistic, appropriate and adequate to achieve the results?
- **Effectiveness:** *The extent to which the project attained its objectives.*
  - o To what extent were the objectives/outcomes achieved, or are likely to be achieved?
  - o How did the project contribute to the achievement of these objectives/outcomes?
  - o How effective were the strategies and tools used in the implementation of the project.
  - o What were the major factors influencing the achievement or non-achievement of the objectives?
- **Efficiency:** *The extent to which the project used the least costly resources possible in order to achieve desired results, considering outputs in relation to inputs.*
  - o Were resources effectively utilized?
  - o Were objectives achieved on time?
  - o What were the strengths, weaknesses, opportunities, and threats to the project implementation process?
- o Did the project activities overlap and/or duplicate other similar interventions, funded nationally and/or by other donors?
- o To what extent did the project collaborate with national and sub-national partners and stakeholders (technical, advocacy, funding, etc.) to achieve results?
- **Impact:** *The positive and negative changes produced by the project, directly or indirectly, intended or unintended.*
  - o What has happened as a result of the project – either as intended or unintended, positive or negative?
  - o What real difference has the project made to the intended beneficiaries?
  - o How many people/institutions have been affected?
- **Sustainability:** *The extent to which the benefits (outputs, outcomes) of the project are likely to continue after donor funding has been withdrawn.*
  - o To what extent will the benefits of continuing the interventions after the completion of the project?
  - o What is the likelihood of continuation and sustainability of project outcomes and benefits after completion of the project?
  - o What are the major factors that might influence the achievement or non-achievement of the sustainability of the project?
  - o To what extent has the project contributed to the sustainability of these benefits, in its design, implementation, stakeholder engagement, etc?

- o How effective were the exit strategies and approaches to phase out activities provided by the project, including contributing factors and constraints?

### 6. Scope of Work for the Consultancy

The Consultant will act as the lead technical consultant for the final evaluation and will report directly to the CSSC Executive Director, who will be responsible for overall oversight of the evaluation, supported by the Knowledge Information Management Specialist and Heads of both health and education services.

In order to ensure timely and efficient communications between the Consultant and the CSSC team, an Evaluation Reference Group will be convened, comprised of the Senior Management Team, and technical staff from both health and education departments. The group will meet on a bi-weekly basis with the Consultant (or more frequently as needed), to track progress, challenges, and mitigation strategies, if any.

At the beginning of the assignment, the Consultant will be expected to review project documents, including but not limited to the five years strategic plan, three years operational plan, results framework, project reports, Baseline reports, etc.

The specific roles and responsibilities of the consultant during the planning, fieldwork, data entry, cleaning phases, and report writing are outlined below. In general, the Consultant will be responsible for all activities related to the collection of both primary and secondary quantitative and qualitative data and report writing.

**Table 1: Roles and Responsibilities of the Consultant**

Activity	Consultant
Planning	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Finalize design and sampling methodology for the evaluation.</li> <li>Review, revise, and translate data collection tools</li> <li>Developing data quality protocols to guide data collection and entry, including backchecking, spot – checking, and quality control</li> <li>Logistical management and planning of fieldwork</li> <li>Submit an inception report with a final sampling approach, fieldwork plan, risk mitigation plan, and data assurance plan</li> </ul>
Ethics Review	Work with Christian Social Services Commission to obtain necessary ethical approvals
Enumerator Training and Piloting	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Carry out all recruitment and training of enumerators, supervisors, and data entry clerks, ensuring gender balance as appropriate</li> <li>Ensure all tools are piloted to all targeted evaluation groups prior to enumerator training</li> <li>Ensure all training materials, and original and revised data collection tools are submitted to Christian Social Services Commission.</li> </ul>
Data Collection	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Lead high-quality data collection process at all levels with adequate supervision</li> <li>Provide ongoing update progress in data collection</li> <li>Ensure that all data collection activities are gender – responsive and respect child safeguarding principles.</li> </ul>
Data entry and cleaning	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Oversee data entry as per agreed upon software and data entry protocols established;</li> <li>Supervise cleaning and validation before analysis</li> <li>Submit all hard and soft copies of raw data to the Christian Social Services Commission</li> </ul>
Data Analysis	Develop/propose a suitable tool for analysis.
Report writing	Produce a high – quality final evaluation report

The Consultant will lead data analysis for quantitative and qualitative data collected through each and every method. Christian Social Services Commission will provide guidance on the data analysis plan as it pertains to the definitions of each output/outcome indicator.

The Consultant will also be responsible for writing a draft and final evaluation report (see Appendix C for a report outline), and preparing a summary presentation (PowerPoint), on key evaluation findings, suitable for presenting to government partners. Preliminary results, draft reports, and final reports will be reviewed by Christian Social Services Commission and it is expected that final products will incorporate all feedback.

Throughout the evaluation, the Consultant must take all reasonable measures to mitigate any potential risk to the delivery of the required outputs of this consultancy on time and meeting the expected quality. As such, applicants should submit a risk management plan that covers (at minimum):

- Key assumptions underpinning the successful completion of the assignment, anticipated challenges, and estimates of the level of risk for each risk identified
- Contingency plans that will be put in place to mitigate against any occurrence of each of the identified risks

### 7. Qualifications of Consultant(s)

- Minimum of 10 years of experience in coordinating and administering baseline/end line studies, including data collection and entry, data management, and storage, preferably for international non-profit organizations or multilateral agencies, with a preference for studies in RMNCAH, HIV/AIDS, NCD, quality improvement and educational programs;
- Demonstrated experience in Health and Education evaluation, including performance assessment vis-à-vis the DAC Criteria for Evaluating Development Assistance
- Demonstrated experience in training, facilitation, and supervising survey enumerators and data entry operators to collect and enter data as per high-quality standards;
- Experience using participatory techniques in data collection preferred;
- Demonstrated experience in quantitative and qualitative data analysis;
- Knowledge and experience with RMNCAH, HIV/AIDS issues, policies, and services systems
- Fluency in English and Swahili (spoken and written) is mandatory;
- Ability to produce high-quality work under tight timeframes;
- Ability to work jointly with the Christian Social Services Commission SMT and technical staff and integrate feedback as required.

### 8. Application Package and Procedures

Applications for the consultancy must include six components, to a total of no more than 15 pages (not including appendices, CVs, etc.):

1. Detailed technical proposal clearly demonstrating a thorough understanding of this ToR and including the following:
  - i. Demonstrated previous experience in coordinating and administering studies of a similar nature;
  - ii. Proposed plan for surveying the projected sample population, with adequate consideration for the timing of the survey, travel cost per team of enumerators, supervision of enumeration teams, and quality control;
  - iii. Proposed steps to be taken for enumerator training, translation of tools (if necessary), data collection, spot-checking, data entry, and management (risk mitigation and data quality assurance);
  - iv. A proposed timeframe detailing activities and a schedule/work plan (including a Gantt chart) with the proposed number of enumerators, size of enumerator teams, and the total number of days in the field;
  - v. Team composition (including sex-disaggregation) and level of effort of each proposed team member, if applicable.
2. A financial proposal with a detailed breakdown of costs for the study:
  - i. Itemized consultancy fees/costs
  - ii. Itemized field data collection expenses
  - iii. Itemized data transcription costs
  - iv. Itemized administrative expenses
  - v. Validity period of quotations
3. Curriculum Vitae(s) of all proposed staff outlining relevant experience.
4. Names and contact information of three references who can be contacted regarding relevant experience.
5. A copy of previous reports of a similar nature, including examples of project evaluations which include an assessment of the DAC criteria.
6. A Consulting Firm profile (if applicable).

### Application Instructions

Interested applicants should submit their proposal electronically to the following email:

- a) Financial proposal in Tanzanian shillings.
- b) Interested, eligible consultants should email their electronic technical and financial proposals via email to procurement department at [procurement@cssc.or.tz](mailto:procurement@cssc.or.tz) copying [director@cssc.or.tz](mailto:director@cssc.or.tz)
- c) Applicants will not be required to protect their submitted documents with password.

**Executive Director  
Christian Social Services Commission  
4 Ali Hassan Mwinyi Road  
P.O Box 9433 Dar es Salaam, Tanzania**

**The deadline for the submission is 1600hrs East Africa Time on 6th May 2022.  
All proposals should be electronically submitted to [procurement@cssc.or.tz](mailto:procurement@cssc.or.tz) copying [director@cssc.or.tz](mailto:director@cssc.or.tz)  
This advert is also available on the website <https://cssc.or.tz/tenders/>  
Relevant documents (3-years operational plan and outcome indicators) can also be requested through <https://cssc.or.tz/tender-docs/>**

FRIDAY 22 APRIL 2022

Taking A New Look  
At The News  
ESTABLISHED IN 1995

## Humankind can't help protecting planet Earth

IT'S Earth Day today (April 22). It's a day first marked 52 years ago and intended, in the main, to demonstrate support for environmental protection.

EarthDay.org is said to be followed by around one billion people in at least 193 countries.

This means that many true and loyal "friends of the environment" globally are well aware of the Day and what it represents. The official theme for this year's edition of the celebrations is, aptly, 'Invest In Our Planet'.

With each passing day, the theme of environmental protection becomes more urgent than ever before, chiefly given the events that commonly rock people and economies around the world chiefly in relation to climate change.

When conflicts arise and disturb the pace of adopting renewable energies as the prices of petrol and other fuels rise or tensions limit world trade in rare minerals, efforts to tame the worsening global climatic situation take a hit.

At the same time, more realism is being noticed in some quarters, moving from a single-track mind of reducing carbon emissions by less industrial development to more proactive carbon absorption methods like reforestation of deserts; using hydrogen as a source of energy.

The early 1970s were marked by the classical study by French agronomist Rene Dumont, 'False Start in Africa', which shows graphically the depletion of resources like arable land and urbanisation trends fraught with limitations on health care or control of epidemics, etc.

There were other nerve-racking situations like the drying up of Lake Baikal in north central Asia owing to intensive irrigation especially for cotton farming.

More recently, there have been reports that Israel is trying to re-

activate life in the Dead Sea by pumping excess desalinated water from its water purification systems. However, few countries have the resources needed to do such wonders.

With billions of dollars now earmarked for environmental protection around the world, what Tanzania and other African countries need to do is perhaps to devise and implement joint venture projects that involve reclaiming wastelands.

There are many companies and institutions with bright ideas which can convert expansive desert stretches into one or other priceless thing.

It could be a paradise of sorts, the way Dubai was at the start of the 1960s just a fishing village and then someone came up with an idea that graduated into a technological miracle.

The problem, though, is often that many people want to come up with ideas and ask others to finance them instead of also creating conditions where they could make a decent profit from their own innovation.

Honouring the Earth is also tied up with activism for world peace, which has never been more wanting than it currently is.

Decades of scorning democracy in Western Europe led to a situation where the principle of sovereignty once acquired is openly questioned, as peace is tied up with global human rights and common citizenships, a value not shared easily around the world.

The basis of peace is readiness to see others making progress and then building a competitive environment with less and less of a public sector so that more companies are formed in each liberalised sector.

It is unavoidable as all of us, not just the youth, want work while public sector monopolies close windows to opportunities.

## Commonwealth revival may help reduce risky migrations

NOVELTY was in the air lately with an accord between the United Kingdom and Rwanda to process those wishing to move to the UK to take up refuge while being harboured in the third country.

Various legal assistance practitioners in the UK have objected to the scheme, as it basically means shifting to a third country and not the one the migrants wanted.

That is why a semblance of international law reference point needs to be created around the issue, as migrants are converging on the shores of Europe by the thousands each passing day.

And many arrive after perilous journeys in which losing one's life was always on the cards. If a storm breaks out at sea and people are on a dingy plastic boat, it may be a matter of luck who survives, whether they have life jackets, or if there is rescue ship nearby. Many have drowned trying to reach southern Europe shores.

In the face of the criticism about shifting migrants to Rwanda (and eventually elsewhere) ostensibly for their claims to be processed, the UK authorities said that the critics had no solutions to the problem.

It is only fair to say that migration evokes such acute expression of sentiments that a third option (not taking back to the country of origin, and incapable of assuring reception to anyone who arrives on the southern coastline of the UK) is perhaps the only way out.

The other option is not migrating altogether, but the conditions for attaining that kind of situation are not

yet in view in Africa, and the issue isn't discussed.

The European Union has often raised the matter for some 15 years now. It was seven years after the EU lost a case lodged at the World Trade Organisation by the US that EU-ACP (Africa, Caribbean and Pacific) preferential trade arrangements were discriminatory for other poor countries.

The US was representing 'banana republics' of central and south America, whose produce was being taxed while ACP countries linked to the EU had their imports entering untaxed. So the EU had to adopt a poverty-based standard for preferences rather than colonial heritage.

It was also at that time that the issue of an economic partnership agreement between Africa (apart from the Caribbean and Pacific small states) came up, and most of Africa was reticent about it.

In the East African Community, which was supposed to negotiate as a bloc, Tanzania was the most hesitant of the three original EAC member states. This has only changed since only a year ago and Tanzania, endowed with a rare wealth of natural resources, is seeking investments energetically.

Assisting in halting perilous journeys is a new field of international co-operation that can't be easily rejected, and this can be pursued by reviving the Commonwealth spirit.

However, to give it flesh, there ought to be more extensive joint ventures. With more jobs, and no fear of arrests, migration can be softened. And it ought to be.

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# Everything you need to know about Earth Day

By Patrick Pester

TODAY is the 52nd anniversary of Earth Day. The Day is an annual (April 22) event that celebrates the planet Earth and raises public awareness about environmental issues.

The day is observed worldwide with rallies, conferences, school projects and other activities.

United States' Senator Gaylord Nelson started Earth Day in 1970. The event helped increase public support for the creation of the US Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) to address environmental issues. Earth Day has since contributed to the passage of many environmental laws in the United States.

EPA is an independent executive agency of the US federal government tasked with environmental protection matters. President Richard Nixon proposed its establishment of EPA on July 9, 1970, and it began operations on December 2, 1970, after Nixon signed an executive order.

Earth Day reminds people to think about humanity's values, the threats the planet faces and ways to help protect the environment. Susan Clayton, a professor of psychology and environmental studies at The College of Wooster in Ohio, previously told Live Science.

"Thinking about the history of environmental activism and the way individuals have worked together to change policy can make us more optimistic about the ability to make positive changes in the future," Clayton said.

According to EARTHDAY.ORG, a nonprofit that coordinates the Day's events, the theme of Earth Day 2022 is "Invest In Our Planet". This theme is meant to encourage businesses, governments and citizens to act now on climate change and other issues to ensure a sustainable future.

Although there have been more than 50 Earth Days, climate change and other environmental issues still threaten the planet's health.

Michael Mann, a distinguished professor of atmospheric science at Penn State and author of 'The New Climate War: The Fight to Take Back Our Planet' (PublicAffairs, 2021), notes that Earth Day is an opportunity to take stock of where humankind stands in the battle to live sustainably on planet Earth.

"We are not yet on the path towards stabilising the warming of our planet below dangerous levels," Mann told Live Science in an email.

He added: "Earth Day is an opportunity to have a conversation about what we need to do. Truth be told, every day should be Earth Day. Without a livable planet, we have nothing."

Nelson started Earth Day after seeing the environmental damage of an oil spill in Santa Barbara, California, in 1969. Inspired by anti-Vietnam War protests by students, he organised a national "teach-in" on college campuses that focused on educating the public about the environment, according to EARTHDAY.ORG.

Nelson persuaded US Republican Pete Mc-

Closkey of California to be co-chairman and recruited political activist Denis Hayes as national coordinator.

With a staff of 85 built by Hayes, they were able to rally 20 million people across the US on April 22, 1970, according to a 2012 blog post on the United Nations Foundation website by John Maleri, then associate director of Earth Day.

The team chose April 22, a Wednesday, because they thought a weekday falling between spring break and students' examination finals would encourage the highest number of students to participate, according to EARTHDAY.ORG.

On that day, thousands of colleges and universities held protests against environmental destruction. But it wasn't just students who participated, the event gained national media attention and many people gathered in public areas to talk about the environment and find ways to defend the planet. In total, about 10 per cent of the US population participated.

"It was on that day that Americans made it clear that they understood and were deeply concerned over the deterioration of our environment and the mindless dissipation of our resources," Nelson wrote in the EPA Journal in 1980.

The annual event grew in size and popularity after 1970. In 1990, Earth Day went global, with 200 million people in 141 countries participating in the event, according to EARTHDAY.ORG.

Earth Day is celebrated to raise public awareness about the environment and mark the annual anniversary of the first Earth Day.

Decades later, environmental issues continue. EARTHDAY.ORG notes that the fight for a clean environment is becoming more urgent to address environmental issues, especially climate change.

Climate change is caused by human activities such as burning fossil fuels, which emit heat-trapping carbon dioxide and other greenhouse gases into the atmosphere that raise global temperatures and disrupt weather patterns.

The impacts of climate change around the world include extreme weather-related events such as massive floods and intense wildfires. In 2021, thousands of scientists warned that ignoring climate change would yield "untold suffering" for humanity.

"We need to fight climate change

harder, to keep our planet habitable and flourishing," Jonathan Overpeck, dean of the School for Environment and Sustainability at the University of Michigan, previously told Live Science in 2020, as Earth Day celebrated its 50th anniversary.

### What has been the impact of Earth Day?

The first Earth Day helped put environmental issues on the national agenda in the US. The event also inspired various pieces of environmental legislation in the 1970s, including the Clean Water Act (1972) and the Toxic Substances Control Act (1976), according to Columbia University's State of the Planet news website.

And the impact of Earth Day has gone far beyond the US. For example, the United Nations General Assembly formally recognized April 22 as International Mother Earth Day in 2009, according to the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP).

On Earth Day 2016, the United Nations adopted the Paris Climate Agreement, which saw nations around the world aim to keep global warming preferably below 1.5 Celsius (2.7 Fahrenheit) and well below 2 C (3.6 F) compared to pre-industrial levels.

However, despite Earth Day moments such as the Paris Climate Agreement pledges, climate change is far from resolved.

UN Secretary General António Guterres said at the Economist Sustainability Summit in 2022 that the 1.5-degree goal was on "life support" and, with emissions continuing to increase, "we are sleepwalking to climate catastrophe".

In February, wildfires fueled by severe drought consumed forests, grasslands and wetlands in northeastern Argentina, burning an estimated 40 per cent of the Ibera National Park.

Wildfires fuelled by severe drought consumed forests, grasslands and wetlands in northeastern Argentina, burning an estimated 40 per cent of the Ibera National Park.

### How is Earth Day celebrated?

Each year, organisations and individuals engage in Earth Day activities, projects and campaigns to promote, protect or restore the environment.

Earth Day quizzes are one popular activity, and organisations such

as NASA, Conservation International and EARTHDAY.ORG have online quizzes for people to test their environmental knowledge.

Children in the US meanwhile often celebrate by creating Earth Day-themed school projects such as Earth Day crafts and Earth Day drawings.

"There are two simple ways to celebrate Earth Day to make the world a little better," Nathaniel Weston, an associate professor of environmental science at Villanova University in Pennsylvania previously told Live Science.

"The first is to promote understanding of important environmental issues so that more people are aware of the critical actions we need to take to protect our environment," adding: "The second is to commit yourself to service on or around Earth Day - plant some trees, clean up a stream or help your local community garden."

Addressing climate change requires widespread and dramatic political action. A 2022 report by the UN's latest Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) found that "rapid, deep and immediate" cuts to global carbon dioxide emissions across every section of society are needed to stop a climate disaster, Live Science previously reported.

In other words, individual Earth Day activities like planting a tree or buying "eco-friendly" products will not stop global temperature rises and climate breakdown.

Prof Mann recommends using the day to talk about the climate crisis. Discuss with your friends, family, neighbours, and "anyone else within earshot the need for policy action, and for voting in politicians who will support climate-friendly policies and voting out those who won't", he said.

**This article was originally written by Live Science contributor Alina Bradford and has since been updated. Patrick Pester is a staff writer for Live Science. His background is in wildlife conservation and he has worked with endangered species around the world. He holds a master's degree in international journalism from Cardiff University in the UK and is currently finishing a second master's degree in biodiversity, evolution and conservation in action at Middlesex University London.**



# Customer care: Services that can expand or destroy your business

IT is an open secret that many startups which began humbly grew into respected multinationals mainly because of good customer care. Customer service is important to your business because it retains customers and extracts more value from them.

By providing top-notch customer service, businesses recoup customer acquisition costs and cultivate a loyal following that refers customers, serves as case studies, and provides testimonials and reviews.

Yet, if you have lived long enough, you know that customer care isn't so good in most places. I am a client of the two banks in the country and I have come to hate their customer care service.

However, I need the banks, so I have nowhere to run to. In the first bank, getting anything done takes hours of queuing. Getting an ATM card replaced just takes ages.

In the second bank, I recently queued for an hour to replace a card, and then they asked me to bring a copy of my tax PIN certificate. I tried to give them a soft copy but they could have none of it. I had to go out, get somewhere to print it, then come and queue again. At this paperless digital age, really?

In the third bank, last time I went to withdraw money from over the counter they said that my account did not have a passport photo. "No big deal. I am here in person. Let's add one," I said. The response was that was not possible, and I needed to go to the branch where I opened the account to have that fixed. Only after threatening to close the account did a manager intervene.

Mobile phone customer care sucks. I had to replace my SIM card twice, and pay customer care centre a visit before they realised that the reason my SIM card was not able to receive a 4G signal was because of a 'small error' on their side.

You might also know that the first thing the telecom companies customer care attendants tell you is to try restarting your phone even when you have clearly told them that you have restarted it 72 times.

Then there is this telecom that mixes mobile telephone service with gambling. Yes, they bombard you with all manner of games and sometimes they enroll you and deduct your money without your consent. Pathetic!

Have you ever tried contacting these online payment companies and tech giants? You are likely to be attended to by a chatbot. One of them once closed my account due



to a non-cash transaction, and my attempts to appeal were always responded to with the automated message that their decision was final.

Another one erroneously charged me twice for a transaction which they denied. When I reversed the first transaction which they claimed was not successful, they sent me a warning that any reversal of transaction would lead to my account being closed.

But why is customer care a problem? It is because it is hard to provide good customer care service for businesses that just don't care. First, I do not need any customer service help when everything is OK. When something is wrong, I try to figure it out. When I cannot fix it, I turn to customer care support. With that, customer care ends up doing the most difficult tasks possible.

Second, customer care is just a necessary evil. If my bank had only ten clients, they would know us by our faces and our names. They would solve all our problems on the phone. They would not require us to sign anything;

just a word or two would be enough.

But that is not the case. With millions of customers, every institution now needs dedicated people called customer support, with a well outlined plan on how to deal with customers. They have standard answers to most questions, and they are not the most tech-savvy people the telecom companies or banks have. Their desire to keep costs low ends up providing poor services to the people they want to serve.

Also, it is hard and costly to build a good company culture and empower employees to speak in one voice and stand up for the firm's core values. Small institutions are able to do that. The bigger an institution gets, the harder it becomes. This has also been the point where many institutions die. It is also the point where corporations risk being disrupted by new technologies and processes. It takes a lot of input to offer excellent customer care.

So in a nutshell, how can an institution excel in customer support? The best answer is simply to work hard.

An institution should consider customer support as one of their main marketing channels, best shot to the public and major backbone, and does all it takes to ensure customer satisfaction.

This can be achieved by ensuring availability of a support team when needed, timely response to customer queries, ensuring polite and friendly service, capacity building to ensure high quality support. Building a good customer experience, giving honest and caring responses to clients can do the magic. Never lie or give flimsy excuses. Offer what you promise, build a customer centric organization or business where the needs of the customers drive your actions.

The customer care unit is like the living room, it has to be neat, uptight and appealing all the time compared to other areas of a home. Guests lay their eyes there the minute they visit the house, make it count.

The front desk of an office, its environment and surrounding oozes a lot of impressions about an organisation so is the same to customer care. With the onset of chatbots in the recent years, as customers we also want to feel the human appeal, feel welcomed and appreciated to purchase goods or services from you, let us feel home.

Investing in customer service helps activate your flywheel because loyal customers will help you acquire new customers, free of charge, by convincing prospects to interact with your brand. And, their positive testimonials will be more effective than any of your current marketing efforts – and cheaper, too.



# In-orbit construction of China's space station to be completed this year

By Yu Jianbin

THE in-orbit construction of China's space station is expected to be completed this year, during which the country plans to carry out six launch missions, according to a press conference on the latest developments in China's space station construction held on April 17.

One day earlier, three Chinese astronauts of the Shenzhou-13 manned spaceship sent to orbit for the construction of China's space station returned to Earth safely after their six-month stay in space, completing the Shenzhou-13 manned spaceflight mission successfully.

The construction of China's space station consists of tasks in two stages: verification of key technologies and in-orbit construction, said Hao Chun, director of the China Manned Space Engineering Office (CMSEO), at the press conference.

Since 2020, China has successfully implemented six spaceflight missions, including the maiden flight of China's carrier rocket Long March-5B, Tianhe core module of its space station, the Shenzhou-12 and Shenzhou-13 manned spacecraft, and the Tianzhou-2 and Tianzhou-3 cargo spacecraft, all of which helped the country achieve the goal of verifying key technologies for space station construction and laid a solid foundation for the completion of tasks during the next stage of in-orbit construction, according to Hao.

During the stage of key technology verification, breakthroughs have been made in many technologies, including those concerning astronauts' long-term stay and health care in space, regenerative environmental control and life support system, Hao pointed out.

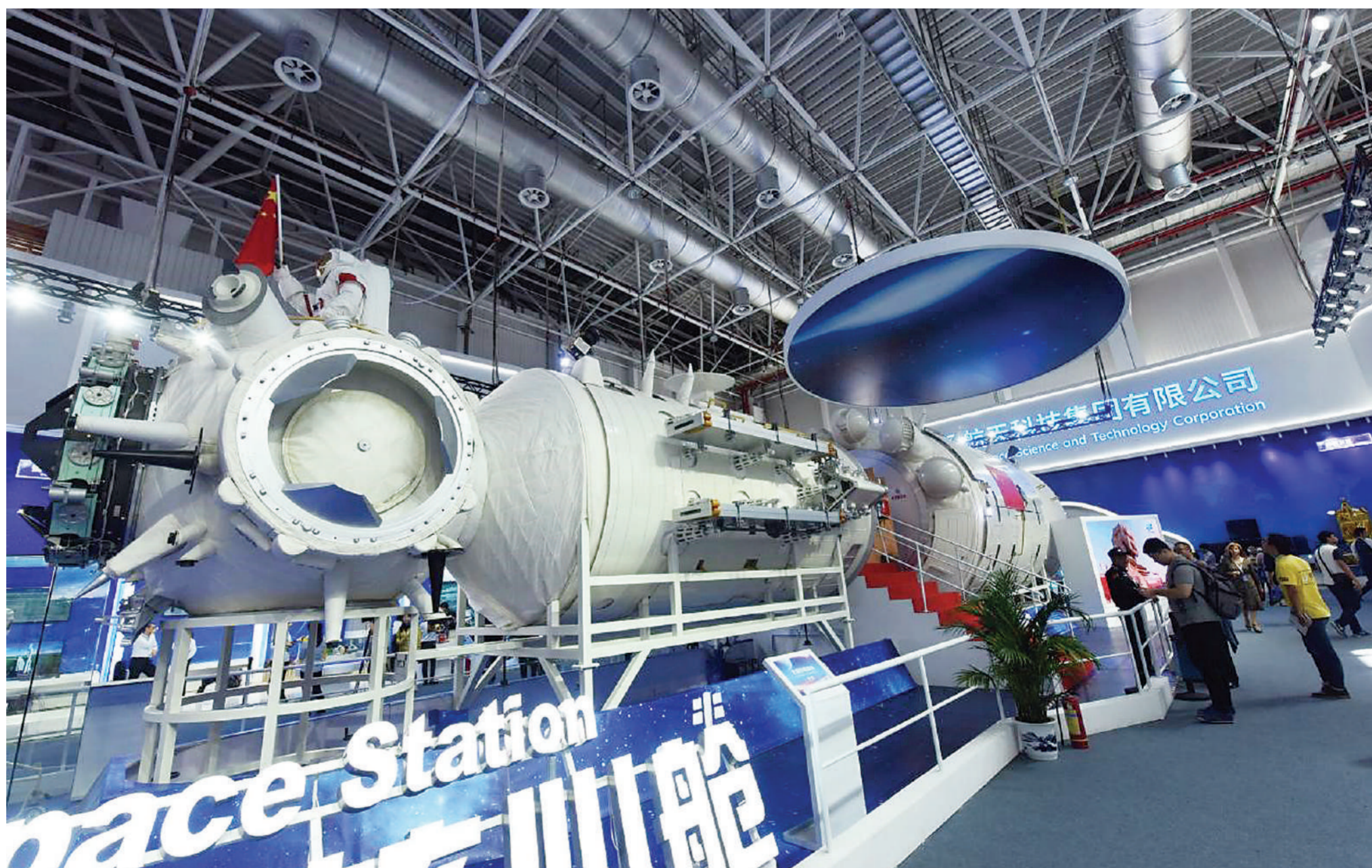
The Shenzhou-13 crew's flawless completion of all scheduled duties demonstrates that China is fully capable of supporting astronauts' long-term stay in space.

The Tianhe core module of the space station has been in orbit for almost one year, during which it completed smoothly the rendezvous and docking with two manned spacecraft and two cargo spacecraft. Yang Hong, chief designer of the space station system of the China Manned Space Program, said at the press conference.

The core module's regenerative life support system has provided an optimal environment for astronauts' metabolism needs in orbit during the three-month stay of the Shenzhou-12 crew and the six-month stay of the Shenzhou-13 crew, Yang added.

Large-scale flexible solar cell wings have been supplying energy to the core module and the combinations of it and other spacecraft, and provided sufficient energy for tasks requiring a great amount of energy, such as extravehicular activities, rendezvous and docking, and a transposition test of the Tianzhou-2 cargo craft using the space station's robotic arm, with their power generation capacity exceeding design expectations.

The robotic arm has also played an important role in tasks during the whole stage of key technology verification. It has completed tasks in-



cluding assisting astronauts with their extravehicular activities, transposition of cargo spacecraft, and extravehicular status inspection.

As the key technology verification stage of the space station project has been completed, the project has officially entered the in-orbit construction stage, according to Hao.

China has planned six spaceflight missions for this year, including the launch of the Tianzhou-4 cargo spacecraft in May, the Shenzhou-14 manned spacecraft in June, the lab module Wentian in July, the lab module Mengtian in October, the Tianzhou-5 cargo spacecraft and the Shenzhou-15 manned spacecraft, Hao said.

The Shenzhou-14 crew will consist of three astronauts, who will stay in orbit for six months, according to Hao, who disclosed that three more astronauts will be sent into space aboard the Shenzhou-15 spaceship near the end of the Shenzhou-14 mission. Crew members of Shenzhou-14 and Shenzhou-15 missions will spend a week together on board the space station during their rotation, after which the Shenzhou-15 crew members will work and live in space for six months.

The core module Tianhe and the lab modules, Wentian and Mengtian, will form a T shape to complete the in-orbit construction of China's space station, Hao said.

Research and development of the Wentian and Mengtian lab mod-

ules are progressing smoothly. Upon completion of the space station, the three cubic modules will have a combined living space of more than 110 cubic meters.

With six sleeping areas and two sanitation areas, the space station will be able to support long-term stays by three astronauts and short-term stays by six astronauts of two crews.

There will be more room for activities in the space station if counting that to be provided by manned spaceship and cargo spacecraft that will dock with the space station.

After the in-orbit construction of the space station is completed this year, the space station project will enter a new stage of application and development spanning more than 10 years, according to Hao, who added that the initial plan is to send two manned spacecrafts and two cargo spacecraft into space every year.

Meanwhile, astronauts will stay in orbit for an extended period of time to carry out space scientific and technological experiments and maintain the space station, he said.

China will also develop new-generation carrier rockets and manned spacecrafts so as to significantly enhance the country's manned space program's overall capabilities and technological level, Hao said.

During the new stage of application and development, astronauts

will use the science lab cabinets in the space station modules and large payload facilities outside the modules to carry out larger-scale space research experiments and tests of new technologies in fields including space life science and human body studies, microgravity physics science, space astronomy and Earth science, as well as new space technology.

"While carrying out research and development tasks for the construction of the space station, we have also pursued breakthroughs in key technologies for a manned lunar landing and deliberated on the plan for the mission," said Hao, adding that the focus of China's manned spaceflight missions will be shifted from the exploration of terrestrial space to that of cislunar space and then deep space.

Agencies

# Driving progress of human civilisation with sci-tech innovation

By Guo Jiping

**A**FTER orbiting Earth for six months, the three crew members of China's Shenzhou XIII mission have departed from the Tiangong space station and returned to the mother planet on April 16th, finishing the nation's longest manned spaceflight.

The progress made by Chinese aerospace toward the deep universe is a miniature of the Chinese scientific and technological world scaling new heights.

Today, the world is at a vital historical juncture of a new round of scientific and technological revolution, as well as a new round of industrial reform. China, learning from its historical experiences and conforming to the trend of the times, is advancing sci-tech innovation for the future of the country and the Chinese nation. It has become a major country in sci-tech innovation with wide international influence.

According to the World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO), China's international patent applications through the Patent Cooperation Treaty recorded 69,500, ranking first worldwide for the third consecutive year. China also ranked 12th in WIPO's Global Innovation Index in 2021, up from 34th in 2012.

Behind such historic achievements are China's far-sighted strategies. Over the past ten years, Chinese President Xi Jinping has reiterated that China's development hinges upon innovation, and innovation holds the key to China's future. He has personally planned, deployed and promoted a series of major measures in scientific innovation.

Behind such historic achievements are also China's concrete actions to open wider. In today's world, a country's sci-tech innovation capability to a large extent relies on its ability to integrate global innovation resources. Last year, 25 foreign-funded research and development (R&D) centers were newly established in Shanghai alone, which mirrored that China has become a new high ground of global research and development. Media reports that in a new century when global economy is "turning eastward," China has become a cradle for



Primary students in Zigui county, Yichang, central China's Hubei province watch the second live class given by Shenzhou-13 crew members, March 23, 2022. (Photo by Wang Huifu/People's Daily Online)

innovation that attracts a number of professionals in many major sci-tech sectors.

The world is witnessing accelerating profound changes and a pandemic unseen in a century, as well as increasing global challenges. Science and technology is the key to solving global issues, and open sci-tech innovation remains the best approach. History proves that the energy for long-term global economic development comes from sci-tech innova-

tion. To break development barriers, the world must resort to sci-tech innovation. Facing challenges such as COVID-19, climate change, deteriorating environment, frequent natural disasters, energy scarcity and food security, the world must find effective ways to cope with them through scientific innovation.

To address the need of the times, China is unremittingly pursuing international sci-tech cooperation and benefiting the man-

kind through its own sci-tech innovation. The country has carried out sci-tech cooperation with 161 countries and regions, signed 114 inter-governmental sci-tech cooperation agreements and started the construction of 53 joint laboratories with countries participating in the Belt and Road Initiative to enhance cooperation on innovation.

China has promoted its onshore oil and gas reserve exploitation, power genera-

tion, as well as super- and ultra-high voltage power transmission technologies in more than 30 countries along the Belt and Road. It has also joined more than 200 international and multilateral sci-tech organizations, becoming an important country in improving global scientific governance.

Facing a new round of sci-tech revolution and industrial reform, major countries in the world have all rolled out strategies to spur innovation, which has made global sci-tech competition unprecedentedly fierce.

International sci-tech competition is usual, and healthy competition makes countries stronger and promotes common progress of the world. However, some countries, for their own monopoly on technologies, have abused the notion of national security and contained other countries' sci-tech progress, politicizing and weaponizing scientific issues.

This would only impede the global sci-tech progress. The history of science fully indicates that open communication is vital to frontier technological development. For instance, the first image of a black hole was a joint effort of more than 200 astronomers worldwide. To advocate "scientific decoupling" hurts global industrial development. The International Monetary Fund warned that some countries may see a loss of 5-percent of their GDP because of technological divide.

The pandemic and other factors are widening the North-South gap. Countries with technological advantages should fill the gap with technological cooperation, rather than imposing technological blockade against developing countries.

When the People's Republic of China was just founded, it has been facing foreign technological blockade and containment. However, it has never shaken the confidence and will of the Chinese people. They see the upgrading foreign blockade as a power the drives them to work harder, and resort to independent innovation for developing their own technologies.

China is committed to realizing high-level sci-tech independence, but that doesn't mean that the country will shut the door for cooperation. Eyeing the future, China will advance international sci-tech exchanges with an opener mind and measures, and fully exploit international innovation resources to enhance innovation partnership and work with the rest of the world to promote global sci-tech progress and innovative development.

People's Daily

## Lapse of UN Security Council's anti-piracy resolution may spell greater maritime security autonomy for Somalia

By Timothy Walker and Denys Reva

Piracy off the coast of Somalia has long captivated the attention of the media and governments. But the expiry of the United Nations Security Council's (UNSC) counter-piracy Resolution 2608 on 31 March attracted little publicity. It is the first time since 2008 that the UNSC has not renewed the region's piracy resolution.

The UN Convention on the Law of the Sea gives coastal states extensive rights and security responsibilities over their territorial seas – a zone extending 12 nautical miles from the coastline. In Somalia's case though, the government and navy were until recently practically non-existent, following the collapse of the state in 1991. Even so, international naval forces had to respect Somalia's territorial waters.

The problem of pirates using this zone as a refuge and the 12 nautical mile boundary as

a barrier needed addressing. So annual UNSC resolutions since 2008 allowed foreign naval missions to legitimately use "all necessary means to repress acts of piracy and armed robbery" in this zone, with Somali consent. The resolutions allowed states to intervene in Somali territorial waters to pursue, intercept, seize and arrest pirates.

Somalia's government increasingly insisted that the UNSC's resolutions had achieved their primary objective of suppressing piracy and need not be renewed. Resolution 2068, adopted on 3 December 2021, was given a timeframe of just three months instead of the usual year. Somalia saw its continuation as an unfair imposition for two reasons.

First, the country has made progress in taking responsibility for its own security, both offshore and onshore. In August 2021, Somalia's Maritime Directorate began revising its maritime resource and securi-

ty strategy. The National Maritime Coordination Committee initiated a mapping of all maritime activities, including international support.

Somalia's Ambassador to the UN Abukar Osman told the UNSC, "We have accelerated our efforts to build and capacitate our maritime law enforcement agencies and have established a specialised maritime unit to specifically deal with new international maritime threats and crimes".

According to the Somalia Transition Plan, security forces are expected to take over all responsibilities from the African Union mission in the country by 31 December 2024. The AU Transition Mission in Somalia (Atmis) has recently replaced the long-standing AU Mission in Somalia (Amisom).

Maritime security has seldom featured in Amisom analysis and decision making, but piracy did exacerbate insecurity in Somalia by fuelling crime and corruption because of the cir-

ulation of large ransom payments.

Second, no successful hijacking has been reported since March 2017, and both attempts and attacks have declined sharply since 2013. This is referred to in the Secretary-General's 2021 report on piracy and armed robbery at sea off Somalia.

Observers such as the International Maritime Bureau suggest these remain insufficient reasons to let the UNSC resolution lapse, urging caution and pointing out that doing so might encourage piracy. Terrorism is worsening, as is the country's political crisis. It, therefore, seems unlikely that, in this context, Somalia's ability to provide maritime security will rapidly improve.

Several UNSC members, such as France, the United Kingdom and the United States (US), have advocated for the continuation of the anti-piracy measures, for example to protect World Food Programme

vessels. The lapse is unlikely to reverse improved security trends but does raise questions about the continued presence of these and other big powers in the region.

First, crucial components of the maritime security architecture for dealing with Somali piracy remain in place. For instance, the internationally recognised transit corridor allows ships to safely travel the Gulf of Aden rather than sail close to Somalia. The shipping industry has also implemented several best practice measures that have reduced the risk of falling prey to pirates.

Second, criminal gangs capable of committing piracy have turned their attention to other illegal activities. To counter this threat, multilateral efforts are broadening their focus to incorporate transnational crimes at sea. Several counter-piracy initiatives have adapted to a new security reality off the coast of Somalia. The Jeddah Amendment to the Djibouti

Code of Conduct and the Contact Group on Illicit Maritime Activities in the Western Indian Ocean took proactive steps to reevaluate or expand their missions.

The European Union's (EU) Operation Atalanta would be most affected by the non-renewal of the counter-piracy resolution because access to Somali territorial waters was an essential component of fulfilling its mandate. The EU extended the operation for a year, expecting the UNSC resolution to be renewed. The problem was somewhat mitigated after the EU Council recently launched its Coordinated Maritime Presences concept, which complements Atalanta. The concept shows European resolve to stay involved in regional maritime security activities.

The changes brought on by the lapsing of the UNSC resolution will make it difficult for foreign countries to use counter-piracy to explain their military presence in the

region. AU Peace and Security Council members have shared their concerns about foreign military bases in Africa, many of which were justified in the name of fighting Somali piracy.

The enormous investments made by countries such as the US, Japan, Germany, Italy and China, combined with the interest of states such as Djibouti in generating revenue from their presence, means they are unlikely to vacate their bases soon. Growing geopolitical competition and militarism in the Indian Ocean, and insecurity stemming from the Yemen conflict, are also reasons why the situation probably won't change soon.

The way the EU, US, China and others now choose to frame their longer-term intentions in the region and their commitment to building Somalia's governance and security capabilities will be illuminated for the world to see.

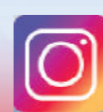
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# CAPITAL RADIO

# 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 UMJUAVYO 16:00-18:00HRS ALIYEVUMA 18:00-21:00HRS BUZUKI TIME 21:00-22:00HRS SPOTI  22:00-05:00HRS MUZIKI MCHAGANGANYIKO )	07:00-09:00HRS HABARI NA MATUKIO YA WIKI  09:00-11:00HRS THE SUNDAY 11:00-13:00HRS TOP 20 13:00-14:00HRS DW RADIO 14:00-16:00HRS CAPITAL MICHEZONI 16:00-18:00HRS UKURASA WA MBELE 18:00-21:00HRS JIACHIE 21:00-22:00HRS SPOTI 22:00-01:00HRS LADHA LAINI  01:00-05:00HRS MUZIKI MCHAGANGANYIKO )

Tembelea mitandao ya kijamii ya CAPITAL RADIO



CAPITAL RADIO

## TAWA in new drive to lure more investors in wildlife zoo venture

By Guardian Reporter

THE Tanzania Wildlife Authority (TAWA) is working on various strategies to produce more tourism products including wildlife zoo establishments to lure more tourists and boost the industry as well as national income.

TAWA head in Northern Zone, Banjoko Mayenga made the statement at the Serval Wildlife Zoo in Siha District, Kilimanjaro Region.

He said the country has a number of investment opportunities in the tourism sector that are yet to be fully utilized, urging stakeholders to chip in and start investing in establishment of wildlife zoos as per the country's laws thus to boost the sector.

"The government has been supervising closely to ensure that these new tourism products such as Serval Wildlife Zoo that operates well and adhere to all requirements so as to protect both animals and people," he said, noting that Serval Wildlife Zoo was a new product in Tanzania but can attract a lot of tourists because it allows people to see animals closely and enjoy their tour.

Fahad Nassor, manager of Serval Wildlife Zoo said they train animals in the zoo to get used to people and become friends whenever they visit them.

He said Serval Wildlife is a special zoo where tourists can be able to meet animals, stay with them in a friendly manner which is different to other zoos where no one is able to go near animals. Here animals can be trained to perform tricks, and visitors are able to get closer to them, feed them than in other zoos.

He said the Zoo which is located in Siha District, Kilimanjaro Region has a number of animals including giraffes and lions.



Serval Wildlife Zoo attendants attend to giraffes.

"As President Samia Suluhu Hassan launched the Royal Tour Documentary to market Tanzania's attractions, Serval Wildlife Zoo complements the efforts by being innovative to attract more tourists at the zoo and thus

strengthen the tourism sector in the country," he said.

He said the zoo's target the Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC) that comprised Bahrain, Kuwait, Oman, Qatar, Saudi Arabia, and the United Arab Emirates (UAE)

and they are doing well in the area.

"All guests that we serve here come out having exceptional experiences by meeting animals and enjoying with them or even feeding them, this is new in Tan-

zania but we will continue to market it and ensure that this kind of tourism grows," he added.

Retired Tanzania Wildlife Research Institute (TAWIRI) ecological system expert, Robert

D. Fyumagwa said the government developed guidelines and regulations to allow investors to establish wildlife zoos as part of the efforts to boost tourism in the country.

According to him, the government has developed regulations on how to establish and manage wildlife so that it can interact with human beings but also free from diseases like ticks and they're being vaccinated. Wildlife at the zoo are assured of clean and safe water and food something which is different from their natural environments.

"In this zoo wildlife are friendly to human beings; and they're being managed by skilled experts, who are knowledgeable in everything and they're undergo medical check-ups for every six months," he said.

He called on zoo potential investors to be well-equipped with skills on how best they can venture into the new and promising industry. Tawa has been providing permits to investors on what to do, and it goes together with specialized animal catchers, who take the wildlife to the zoo.

The expert noted that price is set by the government in line with the required standards.

Serval Wildlife Zoo located between Mount Meru and Kilimanjaro is the first of that kinds in Tanzania, where wildlife can be kept and easily interact with human being, something which is different when the animal is the wilderness.

## Better relations between government and investors key in community development

By Correspondent Carlos Banda

NYANCHECHE Division Officer in Sengerema District, Happiness Juma has said that good relations between the government and the foreign investors have been a key factor in boosting community development as investors initiate and execute development projects that are geared at improving the society.

The Nyancheche Division Officer made the comments after receiving a donation of six lavatories built at a cost of 13m/- for Chikomelo Primary School located in Nyasibu village in Sengerema district.

Nyancheche Division Officer in Sengerema District, Mwanza Region, Happiness Juma has said that the donation is part of the fruits of the government under President Samia Suluhu Hassan who has proved to recognize investors arriving in the country, something

that reflects the good relationship between the government and investors.

The construction of the six lavatories for Chikomelo Primary School which has a total of 120 pupils started on 17 March 2022 and was completed on 15 April 2022. This project was highlighted as a requirement by the Igalula Ward Development Committee as part of the Ward's five-year development plan (2020-2025).

OreCorp's Tanzanian General Manager Damien Valente stated: "OreCorp Tanzania has consistently delivered on its commitment to supporting our host communities with essential infrastructure, and it is especially pleasing to see our initiatives having an immediate impact on the wellbeing of children in education. We are grateful to the Sengerema District authorities for their continued guidance and support with our community enhance-



Nyancheche Division Officer in Sengerema District Happiness Juma (R) receives a paper with details about the newly built lavatories from OreCorp's Community Liaison Officer, John Bwana during a handover ceremony for the facilities donated to Chikomelo Primary School in Nyasibu village in Sengerema District. Photo: Guardian Correspondent

ment projects."

The construction of the lavatories is the latest in several community-enhancing projects OreCorp has completed since taking over management of the Project in 2015. Other recent contributions to the education sector include the February 2022 handover of three newly completed classrooms and the July 2021 construction of washrooms and desks at Ngoma Secondary School.

Nyasibu Village Executive Officer, Rabu Matiku said that the donation has come at a crucial time as pupils in the school were struggling with the single lavatory which has already started to collapse hence becoming a severe challenge whenever they were in need of using such a facility.

Matiku also urged the mining firm to continue helping the community whenever assistance was needed by the community.

## Exim Bank organises iftar for Islamic clients in Zanzibar

By Guardian Reporter, Zanzibar

IN view of honoring the holy month of Ramadhan, Exim Bank organized its Annual Iftar dinner for Islamic Customers in Zanzibar Isles in line with its long-held tradition of interacting and reaching out to customers across the country.

This event that was held at Hotel Verde in Zanzibar was attended by a large number of customers and various stakeholders led by Speaker of the Zanzibar House of Representative, Hon. Zubeir Ali Maulid

Whilst encouraging the lender to continue delivering the high quality of service that has made it one of the most successful financial institutions in the isles, Speaker Zubeir said such kinds of gatherings are a way for the bank to thank its esteemed customers for their supports and contribution to its success and development.

"This move brings great comfort among your customers and so they see themselves in safe hands not only commercially but also religiously... thank you so much for the great move," he said.

Speaking during the Iftar, Exim Bank's Chief Financial Officer, Mr Shani Kinswaga said: "Exim Bank Tanzania understands the significance of the Holy Month of Ramadhan as a key pillar in Islam and as such we believe there is no better time to sit with all our customers and express our sincere gratitude for their continuous support than through this Iftar."

"This gathering has a special significance for all of us in celebrating



Exim Bank's head of retail banking, Andrew Lyimo gives a word of thanks on behalf of the bank's management to the guests who attended the iftar event organized by the bank for its customers in Zanzibar. The ceremony held at Hotel Verde in the isles was attended by various stakeholders of the bank including customers, bank employees as well as senior government officials led by the Speaker of the Zanzibar House of Representative, Zubeir Ali Maulid.

the holy days of the month of Ramadan. Apart from this, we always encourage social activities and gatherings for our valued customers and staff members to create a platform for them to interact with each other on a more

casual and relaxed note," commented Mr Kinswaga

In proving the mutual relationship between the bank and its customers in the isles, Mr Kinswaga said the Inder has already issued

various loans worth more than 30 billion to customers serving various sectors including the tourism industry.

"Despite doing all this, a great comfort to us remains the positive feedback we receive from

our customers who recognize us as a bank of standards and innovations. We could not achieve all these without trust from our customers... we are very grateful and we promise not to let them down" he said.

# Road to European dream paved by extortion and exploitation

CAIRO

**L**AST June, Mit Al Korama's youth gathered in front of one of their homes on a summer evening to tell stories of citizens from the village and neighboring villages who had successfully crossed the Mediterranean to Europe.

Some, they heard, returned with a large sum of money and built European-style homes for their families. Others chose to stay in the European Union and encouraged their brothers to do so.

A young man in his thirties from Talkha named "Mohamed Fakhri" was among the group, and he said he assisted many people illegally migrating to the Italian coasts.

Despite the Egyptian government's warnings against illegal immigration and not visiting Libya, some young people continue to attempt to migrate illegally to Italy via Libya. Egyptian and Libyan smugglers put them at risk of drowning or kidnapping by gangs and armed militias demanding ransoms.

Fakhri informed the Mit Al Korama youth that spots on a boat leaving for Italy in ten days were available. That spot could be theirs if they paid him

5000 US dollars.

Ahmed Emad, a 27-year-old with a diploma in tourism and hotels but no job, was one of five young people from the village keen on seeking a better life in Europe. To fund this trip to Italy, his family sold everything they owned and borrowed the rest.

"The mediator directed us to the Egyptian-Libyan border city of Saloum, where we met a group of smugglers who assisted us in crossing the border through mountain roads and out of sight of border guards. We arrived in Al-Masad, Libya," Emad told IPS. "The smugglers began to treat us differently there."

"As soon as we arrived, they pushed us into a huge building full of smuggled goods, fuel, sheep and cows, and people like us waiting for their turn to emigrate," Emad added.

The smugglers never stopped abusing and insulting the immigrants in the warehouse. When they complained to Fakhri, the mediator who had taken their money, he advised them to wait patiently until the boat arrived to take the group to their final destination.

"We were held captive in the warehouse for five and a half months, sleeping in the cow barn, drinking



Mit Al Korama's youth (left) spent five months at the warehouse waiting for the trip to Italy (Ahmed Emad is in the middle and Ibrahim Abdullah is on the right). The group (right) during their kidnapping ordeal by Libyan militias. The group were waiting for the ransom to be paid.

## THE GUARDIAN SIMPLE WORD FIT // THE GUARDIAN CROSSWORD --00 268 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

3 Letters: ASS,  
4. Letters: YULE, MASS, OMEN, WASH, PASS, SPAN, REEF, HEED, TRAP,  
5 Letters: MONEY, SKILL, DAILY, MAYOR, HAMAS, WATER, SHADE  
6 Letters: MOSCOW, NOISES, UGANDA, SHARES, ASMARA, CAREER, REMAIN  
7 Letters: SANGOMA, ENGLISH,

**WORD-FIT**

**SOLUTIONS**

REARDYSCOPE  
SAHARASAME  
TEAYAH  
SNAKEIRAQ  
MASTEREAST  
GANAPAI  
TANAPAIP  
ICFROST  
MASHERHAY  
EOWLN

**CROSSWORD**

FARMERLEASE  
ISLANDPK  
DLOILER  
ANYONEAM  
YMEDDLEA  
CLANES  
PLANTATIONS  
OERIEA  
LAGTACETG  
ONEYTSUE

**CLUES: Across**

1. Tanzania's Capital
6. Nation created in 1948
7. Christian festival celebrating the resurrection of Christ
9. turn away
10. Second largest city in Tanzania
11. step in a process
13. mischievous person
16. skilful
17. large round citrus fruit
19. sell goods by going from place to place
20. utter words

**Down:**

1. images seen while you sleep
2. a place far away
3. the mixture of gases surrounding the earth
4. personal, secret
5. beloved
8. consisting protein that is produced by a living organism
12. an off break bowled with an apparent leg-break action
13. a surface which is higher on one side than the other
14. keep away from someone
15. demonstrate by evidence
18. a donkey

from empty gasoline containers, and eating only one meal per day," Emad added.

Emad Eldanaf, his father, said they had no contact with the smugglers in Libya and were initially unable to reach the young men, making them highly anxious. Finally, contact was made.

"There were 28 men from our village on the boat. The most recent group returned in the last two weeks, and we're still negotiating with the militia about the remaining three," Eldanaf told IPS.

Emad's experiences were mirrored by Ibrahim Abdullah and his younger brother Kamal.

"We moved between several warehouses between Sabratha and Zuwara - 120 km west of Tripoli. On the eve of November 9, they told us we would sail from the Ajilat coast to Italy in hours," Abdullah told IPS.

"Eventually, we all moved to the boat, about 50 of us." The boat set sail at 11 pm.

"By dawn, water was seeping into the boat. We tried to drain the water until we became frustrated," Abdullah explained. "Death was only a few feet away."

According to Abdullah, the immigrants requested assistance from the Italian authorities, who said they would wait until the boat was closer to the Italian coast before intervening.

Tunisian authorities also ignored them. It was evident that they would sink with the boat and perish.

"We knew calling the Libyans would get us arrested, but we went ahead and did it anyway," Abdullah said, explaining their desperation.

"At noon, Libyan militia troops captured us and transported us to Tripoli port, splitting us into two groups, one sent to Prison 55 and the other in Bir Al Ghanam prison.

Bir al-Ghanam is a town in western Libya, located south of Zawia. It was the site of several battles during the Libyan Civil War. Anti-Gaddafi forces took control of it on August 7, 2011, just weeks before taking Tripoli.

"We were referred to as 'the goods' by Libyan militias. They made us wish for death to be free of this agony. My father agreed to pay the ransom for our release after I pleaded with him," Abdullah recalls. "When the militias suspected that some families would not pay the ransom, they killed the detainees and threw their bodies in the desert. Two members of my group died and were thrown into the desert without being buried."

Emad, Kamal, and Abdullah remained with their militia for another four months. Lice and scabies were their lieutenants the entire time. Finally, their family reached

an agreement with the kidnapers, agreeing to pay US dollars 6000 for Kamal and Abdullah, while Emad's family had to pay US dollars 5000 to free him.

Haj Riad, a Libyan smuggler, acted as the middleman in the ransom payment. The money was transferred to several Libyan bank accounts, where he distributed it to militias and transported the three young men back to the Egyptian border.

Umm Ayman, a 60-year-old mother, sold a few of her land carats to raise 150,000 Egyptian Pounds (10,000 US dollars) to assist her two sons with their travels. Two of her three sons were then kidnapped with Emad and Abdullah.

A few months later, she had to sell her house, sheep, a cow, and the rest of her belongings, to pay US dollars 13,000 to have them back.

"We sold everything we owned to allow our children to travel, and we borrowed to bring them back. Even my mother's gold earrings had to be sold to pay the ransom," Ayman told IPS.

"When my children returned by the end of January, they sought out Fakhri, the mediator, and found he had fled with his family."

The family believes he continues to entrap victims into the vicious circle as young people try to seek a better life in Europe.

IPS



**We knew calling the Libyans would get us arrested, but we went ahead and did it anyway**

# RADIO One RATIBA YA IPINDI JUMATATU - 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 NIPASHE 06.50 AM MATANGAZO 07.00 AM NEWS BULLETIN 07.10 AM MATANGAZO 07.15 AM TAARIFA ZA BARABARANI 07.25 AM UDONDOZI WA MAGAZETI 07.40 AM KUMEPAMBAZUKA II 08.00 AM HABARI NYEPESI 08.10 AM KUMEPAMBAZUKA III 09.00 AM HABARI ZA BIASHARA 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 HOJA YA LEO 18.30 HRS DIRA YA DUNIA BBC 19.30 HRS SPOTI LEO 20.00 HRS RADIO ONE DOCTOR 21.00 HRS NEWS BULLETIN 21.05 HRS DAKIKA 45 22.00 HRS NEWS BULLETIN (24 HRS) 22.15 HRS AFRO TIZI 23.00 HRS NEWS BRIEF 23.03 HRS AFRO TIZI 01.00-05.00HRS MUZIKI (MCHANGANYIKO)	05.00 AM HALI YA HEWA / KUMEPAMBAZUKA I 06.00 AM AMKA NA BBC 06.30 AM NIPASHE 06.50 AM MATANGAZO 07.00 AM NEWS BULLETIN 07.10 AM MATANGAZO 07.15 AM TAARIFA ZA BARABARANI 07.25 AM UDONDOZI WA MAGAZETI 07.40 AM KUMEPAMBAZUKA II 08.00 AM HABARI NYEPESI 08.10 AM KUMEPAMBAZUKA III 09.00 AM HABARI ZA BIASHARA 09.10 AM MATANGAZO 09.20 AM BRAND TALK 09.30 AM KUMEPAMBAZUKA SHERIA 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 HOJA YA LEO 18.30 HRS DIRA YA DUNIA BBC 19.30 HRS SPOTI LEO 20.00 HRS NEWS BULLETIN 20.10 HRS MATANGAZO / MUZIKI 21.00 HRS NEWS BRIEF 21.05 HRS CHAGUO LA DJ 22.00 HRS NEWS BULLETIN (24 HRS) 22.15 HRS AFRO TIZI 23.00 HRS NEWS BRIEF 23.03 HRS AFRO TIZI 01.00-05.00HRS MUZIKI (MCHANGANYIKO)	05.00 AM HALI YA HEWA / KUMEPAMBAZUKA I 06.00 AM AMKA NA BBC 06.30 AM NIPASHE 06.50 AM MATANGAZO 07.00 AM NEWS BULLETIN 07.10 AM MATANGAZO 07.15 AM TAARIFA ZA BARABARANI 07.25 AM UDONDOZI WA MAGAZETI 07.40 AM KUMEPAMBAZUKA II 08.00 AM HABARI NYEPESI 08.10 AM KUMEPAMBAZUKA III 09.00 AM HABARI ZA BIASHARA 09.10 AM MATANGAZO 09.20 AM BRAND TALK 09.30 AM KUMEPAMBAZUKA UKIMWI 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 HOJA YA LEO 18.30 HRS DIRA YA DUNIA BBC 19.30 HRS SPOTI LEO 20.00 HRS NEWS BULLETIN 20.10 HRS MATANGAZO / MUZIKI 21.00 HRS NEWS BRIEF 21.05 HRS CHAGUO LA DJ 22.00 HRS NEWS BULLETIN (24 HRS) 22.15 HRS AFRO TIZI 23.00 HRS NEWS BRIEF 23.03 HRS AFRO TIZI 01.00-05.00HRS MUZIKI (MCHANGANYIKO)	05.00 AM HALI YA HEWA / KUMEPAMBAZUKA I 06.00 AM AMKA NA BBC 06.30 AM NIPASHE 06.50 AM MATANGAZO 07.00 AM NEWS BULLETIN 07.10 AM MATANGAZO 07.15 AM TAARIFA ZA BARABARANI 07.25 AM UDONDOZI WA MAGAZETI 07.40 AM KUMEPAMBAZUKA II 08.00 AM HABARI NYEPESI 08.10 AM KUMEPAMBAZUKA III 09.00 AM HABARI ZA BIASHARA 09.10 AM MATANGAZO 09.20 AM BRAND TALK 09.30 AM KUMEPAMBAZUKA UKIMWI 10.00 AM NEWS BRIEF 10.03 AM DEATH ANNOUNCEMENTS 10.10 AM HIZI NAZO 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 HOJA YA LEO 18.30 HRS DIRA YA DUNIA BBC 19.30 HRS SPOTI LEO 20.00 HRS NEWS BULLETIN 20.10 HRS MATANGAZO / MUZIKI 21.00 HRS NEWS BRIEF 21.05 HRS MALUMBANO YA HOJA 23.00 HRS NEWS BRIEF 23.03 HRS AFRO TIZI 01.00-05.00HRS MUZIKI (MCHANGANYIKO)	05.00 AM HALI YA HEWA / KUMEPAMBAZUKA I 06.00 AM AMKA NA BBC 06.30 AM NIPASHE 06.50 AM MATANGAZO 07.00 AM NEWS BULLETIN 07.10 AM MATANGAZO 07.15 AM TAARIFA ZA BARABARANI 07.25 AM UDONDOZI WA MAGAZETI 07.40 AM KUMEPAMBAZUKA II 08.00 AM HABARI NYEPESI 08.10 AM KUMEPAMBAZUKA III 09.00 AM HABARI ZA BIASHARA 09.10 AM MATANGAZO 09.20 AM BRAND TALK 09.30 AM KUMEPAMBAZUKA UKIMWI 10.00 AM NEWS BRIEF 10.03 AM DEATH ANNOUNCEMENTS 10.10 AM HIZI NAZO 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 HOJA YA LEO 18.30 HRS DIRA YA DUNIA BBC 19.30 HRS SPOTI LEO 20.00 HRS NEWS BULLETIN 20.10 HRS MATANGAZO / MUZIKI 21.00 HRS NEWS BRIEF 21.05 HRS MALUMBANO YA HOJA 23.00 HRS NEWS BRIEF 23.03 HRS AFRO TIZI 01.00-05.00HRS MUZIKI (MCHANGANYIKO)	05.00 AM HALI YA HEWA / KUMEPAMBAZUKA I 06.00 AM AMKA NA BBC 06.30 AM NIPASHE 06.50 AM MATANGAZO 07.00 AM NEWS BULLETIN 07.10 AM MATANGAZO 07.15 AM TAARIFA ZA BARABARANI 07.25 AM UDONDOZI WA MAGAZETI 07.40 AM KUMEPAMBAZUKA II 08.00 AM HABARI NYEPESI 08.10 AM KUMEPAMBAZUKA III 09.00 AM HABARI ZA BIASHARA 09.10 AM MATANGAZO 09.20 AM BRAND TALK 09.30 AM KUMEPAMBAZUKA UKIMWI 10.00 AM NEWS BRIEF 10.03 AM DEATH ANNOUNCEMENTS 10.10 AM HIZI NAZO 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 HOJA YA LEO 18.30 HRS DIRA YA DUNIA BBC 19.30 HRS SPOTI LEO 20.00 HRS NEWS BULLETIN 20.10 HRS MATANGAZO / MUZIKI 21.00 HRS NEWS BRIEF 21.05 HRS MALUMBANO YA HOJA 23.00 HRS NEWS BRIEF 23.03 HRS AFRO TIZI 01.00-05.00HRS MUZIKI (MCHANGANYIKO)	

# CAG WANTS NHC TO TAKE LEGAL MEASURES AGAINST BMTL



NHC headquarters in Dar es Salaam. The CAG has found serious weaknesses in the management of the partnered property investments. PHOTO/FILE

By Guardian Reporter

**T**HE Controller Auditor General (CAG) has directed the National Housing Limited (NHC) to take legal action against Business Machine Tanzania Limited (BMTL) and other officials for lack of trust after using the corporation's house to secure the bank loans without an approval from the owner (NHC).

However, the CAG has also called for the NHC to revisit its partnership policy to ensure that all weaknesses are removed to void any dangers that may arise from partnering firms.

This follows after the CAG audit for 2020/2021 found that BMTL used the NHC property title deed to secure 8.6bn/- loans without informing the owner.

The audit shows on June 25, 2005, NHC and BMTL entered into a partnership to develop plot number 39A with a title deed number 186156/32 located at Old Bagamoyo Road owned by the housing corporation.

The cost of the building was 8.66bn/- whereby 2.17bn/- or 25 percent of the share were owned by NHC and the remaining 6.49bn/- or 75 percent were owned by BMTL as a strategic partner.

"Through my audit, I discovered that BMTL used the property title deed as collateral to secure concessional loan from three banks without informing the NHC, which is the owner," said CAG audit report.

The applied loans included 200mn/- from Diamond Trust Bank, 650mn/- from CF Union Bank and 650mn/- from Savings and Credit bank, all totaling 1.5bn/-.

However, CAG unveiled that the house property which was under partnership was presented by BMTL as collateral to Bank M (which was later merged to Azania Bank) to secure a loan amounting 11.7bn/- without the approval of its NHC.

According to a letter with reference number LR/T/186156/32/58 dated November 16, 2020 from the minister for land, house and human settlement development found that on June 5, 2015 the title deed for plot number 39A was put as collateral and registered under reference number FD 152161 with the name of Bank M.

However, CAG audit found that BMTL failed to service the obtained loans amounting 23.15bn/- from Bank M and the house was planned to be auctioned by Mark Auctioneer and Court Broker Co. on behalf of Azania Bank on July 27, 2020.

This indicated that, CAG said, BMTL was not trustful partner and NHC did not make any efforts to evaluate its business partner to determine its financial capability to implement such project.

Meanwhile, CAG audit has also found partners of the nine building projects with NHC which were under construction were leased by partners without any agreement with the housing corporation,

such as a house located at plot 4/44 in Mchikichini street in Dar es Salaam of which the partnership agreement was signed in April 2005.

"I have discovered that NHC did not earn any revenue from tenants of the buildings as partners claimed that in order to get dividends, the housing corporation must present title deeds for the ownership of the properties," CAG says.

Also, CAG audit shows NHC partners claimed that the leased area was part of the building they owned, based on distribution of floors as agreed on the agreement.

"The delay in establishing the partnership agreement has caused loss of funds that NHC would have generated from tenants," the CAG said.

Also, leasing uncompleted building under the partnership without an approval from NHC is denying its right to earn income from the property investment.

The audit has shown that NHC entered into agreement with various partners to invest on properties and until June 2021, the housing corporation had 149 such projects.

Through the audit, CAG has found some weaknesses on the partnership including delays in implementing the projects as the plots use were diverted into other use including turned into parking lots as well as delays in construction and NHC has never obtained any single shilling from those undeveloped plots.

## Court rejects review of Spire STL's natural gas pipeline

By Carolyn Davis

The US Supreme Court this week declined to review a lower court's decision that vacated FERC's approval of Spire STL Pipeline LLC, a completed 65-mile-long system that carries natural gas to the St. Louis area from Illinois.

Spire STL's system, initially issued a certificate by the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission in 2018, went into service in 2019.

Scrutiny followed, with the Environmental Defense Fund (EDF) in 2020 arguing that the certificate should be withdrawn because the Commission failed to follow its legal responsibilities when approving the project.

FERC also should have more closely scrutinized Spire STL's precedent agreement with affiliate Spire Missouri Inc., EDF argued. In 2016, Spire STL had agreed to take about 87% of the system's expected capacity from the affiliate.

The U.S. Court of Appeals for the District of Columbia (DC) Circuit last December vacated the Commission's original certificate order.

The DC circuit ruling had followed one issued in June, when it agreed with EDF that FERC had failed to adequately examine the market need for the gas transmission project.

Spire appealed the lower court decision to the Supreme Court at the end of 2021, asking the justices to consider the potential "life threatening consequences" of what could happen without the estimated \$286 million gas pipeline already in service.

Spire STL connects to Rockies Express Pipeline in Illinois and to points east in Missouri.

While Spire had acknowledged that gas demand in the St. Louis area is expected to remain flat, the STL system enhanced reliability and supply security, it stated. Still, the Supreme Court declined to review the case in Spire Missouri Inc. et al v Environmental Defense Fund et al, No. 21-848.

"Since the STL Pipeline began service in November 2019, all market participants in the greater St. Louis region changed their pipeline supply arrangements," Spire noted. The STL system, it said, has allowed Spire Missouri to "reduce its captivity on Enable MRT, its historical supplier, that depends on gas production from the same gas producing regions in Texas and Oklahoma that suffered major operational disruptions just earlier this year during Winter Storm Uri," it said.

With the pipeline, Spire Missouri also has been able to "retire aging and obsolete infrastructure that required costly upgrades and maintenance," the company noted. In addition, the system has improved the "ability to provide service to the western-most areas of its St. Louis service territory without substantial cost," estimated at \$100 million, "and disruption to traffic and the environment in the region."

Spire said it is "pursuing options to bring in additional gas supply to the St. Louis region." Still, "increased gas demand and operational constraints" have reduced "Spire Missouri's ability to secure new firm supply contracts on other pipelines in the region...making it difficult to replace STL Pipeline supplies for the foreseeable future."

Analysts with ClearView Energy Partners LLC on Monday said, "In our view, Spire STL no longer needed Supreme Court intervention to ensure continued operations." FERC's temporary certificate order last December "appeared to provide much of the relief the court could provide."

"Nevertheless, Spire STL's petition posed the 'to vacate or not to vacate' question in a pipeline proceeding to the nation's highest court for the second time in a year," the ClearView team noted.

Dakota Access LLC, whose 1,771-mile Dakota Access Pipeline (DAPL) oil conduit runs south from North Dakota, last September petitioned the Supreme Court to overturn another DC Circuit ruling. The circuit court had vacated authorizations from the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers because of a flawed National Environmental Policy Act review.

## China-Europe trains stabilise trade amidst pressure on Shanghai port

BEIJING

Chinese producers and exporters are diversifying China-Europe trade routes by redirecting some orders from ships to trains and planes in an effort to tackle disruptions and uncertainties posed by the COVID-19 epidemic in Shanghai and some neighboring regions in the Yangtze River Delta, a major production and trade center.

The shift came as the port in Shanghai, the world's largest port in terms of container throughput, faces rising stockpiles of containers. Some large international shipping companies are suspending goods delivery at the port, posing serious challenges to the timely delivery of goods.

Some 60 percent of the goods lying at Shanghai port are "unclaimed" due to logistics disruptions on the roads and at sea, while the port has reached its limit and can hardly accommodate more containers, industry insiders said. The pressure has been passed on to the neighboring Ningbo Zhoushan port in East China's Zhejiang Province.

In the face of lingering uncertainties involving sea transport, some producers and exporters engaged in China-Europe trade are looking to diversify their trade routes from ships to trains and planes.

A trader based in Yiwu, a major small commodities trade hub in Zhejiang, told the Global Times on Sunday that he has received more inquiries from clients about diverting sea shipments to

China-Europe freight trains.

"Trains take far less time and they're more punctual, which is important, especially for those more urgent or high-value goods," the person said.

What normally takes about 35 days by sea from Yiwu to cities in Germany only takes about 18-20 days by train, the trader said, indicating a clear competitive advantage for train service in avoiding disruptions.

In the first quarter, 370 China-Europe freight trains were dispatched from Yiwu, a year-on-year rise of 10.1 percent, a trend that industry insiders said would be sustained to ease the pressures at sea ports.

A factory manager in Yiwu told the Global Times on Sunday that the train is punctual, even though it may cost more than sea freight and the transport capacity is much lower. Planes are also part of his consideration at the moment.

The European Union Chamber of Commerce in China noted that its member companies estimated a 40 percent drop in the daily volume of cargo handled at the Shanghai port, according to media reports.

Wu Minghua, an independent industry analyst, told the Global Times that the major cause of sea freight disruptions is actually on land, as truck drivers are still having difficulties in getting in and out of the port due to epidemic controls.

While cross-border freight trains can be an option in difficult times, sea transport will still be the main transport for international trade, industry experts said. A train can usually carry 50 standard containers, while a large ship can carry around 20,000.

Moreover, changing shipments from ships to trains is not always possible for various reasons, Tommy Tan, president of Shanghai EPU Supply Chain Management Co, an agent of China-EU freight trains, told the Global Times. Customers often prefer to choose another port instead, Tan said.

Some small and medium-sized traders are shifting to the Ningbo Zhoushan port, which is also under growing pressure. To smooth operations, the Shanghai Port has looked to strengthen the use of inland waterways and railways to unblock transport.



SGR infrastructures are under construction. Banks have agreed to offer financing to contractors, suppliers of goods and services PHOTO/FILE

## Banks: We are ready to support SGR III suppliers and contractors

By Correspondent James Kandoya

TANZANIA banks are now ready to support suppliers, contractors and other dealers to participate in the phase III of the construction of the Standard Gauge Railway (SGR) - Makutopora-Tabora section.

Tanzania Bankers Association Chairperson Abdulmajid Nsekela disclosed that recently at the official occasion of laying the foundation stone for the starting of the phase II of the project.

He said the project was very important to country development therefore the financial sector must fully be involved to enable local suppliers and dealers to participate.

He assured them that they were ready to support them individually once they had submitted a performance invoice insisting that it was another opportunity for them.

Nsekela commended the government for prioritizing local content to enable local contractors and suppliers to participate in the ongoing construction.

"Banks have been supporting contractors in different stages

of construction and paid them when certificates are ready," he said

He, however, called on the banks to be creative by linking with contractors noting they had disbursed over 104bn/- in the ongoing construction project in the country.

"CRDB is the only bank operating in Burundi. Therefore, it is our hope that the bank will be in position to serve our fellow Tanzanians in Burundi and Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC) in the value chain," he noted.

Tanzania Commercial Bank (TCB) managing director, Moshing Sabasaba said his bank has been collaborating with Tanzania Railway Corporation (TRC) to give working capital and importation of locomotives and wagons.

TRC director general Masanja Kadogosa said that there were over 32 local companies participating in the ongoing construction of the rail from Dar es Salaam-Morogoro up to Makutopora-Tabora section so far.

"There are plenty of opportunities for local suppliers and dealers to use the opportunities available to

participate in the project," he said

Kadogosa said the contractor was ready to trade with local suppliers and engineers but they must observe high quality of products supplied to the project in order to meet the standard recommended.

According to the director general, despite the fact that the demand was big, he called more local experts to utilize the opportunities available.

The phase II of the SGR - Makutopora-Tabora (368 kilometers) under the Turkish contractor, Yapi Merkezi worth 4.4trn/- will be completed by 2025.

Tanzania government has disbursed over 14.32trn/- so far for the fourth phases of the project, that once start operating, it will recoup after 25 years.

The railway system will link the country to the neighbouring countries of Rwanda and Uganda, and through these two, to Burundi and Democratic Republic of Congo, as part of East African Railway master plan.

The new Standard Gauge Railway (SGR) is intended to replace the old, inefficient meter-gauge railway system.

## HOW SBL WATER PROJECT CHANGED LIVES OF PEOPLE IN MANYARA REGION

By Guardian Reporter

**A**CCCESS to clean and safe water supply has remained one of the major economic and social challenges facing Tanzanians.

With the government trying to increase access to clean and safe water to the populations, both rural and urban, many people are still struggling to find a drop of water, considering their location or climatic condition.

Currently, access to water in rural areas is around 65 percent and the target of the Water Sector Development Programme (WSDP II), through the Ministry of Water and Irrigation, was 85 percent coverage by 2021, of which was not attained.

The poor rural population lack access to basic water supply and safe sanitation, which result not only in tremendous human health and economic costs but also create gender and other societal inequalities.

However, an entrance of private sector in financing water projects has helped to ease the problem and turned out to be a game changer, as the government is planning to increase an access of water to at least 85 percent of the rural population in the next two years.

On April 8th, Serengeti Breweries Limited (SBL) strengthened its arm to support the community by launching a new water project in Bassotu, Manyara. The project is part of the company support in helping the government to achieve its goals.

According to SBL Corporate Relations Director, John Wanyancha, the new project dubbed "life-saving" was launched recently through the iconic project known as the "Nalgonda water treatment plant."

"This is not the first and won't be the last time SBL invests in water projects; we have already built more than 18, and this one today reinforces our commitment to ensuring a supply of clean and safe water for future generations," Wanyancha said.

"Moreover, this new project will have



Hanang' district Commissioner Joyce Mayanja unveils Basutu water project co-financed by Serengeti Breweries Limited and Water Aid Tanzania. Behind her are leaders from SBL, Water Aid, RUWASA and Hanang' district

a drip effect, not only increasing health but also enabling more people to engage in their traditional farming activities," he stated. "Furthermore, we are confident that it will encourage women to actively participate in the economic activities of Bassotu."

Mkama Bwire, the acting director of Rural Water Delivery and Sanitation Agency (RWDSA), praised the brewer's bold approach to investing in rural water supply.

"While the government has set a goal of providing 85 percent clean and safe water in rural areas by 2025, this new investment is supporting our efforts to accomplish this daring ambition," he said. "We can't thank SBL enough for its dedication as this new plant also adds to 61 percent of the water supply in Hanang district."

Ester Elia, a Bassotu resident, joyfully celebrates the water plant's opening by expressing how beneficial it will be to their health.

"Now is the moment to cheer up

since our teeth will not discolor, and I am very delighted the price to get water here will be extremely reasonable," she said.

"I am extremely delighted to hear that this plan can supply water even to the other communities; I can't wait because I don't reside in Bassotu, so I am ready to tap from the fresh processed waters from this facility," says Alex Mkazi, who traveled from another hamlet to witness the launch.

The beer manufacturer funded the Nalgonda treatment plant, which was built by WaterAid to defluoride Lake Bassotu water after it was discovered that the community's Lake Bassotu water supply required immediate treatment after laboratory tests revealed that the water contained fluoride levels exceeding recommended World Health Organization (WHO) standards.

Following its completion, the project is now able to produce 900,000 litres of clean and safe water in 12 hours, which is enough to satisfy and exceed

Bassotu ward's current average daily water demand of 700,000 litres.

Furthermore, the project has the overall potential to service Dangaia, Viendamudiga, and Dilna in Basutu Ward, which have a combined population of 14,000 people.

Consequently, by providing healthy water and eliminating disease and illness in the region caused by filthy, dangerous water, the beer maker's ingenious endeavor reinvigorates life in the hamlet and helps the community thrive.

SBL has spent about 1.1bn/- in drilling boreholes across the country since 2010, making a substantial contribution to relieving the country's water scarcity.

The brewer, through its Water of Life (WOL) program, has collaborated with other groups on the majority of these projects to guarantee that Tanzanians have access to safe and clean water in some of the most impoverished locations.

## US mortgage interest rates now stand at 12-year high

CALIFORNIA

THE average interest rate on the most popular U.S. home loan climbed to a 12 year high last week and fewer homebuyers sought properties in a sign that the Federal Reserve's aim of cooling the housing market may be beginning to have an impact, data from the Mortgage Bankers Association (MBA) showed on Wednesday.

The average contract rate on a 30-year fixed-rate mortgage increased to 5.20 percent in the week ended April 15 from 5.13 percent a week earlier, the MBA survey showed. It has risen 2 percentage points from one year ago.

The bulk of the run up, however, has occurred since the start of the year, causing the fastest climb in home-financing costs in decades as the Fed abandoned a cautious approach to raising its benchmark overnight lending rate in favor of swifter and more decisive action to bring down persistently high inflation.

The central bank is also

set to decide at its next meeting on May 3-4 to begin reducing its portfolio of \$8.5 trillion of U.S. Treasuries and mortgage-backed securities, a stash of assets that had helped keep consumer borrowing costs - for mortgages in particular - low throughout the COVID-19 pandemic.

Those expectations for Fed tightening actions have led to a surge in Treasury yields as financial markets reacted. The yield on the 10-year note US10YT=RR, which acts as a benchmark for mortgage rates, is at its highest level since 2018.

The latest increase in home-financing costs also led to fewer mortgage applications last week following a small bump in demand the prior week as buyers rushed to lock in rates before they moved higher.

The MBA said its Purchase Composite Index, a measure of all mortgage loan applications for purchase of a single family home, fell 3.0 percent on a seasonally adjusted basis to 254.0, while the refinancing index fell 8 percent.

**“The average contract rate on a 30-year fixed-rate mortgage increased to 5.20 percent in the week ended April 15 from 5.13 percent a week earlier, the MBA survey showed. It has risen 2 percentage points from one year ago.”**

## Share of real estate on Kenyan GDP grows further

NAIROBI

For the past two decades, the Kenyan real estate market has grown exponentially as evidenced by its contribution to the country's GDP which grew from 10.5 percent in 2000 to 12.6 percent in 2012 and 13.8 percent in 2016.

The Kenyan office sector has grown rapidly over the past decade, in tandem with the improving economy, as firms expanded in their operations while multinational firms continually set up their base in the country which is considered the key gateway to the East African market and a leading economic hub in the Sub-Saharan Africa.

As the sector grows, it's

witnessing new trends due to the clientele changing its preference and international firms creating demand for something that is of world-class standard. Serviced offices are slowly gaining popularity due to the growing SMEs and as the dynamics of office space design and demands continue to unfold, more developers are offering semi-fitted offices by providing facilities such as partitions and kitchen cabinets.

In a bid to reduce operating costs and provide a safe and healthy environment for workers, developers are increasingly employing green building technology as it has also been proven to increase employee productivity.



With the demand for a live-work-play lifestyle in Kenya, master planned communities are increasing with areas such as Kiambu and Machakos counties becoming hotspots PHOTO/INTERNET

A smart office is also a new trend that has changed the office space area. With amenities like an equipped gym,

Cafeterias and entryways for people living with disabilities. Nowadays, so as to meet the demands of clients, offices are

designed to feel like home with modern facilities. Quality, ambiance, elegance, and serenity are the driving forces behind

today's growing modern offices.

The retail sector has grown tremendously, characterized mainly by a continued rise in mall space. With a growing middle class, and thus more disposable income, international and local developers have quickly grabbed the opportunity to tap into the ready market with the mall concept which has seen Kenya become the second largest in mall space in Africa, after South Africa, with 391,000 square meters.

The most notable developments include the Two Rivers Mall, Garden City, and The Hub. The middle class has also attracted international

retailers such as Carrefour, international restaurants such as Burger King and Subway and sports shops such as Adidas.

Additionally, the country is fast urbanizing and as such, technology has become a secondary need with Kenya being recognized as one of the leading technology hubs in the continent and also renowned internationally for its one-of-a kind mobile money transfer system. Consequently, online shopping is slowly gaining traction with a high internet penetration rate of 70 percent and has led to online sites such as OLX, Rupu and Jumia achieving tremendous success.

Similar to the office sector, the industrial sector

has been receiving a gradual change with a changing clientele who prefer high-quality stock which allows for modern retailing, distribution and manufacturing practices and this has led into modern industrial parks such as Tatu City Industrial Park, Infinity Industrial Park, and Tilisi.

The modern parks are also built in such a way that they allow for a live, work and play concept. Additionally, the new market is demanding for a serene location that is different from the congested Nairobi's Industrial Area, Baba Dogo and Mombasa Road areas where most of Kenya's old stock, mostly outdated warehouses, is located.

## Greece to upgrade its LNG terminal to mitigate supply disruptions

ATHENS

GREECE'S only liquefied natural gas (LNG) terminal on the islet of Revithoussa near Athens will be upgraded as the country is preparing its energy system for the worst-case scenario, such as a complete cessation of natural gas supplies from Russia, Greek Prime Minister Kyriakos Mitsotakis said on Tuesday.

"Liquefied natural gas is extremely critical in order to achieve the expansion of gas supply sources. In this plan, Revithoussa in its current form, but

also in its upgraded form, plays a decisive role," he said during a tour of the facilities, according to Greek national broadcaster ERT.

Managed by the Hellenic Gas Transmission System Operator (DESFA), the Revithoussa terminal is currently the only one in Greece that receives, temporarily stores and regasifies LNG and supplies the country's National Natural Gas Transmission System. Its LNG storage capacity is currently 225,000 cubic meters and can regasify 1,250 cubic meters per hour, according to the DESFA.

In the coming months, the DES-

FA is planning to add a floating storage unit to the existing facilities, which will increase storage capacity to 380,000 cubic meters, and the regasification capacity will be increased by 12 percent, among other investment plans, company officials said.

"We are continuously working not only to maintain and guarantee 100-percent availability at the terminal, but also, as anticipated, to expand its ability to accommodate more ships and increase its ability to regasify and to serve the demand of the market," Maria Rita Galli, DESFA's chief executive

officer (CEO), said.

In 2021, 31.8 percent of Greece's total natural gas imports entered the country through this facility. In the first three months of this year, the respective figure was 43.23 percent. LNG cargoes arrived from six countries (the United States, Algeria, Nigeria, Egypt, Oman and Indonesia), according to DESFA data.

For years, approximately 40 percent of Greece's annual energy needs have been covered by imported Russian natural gas, according to the Ministry of Environment and Energy.



Greek Prime Minister Kyriakos Mitsotakis (1st R) and his Bulgarian counterpart, Boyko Borissov, (L) stand as the CEO of Bulgartransgaz Vladimir Malinov (2nd L) and Chairman of the Board of Directors of Gastrade SA Elmina Kopelouzou (2nd R) sign an agreement at Zappeio Hall in Athens, Greece, Aug. 24, 2020. (Xinhua/Nick Paleologos)

## CONSTRUCTION

# VALUE FOR MONEY SEES AN INFLUX OF HOME BUYERS IN SOUTH AFRICA

## JOHANNESBURG

**S**ITUATED in sought-after Balugha River Estate in Cintsa, East London, this three-bedroom home is marketed by Pam Golding Properties at R1.175 million.

It includes a wooden deck, water tanks and solar heated geyser, while the complex offers direct beach access, a swimming pool and tennis court.

With activity continuing to rebound over the past year, East London's housing market is experiencing an influx of families, young professionals, and first-time buyers, says Sean Coetzee, area principal for Pam Golding Properties.

Says Coetzee: "Positively, with a median price of R1.34 million, freehold homes in East London offer good value and are accessibly priced for home seekers."

For example, suburbs such as Cambridge and Amalinda, which were previously deemed 'blue collar' are enjoying an influx of buyers who are not only purchasing but making considerable improvements to properties, with sand, cement, and building materials in evidence in locations such as these, where modest starter homes can be had for as little as R1.1 million.

"The sweet spot for first-time buyers is in the price range mainly between R800 000 and R1.5 million, while the market up to approximately R3 million is very active.

"Generally, there's a high demand in East London for sectional title properties, mostly as a first step into the property market for new buyers, or for retirement-aged buyers looking to down-size and simplify.

"While the largest group (48 percent) of home buyers



Situated in sought-after Balugha River Estate in Cintsa, East London, this three-bedroom home is marketed by Pam Golding Properties at R1.175 million. It includes a wooden deck, water tanks and solar heated geyser, while the complex offers direct beach access, a swimming pool and tennis court.

are in the age bracket from 36-49 years, young adults between 18 and 35 years comprise 28 percent of all recent

buyers. The Eastern Cape doesn't see the same influx of semigrators from Gauteng as areas such as George or

Mossel Bay. Many of our home buyers are aspirational locals looking to climb the property ladder, just like any other city in South Africa."

"Notably, and according to Lightstone statistics, over the 12-month period from April 2021 to March 2022, 76 percent of buyers were under the age of 50 years," says Coetzee. Also according to Lightstone, East London experienced a sharp increase in the number of plots sold in 2021, with a total of 245 plots sold, which is the highest number registered during the past decade.

Comments Coetzee: "We see many of our buyers purchasing now with a plan to build at a later stage on estates, especially on the East Coast, which has grown exponentially in popularity. For example, Balugha River Estate is 80 percent sold out and Khamanga Bay has seen a great deal of interest, especially in regard to vacant plot sales."

Coetzee says there is a strong demand for decent, affordable accommodation for the city's senior citizens. "This is definitely a sector which offers lucrative returns for savvy investors and developers with the right product at the correct price."

Positive news for East London, with spin-offs for the local economy, including the residential property market, is Mercedes-Benz' R3 billion investment in production of the new generation C-Class.

In November last year, media reports stated that 16 companies in the automotive sector have invested a total of R3.3 billion in the East London Industrial Development Zone (IDZ), which is also expected to help boost the economy in the Eastern Cape, thereby creating in excess of 2 000 jobs, as well as further indirect jobs via the supply chain.

## China's property sector could be turning around, analysts say

## BEIJING

The tide may be turning on China's battered real estate market.

Investor confidence in the sector appears to be improving, as bond trading volumes and prices rose in recent weeks, in part boosted by the government's promise to support the sector and some loosening of policies.

But analysts say China's high-growth property market may be a thing of the past, set to be "changed forever" following the recent shakeup in the sector.

S&P Global Ratings said in an early April report that China's policy crackdown on its residential housing market has "bottomed," but that it will take several quarters for markets to feel the effects of the regulatory easing.

"When China's residential market emerges from this correction, it may be changed forever," S&P said. "We anticipate fewer developers will be able to employ the highly leveraged, fast-churn strategy that brought past success."

Recent reports show that some cities and banks are willing to support real estate again after a plunge in home sales in the last few months.

Since March, due to weakening market demand, banks in more than 100 cities in China have lowered mortgage rates by an average of 20



Newly developed China property project. Analysts say China's high-growth property market may be a thing of the past PHOTO/XINHUA

to 60 basis points, Zou Lan, director of the People's Bank of China's financial markets department, told reporters Thursday.

He also noted how Covid had affected some people's income and their ability to pay mortgages on time.

"It's hard to see the situation being resolved this year ... We will see developers not able to repay their debt."

"The government's stance [is] trying to prevent the contagion, preventing the spillover from the real estate sector spillover to the real economy," Gary Ng, Asia-Pacific economist at Natixis, told CNBC in a phone interview earlier this month.

Any change in China's real estate industry has significant implications for the economy since property and

related sectors account for roughly a quarter of GDP, according to Moody's. The latest wave of Covid restrictions has added pressure to growth that was already slowing.

"The measures may have been too tight. Now we see this fine tuning of the policy," Ng said. "The worst time is over basically for those developers who are broadly in

line with the current regulatory target or framework."

The problems of real estate developers in China came to a head after the authorities rolled out the so-called "three red lines" policy in August 2020, aimed at reinventing in developers after years of growth fueled by excessive debt. The policy places a limit on debt in relation to a firm's cash flows, assets and

capital levels.

While many developers reduced their debt levels accordingly, a result of the policy was that banks became less willing to lend to the sector.

Against this backdrop, Evergrande, the world's most indebted developer, fell into default for the first time late last year. As the debt crisis unraveled, other Chinese developers also started showing signs of strain - some missed interest payments, while others defaulted on their debt altogether.

The bond issuance in Asia's high yield bond market, dominated by Chinese real estate developers, slumped in the first quarter of this year. The region issued only \$4.4 billion worth of debt, about 85% lower than a year ago, according to data from Dealogic.

"This was a result of Chinese property developers largely being cut off from the bond market amid a growing number of stressed and distressed situations in the sector," said Dealogic.

However, sentiment turned around slightly in mid-March after China signaled support for its companies, and indicated that authorities would work toward stability in its struggling real estate sector.

## Construction starts at new development in Leighton Buzzard, UK

## LONDON

WORK is set to start at a new Bellway housing development which will bring 180 new homes to Leighton Buzzard.

The housebuilder is set to deliver the collection of new homes at Chamberlains Bridge on a 13.6-acre site off Vandyke Road.

Detailed plans for the development were approved by Central Bedfordshire Council in February. The site will feature 145 private homes and 35 affordable properties available for local people through rent or shared ownership.

Luke Southgate, Sales Director of Bellway Northern Home Counties, said: "With approval for our detailed plans now in place, we are preparing to move onto the site within the coming weeks to start the construction process.

"This will enable us to provide much-needed private and affordable new housing to Leighton Buzzard. Chamberlains Bridge will provide a range of two, three, four and five-bedroom homes for market sale. This selection of properties will appeal to a mix of buyers from first-time buyers to growing families.

"The affordable housing - comprising one and two-bedroom apartments and two, three and four-bedroom houses - will enable local people to stay close to family, friends and work. This represents a very positive addition to the Leighton Buzzard housing scene."

## Singapore property market sees 'broad-based recovery' in 1Q2022

## SINGAPORE

THE Singapore property market has shown "a broad-based recovery", with improvement in metrics recorded across most segments, according to a 1Q2022 report by CBRE.

The report comes ahead of property market data for 1Q2022 expected to be released by URA at the end of the month.

According to CBRE, both sellers and buyers adopted a wait-and-see approach post-cooling measures, with only 1,716 new private homes (excluding executive condominiums or ECs) sold in 1Q2022, well below the five-year average. "Private home

price growth plateaued in 1Q2022 as cooling measures took effect," the report explains.

Private residential landed properties saw a marginal 0.4 percent increase q-o-q in prices, compared with a 5.0 percent surge in the preceding quarter. Overall non-landed home prices saw a 0.6 percent decline q-o-q, reversing from the 5.3 percent growth in 4Q2021.

Government land sale sites Jalan Tembusu and Lentor Hills (Parcel A) saw subdued bidding as developers showed restraint post-cooling measures. Dairy Farm Walk and Bukit Batok West Avenue 8 EC site performed better, as confidence returned in March. "Smaller

collective sales also saw some success given the lower cost and development risk," the report adds.

CBRE expects new home sales to reach between 9,000 and 10,000 units, with prices rising by 3 percent, in 2022.

The office market continued to show strong momentum carried over from end-2021, as Singapore continued to open up, CBRE notes. The office market registered a third consecutive quarter of positive demand in 1Q2022, with a positive net absorption of 307,292 sq ft. Rents for Grade-A space in the core CBD increased by 1.4 percent q-o-q.

Non-bank financial institutions and technology companies underpinned

primary leasing demand, according to the report. Other rapidly growing sectors included pharmaceuticals, fast-moving consumer goods and flexible workspace operators.

CBRE forecasts core CBD Grade-A rents to grow by 6.9 percent y-o-y for 2022, on the back of the relaxation of workplace measures and limited supply.

"Occupier demand has generally improved across all submarkets, with islandwide business parks recording a positive net absorption of 186,982 sq ft in 1Q2022," the report states. Business park demand is in recovery, rebounding from negative levels in the preceding quarter.



Singapore residential landscape (Credit: Samuel Issac Chua / The Edge Singapore)

## WORLD

## WB chief warns food insecurity crisis could last into next year

WASHINGTON

THE Russia-Ukraine conflict has pushed up food prices and hit the poorest the hardest, World Bank Group President David Malpass said on Wednesday, warning that the food insecurity crisis will last for months and probably into next year.

"Its consequences are putting stress on poor people around the world," Malpass said at a virtual press conference during the 2022 Spring Meetings of the International Monetary Fund and the World Bank Group.

He noted that food prices are up already 37 percent year over year, and are going up more than Consumer Price Index, which is "significant" because it measures how much it hits the poor, who have to spend more on food in their daily budget.

The shortages of food, energy and fertiliz-

er - which are critical for the crop cycle, are "creating a food insecurity crisis that will last at least months and probably into next year," said Malpass.

"The food problem is severe... the prices crowd out the poorest, so it hits people in poor countries and especially in rural areas the hardest," the World Bank chief said in response to a question from Xinhua.

"There's also the tendency to move toward less nutritious food, if other food is not available in the diet," he continued.

On a positive note, he said, "we're entering this cycle of food insecurity with large global stockpiles, so as those are released, I think there can be progress," adding that it's important to start early.

Malpass noted there was "substantial" discussion on food security at the Spring Meetings on Tuesday, though he doesn't expect



World Bank President David Malpass

an international agreement on the issue.

"What I hope and expect is that many countries will step forward with individual solutions to alleviate the food crisis and the fertilizer crisis," he said.

At the press conference, the World Bank chief also noted that the multilateral lender expects to commit \$170 billion of financing over the next 15 months in the wake of the crises, which would be the largest set of commitments by the organization ever.

On vaccines, the World Bank will have committed 11 billion dollars in vaccination programs in 81 countries by the end

of June, according to Malpass.

Malpass also urged policymakers to take steps to improve capital allocation of global resources, as the current capital allocation leads to deep and rising inequality. "That means more countries falling further behind, not making advancements, and not having the investment that is needed," the World Bank chief said.

"Some of that owes to the macro policies of the advanced economies. They've been borrowing very heavily from the global capital markets, which leaves less for other countries," he said. "That can be improved."

Agencies

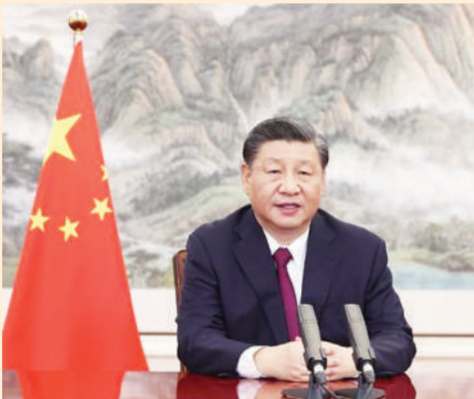
## China stresses Asia's role in promoting global peace, growth and cooperation

BEIJING

HOW can we build a better world after a pandemic? What can we do to support the steady recovery and sustainable development of the world economy? And how can we seek mutually beneficial cooperation?

Three important questions at the top of the agenda, this year's Boao Forum Asia (BFA) Annual meeting held in the town of South Boao Chinese Hainan attracting worldwide attention.

China's President Xi Jinping's Global Security Initiative to Promote Security for All in the World, proposed at a forum on Thursday, has given an Asian perspective on addressing the challenges of the times.



Chinese President Xi Jinping delivered a keynote speech via video at the opening ceremony of the Boao Forum for Asia Annual Conference yesterday. XINHUA

maintaining world peace and addressing global governance challenges.

"It is especially important for major countries to respect equality, cooperation, integrity and the rule of law, to set an example and lead, and to act in a way that is appropriate for their position," he said.

This is his sixth keynote speech at the forum, and cooperation and peace are often among the key pillars he mentions in his explanation. Chinese Proposal to the world.

## "Making Asia an anchor"

Measured by purchasing power parity, of Asia According to the Asian Economic Outlook and Integration Progress Annual Report 2022, the share of the global economy in 2021 increased 0.2 percentage points from 2020 to 47.4 percent.

The report also stated that many factors are essential to assess economic performance in 2022, including the development of COVID-19 and subsequent geopolitical tensions. Russia Ukraine Conflict, US mon-

etary policy adjustment, EuropeDebt problems in some economies, global supply and political system changes in some Asian countries.

## THE STORY CONTINUES

Against this background, Xi's proposal in the forum makes more sense. Asia An anchor of world peace, a driving force for global growth, and a new pacesetter for international cooperation.

"If Asia goes well, the whole world will benefit," he said.

Call for efforts for more open development Asia-Over the market, he emphasized seizing opportunities such as the entry into force of regional comprehensive economic partnerships and the opening of traffic. China Laos Railroad.

The president also emphasized Chinese The role in the process states that the fundamentals of the Chinese economy (its strong resilience, immense potential, room for maneuverability, long-term sustainability) have not changed.

CGTN

## Macron cements frontrunner status with combative debate

PARIS

FRENCH President Emmanuel Macron cleared a major hurdle on the path to re-election with a combative TV debate performance against far-right candidate Marine Le Pen that convinced most viewers, a poll said, even if he was still deemed arrogant.

Although Le Pen came across as more polished and composed than in a TV duel for the presidency in 2017, Macron went on the offensive over her ties to Russian leadership, her plans for the economy and her policy for the European Union.

With the deciding vote just four days away, some 59 percent of viewers found Macron to have been the most convincing in the debate, according to a snap poll for BFM TV. That suggested the almost three-hour showdown would not alter the course of the election, with Macron ahead in all previous polls.

Voter surveys have shown a widening of Macron's lead over Le Pen

to as much as 56 percent-44 percent since the first round on April 10, and analysts said the debate was unlikely to swing voting intentions in Le Pen's favor.

"Yes, Emmanuel Macron won but his adversary has avoided a repeat of last time's disaster," Gerard Araud, a former French ambassador said on Twitter. "This debate doesn't disqualify her like the one in 2017, but it doesn't help her close the gap either."

On the offensive for most of the debate, Macron's most piercing line of attack was on a loan to Le Pen's party for her 2017 campaign contracted through a Russian bank.

On the cost of living, rated the most important issue for the French in this election, Macron also appeared to put Le Pen on the defensive, asking her why she had voted against his plans to cap electricity prices if she wanted to help hard-up workers.

'ARROGANT VS. SCARY'



Centrist candidate and French President Emmanuel Macron, left, and far-right contender Marine Le Pen sit before a televised debate in La Plaine-Saint-Denis, outside Paris, on Wednesday.

Still, during the debate Macron failed to dispel an image of haughtiness that has taken root during his presidency. He interrupted his rival repeatedly with lines like "Mrs Le Pen is much more disciplined than five years ago", and "Stop mixing everything up".

"Mr Macron, stop lecturing me," Le Pen retorted. By contrast, she adopted a much more courteous and softer tone than in 2017, even

going so far as to applaud Macron's diplomatic efforts to prevent war in Ukraine.

An Elabe snap opinion poll on each candidate's personal characteristics showed 50 percent of the French thought Macron had come across as arrogant during the debate, while only 16 percent thought Le Pen had.

Le Pen also appeared marginally more in tune with regular

citizens, with 37 percent of viewers saying she sounded closer to people's concerns, while only 34 percent thought Macron did.

She also delivered a memorable punchline, which may resonate with left-wing and younger voters who think Macron has not done enough to combat climate change, despite his early-mandate slogan "Make our planet great again".

"I am not a climate sceptic, but you're a bit of a climate hypocrite," Le Pen quipped.

But Macron's mastery of policy details made him look more "presidential", the same Elabe poll showed, while she failed to convince a majority of viewers she was fit to govern.

"Each of them has a huge weakness," Bernard Sananes of pollster Elabe said. "Emmanuel Macron is considered arrogant by more than one in two viewers. And Marine Le Pen remains scary for half of them."

Agencies

## Finnish parliament begins NATO debate

HELSINKI

SEVERAL Finnish speakers on Wednesday stressed keeping the same pace with neighboring Sweden on the issue of joining NATO as the parliament began processing the extensive security document submitted by the government last week.

In the document, the cabinet took no stand on the membership but said membership of Finland and Sweden in NATO would reduce tension in the Baltic basin area in the long term.

The parliament discussion of the security report is expected to last a long time. The Parliament will not at this stage vote on the Finnish NATO membership, but the matter reverts back to the cabinet and the president.

The parliamentary vote would occur at the end of the would-be application process as Finland ratifies the agreement to join.

It is still unknown whether a simple majority would be sufficient for the passing or whether a two-thirds majority would be required. The issue is to be solved by the parliamentary constitutional committee, national broadcaster Yle reported.

Addressing the parliament, Prime Minister Sanna Marin expressed the hope that the parliament would debate the matter, showing respect to different views. "Unity is the best guarantee for security," she said.

"The time for decisions has come," Marin said. She elaborated that following recent decisions to boost defense, including a major air force investment, it is now time to talk about NATO membership. Marin has not published her personal view on the NATO issue yet.

Foreign Minister Pekka Haavisto underlined the importance of roughly simultaneous decisions by Finland and Sweden. He said that parallel processes in joining NATO would ease responding to a possible reaction by Russia. "Same pace" in the Finnish and Swedish processes was also echoed by Antti Lindtman, the chair of the Social Democratic parliamentary group.

## "RUSSIA WILL ALWAYS BE OUR NEIGHBOR"

Foreign Minister Haavisto also took up the need to keep in contact with Russia in the future. "Russia will always be a neighbor to Finland, and effort must be made to maintain functioning relations with Russia," said Haavisto, adding that Finnish decisions are not directed against anyone.

Erkki Tuomioja, former Foreign Minister and current deputy chairman of the Parliamentary Foreign Affairs Committee, criticized the government report for lack of historical perspective.

Tuomioja said that a long-term view, both forward and backward, is needed. "The consideration of all good and bad aspects and risks must now be assessed by parliament," Tuomioja said, adding that he would base his stand on what information and answers will be obtained during the process.

## STRONG SUPPORT, BUT QUESTIONS REMAIN

In their speeches Wednesday, many MPs have considered NATO membership to be a justified choice for Finland in the parliamentary debate on the security report.

Centrist Defence Minister Antti Kaikkonen said the most important impact of the NATO membership would be that Finland would be part of joint defense and within security guarantees. "The impediment against attacking Finland would increase," he said.

Kaikkonen added that general conscription, trained reserve, and high appreciation of national defense by the population would be cornerstones of Finnish defense also in the future.

It was previously reported that there were opposing opinions to Finland joining NATO because, with NATO membership, Finland would have to send troops to participate in NATO operations.

Finland would itself decide whether Finnish soldiers are sent to NATO operations abroad, Kaikkonen said.

Still, some speakers were concerned about the military alliance.

The solution to applying for NATO is for many to choose between two bad options, said national broadcaster Yle in an analytical article Wednesday.

Jussi Saramo, chairman of the Left Alliance parliamentary group, said the negative sides of becoming militarily allied have not been sufficiently focused on in the debate. As a NATO member, "Finland would be a potential target of a first strike," said Saramo.

Xinhua



NATO flag at the NATO headquarters in Brussels, during a NATO Foreign Affairs ministers' summit. File photo

"IN the U.S., there was a continued rise in the anti-Asian incidents during the period when the coronavirus pandemic ran rampant in the country," said a report released by the China Society for Human Rights Studies on April 15.

The report reveals the dark history and harsh reality of the racial discrimination against Asians in the U.S. society, emphasizing that Asian Americans, African Americans, Hispanics and Native Americans are subject to discrimination and violations in various forms, and cannot fully enjoy their human rights.

It claims that the increasing ra-

## Racism against Asian Americans an ugly thread in US history

cial discrimination against Asians exposes the country's fundamental racist nature.

Some U.S. politicians and media outlets are reluctant to acknowledge the racial discrimination against Asian Americans, but massive incidents are telling the truth that such discrimination is getting severer.

According to a survey released by the Center for the Study of Hate and Extremism at California State University, San Bernardino (CSUSB), hate crime cases in the U.S. de-

creased by 7 percent in 2020 compared with 2019, but those against Asian Americans increased by 149 percent.

According to a report published on Nov. 18, 2021 by the national coalition Stop Asian American and Pacific Islander Hate, from March 19, 2020 to Sept. 30, 2021, a total of 10,370 hate incidents against Asian American and Pacific Islander people were reported to the organization, with the majority of the incidents took place in public spaces such as public streets and

businesses.

Statistics released by the New York City Police Department on Dec. 8, 2021 showed that anti-Asian hate crimes in the city rose by 361 percent from that of 2020.

There's a Chinese saying that it takes more than one cold day for the river to freeze three feet deep. The UN Secretary-General António Guterres said in March 2021 that "Thousands of incidents across the past year have perpetuated a centuries-long history of intolerance, stereotyping, scapegoating, exploi-

tation and abuse."

Discrimination on a systematic basis is akin to a long-standing malignancy in the United States. In the late 19th century, some politicians and media deliberately stigmatized Asian Americans as "Yellow Peril," and in 1924, all Asians were forbidden to immigrate to the U.S.

Asian Americans have suffered from long-time prejudice, exclusion, and racial violence. The Associated Press once observed that "Racism against Asian Americans has long been an ugly thread in the

U.S. history."

In recent years, U.S. politicians have poisoned the U.S. society through political manipulation, which made the racial discrimination against Asians even more rampant. They politicized, labeled and stigmatized the virus, further exacerbating the discrimination against Asian Americans.

White House press secretary admitted that there was "no question" that the former U.S. administration's "damaging rhetoric" led to "elevated threats against Asian Americans." In

September 2020, 164 Republican congressmen voted against the bill condemning discrimination against Asian Americans.

Unfortunately, the current U.S. government proceeded to manipulate the public opinion and politicize the COVID-19 origins tracing, further stoking the Anti-Asian sentiments within the U.S. Deceived by some U.S. politicians' and media's lies about the coronavirus pandemic, some African Americans mistook Asian Americans as their enemy and attacked Asian Americans to vent their anger.

People's Daily



## British court approves extradition of Julian Assange to US

LONDON

BRITAIN'S Westminster Magistrate's Court issued a formal order on Wednesday to extradite WikiLeaks founder Julian Assange to the United States to face espionage charges.

The decision on whether to approve the extradition now rests with British Home Secretary Priti Patel, although Assange's lawyers may still appeal within 14 days against any decision that approves the extradition.

"In layman's terms, I am duty bound to send your case to the Secretary of State for a decision," said chief magistrate Paul Goldspring after he issued the extradition order.

Last month, Britain's Supreme Court denied Assange permission to appeal against a High Court decision to extradite him to the United States.

Assange, 50, is wanted in the United States on allegations of disclosing national defense information following WikiLeaks's publication of hundreds of thousands of leaked military documents relating to the Afghanistan and Iraq wars a decade ago, which included an Apache helicopter video footage documenting the U.S. military gunning down Reuters journalists and children in Baghdad's streets in 2007.

He has been held at south London's high-security Belmarsh Prison since 2019.

He married his long-term partner Stella Moris, a lawyer, in the prison last month. The U.S. request to extradite Assange from Britain is politically motivated, Moris said last December.

The U.S. extradition request for Assange is retaliation in disguise, and this constitutes yet another example of the United States encroaching on other countries' sovereignty, Moris said.

"The United States is abusing its real power, its ability to get others to do what it wants because of its might, in order to silence him, because he has embarrassed parts of the United States," Moris said then.



## Anger grows in South Korea over US-run labs

HONG KONG

BIOLOGICAL laboratories run by the United States military in South Korea are endangering residents' lives, and the experiments carried out at the facilities for military purposes should be banned, experts say.

"The fact that (these) facilities are located in Busan Port, where the population is dense, in a form the Korean government is not aware of at all, poses a risk of catastrophic and widespread civilian damage," said Woo Hee-jong, professor of the College of Veterinary Medicine at Seoul National University.

The academic linked the labs to the disaster that struck India when a gas leak at a US-owned factory in the city of Bhopal killed thousands of people in 1984.

Jeon Wi-bong, director of a civil group campaigning to shut down the biolabs in Busan Port, said there are about 20 schools, 30 apartment complexes, and major transport links within a 3-kilometer radius of the base that hosts the facilities.

In contrast, the US army set up its Dugway biolab in the Utah desert, Jeon said. In 1968, about 6,000 sheep died in the Dugway area. The Salt Lake Tribune newspaper reported that the nerve agent VX was found in the area, citing a declassified report in 1978.

Although the US government claims that the South Korean biolabs were set up for biosurveillance purposes against biochemical threats, evidence unearthed has undermined this claim.

"JUPITR ATD is entirely part of the US military bio warfare-related overseas military strategy," said Woo, accusing the US of installing the facility in South Korea because it considers the Asian country to be part of its occupied sphere of influence. JUPITR ATD is the acronym for a biochemical lab project operated by the United States Forces Korea, or USFK.

Despite public criticism, the USFK has "deceived" South Koreans by denying the accusations made against the labs and making



Citizen groups demonstrate near the US military base in Busan, South Korea on April 5, 2022. XINHUA

excuses for their actions, Jeon said. When people protested against the JUPITR facility in Busan in 2016, the US asserted that no biochemical samples would be brought to the base. Yet it was found that biochemical samples were carried in dozens of times between 2017 and 2019, Jeon said.

In 2015, the Pentagon confirmed that it "inadvertently" sent live anthrax samples to a US lab in South Korea. A joint South Korea-US investigation found out later that samples of the lethal bacteria had been sent to South Korea 16 times since 2009.

Noting the development of bioweapons is strictly banned by the Biological Weapons Convention, Jeon said the biolabs operated by the USFK violate the convention and can be investi-

gated by the United Nations Security Council if the South Korean government files a complaint. The convention has been signed by more than 180 nations, including South Korea and the US.

"Under Article 9 of SOFA, military cargo delivered to the USFK bases is not subject to customs inspection. As a result, the Korean people will not know anything even if the biochemical samples are delivered to these bases," said Jeon. SOFA refers to the Status of Forces Agreement, the military pact between the US and South Korea.

Woo said information about the overall status of the facility in question is still hidden as only some media and a few non-specialists had been invited to see its general experimental equipment in the past.

He said the USFK had not been cooperative in addressing the concerns raised by the public.

Woo said the "unilateral and unequal" SOFA needed to be renegotiated for the South Korean government to at least secure information on the import of hazardous substances into the country.

From April 4-10, a group of activists and residents traveled across South Korea, staging a series of rallies calling for the end of joint military exercises between South Korea and the US as well as the closure of the USFK's bases and biolabs.

The US stations nearly 30,000 troops in South Korea after the 1950-53 war on the peninsula. The USFK's headquarters, Camp Humphreys in Pyeongtaek on the west coast, is the largest US overseas military base.

On April 5, Kim Moon-jun, a professor from Kongju National University, submitted a petition to President-elect Yoon Suk-yeol's transition committee demanding the return of the land occupied by the Yongsan US base in central Seoul and the revision of the "unequal" SOFA, the Incheon Ilbo newspaper reported.

## African officials say creation of smart cities on course to boost resilience

NAIROBI

THE creation of smart and green cities across the sub-Saharan African region is on course to boost their resilience in the face of climate emergencies, disease outbreaks and mounting pollution, officials said on Wednesday at a virtual briefing in Nairobi, the Kenyan capital.

"Cities are critical to Africa's transformation and therefore we need to make them smarter, inclusive and resilient to the climate crisis and pandemic," Jean Pierre Elong, the secretary-general of United Cities and Local Governments of Africa (UCLG), remarked during an online briefing on the upcoming ninth edition of Africities Summit slated for May 17-21 in western Kenyan city of Kisumu.

He said the continent stood to gain from investing in urban centers that are greener, digital and resilient to environmental shocks.

According to Elong, some of the key deliberations in the five-day summit include greening African cities, converting them into hubs for innovations and enterprise, sharing best practices to enhance urban renewal, and taming rural-urban influx in the continent.

Elong called on African leaders to prioritize investments in sound urban planning, green mobility and basic amenities like education, health, clean water and sanitation in order to make their cities livable and more resilient. Eugene Wamalwa, Kenya's Acting Cabinet Secretary for Devolution, said that East Africa's largest economy was leveraging innovative financing and robust policy tools in its bid to convert cities into hubs for growth, enterprise and cohesion.

Wamalwa said that by hosting the ninth edition of the Africities Summit, Kenya stood to gain from global best practices on stimulating urban renewal besides showcasing investment opportunities in its rapidly growing cities and rural towns.

The creation of smart, greener and resilient cities is also anchored on Kenya's vision 2030 development blueprint, according to Wamalwa. The summit, which is scheduled for May this year in Kisumu City, Western Kenya, will also provide an opportunity for discussion on how to prepare for the forthcoming Climate change conference (COP27) to be held in Egypt in November this year.

Xinhua

## Israeli war planes strike Gaza after rocket attack



missile from Israel's Iron Dome air defense system, designed to intercept and destroy incoming short-range rockets and artillery shells, lights the sky in the central Gaza Strip yesterday. AFP

GAZA

ISRAEL carried out air strikes in central Gaza before dawn yesterday after a rocket launched from the Palestinian territory landed in Israel, Hamas officials and Israeli military sources said.

Two training camps used by Hamas, the Islamist group that rules the blockaded enclave, and no casualties were reported, witnesses said.

Israeli war planes struck a security post and part of an underground site used to produce rocket engines, the Israeli military said in a statement.

Earlier, a rocket fired from Gaza struck southern Israel, causing

slight damage to a house but no injuries, police said. No faction claimed responsibility for what is the second such attack in days.

An upsurge of violence in Israel and the occupied Palestinian territories has raised fears of a slide back to wider conflict. Since March, Israeli forces have killed at least 29 Palestinians in West Bank raids, and a series of deadly Arab street attacks have killed 14 people in Israel.

In a statement, Hamas said Israel's bombing will only encourage Palestinians to "resist the occupation and step up their support for Jerusalem and its people".

Confrontations in Jerusalem's Old City - particularly at Al-Aqsa mosque compound, known to Jews as Temple Mount - pose the risk of a relapse into a broader conflagration like last year's 11-day Israel-Gaza war, in which more than 250 Palestinians in Gaza and 13 people in Israel were killed.

Tensions this year have been heightened in part by the Muslim holy month of Ramadan coinciding with the Jewish celebration of Passover.

By allowing more Jewish worshippers into the sacred compound, Palestinians say Israel is violating a centuries-old policy according to which non-Muslims may visit but not pray. Israeli leaders have said they are ensuring freedom of worship for all religions in Jerusalem.

Al-Aqsa is the third holiest site in Islam and also revered by Jews as the location of two ancient temples.

Palestinians want East Jerusalem, including its Muslim, Christian and Jewish holy sites, as the capital of a future state. Israel, which annexed East Jerusalem in a move not internationally recognized after capturing the area in a 1967 war, regards all of Jerusalem as its eternal capital.

## G20 members urged to help stabilise world

BEIJING

IN the face of risks and challenges, all G20 members should work together to help stabilize the world, Chinese Finance Minister Liu Kun said.

Liu made the remarks when addressing the G20 Finance Ministers and Central Bank Governors Meeting held in Washington, DC both online and offline on April 20-21.

Liu said via video that G20 members should be committed to improving the international system with the UN at its core and the international order underpinned by international law, and avoid politicizing or weaponizing the world economy.

He added that G20 members should establish a sense of community, adopt responsible economic policies and explore innovative momentum to energize global growth, as well as address the concerns of developing countries through multiple channels and ensure that people's livelihoods are not impacted.

China welcomes all parties to support and participate in the Global Development Initiative, with a view to accelerating the implementation of the UN 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, Liu said.

China will continue to work with all parties to improve the global health governance system and strengthen financing cooperation against the pan-



Minister of Finance Liu Kun answers questions at a news conference in Beijing on March 7, 2019. File photo

demic under the framework of the World Health Organization, so as to implement the important consensus reached by G20 leaders, he said.

To promote green and low-carbon development, China supports sharing financial policy experience in response to climate change at the G20 Finance Track in line with its mandate and relevant principles of the United Nations Framework

Convention on Climate Change, said Liu.

As for statements made by some G20 members about the impact of geopolitical factors on the global economy, the Chinese side stressed that China opposes politicizing economic issues, and the G20 should be faithful to its own mandate and ensure that the discussions focus on economic impacts and take a comprehensive and balanced approach.

## Hong Kong begins relaxing social distancing restrictions

THE Hong Kong government has started relaxing social distancing measures.

The first stage, which went into effect yesterday, allows dine-in services at catering businesses and restaurants until 10 pm, four hours later than before, with the maximum allowed number of people per table increased to four, up from two.

Venues such as fitness centers, beauty parlors, massage spas, cinemas and religious sites were allowed to reopen, with seating capacity capped at 50 percent. Leisure and cultural services facilities, such as outdoor sports venues, public libraries and museums, also reopened.

Simon Wong Kit-lung, honorary chairman of the Institute of Dining Professionals who also manages the restaurant chains under the LH Group, said his group's restaurants are almost fully booked for the next two weeks, bringing business back to almost 80 percent of pre-pandemic levels.

But he cautioned that since only four people are allowed per table, traditional Chinese restaurants may not benefit as much - even though they can now host banquets for a maximum of 20 guests.

"If the 20 people have to sit at five tables, not everyone would rush to make a booking for Chinese restaurants - even for Mother's Day," he said.

The hospitality sector yesterday welcomed the relaxation of social distancing rules, saying the move hopefully will finally improve their incomes.

Meanwhile, travel agencies now can organize local tours of 30 people, provided that tourist guides and customers have three and two vaccine doses respectively. If rapid antigen test results are negative for all customers, then the total number of customers per tour can be increased to 100.

An estimated 18,000 Hong Kong residents flocked to Ocean Park Hong Kong on Thurs-

day, the first day it was open since the park was closed because of the stringent social distancing measures.

Local visitors said that they will avoid mass gatherings when they are having meals in the park. Vaccinated overseas tourists are worried they have to wait in long lines to play game machines.

Gianna Hsu, the chairman of Travel Industry Council of Hong Kong, said it has received some 70 agencies' applications to host local tours, but she warned that local tours alone will not revive the industry without the resumption of cross-border travel.

In the first stage of the social distancing relaxation measures, the maximum number of people permitted at group gatherings in public places will be increased from two to four, while the prohibition on gatherings at private premises involving more than two households will be canceled. Members of the public must continue to wear a mask on all public

transportation and in public places.

Meanwhile, the president of the Licensed Massage Association, Chow Chun-yu, said an estimated 2,000 massage spas reopened on Thursday, and bookings are quite full for the upcoming week.

Premises such as bars and pubs, party rooms and karaoke establishments as well as public beaches will be allowed to reopen in the second stage.

Dine-in service hours at catering businesses and restaurants will be extended to midnight, with the maximum number of people per table increased to eight.

In the third and last phase, the restrictions on the maximum number of customers, business and dine-in hours, as well as the limitation on the number of people per group gathering at all catering and scheduled premises, will be lifted.

Agencies



**Premises such as bars and pubs, party rooms and karaoke establishments as well as public beaches will be allowed to reopen in the second stage**



Yanga's Tunisian head coach, Nasreddine Nabi. PHOTO: COURTESY OF YANGA

## A year of coach Nabi at Yanga

By Correspondent Michael Mwebi

THIS week marks a year since Nasreddine Nabi was confirmed to take over Young Africans SC, popularly known as Yanga, as the head coach.

The Tunisian tactician succeeded Burundian Cedric Kaze and signed an initial 18-month contract, with an option to extend it.

It has been nothing short of a sensational journey so far. He led them to a second-place finish in the Premier League, as well as finishing runners-up in the Federation Cup last season.

At the start of this season, he led Yanga to beat city rivals Simba to win the Community Shield for the first time since 2016.

Yanga remains the only unbeaten side in the 2021/22 NBC Premier League after 19 games.

They currently sit top of the league table, 10 points ahead of their intercity rivals Simba, and they have a genuine shot at winning their first league title since 2016/17.

Yanga has a chance at the double with a Federation Cup semi-final on the horizon where Nabi could potentially face Simba once again as the two clubs compete on two fronts in the domestic scene.

When Nabi arrived, there was a perceived gulf between Yanga and Simba but it is now assumed the gap is paper-thin.

In terms of statistical standings, Nabi has won 28 of the 38 games he has managed to date - a win percentage of

74% in all competitions.

So far Azam FC, Simba, and Rivers United have managed to inflict defeat on Nabi in that period.

After losing 1-0 to Azam FC in his first game in charge, Nabi is on a 27 unbeaten run in the league.

No Premier League side has lost fewer matches than Yanga in the competition since this time last year.

Nabi has been named the NBC Premier League coach of the Month three times. After guiding Yanga to victories against Simba and Ihefu SC and one draw with Dodoma Jiji FC, Nabi was named Coach of the Month for the first last season, winning July's award.

In October, Nabi led Yanga to three wins against Azam FC, Kinondoni Municipal Council (KMC) FC, and Geita Gold FC to take the coach's monthly award for the second time.

February was another good month for Nabi having won his third coach of the month award in Tanzania.

The lowest point in Nabi's reign was losing the Federation Cup final to Simba, with Taddeo Lwanga's second-half header from a corner kick taken by Luis Miquisone denying the Tunisian his first taste of domestic cup success in Tanzanian football.

There was also a failure in the CAF Champions League at the start of this campaign.

Yanga was eliminated by Nigeria's Rivers United in the preliminary round of the CAF Champions League in September, losing 1-0 in both legs.

happiness after seeing some of the injured players start training with their teammates.

He said that this has given him great comfort because playing those matches requires a full side.

Nabi is therefore thankful to God that his prayers have had a speedy recovery.

Yanga is chasing its first title of the season after finishing four seasons without lifting a trophy.

The outfit's age-old rival Simba had in contrast been competing in domestic and international competitions for the four seasons.

On Saturday Yanga will play Namungo FC and later face Simba on April 30, and on May 4 the Premier League leader will play Ruvu Shooting.

## Pundits' views on Taifa Stars' AFCON group maths not convincing, but all will still be well

By Correspondent John Kimbute

PRELIMINARY assessments of chances for Taifa Stars in its group encounters with Uganda, Niger and Algeria are tentative and brave, to say the least, in the sense of putting up as much spin as possible, but they cannot arrive at any assurance as to the ability to make substantial gains in the group.

What was noticeable was the extent to which the wish for victory in whatever contest or match was being expressed, trying to pull at any likely string that may set the stage for an upset.

Any win by the national side will be an upset, with the sole exception of Niger, they still impressed in the latest finals.

By implication, the level at which Comoros played in that tourney, or Malawi and Niger for that matter were surprising, showing how African soccer at the national level is changing in tandem with club soccer.

That is where a sort of imbalance is seen among countries, that there are those with sufficient levels of investment of sponsorship capable of hiring good players and good coaches from around Africa especially, or within their specific regions to start with.

And at the national level, there are countries with better traditions of migration to the West, as well as flexible citizenship rules easing the signing of such youths.

Just one club has so far been able to scale sufficient heights of sponsorship and coaching recruitment to make a name in continental soccer, reaching quarterfinals once or twice,



Taifa Stars' players celebrate a goal netted by striker John Bocco when the squad faced Malawi in an international friendly duel in Dar es Salaam last year. PHOTO: CORRESPONDENT JUMANNE JUMA

and the group stage more or less repeatedly.

Others have barely dipped their feet into this or that tournament and left it in a huff.

At least on that score, Tanzania has been able to print its name on the African soccer map, but national team success has been long and drawn out, such that even its appearance in the 2019 finals was typical of also-rans.

There was a commotion at the top level after that event, which ought to be discounted in this context.

Looking at that period and at the moment, there is noticeable realism as to what permits a national side to be good or put up an acceptable level of competition with the others, for instance discussing teams by rankings instead of off the cuff ethno-re-

gional characterizations, for instance, if 'Arabs' can win at the Benjamin Mkapa Stadium, etc.

There is at most a wish that the local stadium remains with an indomitable image as embodying a sort of magic wand where visiting teams are bound to lose.

It is hard to say that this view is backed up by substantive evidence, but the local club champions can lay claim to such a rule.

Yet even with the club side, the higher one goes up in a competition the more the preliminary rules fail to work, as they are more applicable when a team competes with more equal sides, where auxiliary factors like a home crowd and turf, the time at which a match is played and even the sympathy of officials make a greater impact on

a match.

When the difference in skills is more noticeable, with quarterfinals starting for Simba SC lately, such presumed advantages are scaled to the minimum, as the psychological side of the contest has a smaller role to play compared with a weaker side at the preliminary stage.

That is why this difficulty also behooves Taifa Stars in their group stage outings as some preliminary rules won't work.

Listening to how the debates or discussions were proceeding, it was apparent that the wish to make the Benjamin Mkapa Stadium a trump card in the national side's chances was overwhelming, which comes down to saying there were few valid technical arguments for that impression.

The corollary to that projection is that we are likely to lose our foreign outings and rely on the local turf, but here spin takes effect, where a marginal expression of confidence in the team to obtain a draw in such fixtures, not daring to say it wins (with the possible exception of the lower placed sides in FIFA ranks, it remained unconvincing, all the same.

Focusing on the impregnable character of playing at the Benjamin Mkapa arena risks pulling the national side into 'technical committees' of another age, though it is at the club level that such phantasmagoria was often being heard.

What looks like it will change this time is how far the national side head coach may stand to be blamed, and what reasons could be cited for that kind of attitude, in case Tanzania takes third or last position, despite that even a second slot in the outcome wouldn't make a difference.

Only the top side proceeds with whatever stage, like making it to the World Cup or being placed for the playoffs, etc.

The national side coach is the anchor of this success in monitoring those playing outside and to an extent in grooming some of them as coaches of national youth teams earlier.

Complainers will be hard put as to where to start, in 2019 they still leveled their guns at the tactician, ex-Barcelona star Emmanuel Amunike.

## USAID Malaria team applauds public schools for promoting sports



The USAID Tanzania Mission Director, Veeraya Somvongsiri (in blue blouse), presents four footballs to Morogoro's Kiwanja cha Ndege Primary School's Head Teacher, Seif Njola, in the region recently. The donation was accompanied by the distribution of 405 mosquito nets to curb the spread of Malaria across the country. USAID Tanzania is expected to distribute over 200000 mosquito nets in Morogoro this year. PHOTO: CORRESPONDENT MICHAEL SIKAPUNDWA

By Correspondent Michael Sikapundwa, Morogoro

THE USAID Tanzania Malaria team has congratulated public primary schools for valuing mental and body fitness through holding indoor and outdoor sports activities including plays, soccer, and basketball.

Veeraya Somvongsiri, USAID Tanzania Mission Director, issued the praise in Morogoro early this week during the distribution of 405 mosquito nets to Standard Two, Six, and Seven pupils of Kiwanja cha Ndege Primary School located near the regional fire brigade station in Morogoro town. The exercise was fulfilled under

the supervision of USAID Tanzania and was accompanied by handing over four footballs for the school's girls and boys.

The event involved United States of America (USA) Congressional staffmembers, namely Katy Crosby, Kali Farahmand, and regional and municipal educational officials.

Veeraya said Tanzania is among the best African countries for over 60 years now and has been working with the USA in curbing the spread of malaria and non-communicable diseases.

"Congratulation to Kiwanja cha Ndege Primary School's staff for training pupils on how to educate the community on the means of preventing the spread of malaria

as the central theme of role play insisting on the use of mosquito nets, cleaning the environment, and demolition of stagnant water around the residential areas," she disclosed.

Municipal Educational Officer, Chausiku Masengenya, said apart from USAID Tanzania's support, public schools in Morogoro municipalities have environmental preservation clubs that deal with cleaning the schools' compounds to avoid the production of mosquito eggs.

Naomi Serbantez, USAID Tanzania's Malaria project supervisor, said the mission has scheduled the distribution of over 200000 mosquito nets, and

405 nets have been handed over to Kiwanja cha Ndege Primary School, which is part of the program.

Brian Bruno, Kiwanja cha Ndege Primary School Standard Six pupil and role play composer, thanked USAID for offering sports equipment.

The school has promised to schedule morning and evening soccer training, aiming at not only fighting non-communicable diseases but also valuing fitness exercises.

According to the school, it will as well have sports programs involving pupils with physical disabilities.

## Yanga head coach keen on sealing NBC Premier League triumph

By Guardian Correspondent

YOUNG Africans SC (Yanga) head coach Nasreddine Nabi has said he needs to guide his outfit to victory in the next three Premier League matches to secure the top-flight title this season.

The coach made it clear that he wants to have his outfit play the three matches more strategically because the teams his side is to face are tough and are planning to disrupt it.

"We have a lot of work to do to make sure we achieve our championship goal, we have three tough matches that we have to play very carefully to win but my players have to work hard to achieve the goals," Nabi revealed.

The coach, who has dual citizenship in Tunisia and Belgium, expressed his

## Man United hire Erik ten Hag as 5th manager in 9 years

MANCHESTER, England

A MODEL of stability in Alex Ferguson's long trophy-filled tenure, Manchester United hired a fifth full-time manager in nine years since his retirement by bringing in Erik ten Hag from Ajax.

Ten Hag's arrival was announced by United on Thursday and the 52-year-old Dutchman will join at the end of the season to 2025. He's tasked with awakening a fallen superpower in European soccer that is enduring its longest trophy drought in nearly 40 years.

United has been led by interim managers Michael Carrick and currently Ralf Rangnick since Ole Gunnar Solskjaer was fired in November.

Adopting the attacking philosophy of the great Johan Cruyff, ten Hag succeeded in bringing the good times back to Ajax, leading the biggest team in the Netherlands to two Eredivisie titles – it could be three in a few weeks – as well as the Champions League semifinals in 2019.

Returning United to its former heights is set to be an even bigger job, given the team won the last of its record 20 English titles in 2013 – Ferguson's final season of his 26-year reign – and hasn't won a trophy since beating Ajax in the Europa League final in 2017.

United hasn't endured such a trophy drought in 40 years and has slipped way behind rivals Manchester City and Liverpool despite continuing to spend heavily on players.

The three-time European champion might not even return to the Champions League next season. United is three points out of the Premier League top four with five games remaining.

Ten Hag might be the biggest managerial gamble in United's turbulent post-Ferguson era.

Aside from a two-year spell with Bayern Munich's reserve team (in 2013-15, when Pep Guardiola was in charge of the first team), ten Hag has coached only in the Netherlands – with Go Ahead Eagles, Utrecht and most recently Ajax since 2017.

As such, he is untested in handling the egos of some of the biggest names in world soccer – and United has some of them in Cristiano Ronaldo, Paul Pogba and Bruno Fernandes.

An advocate of the 4-3-3 that is so popular in the Netherlands, ten Hag tries to play attractive, attacking football in the manner of the teams coached by Cruyff, whose shadow and philosophy hangs over the club like Ferguson's does at Old Trafford.

AP

## Ten Hag accepts his toughest challenge as Man Utd manager

LONDON

ERIK Ten Hag has never shied away from a challenge, but the biggest task of the Dutchman's coaching career awaits after accepting the role of Manchester United manager.

Ten Hag, 52, will leave Ajax at the end of the season having restored their pride at the top table of European football in the Champions League and dominated domestically in his four years in charge.

Performing a similar turnaround in United's fortunes after nearly a decade in the doldrums will be a higher mountain to scale.

But Ten Hag boasts an unblemished managerial record from his unconventional route to one of the sport's most prized jobs.

An unremarkable playing career included three spells as FC Twente, where he won his only major trophy as captain in the 2001 Dutch Cup.

It was at Twente where his journey as a coach began too, working alongside former United assistant and England manager Steve McLaren.

"I thought I knew football before, but going there and experiencing that... I knew nothing about football," McLaren told The Athletic of his experience with Ten Hag.

"I have to sit up in the stands to see the patterns of a game, but he could stand on the touchline (and see them). He always knew the answer to everything, how to change shape, change positions."

In his first role as a manager in his own right, Ten Hag got Go Ahead Eagles promoted to the top-flight of Dutch football.

Yet, instead of testing himself in the Eredivisie, he took the bold decision to take over Bayern Munich's reserve side in the fourth-tier of German football.

His two years in Munich coincided with Pep Guardiola's time as boss at Bayern with Ten Hag keen to soak up as much knowledge as he could from the Manchester City manager and the culture of working for a European giant.

"During my time at Bayern Munich, among other things, I saw how things work (at a big club)," Ten Hag said reflecting on his time in Germany.

"Every detail can be picked out for analysis. The media, people in general, always find something if you look for it. A hundred things can go right, if one thing goes wrong, people highlight it."

That level of scrutiny is now what he will have to get used to and a club where plenty has gone wrong in recent years.

- Cultural reset -

Despite boasting one of the largest wage bills in world football, United have not won a trophy for five years.

Barring an unlikely resurrection in the final weeks they will not even be playing in the Champions League next season.

AFP

# Man City wake up against Brighton to take lead from Liverpool in title race

MANCHESTER, England

**P**RESSURE? What pressure? Manchester

City watched Liverpool take top spot in the Premier League table on Tuesday night and then promptly claimed it back. For now it's as you were in the title race with six games to go, although Pep Guardiola and his players were reminded by Brighton & Hove Albion that these next four weeks will not be straightforward.

City won 3-0 but during a goalless first half the fans inside the Etihad Stadium grew gradually more anxious. It wasn't until Phil Foden scored the second with 25 minutes to go that the tension began to dissipate. When Bernardo Silva scored the third on 82 minutes, the home supporters finally got up the courage to chant "champions, champions, champions."

"Time will tell. We were so aggressive, we were patient and we found a goal," said Guardiola afterwards. "When we arrive after I don't know how many fixtures we've



Manchester City's head coach Pep Guardiola gestures during the English Premier League soccer match between Manchester City and Brighton and Hove Albion at the Etihad Stadium in Manchester, England, Wednesday, April 20, 2022. (AP Photo)

already played, being in the position after the last four years we've won three titles is because we've done many good things.

"It happened three years ago, we won 14 in a row to be champions. If we win all the games we will be champions."

Brighton, who arrived after back-to-back wins over Arsenal and Tottenham Hotspur, haven't had so much as a draw in this part of Manchester since 1982 but things like that don't matter when there are titles on the line. Graham Potter's team were so

well organized that City only managed one shot on target during the first half. With each opportunity that came and went the frustrated groans in the stands got louder and louder and more and more televisions in Liverpool flicked over to the football.

But by the time clocked reached 65 minutes it was back to the regular scheduled programming. On 53 minutes, Riyad Mahrez bundled his way through and scored for the 23rd time this season thanks to a deflection off Joel Veltman. The second, scored by Foden 12 minutes later, went in off Enoch Mwepu.

Even teams as good as City need a bit of luck sometimes. They might need a bit more here on Saturday, particularly if Watford are as organized and resilient as Brighton. This time City get to put the pressure on Liverpool with Jurgen Klopp's side not in action until 24 hours later against Everton at Anfield.

"Liverpool are one of the best teams in football history," added Guardiola. "There are six games left and if we win all the games,

we are champions. If we don't win all the games, Liverpool will be champions."

"We have to win all the games. It's not necessary to tell that to the players, they feel it. We're competing with one of the best teams ever."

After a gruelling stretch of games which, according to Guardiola, saw his players treated for a combined 71 injuries last week they are about to enter another one. After Watford on Saturday, it's the Champions League semifinal first leg against Real Madrid at the Etihad on Tuesday followed by a trip to Elland Road to face Leeds United four days later and then the return leg in Madrid at the Bernabeu.

The good news for Guardiola – now the fastest manager to reach 250 English top-flight wins – is that Ruben Dias was able to make his comeback from a hamstring injury as a half-time substitute against Brighton while Kevin De Bruyne, injured against Atletico Madrid last week, was brilliant for 83 minutes. City will need everyone – particularly key players like De Bruyne and Dias – if

they are going to hold off Liverpool and safely negotiate these next six games while also trying to win the Champions League for the first time in their history.

For now, Guardiola is just happy to be playing in the competition next season.

"It is one of the happiest days as next season we will be in the Champions League," said Guardiola. "People take it for granted but we have to be in the Champions League. When it happens mathematically it's because we have done really well. If you ask every club what the target is, it is to qualify for the Champions League. We have done it again. Once we got that it means we did really well so far and now we know exactly what we have to do. The players feel it."

After a rare three-game spell without a win and Liverpool demolishing Manchester United a day earlier, it would have been easy for City to creak under the pressure. Instead, they held their nerve and began the business end of the season the best possible way. One down, six to go.

ESPN

## Nketiah gives Arsenal new life, Lukaku conjures no such revival

LONDON

ONE is an academy graduate without a Premier League goal to his name all season, the other is a £97.5million striker signed to win his team the title. Both are out of favour and may well be playing their football at different clubs next season after publicly voicing concerns about how they are being utilised, yet Arsenal's Eddie Nketiah – the 22-year-old making only his 13th top-flight start – outshone pedigree heavyweight Romelu Lukaku to breathe fresh life into the Gunners' top-four hopes with a brace in Wednesday's 4-2 win at Chelsea.

A day after Nketiah gave an interview in which he explained the reasons behind turning down multiple offers to extend his Arsenal contract that expires at the end of the season, he was given a chance to lead the attack with Alexandre Lacazette still not fully recovered from Covid-19. How he seized his moment.

Nketiah capped a fine all-round display with two goals – one in each half amounting to his first Premier League brace – to become the first Arsenal player to score twice in this fixture for almost 11 years and reinvigorate the Gunners' campaign after three consecutive defeats. Contrast that with Lukaku, who gave a more incendiary interview in December that prompted Blues boss Thomas Tuchel to drop the Belgium international in a move from which his individual form has never recovered.

This was Lukaku's first league start since Feb. 19, a decision partly informed by his outing in the first fixture, his triumphant second coming last August, a goal-scoring debut that appeared to signal he would take English football by storm after two years honing his craft in Serie



Arsenal's Eddie Nketiah, second left celebrates with teammates after scoring the opening goal of the game during the English Premier League soccer match between Chelsea and Arsenal at Stamford Bridge in London, Wednesday, April 20, 2022. (AP Photo)

A with Inter Milan. He touched the ball just 22 times – fewer than any other outfield player on either team – before being substituted on the hour mark to a mixed reception that contained a few boos from some Chelsea supporters.

Lukaku looked off the pace in attack and provided a reminder of what Chelsea lose in their pressing game when Kai Havertz is not leading the line. Tuchel suggested on Tuesday that Lukaku simply wasn't fit enough to start matches of late and the evidence from west London on Wednesday underlines the notion that he has plenty of work still to do in that regard.

Arsenal boss Mikel Arteta looked inward for an explanation for Nketiah's lack of usage this season, and applauded his young forward's commitment despite receiving few rewards for his dedication in 2022.

"Good things happen to good people," Arteta said. "If there's one player I've been unfair with, then it's him."

"He's given me every right to do something different, and if Eddie hasn't played more, then it's my fault. If he hasn't played then it's because me, as a manager, I've missed something or I haven't had the courage to play him. Today he showed me again how wrong I was."

Chelsea's defending was atrocious at times – Tuchel was at a loss to explain the sheer volume of individual mistakes afterwards – but Arsenal have not been a team to capitalise on such moments of late, and so Nketiah's interventions made a welcome change. Perhaps Arteta's shift to a three-man defence surprised Tuchel somewhat but, not for the first time, it was individual errors that cost them dearly.

Andreas Christensen's woefully under-hit back-pass gave Nketiah – who was released by Chelsea at the age of 14 – an early chance, racing through on goal to slot a low finish past Edouard Mendy. Timo Werner's deflected equaliser left Arsenal goalkeeper

Aaron Ramsdale partially unsighted as it found its way in, but parity did not last long, a fine Arsenal move culminating in Emile Smith Rowe stroking home a fine finish from the edge of the box. Cesar Azpilicueta showed a striker's touch to poke home Mason Mount's cross to send the teams in level at the break, but Arsenal made the most of more defensive uncertainty, not eradicated by Thiago Silva's half-time introduction for Christensen.

First, Nketiah's perseverance was rewarded as he scored on 57 minutes as Malang Sarr and Silva got in a muddle. Then, in the game's closing moments, Azpilicueta gave away a bizarre stoppage-

time penalty as Cedric Soares' cross went behind Bukayo Saka but the Blues captain still held the England international down, leaving referee Jon Moss with a simple decision. Saka dispatched the spot kick – his first since missing for England in the final of Euro 2020 – and Azpilicueta was left to remonstrate with a fan after the full-time whistle in an incident conveying the ill-feeling around Stamford Bridge after another disappointing night.

The crowd was reduced to 32,249 as a result of the U.K. government sanctions against owner Roman Abramovich restricting ticket sales, but the diminished audience alone is no explanation of a third home defeat on the spin for the first time since 1993-94. They also conceded four goals in back-to-back league games for the first time since 1989-90.

Tuchel, somewhat exasperated, apportioned blame in all directions, including his own groundsmen.

"To say the pitch is difficult to play here, it maybe sounds like an excuse, but it is a very, very difficult pitch that we have here," he said. "It's not in our favour. The ball bounces very awkwardly in front

of Andreas when he wants to play this ball. But still, we had the same mistake against Real Madrid that cost us the next round of the Champions League, and this one cost us the next match. I can't remember when we got two goals like this."

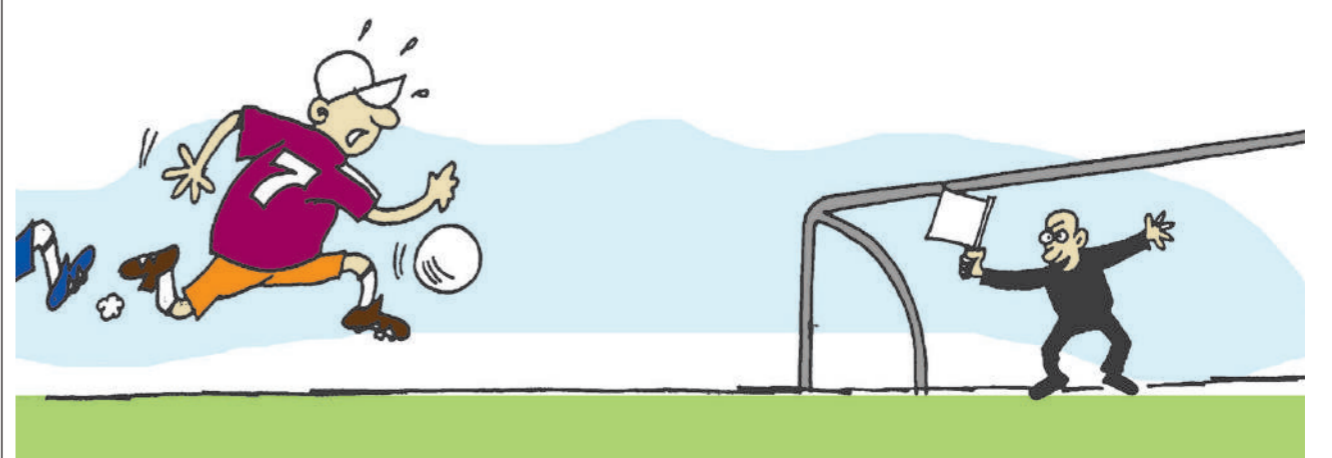
There is no guarantee that Nketiah will continue this form, but he has surely earned the right to retain his place for Saturday's visit of Manchester United, a game that now offers Arsenal the chance to seize the initiative from Tottenham Hotspur in the top-four race. Victory would send them above Spurs into fourth by the time Antonio Conte's side kick off at Brentford.

It says everything about the vulnerabilities of every team below Liverpool and Manchester City that Arsenal can lose to Crystal Palace, Brighton & Hove Albion and Southampton at this relatively late stage of the campaign yet beat Chelsea and still have more than a puncher's chance of Champions League football. The difference may come from bit-part or fringe players seizing their opportunity.

Nketiah delivered where Lukaku faltered.

ESPN

Gwiji by David Chikoko



# SPORT

Man City wake up against Brighton to take lead from Liverpool in title race

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## Coastal Union still hoping to perform well in NBC Premier League

By Correspondent Cheji Bakari, Tanga

DESPITE witnessing Coastal Union succumb to two losses in two NBC Premier League matches since tactician Juma Mgunda took over the squad's technical bench, the squad's management still sees a bright future.

The squad's leadership has as a result urged followers to omit all negative feelings as the team will post good results in the remaining fixtures and maintain its place in the next season's Premier League.

Coastal Union had this season's NBC Premier League been tutored by three coaches.

The first head coach was Melis Medo who terminated his contract with the side, he coached the team for 15 matches of the first phase of the top-flight.

Under Medo's tutelage, the team won four matches, lost six games, and notched a draw in five games.

Soon after Medo had terminated his contract, the team was under assistant coach Joseph Lazaro who coached the squad in three matches.

Among those matches, Coastal Union won one match against Kinondoni Municipal Council (KMC) FC, cruising to a 3-2 victory in the latter's backyard.

In the second game, it notched a 0-0 draw with Azam FC, with both matches taking place at Azam Complex Stadium, Chamazi in Dar es Salaam.

Coast Union's Ruvu Shooting then handed Coastal Union a 3-1 loss in a duel played at Mkwakwani Stadium in Tanga.

Then the management made a public announcement stating the team would be under tactician Mgunda until the end of the Premier League season.

But since the team was under Mgunda's tutelage, it took part in three matches against Simba, Kagera Sugar, and Tanzania Prisons FC, losing two and triumphing in one.

Coastal Union took on Simba in a top-flight match, locked horns with Kagera Sugar in a 2021/22 Azam Sports Federation Cup (ASFC) quarterfinal fixture, and recently took on Tanzania Prisons FC in a league clash at Sokoine Stadium in Mbeya.

It lost both two NBC Premier League games, conceding a 2-1 loss to Simba, and 1-0 to Tanzania Prisons FC.

However, in the ASFC quarterfinal match against Kagera Sugar, Coastal Union won 5-4 in a penalty shootout after ending the regular 90 minutes locked to a 1-1 draw.

Coastal Union's Fans and Motivation Committee Chairman Salim Bawazir disclosed to The Guardian they hardly fear relegation.

"They were the game results, loss, win or draw are part of a football match, but I want to assure you we still have the opportunity of doing well in the remaining matches," he said.

After Coastal Union had suffered the loss to Tanzania Prisons at Sokoine Memorial Stadium, the former dropped to 13th position out of 16 NBC Premier League teams with 21 points.

Since this season's NBC Premier League resumed, Coastal Union played 21 games, winning five games, conceding a loss in nine games, and drawing nine games.

The remaining home games involving Coastal Union, which will be played at Mkwakwani Stadium according to league fixture, are those against Kagera Sugar, Geita Gold FC, Polisi Tanzania, and Biashara United while away games are those against Namungo FC, Mbeya Kwanza FC, Mbeya City FC, Mtibwa Sugar, and Dodoma Jiji FC.

# Mbeya Kwanza FC, Coastal Union in relegation six-pointer



Mbeya Kwanza FC players feature in a training session at Sokoine Stadium in Mbeya recently. PHOTO: COURTESY OF MBEYA KWANZA FC

By Correspondent Michael Mwebe

RELEGATION - threatened Mbeya Kwanza FC plays hosts to fellow strugglers Coastal Union in a relegation zone scrap in the NBC Premier League today afternoon.

This league clash will take place at the Majimaji Stadium in Songea, kick-off is at 16:00.

The home side is anchored to the foot of the table, sinking ever closer to the second tier after a morale-sapping sequence of 10 league matches in which they have collected five points from the 30 available. They are four points below Prisons.

No NBC Premier League side's home fans have been treated to fewer wins than the Mbeya Kwanza FC faithful this season, failing to claim victory since the start of the season.

Mbeya Kwanza FC has also

scored the fewest home goals in the entire league, troubling their visitors' net just five times.

Club top scorer Habib Kyombo scored in last weekend's one-all draw with Polisi Tanzania to take his tally to five goals in 10 appearances.

Mbeya Kwanza FC will hope the former Singida United man can fire the side to their first home victory this season.

Head coach Mbwana Makata who is the man to take charge of Mbeya Kwanza FC this season is still winless in two

attempts since he replaced Maka Malwisi.

Meanwhile, Coastal Union is placed 13th in the table, and it has a cushion of just two points over the relegation cut-off.

The clock is ticking for Coastal Union, alias 'Wagosi wa Kaya', who can ill afford a slip-up here knowing they are now in the relegation battle with nine games to go.

Coastal Union will enter the match on the back of three consecutive league defeats to Prisons, Ruvu Shooting, and Simba.

They have managed to win thrice on the road, drawing three and losing four times away from home in the league this season.

The visitors will hope forwards Abdulhamis Suleiman, Haji Ugando, and Vincent Abubakar wear goal-scoring boots to end a troubling run of only one win in their last 10 league games.

Like his opposite man at Mbeya Kwanza FC, Coastal Union's newly appointed head coach Juma Mgunda has not won a league game after

losing to both Simba and Prisons since taking over from interim tactician Joseph Lazaro.

In their previous meetings, Mbeya Kwanza and Coastal Union have only faced each other once in the top flight.

In the reverse league fixture, on December 5, 2021, at Mkwakwani Stadium, Coastal Union won 2-1 courtesy of goals netted by Vincent Abubakar and Amani Kyata while Edgar Mwampangama got Mbeya Kwanza FC the consolation.

## Gairo Boys cricket squad wins 2022 Easter Holidays Bilateral Series

By Guardian Reporter

MOROGORO'S Gairo Boys cricket outfit has triumphed in the Easter Holidays Bilateral Series which took place in the region recently.

Gairo Boys cricket squad put solid showing to emerge victorious in all ties the squad took part in, winding its campaign with a convincing nine-wicket win over Kongwa cricket squad.

Kongwa cricket squad went in to bat first and amassed 63 runs all out in 16.1 overs of the 20-over game.

Gairo Boys cricket squad, in response, smoothly mounted chase notch-

ing 69 runs dropping one wicket in mere five overs.

The Gairo cricketers had opened their campaign impressively, notching an emphatic 37-run victory over the Chamwino Boys cricket squad.

After having secured the chance to start batting, the Gairo Boys cricket team scored 120 runs for six wickets in 20 overs.

Chamwino Boys cricketers found the going tough when they took the crease, they, in the end, did not succeed to chase their opponents' score, notching 83 runs for seven wickets in 20 overs. The tournament, hosted by Tanzania Cricket Association (TCA), attracted a big crowd of cricket fans and the boys got the experience of playing competitive cricket for the first time.

The TCA information officer, Atif Salim, pointed out it had undoubtedly been a great experience for all the new centers that took part in the showdown and will only improve on the shortcomings with more practice.

Bilateral Series which brought together U-15 cricketers had all ties played at the Gairo cricket ground.

The series involved cricketers from TCA's newly opened centers of Chamwino, Kongwa, Gairo, and Dodoma Jiji.

According to Salim, the series turned out to be a step ahead for the players to experience structured cricket after about a year since the new centers had opened.

The official revealed the work done by the respective development officers has to be commended as about 60 players battled it out in the tournament.

The tournament was played during the Easter break that got underway on April 14.

Chamwino Boys cricket squad included Barabara Mkoy, Lameck Charles, Michael Ainea, Zawadi Mahelela, Fred Chikolongo, Godfrey Chakumwande, and Frank Soche.

Elias Andrea, Godfrey Mdonyanje, Halleluya Chis-abuye, Elias Mussa, Asante Soche, Nathaniel Mchome, and Elisha Kutamika complete the list.

Ally Mpeka was the outfit's coach, whereas Nicholas Achimpota was the squad's manager.

Kongwa Boys cricket outfit was made up of Abid Peter Ndasho, Abias Peter Ndasho, Salum Omary Haji, David Wilson, Albert Joshua, Emmanuel Paulo, and Nasson Lehao.

Frank Mwegoha, Shadrack Machaya, Emmanuel Chiloya, Christopher Selenje, Japhary Stanley, France Madeha, and Bakari Ramadhan were also on the list.

Kassim Nassor was the outfit's coach, whilst Kelvin Msumile operated as the side's manager.

Dodoma Jiji cricket squad comprised Fajili Juma Mkuwa, Pascal Silani Mlelema, Joseph Mrusu, William Issa, Patrick Timita, Andrea Azigadi, and David Mnyaga.

Samuel Jackson, Isack Ernest, Simon Chinyong'ole, Ibrahim Vincent, Simon Amon, Shabani Sendaro, and Anania Joseph also made the list.

Obeid Mgaya, Medard Emmanuel, and Derrick Julius were the team's substitutes.

Gairo Boys cricket side consisted of Ayub Braison, Elias Nelson, Benjamin Madede, Kanavalo Julius, Iddi Yusuph, Alid Amil, and Arafat Abdul.

Jeremiah John, Wikson Costa, Iddi Mwika, Brighton Emmanuel, Alfred Daniel, Emmanuel Baslidia, and Hamis Yusuph conclude the side.

Senior national cricket squad batsman Seif Khalifa was Gairo Boys team's coach and Masumbuko Kassim was the squad's manager.



Gairo Boys cricket outfit's coach, Seif Khalifa (sitting L), and his players pose for a photo upon the completion of this year's Easter Holidays Bilateral Series held in Morogoro recently. The four-day series brought together teams from Tanzania Cricket Association (TCA)'s newly opened centers of Chamwino, Kongwa, Gairo, and Dodoma. PHOTO: COURTESY OF TCA

## Flexibles by David Chikoko

WHY DO MEN DIE EARLIER THAN WOMEN?

THERE ARE MORE WOMEN THAN MEN

