



### WATER



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## Contract axed in water project tiff

By Guardian Reporter, Zanzibar

ZANZIBAR Second Vice President Hemed Suleiman Abdullah (pictured) has directed the Zanzibar Water Authority (ZAWA) to cancel a contract awarded to Sapphire Engineering Co. for failing to install a water tank at Raha Gando in Pemba North Region as agreed.

The VP issued the directive here on Tuesday at a meeting which, among other things, evaluated ongoing water projects where it emerged that the contractor gave

“...for their own interests, do not respect the contracts

false information on the project, contrary to the situation on the ground.

The act of giving false information regarding the project shows the firm's ineptitude for the task it was contracted to execute, he stated, asking ZAWA to take legal action.

The government has set aside plenty of funds to supply safe and clean water to the people but it is surprising to see some individuals undermining these efforts, the VP exclaimed.

ZAWA officials have to go through contracts for water supply services and take legal steps on distributors who, “for their own interests, do not respect the contracts,” he declared.

The water authority must also enhance accountability to optimize revenue collection, set the framework for operating independently and ultimately pay dividends to the government, he emphasised.

In order to increase its revenues, ZAWA should make sure that every water consumer is fitted with a water meter to ascertain the quantity of water consumed, he added.

# Samia: Put Rufiji Delta to good use



President Samia Suluhu Hassan (C) listens to Energy minister January Makamba and TANESCO managing director Maharage Chande after launching water diversion and start water filling at the Julius Nyerere hydro power plant along Rufiji River yesterday. Photo: State House

By Francis Kajubi, Rufiji

PRESIDENT Samia Suluhu Hassan has directed five ministries to oversee the proper utilization of the Rufiji River basin and delta, detailing specific projects like irrigation farming, fish dams as well as a tarmac road to link the zone with the southern regions as well as the cities of Dar es Salaam and Dodoma.

She gave the directive at a ceremony to close the diversion channel, thus allowing Rufiji River to flow on its original route and fill the dam for the Julius Nyerere hydropower plant on the border between Coast Region and Morogoro Region yesterday.

The diversion was built two years ago, 703 meters from the main trunk of the river to pave the way for the construction of water gates at the power project site, officials said.

The president tasked authorities at the Agriculture ministry to make full utilisation of the Rufiji delta covering 400,000 acres by dividing it into blocs for large-scale irrigation farming projects.

Samia directed the Livestock and Fisheries authorities to come up with a modern fish cage project along the river and their Works and Transport colleagues to immediately allocate a construction budget for the Chalinze-Utete road network at tarmac level, a stretch that takes upwards of 300 kilometers.

The road passes through the Julius Nyerere national park and the power station, with current global positioning maps showing road connection in the Utete-Rufiji stretch within the project area, a stretch of 136 km.

The president wants the road modernised rather than merely preserving forests so that economic activities along the well watered delta zone can take off as scheduled, observers noted.

The power project zone is a nerve centre for economic links between surrounding

## Govt unveils organic agro-sector strategies

By Guardian Correspondent, Morogoro

A NATIONAL strategy to put in place ecological organic agriculture has been worked out by the government, a top policy adviser has confirmed. Gungu Mibavu, an Agriculture ministry

assistant director of policy and planning, made this affirmation here when opening a meeting of stakeholders to prepare a strategy for boosting agro-ecology as it is essential for sustainable development of the farming sector. The strategy and its components are

meant to spur sustainable development in the conservation of the environment, boosting health and food security in the farming sector, he said.

In the food production component the strategy sets out ways to sustain the health

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## 'Arbitration vital for handling complaints'

By Guardian Reporter

ZANZIBAR President Dr Hussein Ali Mwinyi has lauded the mediation and arbitration efforts of the Media Council of Tanzania (MCT) in solving complaints on media practitioners.

Speaking with members of the MCT governing board and executives who paid a courtesy call at the State House in Zanzibar yesterday, the Zanzibar leader said it was pertinent for solutions to be reached within the sector through mutual consultations.

That demands exchanges, advices, fault finding and correcting one another amicably as steps that ensure positive media industry progress, he stated.

It is imperative that media professionals should regulate themselves as part of media ethics and social responsibility, helping to promote the industry in general, he stated, underlining that in advancing press freedom, it is vital that stakeholders cooperate, as the work of journalists can be weapons to build or destroy efforts of others.

In defending press freedom, it is important for everyone to strengthen its self-regulation structures, he said, highlighting the use of research and publications produced by the council, as further promoting the media profession and strengthening the profession.

Taking up gender issues in media work, the president said the council needs to closely pursue gender balance issues in the



Zanzibar President Dr Hussein Ali Mwinyi receives report on the "State of the Media in Tanzania" from Yusuf Khamis Yusuf, the deputy chairman of the Media Council of Tanzania (MCT) governing board after talks with MCT officials at the State House yesterday. Photo: State House



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## 'Arbitration vital for handling complaints'

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profession.

Dr Mwinyi hinted at media law in Zanzibar, saying it was legislated a long time ago and the government expects to work with media stakeholders to come up with an adapted version of the relevant legislation.

Yusuf Khamis, vice president of the MCT governing board, had earlier said that the media profession has not only the basic role of educating and entertaining but also promoting democracy, good governance and accountability.

"Media outlets that discharge their duties professionally and adhere to ethics and are accountable to the people enhance the chances of building a nation pursuing equitable development in all sectors, he stated.

Kajubi Mukajanga, the MCT executive secretary, presenting a message from the president of the governing board, said the responsibility of the council is to oversee ethics and promote professionalism in media.

The council seeks to defend press freedom, ensure accountability of the media to the public and arbitrate complaints against media outlets raised by individuals, conduct research on media issues and promote gender equality in the

industry, he elaborated.

To strengthen the media, it is imperative to have media-friendly laws, he said, noting that Zanzibar legislation on the media industry was old, with sections in power corridors hindering press freedom and the media sector in general, the message underlined.

"We are delighted that the government is involving media stakeholders and others in efforts to transform the law as it impedes media practitioners in discharging their duties of informing Zanzibaris effectively," he said

Imane Duwe, a media trainer at the School of Computer, Communications and Journalism within the Zanzibar State University (SUZA), who is part of council members in Zanzibar, said media stakeholders in Zanzibar greatly benefit from MCT services.

"At SUZA, we have been benefiting from training for our tutors, with MCT publications used as reference materials," she stated.

Veteran MCT board member Edda Sanga said the meeting with the Zanzibar leader was crucial to strengthening MCT activities in Zanzibar.

MCT expects to work with the government in strengthening the media profession in the Isles and propelling new developments in the industry, she added.

## Samia: Put Rufiji Delta to good use

FROM PAGE 1

regions of Coast, Morogoro with Lindi and Mtwara to the south, and by extension, Dodoma and Dar es Salaam which border Coast and Morogoro regions respectively.

"People from Lindi and Mtwara regions shouldn't go through Dar es Salaam when traveling to Dodoma or Morogoro," she said, underlining that TanRoads (the Tanzania National Roads Agency) ought to start working on the road.

Similarly, the Water ministry has to make sure that DAWASA (the Dar es Salaam Water and Sewerage Authority) comes up with a project to treat River Rufiji water for domestic consumption in Dar es Salaam. Habitual reliance

on water from Ruvu River to serve the city with 5.6m people was inappropriate, she said.

President Samia directed the Union and Environment ministry at VPO to make sure that Rufiji River is protected from encroachment so that the target of generating 2,125 megawatts is sustainable.

Energy minister January Makamba said the hydropower project was complete by 78.6 percent as of November, from 37 percent in November 2020.

Maharage Chande, the managing director for the Tanzania Electric Supply Co. Ltd (TANESCO) said the project relies on three sources of electricity from a dam covering 915 square kilometers.

## Govt unveils organic agro-sector strategies

FROM PAGE 1

of soils, vegetation and people, enhance biodiversity and initiate production cycles adapted to local conditions. This would reduce the use of inputs having adverse effects, he asserted.

The strategy will be implemented from 2022 to 2030, as an encompassing strategy to bring about transformation in the agriculture sector by agro-ecology initiatives, he stated.

The strategy is aimed at solving challenges related to effects of climate change that are contributed by environmental damage and threatening food security, he said, elaborating that the government saw the need to prepare the national strategy to conserve the environment and facilitating producing sufficient food.

Vital areas considered in formulating the strategic project include easier availability of ecological farm inputs, markets as well as crop processing facilities.

Administratively, it is coordination, training and strengthening joint venture networks that are being intensified, as well as other crosscutting issues, he stated.

The ministry is seeking to ensure it widens its agro-ecological farming efforts, and had handed to SwissAid about 2.5 hectares for agro-

ecological experimental farming.

Revelian Ngaiza, chairperson of the national ecological organic agriculture strategy (NEOAS) committee of experts said the strategy has passed through various stages in its preparation and is now being submitted for review at higher levels.

Preparation of the strategy also incorporates the ministries of Lands, Livestock and Fisheries, Regional Administration and Local Governments (PO-RALG), Union and Environment at VPO, and the Prime Minister's Office (PMO).

Other key agencies are Investment, Industry and Trade ministry, Natural Resources and Tourism, Water ministry and key agriculture sector stakeholders like Sustainable Agriculture Tanzania (SAT), the Tanzania Organic Agriculture Movement (TOAM), Participatory Ecological Land Use Management (PELUM) Tanzania, a network of civil society organisations working with smallholder farmers and livestock keepers in promoting participatory ecological land use management, along with SwissAid and the German development agency, GIZ.

Asha Mshua, an agro-ecological farmer and Zanzibar-based legislator, said this farming practice protects farmers' lives and health of the soil. It will also to boost food security in the country, she added.



Fifty women entrepreneurs from Bagamoyo cohort on Wednesday concluded 13-weeks of specialised training in business and entrepreneurship funded by the US government through its Academy of Women Entrepreneurs (AWE) programme. United States ambassador to Tanzania, Dr Donald Wright congratulated the women and urged them to continue building successful businesses and contributing to their local communities. Kisarawe district commissioner, Nickson Simon, deputy principal of Bagamoyo College of Arts, Gabriel Kiiza, and many other distinguished guests attended the ceremony. Photo: Guardian Correspondent

## US embassy supports Bagamoyo women entrepreneurs

By Guardian Reporter

FIFTY women entrepreneurs from Bagamoyo and Dar es Salaam have concluded 13 weeks of specialised training in business and entrepreneurship funded by the US government through its Academy of Women Entrepreneurs (AWE) programme.

Speaking to the graduates during the ceremony, US ambassador to Tanzania Donald Wright congratulated the women urging them to use what they had learned to continue expanding successful businesses.

The graduation ceremony was also attended by Kisarawe district commissioner Nickson Simon, who represented Pwani regional commissioner Aboubakar Kunenge, acting district commissioner of Bagamoyo, Vice Principal of Bagamoyo College of Arts, Gabriel Kiiza, and many other distinguished

guests.

AWE is a global initiative of the US government seeking to promote women's economic empowerment with the goal of helping 50 million women worldwide fulfill their economic potential.

It is committed to providing women the knowledge, networks, and access they need to turn their ideas into reality.

Ambassador Wright said: "The 13 weeks of training have provided you with the practical skills to create sustainable businesses, as well as a network of mentors and such minded entrepreneurs in the United States."

He added that empowering women economically is the fastest way to change society.

"Women have a strong multiplier effect on the wider community because when women succeed, they are more likely to invest their earnings into their families and

their communities, paying for things like their children's education and health care. The economic benefits of your accomplishments support future generations. Your creativity is already having an impact on the society and the economy of Tanzania," he said.

The Bagamoyo cohort is the seventh group of women to participate in AWE. The first group of 20 women graduated on September 9, 2019, in Dar es Salaam.

The second group of 25 women entrepreneurs from Iringa completed their program on December 16, 2020. The third group of 17 entrepreneurs from Zanzibar graduated on June 28, 2021. The fourth group of 32 entrepreneurs from Mwanza graduated on November 8, 2021.

The fifth group of 31 entrepreneurs from Dodoma graduated on June 6, 2022, and the sixth group of 32 entrepreneurs from Mbeya

graduated on October 3, 2022.

Through a partnership with the US African Development Foundation (USADF), entrepreneurs participating in the AWE program are eligible for additional seed funds from USADF ranging up to \$20,000 to expand their businesses.

The US embassy partners with Selfina to implement the AWE programme in Tanzania. Founded in 2002 by Dr. Victoria Kisyombe, Selfina is a pioneer of micro-credit in Tanzania through micro-leasing with particular attention to widows and young girls. In the past 19 years, SELFINA has economically empowered more than 31,000 women through an active revolving fund.

Over 300,000 lives have been impacted through the benefits accrued. Women are now owners of their own businesses and more than 150,000 jobs have been created.



Dealers in Singida region loading chickens in two trucks ready for transporting them to Dar es Salaam for the festive season as captured yesterday by our photographer. According to them they have not increased prices this season compared to previous years due to lack of funds. Photo: Correspondent Nathaniel Limu

## Nigeria reduces restrictions on cash withdrawals under popular pressure

LAGOS

TWO weeks after imposing caps on weekly cash withdrawals, the Central Bank of Nigeria (CBN) had to raise them significantly in the face of public discontent.

The central bank acknowledged in a statement Wednesday "the vital role cash plays in supporting rural and disadvantaged communities

and will ensure an inclusive approach in its transition to a cashless society.

The Central Bank of Nigeria had decided to impose caps to limit the use of cash in the economy.

Among other things, it was concerned about counterfeit bills, the volume of cash out of the banking system and the huge amounts of ransom money being

paid to bandits and kidnappers. "The maximum weekly withdrawal limit for all means for individuals and companies should be 500,000 naira (1,049 euros) and 5 million naira respectively," the central bank said in its statement on Wednesday.

On December 6, the institution drastically reduced the weekly cash withdrawal limit for individuals from 2.5 million naira to 100,000

naira overnight.

For companies, the limit was reduced from 3 million naira per day to 500,000 naira per week.

The decision angered Nigerians who use a lot of cash for business, especially in the informal economy where many do not have bank accounts.

The institution has also launched new 200, 500 and 1,000 naira bills.



Heritage Tanzania Limited managing director, Manasseh Kawoloka, (R) presents a certificate to customers service point manager, Reginald Safari, for good commercial performance in 2022 at the ceremony held in Dar es Salaam on Wednesday. Left is human resources manager Victoria Israel. Photo: Correspondent Miraji Msala

## Exercise caution during this festive season, ministry urges motorists and all road users

By Guardian Correspondent, Dodoma

Permanent Secretary in the Ministry of Health, Prof Abel Makubi has cautioned motorists and other road users to take precautions during this festive season to avoid preventable accidents which are fatal and costly.

Prof Makubi made the remarks in Dodoma after touring the region's referral hospital where he visited special surgery wards where 70-per cent of them were accident victims.

Prof Makubi directed regional and district medical officers to work with the police traffic department to test drivers both mentally and physically so that those with serious health issues are treated.

He also directed the officials to carry out frequent vehicle inspections so that those with defects should be taken out of the roads, saying the impact of defect vehicles are deadly.

Prof Makubi said data from the Muhimbili Orthopedic Institute (MOI) shows between April and June 2022, there were 1,917 accidents patients whereby in July and September there were 2,410 patients which make the percentage of accidents to 70-per cent.

He said the cost of treating accident patients at MOI, especially those with fractures and in need of implants cost more than 2m/- while

those with traumatic brain injuries need to pay about 6 to 20m/-.

He said most of the time; such patients do not have insurance coverage, a move which makes the government carry the burden.

In another development, Prof Makubi said during this festive season, the government was determined to ensure there were enough ambulances to offer services to accident victims in case they happen, saying the government has bought 660 of them to be distributed across the country from June 2023.

He said the government will create a system to identify where an ambulance is so that it timely arrives to take patients for treatment.



**He said most of the time; such patients do not have insurance coverage, a move which makes the government carry the burden**

## Lightning kills Form 2 girl in Iringa region

By Guardian Correspondent, Njombe

CARISTER Haule (15), a Form II student from Mgalo secondary school in Iringa region and a resident of Lifua village, Njombe region died after being hit by

lightning.

A total of 16 houses in the area had their roofs blown away following heavy rains accompanied by strong winds.

Acting Ludewa district administrative secretary, Daniel

Ngalupela, said the incident occurred on December 17, this year at around 5:00 pm at Lifua village in Luilo Ward.

"The gravest incident from the disaster is the death of the girl student who was struck by lightning

when she was untying goats from a huge cashew nut tree," he said and added that the goats also died.

He said out of the 16 houses that had their roofs blown away, six were completely demolished.

"The first thing we did was to

conduct an assessment of the impact of the rain thereafter we met with various stakeholders for contributions to help the victims get items including timber, roofing sheets to rebuild their houses," said Ngalupela.

He said emergency efforts taken include urging some people to shelter the victims.

Witnesses of the incident, including Allen Ngatunga said he arrived at the scene and found the girl laying down including the goats.

## Minister orders NWF to loan Dawasa 500m/- for water supply to consumers

By Guardian Reporter

WATER minister Jumaa Aweso has instructed the National Water Fund (NWF) to provide 500m/- as loan to Dar es Salaam Water and Sanitation Authority (DAWASA) for connecting water supply to some residents of Madale, Mivumoni, Goba, Wazo and Tegeta A who are yet to be connected to Makongo-Bagamoyo water project that was completed on December 16, this year.

Aweso gave the instruction on Wednesday during his visit to inspect the water project that will serve over 450,000 residents, as well as Mshikamano water project that is expected to be completed on January 15, 2023, both projects costing 75bn/-.

"I instruct NWF to provide 500m/- as loan to enable the water supply connection exercise to consumers in Tegeta A, Goba, Wazo, Madale and Mivumoni," he said.

He said the areas that gave him hard time in 2022 due to water supply challenges were Goba, Mivumoni, Bunju, Madale and Wazo.

"The water infrastructure had been completed. I urge DAWASA to make efforts to connect water services to the people," said minister.

He stressed to DAWASA and all other water authorities countrywide to abide by the appropriate procedures in regard to water connections to consumers within seven days after submitting

their applications and made payments thereon, and no more.

"The government has invested a lot of money to enable the people get water supply, hence it is essential for the consumers to be connected to the service, as it is their rights," he stressed.

For his part, Kinondoni district commissioner, Godwin Gondwe thanked President Samia Suluhu Hassan for facilitating the implementation of the huge water project including Makongo-Bagamoyo.



### Job Position: MSMEs Manager

**Job Purpose:** Responsible for growing both Liabilities (Deposits) and Assets from Small and Medium Enterprises (SMEs), advising Business Development department on business strategy, assisting SME Relationship Officers and Bancassurance Relationship Manager in recruiting business customers to ensure SME business growth.

#### Objectives

- Utilize Education Ecosystem to diversify MCB portfolio into SMEs.
- Maximise customers' experience with MCB.
- Adhere to policies and procedures.

#### Main Responsibilities:

- Appraise and review MSME credit applications and provide recommendations for decision making.
- Actively selling MSME deposits, lending, and cross selling of other banks products (Forex, Fund Transfer, Insurance etc.).
- Preparing budget and projections for the MSME loan and deposit products. The budget to include the list of existing, prospective, and potential customers to benefit from the loan and deposit products.
- Take a leading role in driving MSME activity, through networking and promoting MSME activity with MSME Relationship officers, Branch Manager, RM-Bancassurance, Commercial Manager and Marketing officer.
- Actively build the capacity of the MSME Business through on-going mentoring and support to ensure quality credit application and Business Growth.
- Monitor and review the MSME Business performance to ensure that the targets are met.
- Review MSMEs products through customers' feedback, market intelligence, workshops/focus group reports and review product design and performance to establish if change, redesign, or re-launch is appropriate.
- Co-ordinate the execution of Education Ecosystem through budget objectives of the responsibility area on the MSME products to ensure targets are achieved as per approved budget.
- Ensure that customer satisfaction for the MSME is achieved by providing accurate advice for selling in line with customers' expectations.
- Perform other duties as may be directed or assigned by the superior.

#### Attributes:

- Good credit analysis skills.
- Good customer relationship and sound understanding of bank's loan products, policies, and procedures.
- Conversant with standard computer applications (Excel, Word and Access).
- Good communication with high proficiency in the use of (English and Kiswahili).
- Good business management, leadership, coaching, and team building skills.

#### Qualifications and Experience:

- Holder of a first degree or its equivalent in Finance, Accounting, banking and or its equivalent.
- Four years relevant experience in MSME loans and credit analysis.

Applications should be done by sending a detailed CV, certified copies of certificates, and a cover letter to [recruitment@mwalimubank.co.tz](mailto:recruitment@mwalimubank.co.tz) by Friday 07<sup>th</sup> January 2023.

Only shortlisted applicants will be contacted.

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**The water infrastructure had been completed. I urge DAWASA to make efforts to connect water services to the people**

# Ministers meet to chart out, set strategies to curb violence against girls at schools

By Guardian Reporter

THREE government ministers met in Dar es Salaam on Wednesday to discuss and set strategies to combat violence against girls at schools and colleges.

The ministers are George Simbachawene, Minister of State, Prime Minister's Office (Policy, Parliament and Coordination), Prof Adolf Mkenda, Minister for Education, Science and Technology and Dr Dorothy Gwajima, Minister for Social Development, Gender, Women and Special Groups.

They all agreed to work together to prevent violence against children.

Speaking at the meeting, Minister Mkenda said his ministry through the Commissioner of Education is responsible for providing various guidelines for students as well as protecting children from violence.

"This meeting will help us to come up with strategies to protect our children instead of relying on guidelines provided by the Education Commissioner. Experts from other relevant ministries should also check the weaknesses in the guidelines and share their opinions," he said.

Mkenda added that the Ministry of Education is also responsible for managing children at the college level, hence the need to come up with plans and strategies that will ensure their safety.

"Children spend more time in schools and colleges, it is our responsibility as guardians to ensure their safety," said Prof Mkenda.

Dr Dorothy Gwajima appreciated the ministers saying it is a good thing that they are all together working to fight against violence. She said that 2021 data indicates that a total of 11,499 children have been subjected to violence, including rape, and prostitution while others were

impregnated during childhood.

"The number represents less than 15 percent of those who reported such cases. If you look at the magnitude of the problem and if all the cases were reported, there is a need to work together to completely eliminate violence against the school and college girls," stated Dr Gwajima.

She added that parents need to participate in protecting children because 60 percent of sexual violence against children takes place in homes where there are parents.

Simbachawene said the government gives special attention to issues related to children's protection. He said it will issue guidelines to protect children before schools reopen in January 2023.

He directed the Permanent Secretaries in the three ministries to ensure that experts prepare short and long-term strategies to be discussed by ministers and stakeholders.

Minister Simbachawene instructed all the ministers concerned to meet on January 4, 2023, to go through the strategies and opinions and issue recommendations that will be submitted to the Prime Minister for approval.



**Children spend more time in schools and colleges, it is our responsibility as guardians to ensure their safety**

## Stakeholders recommend need for children to be involved in environmental protection efforts

By Beatrice Philemon

STAKEHOLDERS have suggested the need for children to be involved in all activities that aim at solving environmental challenges, adapting and mitigating the effects of climate change so that they enjoy their rights.

FORUM on Climate Change (FORUMCC) Programme Officer, Msololo Onditi made the statement yesterday when briefing journalists on the effects of climate change on children and their rights. He said children should be involved in such activities because they are also affected by climate change in terms of their rights and welfare.

He said the effects of climate change have caused a lack of safe and clean drinking water in many areas across the world including Tanzania, access to education, health care, food and nutrition and all of which are children's rights.

"It is time for government, local government authorities, development partners, ministries, Civil Society Organisations (CSOs), Non-Governmental Organisations (NGOs) and private sector to work together to integrate the rights and welfare of the children in their policy, plans, strategy and different activities that aimed at solving environmental challenges, adapt and mitigate the effects of climate change," he said.

The main goal is to ensure the rights and welfare of children are protected in all activities aimed at solving environmental challenges, adapt and mitigate the effects of

climate change from the household, community and national levels.

Advocate Witness Msolle from Bridge Attorneys and Consultancy Company said: "We need to involve children in what we do because children are also affected by climate change."

Msolle said children have the right to education, health, to be protected from abuse and harm, to share their views, and get safe and clean water. "We should make sure that children's acts are well implemented and observed to help them enjoy their rights."

"If drought occurs within our localities, it affects children's right in terms of access to education, it affects their nutrition and has negative impacts on the growth of their body and minds," she said.

She said during water scarcity, children miss out on classes as they are required to help their parents to search for water. She said when children cannot attend classes, their academic performance drops.

Msolle added that children should be heard and considered in policy-making as well as during planning to make sure they continue enjoying their rights despite climate changes.

Tanzania Centre for Research and Information on Pastoralism (TCRIP)'s Advocate, Neema Ndemno added that climate change is preventing children from enjoying their rights.

The United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF)'s 2007 report indicates that 600 million children are impacted by climate across the world in terms of children's health.



People empowerment organisation director, William Shayo, plants a tree at Ng'hama primary school in Mwalukwa ward, Shinyanga region yesterday. Photo: Correspondent Marco Maduhu

## Mwinyi urges graduates to conduct researches that will help address challenges facing nation

By Guardian Reporter, Zanzibar

ZANZIBAR President Dr Hussein Ali Mwinyi has urged graduates from higher learning institutions to invest more effort in conducting research so as to help address various challenges facing the nation.

He made the call during the 20th graduation ceremony of the Zanzibar University (ZU) in Kibele, Unguja South Region.

He said due to various global changes associated with several challenges, graduates have a great role to find solutions and push the country's development.

He noted that research will

enable the country to address various economic and development challenges within and beyond borders.

"It is time for academicians to invest their efforts in conducting research that will help bring solutions on various challenges facing the society and the country at large," he added.

Dr Mwinyi said the nation needs as many innovative and competent personnel to work in various sectors and bring positive impacts.

"We need to produce competent and creative personnel who will be able to utilise their skills well to bring development in the society,"

he added.

He said that education will always remain an important tool to bring development not only in Zanzibar but the whole world.

"Education is one of the agendas given priority in the CCM election manifesto of 2020/2025 with aim to stimulate development of our people because we cannot attain our development plans without having a strong workforce."

He commended the college for initiating a degree in community health assuring them that the government will ensure that the course performs well to achieve all the intended goals.

Minister for Education Lela Mohamed Mussa, said despite the government investing in the blue economy, there is a great shortage of experts to work in the areas.

"So, you (ZU) need to initiate as many programmes that are in line with the blue economy policy and market so as to support the government's efforts towards having enough professionals who will facilitate achievement of development vision 2050.

Dr Abdulqudir Othman Hafiz, ZU chancellor said the college will continue investing in strategies to facilitate sustainable production of competent graduates to work in various fields.

During the graduation ceremony, a total of 568 graduates were conferred with certificates, diplomas and degrees.



Works and Transport Permanent Secretary Ludovick Nduhiye (2nd R), Tanzania Electrical, Mechanical and Services Agency advisory board chairman, Eng. Deogratius Nyanda (R), Temesa executive officer Lazaro N. Kilahala and ferry operations director, Eng Sylvester Simfukwe receives a briefing about special equipment during a practical training at the Dar es Salaam Maritime Institute where 43 TEMESA ferries staff will be trained at the college. Photo: Guardian Correspondent

## Supervise registration of all school-age children for next academic year, leaders and teachers directed

By Guardian Correspondent, Njombe

LEADERS and teachers in Ludewa District, Njombe Region have been instructed to supervise and ensure that all school age children are registered to commence studies next year.

District's executive director, Sanday Deogratius made the call here when receiving a donation of sanitary pads, exercise books and bags from KLF to support girls at Milo primary school and those in Mavala Secondary School.

He also wanted the leaders to

supervise and ensure that those who are expected to join form one next year also report to school on the scheduled dates.

"KLF has seen this importance and brought sanitary pads and other tools to support our school girls but also other students. This is a great help and it will help boost performance," he said.

He urged the beneficiary students to utilize the tools and concentrate on their studies for them to later achieve their dreams.

District education officer (primary), Daniel John said the tools

will encourage the students to study hard and attend all the sessions.

"We are well prepared to receive new pupils and students in January, all the needed infrastructures to support their learning are there, so we thank KLF for bringing their support to boost the efforts," he said.

John commended KLF for extending their support to the schools noting that some girls miss school during their periods due to lack of sanitary pads.

According to him, the district expects to register a total of 4,419

pre-school children and has so far registered 4,281 pupils.

"We also expect to register a total of 4,053 standard one pupils and we have so far reached 4,036 which is equal to 99.43 percent of the target, we expect to reach the goal by December 31, 2022," he added.

KLF director Ally Seif said the organisation has recognised the importance of extending its support to the school so as to support children as schools expected to reopen early January.

He noted that a good number of school girls as well as women from poor families in both rural and urban areas are facing great challenges to access the sanitary towels, something which thwarts their development goals.



Lands, Housing and Human Settlements Development, deputy minister Ridhiwani Kikwete speaks at a meeting between the ministry's officials and companies on formalisation in Dar es Salaam yesterday. Photo: Correspondent Munir Shemweta

## Do not hold meetings intended to divide members, Chatanda warns

By Correspondent Sabato Kasika

THE Chairperson of CCM Women Wing (UWT), Mary Chatanda has banned the practice by some of Wing leaders conducting meetings that discuss people saying the practice divide members.

She said such meetings are dangerous for UWT existence as they create misunderstandings among members that can make them work without cooperation.

Chatanda made the remarks in Korogwe Town, Tanga Region on Tuesday at a rally that welcomed her home since she was elected as the UWT chair recently.

She said it is important for UWT leaders to unite members to assist President Samia Suluhu Hassan fully implement her responsibilities, adding that women are a huge army.

"We should also break up the factions, the election is over, and now we should continue with the work before us, including defending the party, community development projects and increase new members," she added.

Without further elaboration, Chatanda said in 2025 women will have their issue, and that in order for it to be realised, they have to

unite as unity is strength.

"Let's unite together so that we can restore the party and its organisations as it was during the TANU era, because every member was then fully accountable in her position to make UWT strong," she said.

Chatanda further rebuked the habit by some CCM leaders to select leaders for the wing, saying they should instead leave the task to women themselves.

She said this following complaints from Kwasemshi Ward Councillor for Korogwe Rural, Twahiru Salehe (CHADEMA) who blamed some CCM leaders for his moving to the opposition.

"CCM leaders should stop the habit of favouring contestants for your own interests, let members choose for themselves the candidates they prefer," she said.

Earlier, when given the chance to speak after returning to CCM, Salehe said he moved to CHADEMA during the 2020 election campaign after he was barracked by some CCM leaders in the area.

He said the practice by CCM leaders not respecting the opinions of the people usually makes the party lose people preferred by voters, as it happened in the ward.

NAIROBI

## Kenya's withdrawal from AU chair race paves way for Comoros

COMOROS is set to be the first island state to take up the African Union (AU) chair next year after Kenyan President William Ruto withdrew from the race.

Comoros President Azali Assoumani and Ruto had been separately lobbying for the top post because this time round the AU chair position should come from the East African community.

The recently ended United States - African Leaders Summit was the grandest stage for the two leaders to individually meet their regional counterparts.

But while in the US, Ruto revealed that he would be withdrawing from

the race giving Comoros a clear chance.

In a statement, government communications in Comoros thanked Ruto for his decision.

The government said: "President Azali Assoumani followed with great pleasure, a great relief, and great humility the announcement made during the USA-Africa Summit in Washington DC by his brother William Ruto, president of the Republic of Kenya, relating to the withdrawal of his country's candidacy for the presidency of the African Union, for the year 2023."

Comoros added that the decision

by Kenya was noble and showed that the country was a leader in finding peaceful solutions to problems on the continent, particularly in East Africa.

"This crucial decision, taken at the right time, confirms the greatness of the Kenyan nation but also the great wisdom of its leaders and their commitment to promoting unity and stability in the East African region," the statement reads.

Kenya's withdrawal took diplomatic engagements between the two nations. The current AU chair, Macky Sall, president of Senegal, was also involved.

For that, Assoumani was grateful.

"The president sincerely thanks the current president of the African Union, his brother Macky Sall as well as the president of the African Union Commission, his brother Moussa Faki, and all his other brothers from other African countries for the constant efforts that they haven't stopped deploying to encourage exchanges between the Comoros and Kenya, so that they can reach a consensus on this crucial issue, in the interest of East Africa and the African continent as a whole," Comoros said.

But to the international

community, the AU leadership of Assoumani would present an interesting scenario.

Assoumani is a former military officer who came into power through a coup in 1999 after overthrowing interim president Tadjidine Ben Said Massounde.

In 2018, he amended the constitution to stay in office until 2029.

Ueli Staeger, a research and teaching fellow in international relations and security at the University of Geneva, said Assoumani would be a somewhat affirmative action decision.

"Having served already 13 years as head of state of Comoros, the 2023 AU chair has a different mindset on constitutionality. But giving voice to small, struggling nations can also be an opportunity for an AU lately dominated by bigger states," he said.

Since 2002 when the AU changed its name from the Organisation of African Unity, the chair rotates on an annual basis.

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### APPOINTMENT OF MANAGING DIRECTOR & CEO



The Board of Directors of **NCBA Bank Tanzania Limited** is pleased to announce the appointment of **Claver Serumaga** as the **Managing Director**.

Claver brings on board over 17 years of experience in the Banking and Financial industry with a track record of consistent results.

He has served in several senior leadership roles within the East and West Africa regions. His most recent engagement was with Bank of Africa Kenya (BOA Kenya) where he served as the Deputy Managing Director. Prior to that he served as the Chief Digital Officer for Bank of Africa Group based in Casablanca, Morocco where he was charged with the responsibility of leading the execution of the Digital Transformation strategy across 16 countries in Africa. He has served in other roles including General Manager Business Development with oversight of Treasury, Corporate, SME and Banking, Marketing and Product Development with Bank of Africa in Uganda.

Claver holds a Master of Business Administration in Executive Management from the Graduate School of Business (GSB), University of Cape Town, South Africa and Bachelor of Arts Social Science degree from Makerere University, Kampala, Uganda. He is a fellow of the Chartered Institute of Marketing (UK) and has attained several professional certifications in Leadership, Banking and Finance.

Claver will be responsible for providing overall Leadership to the team in Tanzania and drive the turnaround strategy of NCBA Bank Tanzania business.

The Board congratulates Claver on his appointment and is confident in his ability to steer the bank through this transition.



**Vinaykant Somaiya**  
**CHAIRMAN BOARD OF DIRECTORS**  
**NCBA BANK TANZANIA LIMITED**

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## JOB ADVERTISEMENT

WASCO ISOAF Tz is a Tanzania-incorporated company with its head office in Dar es Salaam and its plant in Nzega District, Tabora Region. The Company has been contracted by East Africa Crude Oil Pipeline (EACOP) Project as a Thermal Insulation Contractor.

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**WORK LOCATION: SOJO, NZEGA DISTRICT, TABORA REGION**

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- Community risk and impact management
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**DUTIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES**

- Implement Social Performance data processes (collection, recording, collation, organization, and administration) across field-based social performance activities.
- Keep record and document daily SP activities and processes.
- Develop and maintain stakeholder database.
- Support Social Coordinator to prepare reports including qualitative and quantitative data analysis for performance tracking and assurance.
- Support Social activities planning as necessary.
- Ensure the necessary tools for maintaining, processing, and analysis of collected data are developed.
- Conduct regular auditing of social data quality, integrity and comprehensiveness.
- Recognize opportunities to improve social performance and communicate ideas to the SP team.

**QUALIFICATIONS & EXPERIENCE**

- 3 - 5 years' experience in data management in a social science, community development or related field.
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- Excellent command of English and Swahili, both written and verbal.
- Good communication skills, particularly good listening skills.
- Proven capability of database (software) administration and management.
- Ability to use data and software effectively and creatively to meet performance tracking and reporting goals.
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- Good knowledge of data visualization.
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## Chinese Embassy honours 30 students, two instructors from University of Dodoma

By Polycarp Machira, Dodoma

THE Chinese Embassy in the country has awarded 30 students and two instructors from the University of Dodoma (UDOM) who have performed well in Chinese Language course offered by the Confucius Institute at the university.

The awards aim at strengthening the bilateral ties between the two countries.

Speaking during the award handover ceremony held in Dodoma recently Prof Razack Lokina who was a special guest at the event said that the awards have been given in recognition of the students' and instructors efforts in learning and teaching the Chinese language.

He explained that through learning the language, students will be in better position to grab job, business and scholarship opportunities both inside and outside the country.

"Through this programme you are in a better position to grab various opportunities in global market, migration department, tourism sector and investment sector, take this as an opportunity to work hard and explore more opportunities," said Prof Lokina.

He explained that, besides being employed in Chinese company operating in Tanzania there are also opportunities of Kiswahili teachers in China as well as language translators in Tanzania and China respectively.

He asked the awarded students to encourage others to join the Chinese language course so as to grab employment and scholarship opportunities worldwide because there is a huge demand of Chinese speakers in global market.

In a related development Prof Lokina advised UDOM Administration to consider introducing Master's Degree in Chinese Language in order to strategically position the country in the global market following the huge demand of Chinese language speakers and professionals.

Meanwhile, Chinese Director of Confucius Institute at UDOM Huo Yuzhou said that the aim of the awards is to encourage students to love and work hard in learning the language so that they can grab the arising opportunities.

"The awarded certificate is the main criteria for students with high GPA in this course to get scholarship for studying in China and also getting

employment in Chinese companies and projects implemented in the country," said Yuzhou.

Yuzhou said that this is the 5th ceremony since the introduction of Bachelor of Arts in Chinese Language Course at UDOM... in this year 30 students and two teachers have been awarded certificates and money by the Chinese Embassy.

The Tanzania Director of Confucius Institute at UDOM Dr Onesmo Chawala said that they need more students to join the institute to pursue BA in Chinese language because there is a high demand of Chinese speakers due to interactions, business and investment between China and Tanzania.

He also said that UDOM decided to offer BA in Chinese Language so as to help students who complete their secondary level education and they wish to study and specialize in Chinese language and culture to pursue their dreams.

"UDOM decides to offer this course not only for the purpose of strengthening the relationship between Tanzania and China but also helping students who are completing their secondary education level and they wish to pursue Chinese language in higher level of learning," said Dr Chawala.

"In recent years we have seen the government through the Ministry of Education establishing Chinese lessons in secondary schools, so we take it as an opportunity to offer them a chance to continue in higher learning institutions," he added.

The University of Dodoma is the only University which offers Bachelor of Arts in Chinese Language in East African Community since 2018.



**The awarded certificate is the main criteria for students with high GPA in this course to get scholarship for studying in China and also getting employment in Chinese companies and projects implemented in the country**

## Medical team from China provides Christmas cheer for S. Sudanese orphans

JUBA

THE 10th batch of the Chinese medical team has provided Christmas gifts and free medical checkups for children in two separate orphanages in the South Sudanese capital Juba.

Angelo Kenyi Samuel, director of the Juba Orphanage Home, said the visit by the Chinese medical team was a relief to the heavy burden of treating orphans and supporting staff grappling with diverse ailments.

"The 10th batch of the Chinese medical team has been coming here on several occasions to conduct medical examinations," said Samuel.

He disclosed that the long-lasting collaboration involving the orphanage, and the neighboring Juba Teaching and Referral Hospital, where the Chinese doctors are based, has helped maintain routine medical visits to the orphanage. Besides providing urgent medical checkups and treatment, the Chinese doctors also donated powdered milk, cookies, and medicine for treating wounds, cough, malaria, and typhoid.

"The weather now in Juba keeps on changing; sometimes it is very hot during the day and cold in the wee hours of the morning, leading

to high incidences of influenza among children," said Samuel.

Hellen Murshal Boro, executive director of the Confident Children out of Conflict, thanked the Chinese doctors for agreeing to provide essential medicine and treatment for typhoid, cough, epilepsy, and malnutrition at the orphanage.

"We have children here who have chronic medical conditions like HIV/AIDS. So while AIDS drugs are free, malaria treatment is not free. You must have a clinical examination and tablets that are quite costly," said Boro.

"The bulk of our budget is channelled to healthcare, and the visit by Chinese doctors provides us with enough medicine that saves us from buying from the private pharmacies at exorbitant costs," she added.

Xu Zhangwei, leader of the 10th batch of the Chinese medical team, said they decided to provide Christmas gifts and medical checkups for the orphans as part of the social responsibility and in-kind support toward the community where they work.

Since 2013, Chinese medical teams have offered free medical services in South Sudan and also provided capacity building for local health workers and medical students.



AIDS Muheza district coordinator in Tanga region, Dr Yahaya Mbura, places a box of condoms at the office of Mbaramo ward executive officer for the use of any person who needs it. Photo: Correspondent Steven William

## Dodoma collects 28.44bn/- in revenue for 2022/23 FY

By Guardian Correspondent, Dodoma

DODOMA Region through its eight district councils has collected 28.44bn/- which is 39 percent of the projections of collecting 72.72bn/- in the 2022/23 fiscal year.

Assistant regional administrative secretary (planning and coordination), Charles Mdume said this yesterday here when presenting a report on the implementation of the 2022/23 budget up to November, this year during the regional consultative committee (RCC) meeting.

He said that Chamwino and Kongwa councils have collected

more than 40 percent within five months.

"In a period between July and November 2022, a total of 28,443,375,295.38/- has been collected in all regional district councils from the projection of collecting 72,717,906,610/-, so we are going well but we need to increase efforts so as to achieve the intended target," he said.

He said that Dodoma with its eight councils has been allocated a budget of 372,065,282,000/- in the period between July and November, this year and it has received 168,294,018,634/- (45 percent).

He however said, the region

will continue to invest efforts to increase collections and thus expand development activities in the region.

On development projects, the region has been allocated a total of 126,896,451,000/- in the period between July and November, 2022 and has received 62,454,189,002 which is equal to 45 percent.

The region through the eight councils has also dished out 8,192,048,615/- from internal revenues for the implementation of development.

"We also issued a total of 509,926,678.20 as loans to women, youth and persons with disabilities

groups. This is part of the 10 percent that councils need to set aside from its internal revenues. This is 36 percent of the total funds of 1,397,262,241.30/-," he asserted.

On achievements, Mdume said the central government has issued a total of 32,766,004,551/- which is equal to 83 percent of the 2022/23 fiscal year budget to implement development projects.

He said that the government has also issued 25,497,669,595/- for recurrent expenditure in regional and local government authorities.

The government has also issued a total of 80,342,160,037/- for salaries in regional secretariat and local government authorities while also issuing 6,780,000,000/- for the construction of 339 classrooms in 127 secondary schools.

The government has also paid 210,248,415/- as salary arrears for servants.



Dar es Salaam Special Zone Police Commander Jumanne Muliro shows gadgets seized from Chinese citizens allegedly to interfere communications during a press conference yesterday. Photo: Correspondent Imani Nathaniel

## 75 percent of road accidents caused by driver's negligence, police reveal

By Guardian Correspondent, Dodoma

THE police force said yesterday that 75 percent of road accidents in the country are caused by the driver's negligence.

The force, however said that drivers who will be found drunk while driving will be arrested and arraigned before paying penalties.

The force's Spokesperson,

David Misime made the statement when addressing journalists on the state of the country's security ahead of Christmas and New Year celebrations.

Misime said that research conducted by the force revealed that many road accidents are caused by the negligence of the drivers.

"The force is prepared to deal with drunk drivers; reckless driving

will be controlled as we do not want to see people involved in accidents by drunk drivers. Drivers should be careful on the road and stop blaming God for every accident that happens on the road," said Misime.

He warned drivers from drinking while driving insisting stern legal measures will be taken against them. He said the stern measures are expected to reduce the number

of road accidents in the country.

He said the country is safe with police officers determined to ensure the security of people and their properties during end of year festivals. He said patrols will be conducted throughout the day.

Misime appealed to religious leaders to help in strengthening the peace and security committees at district and regional level. He said their intervention would contribute to reduced road crashes.

He asked local government leaders to cooperate with the police force to establish and strengthen community policing groups to enhance patrols.







# To have it easy at varsity, practise and master the art of public speaking

As the New Year approaches, you should be getting used to the new college semester as a first year university student. Although you have been speaking publicly all your life, it will be different as you deliver presentations in front of your colleagues.

Well, college life yields almost a very interesting experience for any student. College has exposed each and every person to their fears and strengths all at the same time and has formally introduced a big number of students, myself included, to one of their biggest fears: the art of public speaking.

There's a popular joke that funeral attendants wish they were the corpse than stand amongst the mourners to read the eulogy. All this springs from the fear of public speaking literally.

Just before joining college, we all had presentations here and there but still managed to get through at ease due to the small number of students we had to present to. When students get high up the ladder at college and universities, the stakes seem much higher and voices seem much smaller mostly when standing in front of a very big crowd of students.

There's just something about standing up in front of a lecture hall of 50 people

## It's your turn to speak



heads would be staring at me as I presented come that dreadful day. How many students are in here? These thoughts haunted me until the day of the presentation.

The D-day arrived and as the other students presented, I breathed in and out heavily, trying to push the negative thoughts out of my head. I thought to myself how simple speaking was because we actually start speaking at age one, start walking soon after and actually learn to breathe right out of our mothers' wombs.

It should not be such difficult to stand and talk in front of a crowd. These thoughts lingered in my head so much that eventually encouraged

me and gave me the energy to push myself out of my seat to the front of the lecture hall.

From the front of the class, I stared into the wondrous eyes of 50 plus students. The intellectual minds of my fellow peers were now transformed into judges with robes, funny though. I feared for my safety because I viewed them as judges who held ultimate powers to decide whether I did well enough to appease the professor into awarding me a high grade for the topic or not.

Would they shackle me and throw me in a cell for being a blubbering idiot during my presentation? I said a

silent prayer; I prayed that I don't make a fool of myself. These presentation things aren't predictable mostly because a slip of the tongue could make you a goner.

I started speaking enthusiastically about my topic of discussion. It was a powerful topic, and I wanted to convey everything I had learned about. This enthusiasm, however, was stomped out by the big, bad anxiety monster. I struggled with focusing on my materials and began to wonder what my listeners were thinking.

She's so weird, they'd think. Does she even know what she's talking about? Did that guy just yawn? These thoughts got to my head as my hands began to shake, my voice trembled and I eventually lost my train of thought.

So, what do you do when you're in front of a class of 50 PLUS students, all eyes are on you and your nerves have a tight choke? Well, I didn't know. I fumbled through my note cards and quickly checked through my slides, while my voice cracked with every other word I spoke.

As vividly as I can recall, that presentation was like running for the first time after a long holiday. To the end, I was tired and out of shape. Is it possible to go throughout college without having to give another

presentation? I asked myself several times. The truth to this thought became the large red pill that I had to swallow all through my entire studies in college as it was a major strategy used for class lectures. Eventually, I managed to get a good grade in the class.

After that presentation I came to one conclusion: in order for any student to fight the fear of judgment in any presentation, they need to practise speaking in front of large groups more often. The more of this exposure one has, the less public speaking would make any of them shake with the thought of it.

I personally came up with a plan to connect with other students with social anxiety to learn different ways to cope. I got involved with a college support group that became a sounding board to all of the problems we had. This was just fine helping out each student with public speaking anxieties. Eventually, as I got to my third year I had mastered public speaking well enough and recommend students and everyone else to practise and master public speaking.

Public speaking will not only put your foot in the door but it will also get things done, proper communication is vital in all aspects of life not only in college presentations.

By Siri Abihudi and Pankras Luoga

THE name aloe vera has gained popularity among communities in Tanzania and beyond due to its real and perceived medicinal benefits. And most of herbalists and traders show its presence in their products so as to convince consumers that the products are natural with no harm.

This way, many people are caught in the trap and get to buy the advertised products said to have ingredients of aloe vera. Therefore, it is important that people to understand the history and other important information on aloe vera.

The most important piece of information is that there are many species of the plant. This is contrary to common used phrases like 'just use aloe vera and you will be cured.'

The main question is which species of aloe plant is good for the problem at hand? Mind you, every species of aloe is different from the other even though they may look similar. In fact, they test differently. For instance, some of the aloe plants are bitter and some are neutral.

### Aloe species in Tanzania and their nature

Aloe (Shubiri), are the green succulent plants that can be easily distinguished from other species by their fleshy and saw-like leaves. Aloe is the most commonly known species in Tanzania and there are about 630 species of Aloe worldwide. In Tanzania, we have 52 species of which 24 can only be found in Tanzanian mainland, two are found in Zanzibar and the remaining species are trans-

## It is consumers' favourite herb but not all aloes are aloe vera



bordering other countries.

Their succulent nature provides high physiological and structural adaptation to the arid environment. The juicy nature of the leaves allows high storage of water to be held in the mucilage as gel. Most of the species in the genus give yellow exudate when the leaf is cut. The gel and the yellowish exudate always contain chemical compounds that are a potential source of medicine to various communities, although some turn to be poisonous. In Tanzania, only two species have been reported to

be poisonous and others need to be taken in small dose.

### The use of aloe species and the famous name aloe vera

The aloe plant has one of the longest histories of use in traditional medicine worldwide, dating back to the Sumerians (BC 2100). Many African societies use aloe species in their immediate surroundings for a wide variety of purposes, most notably human and veterinary medicine, cosmetics, hedging, fencing, brewing, weaning children from breast-

feeding and in traditional rituals.

To date, the use of aloe species is widespread in traditional and pharmaceutical medicine due to their potential for dealing with animal diseases as well as human health conditions such as inflammation, arthritis, diabetes as well as bacterial and fungal infections. Since majority of people, especially the young ones refer to all aloe species as aloe vera rather than using local names, the use of aloe species in vernacular languages and Kiswahili names is declining. For the majority of the

people, this now serves as the common name for any aloe species encountered in the country.

Threat and conservation of aloe species

With the exception of aloe vera which is extensively cultivated, the genus aloe is now threatened by illegal collection and trade due to high demand for it as a medicine and for production of commercial products. It is shocking to learn that about one-fourth (23 per cent) of species of aloe are threatened, according to International Union for Conservation of

Nature (IUCN).

A study conducted in Tanzania by Fredrick Ojija and others (2022) on distribution, habitat and conservation status of critically endangered aloes in Tanzania and published in South African Journal of Botany, listed some endangered aloe species as aloe boscawenii, aloe flexifolia, aloe leptosiphon and aloe dorotheae.

Another study done by Siri A. Abihudi and others (2021) on conservation status revision and communities' perceptions of 22 aloe species in Tanzania reported that 22 aloe species were in danger of disappearing in the country. Some of the causes are human activities such as deliberate fires, expansion of agricultural land into areas with natural resources, human settlements and overexploitation which all pose threats to aloe species.

Aloe species can be saved from extinction in the wild if they are cultivated in backyards and farms. Available research can help policymakers decide which of the many endangered aloe species which deserve protection with emphasis on local actions as suggested in the study by Ojija on the measures to be taken to save aloe species that are at the brink of extinction. Considering the scarcity of available resources and the large number of endangered aloe species, it is crucial to prioritize conservation efforts.

**Siri Abihudi is Assistant Lecturer, Institute of Traditional Medicine at Muhimbili University of Health and allied Sciences (MUHAS) and Pankras Luoga is Assistant Lecturer in Health Systems Management, Project Management, Monitoring and Health-MUHAS.**





# We either deal with corruption or we perish as an organisation - Ramaphosa

BY MARIANNE MERTEN

ANC renewal and unity on Tuesday remained perennial as the governing party, unprecedentedly, adjourned its national conference without adopting policy commission reports and resolutions. However, second-term party president Cyril Ramaphosa gave a few hints in his closing address to a hall that was barely half-full.

These include better and quality service delivery with a focus on energy and water security. Also, quality education and healthcare regardless of the ability to pay as envisaged by the National Health Insurance (NHI).

Economic transformation through accelerated spending on infrastructure, fibre provisioning in rural areas through, for example, incentives, tax rebates and private sector compacts, and a focus on rural and township economic development.

Dealing with the "turmoil of load shedding", as President Cyril Ramaphosa put it in Tuesday's adjourning of conference address, was another policy point. As was redressing "the original sin of land dispossession" through measures to accelerate land reform and support productive land use.

From Ramaphosa's signals, the ANC's policy direction fundamentally remains on track, including pledges to fight corruption, and economic transformation



for inclusive growth. So no surprises there, nor in the briefing by rapporteurs of the various policy commissions, who gave what was described as the "flavour" of discussions.

No real details could be provided as commission reports and resolutions must first be adopted. This can only happen after the conference, which was adjourned to provincial hybrid sessions, on 5 January. It's now part of the lead-up to the January 8 statement that traditionally sets the ANC's policy priorities for the year. The 55th ANC national elective conference ended

on Tuesday as it started on Friday - messily, fraught and unresolved.

The plenary hall was mostly empty by the time Ramaphosa started his address; transport pressure by delegates in distant provinces was cited as a reason, along with the messy registration process.

Given the nature of the heavily contested leadership, Ramaphosa pledged to pursue party unity - and lay down the unity line for everyone to toe.

"The branches have spoken by choosing the leadership that emerges from here. Once the branches have made their choice all of us are

expected to fall in line and embrace and accept the decisions that are taken here," said Ramaphosa.

Such renewal and unity were needed even if tense moments would arise in the fight against corruption within ANC ranks, which was "a dire threat to the continued existence of the ANC".

Despite progress made over the past five years, more needed to be done to end corruption and reverse the effects of State Capture in the state, society and in party ranks.

"We have no choice: we either deal with this problem [corruption] or we perish as an organisation," said Ramaphosa.

It was one of the harder points in the presidential speech. Much of it was also about how the ANC had astounded opponents and critics.

"As always, we've ended up as a united organisation, much to the surprise of those who do not wish us well," said Ramaphosa, adding the party he leads for a second term now followed the "path of principled unity".

Messy and dysfunctional But the 2022 Nasrec ANC elective national conference had been messy, and in many respects dysfunctional.

Delays came right at the beginning with a messy and drawn-out registration process that left some delegates with upside-down photos and wrongly placed party logos and names on their conference tags.

That up to a quarter of branch delegates designated to attend the conference were substituted by others, did not help. A bunch of Free State delegates' tags were snatched in a heated moment, according to the credentials report to the plenary.

Delays also arose from and caused the horse-trading, cajoling and slate deal-making which continued messily right to the start of the voting.

And although the ANC conference discussed severing ties with its alliance partners, the SACP and labour federation Cosatu, both indicated approval of the ANC deliberations and leadership elections.

A reconfigured alliance was crucial to the renewal of the ANC, according to an SACP statement, while Cosatu president Zingiswa Losi said workers could not afford a divided ANC or an ANC leadership compromised by corruption.

"The [elective] results provide a chance to renew the ANC, rebuild the state, grow the economy, slash unemployment and provide relief and protection for workers."

It's a tall order. But the unprecedented kicking for touch of the policy side of this 2022 Nasrec ANC conference which really only fully dealt with the leadership contest, has created some breathing space. For now. **DM**

THE GUARDIAN SIMPLE WORD FIT // THE GUARDIAN CROSSWORD --00 404 00--

Crossword puzzle grid with clues and solutions provided. Includes sections for Word-Fit and Crossword, and a solutions key.

RADIO One RATIBA YA VIPINDI JUMATATU - JUMAPILI. A large promotional banner for Radio One's weekend programming, featuring the station's logo and the show title in large, stylized letters.

Tembelea mitandao ya kijamii ya Radio One. A footer banner with social media icons for Instagram, Facebook, and Twitter, and the Radio One logo.

## RESEARCHERS INNOVATE TECHNIQUE TO SLASH THE COST OF BUILDING

By Maureen Njeri

**R**ESearchers at Meru University of Science and Technology developed a technique for using clay soil to make cement, a strategy they projected will reduce the cost of construction.

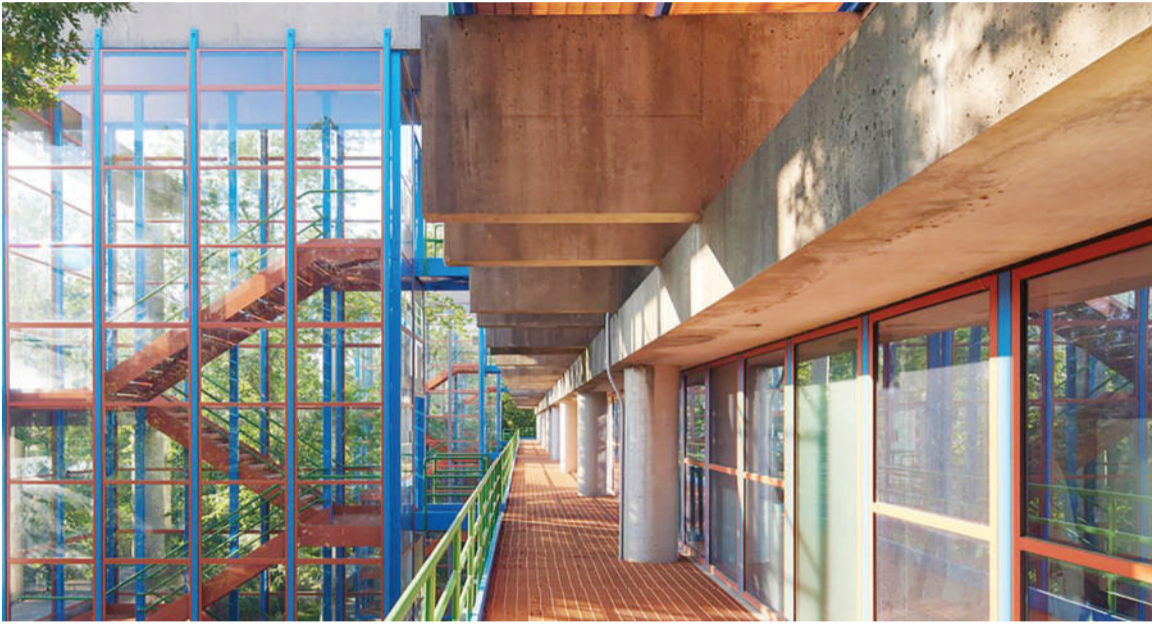
The researchers noted that the product will be available in the Kenyan market in 2023 after completing all the necessary procedures.

According to the researchers, the construction cost will be reduced by 40 per cent if people embrace clay-made cement.

"The cost of cement is proportional to the cost of clinker, which is a component of cement manufacturing. This is often imported thus increasing the cost of cement," Joseph Mwitit, the lead researcher, stated.

He added that introducing the product into the Kenyan markets would also reduce the amount of cement imported, noting that it had been perfected for four years through numerous experiments.

"If we are to actualise affordable



**Sustainable architecture: innovative and inspiring buildings**

housing we have to significantly lower the cost of cement. What we have in regions without cement factories is the abundance of clay, we need to capitalise on this to manu-

facture cement," he remarked.

According to the researchers, most of the clay used was sourced from Nyeri and Meru counties.

"When we start producing ce-

ment out of clay, this means we can have cement factories based in every county since they all have clay," Mwitit declared.

Consequently, this will create more jobs for the youth and

boost the country's economy.

He added that in January 2023, they will partner with institutions in India to manufacture a pilot plan so that key players in the cement manufacturing industry can adopt the idea.

The Kenya Bureau of Standards (KEBS) also called for talks to discuss how the product will be made available in the market, including the necessary quality checks.

The institution's Vice Chancellor, Simon Thurania, noted the plan is in line with the global mindset to reduce the effects of climate change.

"We are proud of our innovators. Other than the University of Pretoria no other university has come up with the idea in Africa," he added.

Researchers anticipated partnership with Makerere University in Uganda, the University of Dar es Salaam in Tanzania, the Padova University in Italy, and Uppsala University in Sweden for more research.

## Gold Mine achieves fifth certification under ICMI

By Guardian Reporter

THE International Cyanide Management Institute (ICMI) announced that Barrick Gold Corporation's Bulyanhulu gold mine has been recertified in full compliance under the International Cyanide Management Code (Cyanide Code).

This is the Bulyanhulu gold mine's fifth certification under the Cyanide Code.

The Bulyanhulu gold mine was initially certified under the Cyanide Code in February 2009 and was recertified in July 2012, in December 2016, and in June 2019.

As required under the Cyanide Code, the mine was again audited against ICMI's Verification Protocol by an independent professional third-party auditor within three years of its previous certification.

ICMI has received and accepted the auditor's Detailed Audit Findings Report, which found that the Bulyanhulu Gold Mine had maintained full compliance with the Cyanide Code's principles and standards of practice since its previous certification.

The summary audit report and auditor credentials form are available on Barrick Gold Corporation's Signatory Page on the Cyanide Code website. The operation must be re-audited every three years to evaluate continuing compliance with the Cyanide Code.

The Cyanide Code is a voluntary industry program focused on the safe and environmentally responsible management of cyanide by companies producing gold and/or silver and by companies manufacturing, warehousing, and transporting cyanide.

The Cyanide Code was developed under the aegis of the United Nations Environment Programme by a multi-stakeholder steering committee and is amongst the most established certification programs in the mining sector.

The Cyanide Code is intended to complement an operation's existing obligation to comply with the applicable laws and regulations of the political jurisdiction in which the operation is located.

ICMI has been established to administer the Cyanide Code, promote its adoption, evaluate its implementation, and manage the certification process for operations using, producing, and transporting cyanide.

A detailed list of the operations covered by signatory companies' applications, along with the full text of the Cyanide Code and its implementing and administrative documents, are available at [www.cyanidecode.org](http://www.cyanidecode.org).

## Z'bar Island gets global award for low-carbon ecological restoration

By Guardian Reporter

CHUMBE Island has received a prestigious international award for its low-carbon landscape, tourism and conservation management.

The International Forum for Human Settlements, in collaboration with the United Nations Economic and Social Council has recognized Chumbe Island as important in the world under the 'Tourism (Scenic spot) and Ecological restoration' category.

A statement from the International Forum for Human Settlements said Chumbe was described as a role model in the world with two and a half decades of contributing to the conservation of nature and marine life.

According to the forum, Chumbe has managed to properly supervise conservation activities and has recorded a number of successes by maintaining a low carbon landscape through the use of renewable energy such as solar and hydro power as well as the use of wastes in production of manure.

The award was presented to Chumbe community members during a ceremony held virtually on December 16, 2022 at the 17th annual gen-

eral meeting of the International Forum for Human Settlements.

Commenting on the award, Chumba Island Assistant Manager for Conservation and Public Education, Salim Abdallah said the award is for all Zanzibaris.

He said the award has demonstrated to the international community that tourism activities can be done sustainably and in regard to principles of the blue economy.

"The international forum said

the ecology of Chumbe Island has successfully integrated the environment and biodiversity conservation. People in Chumbe practices sustainable ecological tourism," said the manager.

He said that Chumbe Island

has been conducting a monitoring program for biodiversity, which is important in guiding tourist activities and maintaining the integrity and diversity of the ecology.



## Minister dissatisfied with small response in land formalisation exercise in Ubungo

By Guardian Reporter

ANGELINE Mabula, Minister for Lands, Housing and Human settlements development has expressed dissatisfaction over the small response by Ubungo District residents in Dar es Salaam Region to the opportunity to obtain title deeds for their unplanned plots in the ongoing land formalisation exercise.

This came to light on Tuesday at the event of handing out land title deeds to 1,081 residents of Ubungo District at Kimara Stop Over, Saranga Ward, in Dar es Salaam.

Elaborating statistics on land formalization exercise in Ubungo District, Dr Mabula said the main task has been done by Ubungo District Land office where 1,089 title deeds were formalised out

of 23,967 land plots that had been surveyed and approved.

"There are some people who had their land plots surveyed but have not come up to collect their title deeds, what should the government do?" queried Dr Mabula.

According to the Lands Minister, challenges facing formalisation of unplanned settlements are found in both sides - residents

and the firms that conduct land formalisation exercise, hence it is difficult to accept that only 1,089 out of 23,967 land plots had been finalised.

"It is not possible - that in Ubungo District, the total land plots identified were 182,215 from 520 land survey plans. The number of land plots dealt with was 177,325 while the number of plots that had beacons erected

was 76,250.

"Those surveyed and approved were 23,967. The number of invoices issued was 4,338, the total number of applications was 7,164, and the total number of title deeds issued was 6,885 but today there are 9,089 title deeds, this means that there is no approved title deed still remains in the Lands Office," said Dr Mabula.

For his part, Kibamba

Member of Parliament, Issa Mtemvu despite the fact that the formalisation exercise went on well in some wards in his constituency including Saranga, Ukombozi and Mpakani wards, but people are faced with challenges regarding paying for the title deeds in order to get them, and asked the Ministry to look into how to assist them.









## Trump paid no income tax in 2020, reported losses in office

WASHINGTON

DONALD Trump paid no income tax during the final full year of his presidency as he reported a loss from his sprawling business interests, according to tax figures released by a congressional panel.

The records, released late on Tuesday by the Democratic-led House of Representatives Ways and Means Committee after a years-long fight, show that Trump's income, and his tax liability, fluctuated dramatically during his four years in the White House.

The records cut against the Republican ex-president's long-cultivated image as a successful businessman as he mounts another bid for the White House.

Trump and his wife, Melania, paid some form of tax during all four years, the documents showed, but were able to minimize their income taxes in several years as income from Trump's businesses was more than offset by deductions and losses.

The committee questioned the legitimacy of some of those deductions, including one for \$916 million, and members said on Tuesday the tax returns were short on details. The panel is expected to release redacted versions of his full returns in coming days.

Trump refused to make his tax returns public during his two presidential bids and his campaign for office, even though all other major-party presidential candidates have done so for decades.

The committee obtained the records after a years-long fight and voted on Tuesday to make them public.

A Trump spokesman said the release of the documents was politically motivated.

"If this injustice can happen to President Trump, it can happen to all Americans without cause," Trump Organization spokesman Steven Cheung said on Wednesday.

Democrats on the panel said their review found that tax authorities did not properly scrutinize Trump's complex tax returns to ensure accuracy.

Though the US Internal Revenue Service is supposed to audit presidents' tax returns each year, it did not do so until Democrats pressed for action in 2019.

The IRS assigned only one agent to the audit most of the time, the panel found, and did not examine some of the deductions claimed by Trump.

### The IRS declined to comment.

Prior to taking office, Trump reported heavy losses for many years from his business to offset hundreds of millions of dollars in income, according to media reports and trial testimony about his finances.

The documents released by the committee showed that pattern continued during his time in the White House.

During that time Trump and his wife were liable for self-employment and household employment taxes. As a result, they paid a total of \$3 million in taxes over those four years.

But deductions enabled them to minimize their income tax liability in several years.

In 2017, Trump and his wife reported adjusted gross income of negative \$12.9 million, leading to a net income tax of \$750, the records showed.

They reported adjusted gross income of \$24.3 million in 2018 and paid a net tax of \$1 million, while in 2019 they reported \$4.4 million of income in 2019 and paid \$134,000 in taxes.

In 2020, they reported a loss of \$4.8 million and paid no net income tax.

## Biden approves more military aid as Ukraine's Zelensky visits Washington

WASHINGTON

U.S. President Joe Biden pledged visiting Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelensky on Wednesday to offer military aid, mentioning in particular the Patriot surface-to-air missile battery he just approved for Ukraine in a new tranche of security assistance totaling 1.85 billion U.S. dollars.

The weapons package approved by Biden, according to a list from the Pentagon, also included "precision aerial munitions," which it didn't explain in detail regarding the type and quantity.

According to U.S. media reports, they might be the so-called "Joint Direct Attack Munitions," which would transform the unguided "dumb" bombs into "smart" bombs by the addition of fins and a precision guidance system.

Arriving in the United States Wednesday for a visit, Zelensky told Biden he wished to "come earlier" but was unable to because of the once difficult situation in Ukraine that has now been under control.

Although Zelensky was effusive in his praise for Biden, he didn't mince words when it came to the Patriot battery -- the most advanced weapon system the United States has offered and something Zelensky has long asked for.

He told his counterpart that just one such item is not enough for Ukraine. "We would like to get more Patriots," Zelensky said to laughter from Biden, who stood next to him during a joint press conference held after their bilateral meeting.

Biden stressed that the United States is committed to ensuring that Ukraine continues to have the ability to defend itself "as long as it takes" during the press conference.

Zelensky told reporters that he floated to Biden the idea of a "global formula for a peace summit" and



## US' origin marking requirement inconsistent with rules - WTO

HONG KONG

A World Trade Organization panel ruled on Wednesday that the origin marking requirement imposed on Hong Kong products by the United States is inconsistent with the global trade body's rules.

Since Nov 10, 2020, the US has required that all products exported from Hong Kong to the US may no longer be marked as originating in "Hong Kong", but must be marked to indicate "China". Following a swift and robust objection from the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region government, the WTO's Dispute Settlement Body (DSB) agreed on Feb 22, 2021 to establish a panel to handle the dispute.

In its report submitted to the DSB, the panel clearly ruled that the US' origin marking requirement imposed upon Hong Kong products is inconsistent with the most-favored-nation treatment requirement in respect of origin marking under the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade 1994.

The panel also completely refuted the US' invocation of security exceptions and recommended the US to bring the measure into conformity.

"We welcome that the Panel has fully affirmed the status of Hong Kong, China as a separate customs territory," said Secretary for Commerce and Economic Development Algernon Yau Ying-wah.

He pointed out that the ruling has once again confirmed that the US has disregarded international trade rules, attempted to impose discriminatory and unfair requirements unilaterally, unreasonably suppressed Hong Kong products and enterprises, and politicized economic and trade issues.

The revised origin marking requirement is politically motivated and a vain attempt to interfere with Hong Kong's internal affairs through weaponizing trade, he said.

"The US' despicable intent and ulterior motives will neither stand nor be accepted by the international community. Not only is the requirement imposed on Hong Kong products by the US un-



Labels reading 'Made in Hong Kong' are displayed amongst piles of face masks in a shop in Hong Kong on Aug 12, 2020. Since Nov 10, 2020, the United States has required that all products exported from Hong Kong to the US must be marked to indicate "China". AFP

warranted, it also seriously violates WTO rules. It completely disregards the rules-based multilateral trading system and irresponsibly infringes on Hong Kong's rights as a member of the WTO," the commerce chief said.

### The HKSAR government strongly condemns such a measure, he stressed.

He also stressed that the panel has in its report categorically refuted the erroneous and groundless views of the US, and gave a clear ruling that the US has violated WTO rules.

Speaking at a press conference in the city on Thursday, the commerce chief said he had written to the US Trade Representative, urging the US side to respect the panel's ruling and recommendations, immediately withdraw the illegal provisions and stop violating WTO rules.

The US would have 60 days to lodge an appeal if it disagrees with the report's ruling, and the SAR government would closely monitor developments before deciding on its next action, he added.

Under "one country, two systems", the HKSAR's special status

is conferred by the motherland through the Basic Law. Pursuant to the Basic Law, Hong Kong is a separate customs territory and may, using the name "Hong Kong, China", participate in international organizations such as the WTO, and develop mutually beneficial economic and trade relations with economies around the world, said the government in a statement.

The city's special status has been widely recognized and respected by the international community. The rights and obligations of Hong Kong in the WTO are on par with that of other WTO members, it said.

The "Made in Hong Kong" marking on Hong Kong products has been accepted internationally for many years. This not only shows factually that Hong Kong is a separate customs territory and complies with relevant WTO rules, but also provides consumers with clear and accurate information on product origin, added the statement.

### Commissioner's office hails ruling

Welcoming the WTO panel's ruling, a spokesperson for the Commissioner's Office of the Chinese Foreign

Ministry in the HKSAR pointed out in a statement on Wednesday that the US, disregarding Hong Kong's status as a separate customs territory, has put its domestic laws above international rules and laws of other countries since 2020 and unilaterally asked to change the origin marking of products imported from Hong Kong.

Pointing out that the SAR remains one of the most competitive economies in the world, and has made irreplaceable contributions to economic globalization, it said Hong Kong's status as a free port and a separate customs territory is confirmed and protected by its Basic Law and WTO agreements and has long been recognized and respected worldwide. The status is not granted by the US, and cannot be revoked by the US at its will, it added.

"The WTO ruling fully proves that security exceptions are not an excuse for unilateral hegemonic acts. In the global order underpinned by international law, might doesn't always make right, and the United States is no exception."

The US side must stop undermining the multilateral trading system with unilateral bullying acts, and stop abusing the concept of national security with double standards, it adds.

"We urge the US side to earnestly abide by the WTO rules it participated in making, respect the WTO ruling, immediately correct its illegal acts, and return to true multilateralism at an early date."

## China's economic growth expected to embrace continuous pickup

IMPACTED by COVID-19 resurgence, China in November saw restrained consumption and service sector, a fall in the rise of foreign trade, and weakened expectation of manufacturing enterprises.

Facing new situations and challenges, local authorities and departments have implemented the new measures rolled out by the country to optimize pandemic response, so as to make COVID-19 prevention and control more science-based and targeted.

Besides, they have also made all-out efforts to implement a series of stimulus packages and follow-up measures to bolster the economy, leveraged policy-backed and development-oriented financial instruments, offered new relending facility to support businesses in upgrading their equipment, and expanded medium- and long-term loans to the manufacturing sector.

In general, China's economy has withstood the impacts from unexpected factors and shown strong resilience and potential, said a spokesperson of China's National Development and Reform Commission (NDRC), the country's top economic regulator. The spokesperson noted that the country has seen a steady increase in development quality, as well as stable employment and commodity price. The trend for stable economic recovery remains unchanged, the spokesperson added.

"At present, Chinese economy is facing a more complicated and severe external environment, and weakened momentum for global growth. The country still needs to make arduous efforts to promote sustained economic recovery," the spokesperson remarked.

The spokesperson noted China will keep implementing a series of stimulus packages and follow-up measures to bolster the economy, give play to the coordination mechanism on effective investment for ma-



The headquarters of the Bank of Hainan in Haikou, south China's Hainan province is under construction, November 2022. (Photo by Zhang Mao/People's Daily Online)

nor projects, and further expedite the financing of projects via policy-based and developmental financial instruments and speed up infrastructure construction.

The country will also accelerate the recovery and development of key consumption areas, reinforce its support for medium-, small- and micro-sized enterprises and individual businesses, strengthen the security of food, energy and resources and industrial and supply chains, and ensure stable supply and price of important livelihood commodities.

"China's economy will continuously pick up with the implementation of optimized COVID containment measures and stimulus policies taking effect," the spokesperson noted.

Since this year, the Chinese economy has shouldered continuous pressure. However, it is still highlighted by the new energy, digital economy and high-tech manufacturing sectors.

According to statistics, the total added value of high-tech manufacturing climbed 8 percent in the first 11 months this year compared to a year ago, 4.2 percentage points higher than that of industrial enterprises above the designated size. During the same period, investment in the high-tech field was up by 19.9 percent, 14.6 percentage points higher than the total investment.

The artificial intelligence, big data, cloud computing, Internet of Things (IoT), photovoltaic and new energy

vehicle sectors delivered remarkable performance.

The NDRC said it will work with relevant departments to accelerate the implementation of the innovation-driven development strategy, and further give play to the important role played by the high-tech industry in leading and supporting high-quality economic development.

They will encourage and guide market entities to develop core technologies, massively put into use innovation outcomes, and bolster areas of weakness in the fields that concern development security. They will enhance risk monitoring and warning for important industrial and supply chains and the evaluation of emerging problems, so as to maintain stable industrial and supply chains.

They will work to foster and strengthen new models and businesses, promote cluster development of strategic emerging industries and foster a large batch of areas of economic growth. The construction of new infrastructure will be taken as an important approach to expanding effective investment.

The country will accelerate the development of digital economy, speed up the implementation of major projects in the sector such as channeling computing resources from the eastern areas to the less developed western regions, and promote in-depth integration between digital economy and real economy, to build digital in-

dustry clusters that are globally competitive.

The country will promote in-depth integration among innovation, industries, capital and human resources, draw innovation factors to enterprises and consolidate the dominant position of technology enterprises in scientific innovation.

It will also explore a diversified investment mechanism and vigorously promote the construction of innovation platforms, including engineering research centers, industrial innovation centers and enterprise innovation centers, to nurture and attract more high-level talents for innovation and generate more major original and leading achievements.

According to recent forecasts by the Chinese Academy of Social Sciences, the country's economy is expected to grow around 5.1 percent in 2023 due to continued optimization of COVID containment measures and a relatively low comparison base.



African football boss Patrice Motsepe

## African team can reach 2026 World Cup final - CAF boss Motsepe

JOHANNESBURG

AFRICAN football boss Patrice Motsepe told a press conference in Johannesburg on Wednesday he believes a team from the continent can reach the 2026 World Cup final.

"Morocco opened the door by reaching the semi-finals this month and I am confident an African nation will go further at the next World Cup," said the South African billionaire.

"The main objective of CAF (Confederation of African Football) is for an African nation to win the World Cup and that goal is within reach."

There will be nine or 10 African qualifiers for an expanded 48-team 2026 World Cup in the United States, Canada and Mexico -- up from five in Qatar.

Morocco made history in Qatar by becoming the first African representatives to reach the semi-finals.

The Atlas Lions stunned Belgium in the group stage, then eliminated two more powerful European sides, Spain and Portugal, in the knockout stage before losing to France in the semi-finals.

"There are at least 10 African nations that can compete at the highest level and win the World Cup," added Motsepe.

He also hailed Cameroon and Tunisia for shock group victories over five-time World Cup winners Brazil and twice champions France respectively.

"We should be proud of what Cameroon and Tunisia achieved. These and other African countries must learn from Morocco," said the CAF president.

The shock victories were not enough to get Cameroon and Tunisia past the first round, but Senegal did make the last 16 before being eliminated after a heavy loss to England.

Reigning African champions Senegal suffered a massive pre-tournament blow when star forward Sadio Mane was ruled out by injury.

Motsepe disclosed that a dispute between CAF and sports agency Lagardere had been "resolved amicably", but refused to give details, citing a confidentiality clause.

Lagardere signed a one billion dollar (940 million euros) contract with the Cairo-based African football body in 2017, which was supposed to last until 2028.

However, just one year into the television and marketing deal, it was scrapped after two legal judgments said it breached competition rules.

A senior CAF official, who requested anonymity, told AFP his organisation would pay Lagardere 25 million dollars in instalments to settle the dispute.

Motsepe said Algeria, Benin, Morocco, Nigeria and Zambia were among countries wanting to host the 2025 Africa Cup of Nations after Guinea withdrew recently, saying they were "not ready".

AFP

## Rose Chiuta and sporadic affinity to dance music, fragmented memories



JKT Kimbunga Band in the 1970s. (Agencies)

By Correspondent Michael Eneza

ENTHUSIASTS of classical dance music must have been surprised to hear from a veteran of National Service Jazz Band who briefly featured as part of the band while doing two years of National Service, that is, basic training and 18 months as a service girl.

Her name is apparently spelt as Rose Chiuta, and from what she spoke of at least one famous song of that band - or its successor format as JKT Kimbunga - there was clear evidence of insufficient exposure to its music.

That is not what one could have expected to say of a male ex-member of a well-known band.

The discussion was at that moment centered on 'Salaam Baba na Mama', which the one time band member aligned it with the Uganda war in 1978-79, while pundits doing the interview were all persuaded it was different.

The proper song of the band, by its later name, sang by Zahir Ali Zorro, was clearly more tuned to the later period, to-

tally unlike the song that the lady was attributing to the wartime singing.

The thematic elements in the song prove that this was definitely not so.

Looking at the 'Salaam' lyrics and beat, it is squarely located in the late 1960s and early 1970s period, both in theme and style, while the lyrics also point to a specific atmosphere, where the lady's explanations or projection would not hold water.

One such element is the gross assurance that is given the boy's parents that all is well, with a clear sentiment in the song that nothing is amiss, and the only problem is the relative lack of communication.

That blends perfectly well with going around in this or that camp, whether as a recruit undergoing basic training, or a serviceman.

The lady, to her credit, had an early Christmas song, which also shows her church loyalties to which she then returned after her two year stint in National Service.

It shows that these are her proper loyalties, as even up to now she sings in choir at her specific church, a city parish.

What was a bit trou-

bling was a clear impression that she lost contact with her early preoccupations in the National Service, and surprisingly didn't have a reliable recollection of songs in the period since she left.

It was the only explanation why she would have totally failed to locate the period the song was aired, not grasping contextual links of style or of sentiment involved.

Anyone familiar with the songs of the late 1960s to early 1970s knows that 'Salaam' falls squarely with the beats of that period, and is entirely outside the more voluble, eccentric (rapid, somewhat breathless) singing of the later period, which not surprisingly later caught up with the talk and shout industry of hip hop.

The later period (late 1970s and most of the 1980s) also had its spate of proper dance music, tunes which remained cool headed and to the ground, setting up mental scenarios compelling someone to think, take a position on a social issue.

When it comes to the later song by JKT Kimbunga as the youths left Uganda, the contrast is clear, from the atmosphere of pursuing duty

in a rather hidden situation where the concern is merely health, to an issue of returning heroically.

In other words, no generalized assurances could have been issued for the later engagement, as the lyrics say 'those who died, died heroically and those who came back, came back heroically.'

'Salaam' doesn't have any such larger-than-life totems of the young man talking or writing to his parents being a hero or anything of the sort.

The tone of the song was that he was doing his duty and that involves moving around and is so engaging that it isn't easy to sit down and compose a letter of anything, but they shouldn't be worried.

That situation is consonant with changing camps from time to time or being constantly on errands as military training has little free time worth speaking of, and the parents are being assured not to worry about him.

It is a totally peaceful situation and not a life-engaging, predicating situation, where the parents stand a distant possibility of receiving a

body bag.

In that case the feelings expressed by the talk show hosts of 'Salaam' being a product of moving between National Service camps fits rhythmically with the earlier period.

It remains a fact that the lady singer never really became part of National Service Jazz Band, for instance in the reflection that 'Salaam' was produced by JKT Kimbunga as if the troupe came up in the late 1960s, whereas it was part of the 'Kavasha' movement as its adherents call it, kicked into place by the likes of Orchestre Lipua Lipua and here solidly taken up by Shabani Marijani.

JKT Kimbuga came about as a matter of identifying their style, while in the earlier period everyone was doing rumba, as different from twist, calypso or pachanga.

The litany of styles was a pain in the neck, with each band having a so-called style, such that one critic wrote in a Sunday column, that if one forms a banana crop parastatal it will form a band, whose style would be 'Matoke kula kula! Is it style?'

## Chance the Rapper to bring free concert, festival to Ghana

LOS ANGELES

WHEN Chance the Rapper visited West Africa earlier this year, he initially thought his trip with fellow Chicago hip-hop artist Vic Mensa would be just another vacation getaway.

Instead, the Grammy winner connected with Mensa's father's family in Ghana and other natives from the Motherland on a deeper level. He saw Ghana's beautiful ocean coastline and waterfalls, engulfed himself in the musical culture and art scene and learned more about the country's rich history of being the first sub-Saharan African country to free itself from colonialism.

After a couple more trips to Ghana, Chance decided to create a free concert series and visual arts show so others could experience the country's vibrant culture just like he did. During the summer, Chance and Mensa brought eight students from Chicago to Ghana to learn more about Africa.

"I felt so free in Ghana. ... and I want others to feel the same way," said Chance, who along with Mensa will host the inaugural Black Star Line festival in Accra, Ghana, in 2023. The weeklong festival will feature events, panel discussions



FILE - Chance the Rapper performs at the BET Awards on June 26, 2022, at the Microsoft Theater in Los Angeles. The Grammy winner along with rapper Vic Mensa will host the inaugural Black Star Line festival in Accra, Ghana, in January 2023. The weeklong festival will feature events, panel discussions and performances on Jan. 6, from Chance, Mensa, Erykah Badu, T-Pain, Jeremih, Sarkodie and Tobe Nwigwe. (AP Photo)

and a free concert on Jan. 6 with performances by Chance, Mensa, Erykah Badu, T-Pain, Jeremih, Sarkodie, Tobe Nwigwe, Asakaa Boys and M.anifest.

The event will be held in Accra's Black Star Square, a monu-

ment to the political freedom that was won by Ghanaians in 1957. The festival's title was inspired by civil rights leader Marcus Garvey's Black Star Line, which was founded in 1919 and operated by Black people who helped link global

shipping and tourism opportunities between America, the Caribbean and Africa.

Garvey inspired Chance's music video "YAH Know," featuring King Promise, and his upcoming album "Star Line Gallery," which

is expected for release next year. He's already released a few other new music videos - such as "Child of God," "A Bar About a Bar" and "The Highs & Lows" with Joey Bada\$\$ - in which he calls "album art" to highlight popular artists in Africa.

Chance said Naila Opiangah's art piece for "Child of God" will be on display at the festival. He said his new "songs are candid realities of Black life."

"Artists have amazing graphics and album covers and single artworks that are made by great artists every day that's released," he said. "But the only time you get to see it is on this little inch-by-inch depiction of it. These pieces are painted by world class artists. The ability to go see those pieces and interact with them in real life kind of adds people's understanding of the music."

Through his festival, Chance says he wants to bridge the gap between Black people abroad and Africa.

"I think that specifically the story of the founder's independence is something that all black people should know," he said. "There are no free sub-Saharan African countries until 1957. I think they should know about the revolu-

tionary leaders on the continent and abroad. I think that if we had this connectedness and this interaction, people will actually have a chance to see this."

Initially, it was tough gaining commitments from big-name music artists to travel and perform in West Africa. With few sponsors, much of the expenses to fund the free concert were out-of-pocket.

But Chance's team found a way to make the trip more affordable for travelers through a partnership with United Airlines, which is offering discount fares to Ghana for a year.

It's taken a lot of work to organize the event in such a short time, but Chance believes this festival could live on successfully for the next 50 years. In the future, he wants to host the festival in other countries, such as Jamaica and Haiti.

But for now, Chance's focus has been on attracting more people to Ghana, a place he can envision his family living after his daughters head to college.

"I wish I could live there right now," said the rapper, who has lived in Chicago his whole life. "I want people to see the convergence and similarities in all of these Black lives." AP



# SPORT

**Martinez: From fan at the 2018 World Cup to savior in Qatar**

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Nasreddine Nabi

## Coach Nabi set to axe some of foreign players

By Correspondent Nassir Nchimbi

YOUNG Africans SC (Yanga) head coach Nasreddine Nabi is expected to make decisions on foreign players to be axed at the club during this mini transfer window, in order to make space for new two entries that are expected to be signed by the club.

The NBC Premier League defending champions through its President Hersi Said have already confirmed that they will sign two international players to strengthen their squad, in the pursuit of the FA Cup championship and participate properly in the league together with the group stage of the CAF Confederation Cup.

The registration of the two players should be done during the ongoing mini transfer window. There are 12 foreign players registered in the club, and they should be reduced to ten.

The foreign players who are in the squad so far are Djigui Diarra, Joyce Lomalisa, Djuma Shaban, Yannick Bangala, Khalid Aucho, Jesus Moloko, Bernard Morrison, Stephane Aziz Ki, Heritier Makambo, Fiston Mayele, Gael Bigirimana and Tuisila Kisinda.

However, information states that two other foreign players who were not part of those registered according to the TFF rules, Lazarous Kambole and Yacouba Songne, have recovered after being out of the field for a long time due to the injuries they were facing, thus making the number of foreign players to be 14.

According to the president, Kambole and Songne were injured and have recovered and as for who remains, that is the coach's responsibility according to the needs of his team heading into the upcoming fixtures.

He has said that according to the number of foreign players who are required to be registered they have to leave two because they will add other two foreign stars in this mini transfer window that was opened on December 16, this year.

"According to the number of foreign players, we have to leave two players. We have left all decisions to coach Nabi, between Yacouba and Kambole on who will remain. We have also received loan requests for some of our players from other clubs and we will allow them in this mini transfer window.

"This is the time for Yanga to make a mark in international competitions. Our system is the same, the player we are recruiting must be very good or better than the one we have in our squad," said the president.

Yanga is leading the Tanzania Mainland Premier League standings with 44 points, followed by Simba SC with 38 points while Azam FC are in third place with 37 points.

At the Tanzania Mainland Azam Sports Confederation Cup, Yanga have reached round of 32 after beating Kurugenzi FC of Simiyu 8-0.

In the CAF Confederations Cup, Yanga were drawn in Group D with US Monastir (Tunisia), TP Mazembe (DR Congo) and Real Bamako (Mali).

# NBC Bank presents Mayele with the Best Player of the Month Award



The NBC's Director of Business Banking Elvis Ndunguru (L) hands over a dummy cheque worth 1 million Tanzanian Shillings along with an award to Fiston Mayele, Young Africans Sports Club's top striker, who was declared the Best Player of the Month for November in the NBC Premier League early before the kick-off of the game between Young Africans SC and Coastal Union played at the Benjamin Mkapa Stadium in Dar es Salaam on Tuesday. Witnessing the handing over is Azim Khan (R), a member of Tanzania Premier League Board. PHOTO: CORRESPONDENT

handing over the prizes, Ndunguru said NBC Bank will continue to give mo-

tivation to players and coaches every month to make the league more com-

petitive for both the players and coaches.

"We give these monthly

awards to bring enthusiasm to the players and coaches of all teams that take part in the NBC Premier League, so that they do well and promote themselves internationally, and also to help improve this game of soccer in the country," said Ndunguru.

He also elaborated on the bank's plans to continue to boost its sponsorship as they are in the final stages of starting to provide bus loans to various clubs that participate in the league to facilitate the travel of those teams.

"Also NBC will continue to sponsor other sports in the country such as athletics through the NBC Dodo-ma Marathon and golf, whereby currently we're sponsoring the Lugalo Golf Club. Our goal is to help the sports sector in the country to be at the international level and also to improve the interests of sportsmen in general," he said.

On his part, Mayele, the Young Africans SC key striker, was grateful to receive the award and promised to continue to boost his efforts to become the top player and help his team secure three points in every game.

"I would like to thank the NBC Bank for the award. This will push me and the other players and coaches to improve their performances because this is a huge motivation to everyone. I also thank the technical bench and my teammates together for making it possible for me to get this award and I will continue to do well," said Mayele.

## We have to be clinical in away games, says Mgunda

By Correspondent Nassir Nchimbi

SIMBA SC interim head coach Juma Mgunda has admitted lack of clinical finishing in front of opponents' goal and the defensive errors after the 1-1 NBC Premier League results against Kagera Sugar, and now he is looking at the next game against KMC FC which will be played on Boxing Day in Mwanza to make corrections.

Simba was preceded by an early goal by their hosts through Deus Bukunya in the 15th minute, before they equalized with a header scored by the Democratic Republic of Congo defender Enoch Inonga Baka in the 39th minute.

Coach Mgunda has said they played with good opponents and that the results were fair for both teams, and now they go back to the drawing board to make sure that they correct mistakes and get results in their next fixture against KMC.

"Soccer is a game of mistakes. We have made mistakes and Kagera Sugar punished us in the first minutes. We also used their mistakes to equalize. After that we played very sloppy, we were not clinical in front of goal. Our creative players played very deep thus failing to cre-



Juma Mgunda

ate enough chances. We tried to find good results, but luck was not on our side.

"There are shortcomings and I have seen them. Together with my colleagues on the technical bench we will work on them before our next game which we will play on Monday in Mwanza against KMC.

"We are still in the process of fulfill-

ing our obligations this season. The season is not over and what happens is part of the football game. This can happen even to our title rivals, so what we should focus on right now is to continue the fight to achieve our goals," said Mgunda

Kagera Sugar head coach Mecky Mexime said that the 1-1 draw against Simba SC is like a victory for his play-

ers due to the difficulty of the game.

Mexime said that despite failing to get three points at home, the results are not bad for him as it has become a good test for Kagera Sugar, which faced two tough games in a row against local soccer giants.

He said his players fought by following his instructions, but Simba used their experience and pressed them while attacking them repeatedly and reached the point of sharing the points.

"For me, this match, I have won. As a coach you have to test yourself by playing with teams like these that are good and even if you get a draw, you have to count yourself as having won. So I congratulate my players.

"We have played here with Azam FC a few days ago and we got a 2-2 draw, so you will see that my players have shown great fighting spirit and pay attention to what I instruct them to do. In general, it was a good game against Simba. This game is over and we are preparing for another game," said Mexime.

Having dropped points, Simba now are six points behind leaders Yanga with 38 points, while Kagera Sugar after two successful draws against league contenders they have collected 23 points and unbeaten in their last five matches.

## Flexibles by David Chikoko

