



### TECHNOLOGY



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## 'Africa losing \$50bn yearly to corruption'

By Marc Nkwame, Arusha

AFRICA is losing more than \$50bn every year due to corruption, an African Union expert has declared.

Seynabou Diakhate, the AU Advisory Board on Corruption (AUABC) chairperson, made this observation at the 8th African anti-corruption dialogue, profiling the staggering financial drain.

The fight against graft on the continent faces significant obstacles, particularly the lack of effective whistleblowing mechanisms, despite that whistleblowing has always been an essential aspect of anti-corruption efforts, she stated.

Corruption prevents Africa from claiming its rightful place on the global stage, she asserted, pointing at key articles in the African Union Convention on Preventing and Combating Corruption.

Article 5(5) mandates state parties to adopt measures to protect whistleblowers, including safeguarding the confidentiality of their identities, she said, also referencing Article 5(6), underscoring the need for systems that enable citizens to report corruption without fear of retaliation or punishment.

The dialogue is anchored under the

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# Accident claims 14 lives: Driver of minibus 'flees'



Colonel Festo Mbanga of the Tanzania People Defence Forces briefs Prime Minister Kassim Majaliwa in Dodoma city yesterday as the PM made an assessment tour of progress in the use of clean energy in cooking in line with President Samia Suluhu Hassan's directive to all government institutions serving more than 100 people to turn to the option. Photo: PMO

A Global Status Report on road safety for 2023 issued by the World Health Organisation (WHO) said road traffic injuries are the most noticeable death factor among people aged 5-29 years

By Guardian Reporter

A TOYOTA Hiace driver whose minibus crashed under a Fuso truck yesterday leaving 14 people dead, including two infants and nine others injured is on the run.

ACP Richard Abwao, the Tabora regional police commander, told journalists that the accident occurred in the morning at Mwasengo village, Mwakarungi ward of Nzego District, Tabora Region.

The crash took -place along the Itobo-Bukene road where the Toyota Hiace T562 DGG hit the Fuso truck T361 CSB when the Hiace driver attempted to overtake another vehicle, driving at high speed.

He failed and collided with the Fuso truck where the minibus crashed into the underside of the raised truck's cargo bed.

"The driver failed to overtake safely, hitting the Fuso truck and driving under its cargo, resulting in the deaths of 14 people on the spot, including infants under one year old, and nine others who are receiving medical treatment," the police chief stated.

Two of the injured are being treated at Nzego district hospital, while seven others were referred to Nkinga regional referral hospital in Igunga District for further treatment.

The police are in search of the minibus driver who fled the scene after causing the crash, he said, urging drivers in the region to adhere to road safety laws to prevent accidents that claim lives.

He also advised passengers in public transport vehicles to speak out if they notice unsafe driving practices "especially when drivers are violating traffic rules and endangering their lives."

Reports show that 80 percent of accidents are caused by reckless drivers, 12 percent arise from vehicle mechanical problems, six percent from climatic factors while only two percent of road accidents stem from poor infrastructure.

A Global Status Report on road safety for 2023 issued by the World Health Organisation (WHO) said road traffic injuries are the most noticeable death factor among people aged 5-29 years.

## Tanzania-Saudia investment forum slated for Riyadh December 17 -21

By Henry Mwangonde

MORE than 100 businesses and investors are set to participate in the Tanzania-Saudi Arabia business and investment forum organized by the Tanzania Investment Centre (TIC) in the Saudi capital of Riyadh next month.

Gilead Teri, the TIC executive director, said at a press conference in Dar es Salaam yesterday that the forum slated for December 17 to 21 is expected to have a significant impact in boosting bilateral economic ties.

The forum is chiefly intended to foster trade and investment particularly in agriculture, livestock, construction, oil and gas, transport and logistics, tourism and mining, he said.

As of last month Saudi Arabia had invested \$63m in Tanzania, creating 1,126 jobs in 17 projects in agriculture, services, logistics, tourism and infrastructure, he said, highlighting that Saudia has been actively working to diversify its economy, particularly agro-sector expansion.

"It is important for Tanzania to tap into this opportunity and collaborate with Saudi Arabia as it seeks to broaden its economic base," he said, while Rafael Maganga, the Tanzania Private Sector Foundation (TPSF), chief executive officer, confirmed that the umbrella body will also be part of the mission to Saudi Arabia.

"We expect over 100 business delegates to travel," he said, noting that the primary goals of the mission include opening up market opportunities for goods and services.

They also include expanding Tanzania's ex-

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## Minister hints at 2.3bn/- coming innovation fund

By Correspondent Renatha Msungu, Dodoma

THE government is set to officially launch a loan fund with a starting capital of 2.3bn/- for the commercialisation and progress of innovations developed by young graduates.

Prof. Adolf Mkenda, the Education, Science and Technology minister said here yesterday that President Samia Suluhu Hassan is expected to officially launch the fund and present a cheque for 6.3bn/- to 19 researchers working



It will provide them with direct pathways into technical education and skills development

on climate change solutions, including innovations in clean cooking energy.

The new initiative seeks to foster the growth of locally driven innovations across various sectors, he said, outlining preparations for the 9th national conference on science, technology and innovation organized by the Tanzania Commission for Science and Technology (COSTECH).

At the conference set for December 2 to 4 in Dar es Salaam, the president

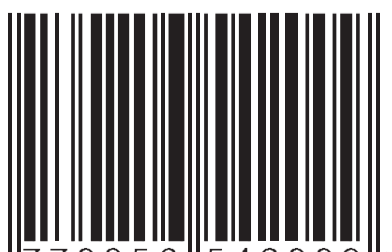
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Residents of Ndanda ward in Masasi District block a section of Masasi-Mtwara-Lindi road with logs on Wednesday, rendering it temporarily impassable to vehicular traffic. Sources said it was in connection with delays in payments for cashewnuts sold during the first and second auctions of the 2024/2025 crop season. Photo: Correspondent Hamisi Nasri



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## Tanzania-Saudia investment forum slated for Riyadh December 17 - 21

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ports to Saudi Arabia (particularly beef and agricultural products) and attracting foreign direct investment (FDI) from that country, he specified.

FDI flows have significant multiplier effects on employment and tax revenue, he said, pointing at the need to establish partnerships between Tanzanian and Saudi businesses across various sectors.

"Tanzania is opening up new sectors where Saudi Arabia has made

significant advancements, such as oil and gas and emerging technologies," he stated, elaborating that the mission would provide Tanzanian businesses with the opportunity to grow.

Participants will be exposed to Saudi Arabia's experience in visiting different industry sites to benchmark best practices in the market, thus the forum represents a significant opportunity to deepen economic cooperation and explore new avenues for growth and development, he added.

## 'Africa losing \$50bn yearly to corruption'

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theme of effective whistle-blower protection mechanisms as a critical tool in the fight against corruption, an event has brought together government officials, civil society organizations, research institutions, universities and media representatives from across the continent.

Esther Mnaro, a member of the Pan African Lawyers Union (PALU) representing non-state actors, highlighted Africa's financial struggles due to corruption.

"Africa is a net creditor to the world, but this is all a consequence of corruption," she stated, emphasising that if it weren't for corruption, Africa would not need to borrow funds from developed nations.

Financial losses from corruption on the continent are equivalent to total loans African countries receive from abroad each year, she specified, while pointing at the grave dangers faced by whistleblowers.

They are often the continent's best defense against corruption, even as many have paid with their lives for daring to speak out against corrupt practices, she said, stressing the need for stronger protections.

Neema Mwakalyelye, the Prevention and Combating of Corruption Bureau (PCCB) deputy director general, stated the case for stronger

protections in relation to whistle-blowers and witnesses.

Participants from other countries shared experiences and challenges in ensuring the safety of those who report corruption, with the first panel discussion focusing on the legal frameworks, institutional structures and standards needed to create effective whistle-blower protection mechanisms.

The session was moderated by Kwami Senanu, an AUABC member, while the Panelists included AUABC executive secretary Charity Nchimunya, Pretoria UNODC regional office head Tersia Lewis, plus the financial and enterprise affairs head at the Organisation for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD) Nicolas Pinaud.

Yet another was Louis Vlavonou, an MP in Benin who heads the Network of African Parliamentarians Against Corruption (APNAC-Afrique).

The African Union Convention adopted in 2003, has been significantly used in addressing corruption. However, an ongoing review process has identified challenges that still need to be addressed to improve implementation, where the panel review also suggested areas of focus to better achieve the convention's objectives.

## Year 2024 projected to be hottest year ever on record

By Guardian Reporter and Agencies

THE year 2024 is on track to be the warmest year ever, European climate agency Copernicus revealed on Thursday.

This year is also likely to be the first above 1.5 degrees Celsius or 2.7 degrees Fahrenheit warmer than pre-industrial times.

That's 0.03 degrees Celsius (0.05 degrees Fahrenheit) warmer than the old record in 2023.

Earth's string of 13 straight months with a new average heat record came to an end in July as the natural El Niño climate pattern ebbed, the European climate agency Copernicus announced.

"Our record goes back to 1940. But even it's quite possible that this record is stamped on a much longer time series," Carlo Buontempo, Copernicus director said.

American, British and Japanese records, which start in the mid-19th century, show the last decade has been the hottest since regular measurements were taken and likely in about 120,000 years, according to some scientists.

"2024 not only will be, in all likelihood, the warmest on record, but will also be the first calendar year above the psychologically important threshold of 1.5°C above pre-industrial."

Copernicus uses billions of measurements from satellites, ships, aircraft and weather stations around the world and then reanalyses it with computer simulations.

While 2024 has been extremely warm, what kicked this summer into new territory was a warmer-than-usual Antarctic winter, according to Copernicus. The same thing happened on the southern continent last year when the record was set in early July.

The threshold is the benchmark limit that the global community hoped to stay within in the 2015

Paris climate accord to avoid the most severe effects of warming.

The global community regularly gather to discuss climate issues. The UN climate conference known as COP is one of the most frequent meeting of the sort.

In 1987, the Montreal Protocol Substances that Deplete the Ozone Layer regulating the production and consumption of nearly 100 man-made chemicals referred to as ozone depleting substances (ODS), was adopted.

"If you look up back at the ozone hole, we managed to get together as a global community and find a solution. Now the problem is incredibly more complex. Has to do with our economic model, has to do with our way of using resources. And inevitably, this means much more complex conversation."

Climate scientists say most of the record heat results from human activities which produce carbon dioxide and methane emissions.

This year's UN climate talks will notably focus on how to finance the energy transition and adaptation to climate change.

Decision-makers will have a new chance to act during COP29 which kicks off on Monday in Azerbaijan.

The impacts of a warmer climate has been seen in this year's extreme weather events.

The World Meteorological Organisation said many African nations are spending up to 9 percent of their budgets for climate adaptation policies.



**If you look up back at the ozone hole, we managed to get together as a global community and find a solution**



Hamisi Luoga (L), who is charged with murdering his wife, at the Dar es Salaam Zone of the High Court of Tanzania yesterday exchanging ideas with his counsel -Mohamed Majaliwa (R), Zidadi Mikidadi (2nd-R) and Fatuma Abdul. It was shortly after the conclusion of the hearing of the evidence against him. Photo: Correspondent Imani Nathaniel

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will present prizes to scientists and innovators whose work has significantly contributed to social and economic transformation, locally and outside.

This year's conference will focus on the role of science, technology and innovation in addressing climate change challenges and contributing to developing a competitive national economy.

The conference is expected to generate valuable policy and professional contributions that will help strengthen national strategies, foster collaboration among public institutions, the private sector and development partners, he stated.

The government hopes to leverage the conference outcomes to enhance the country's approach to advancing science, technology and innovation (STI) as key drivers of economic growth and improved

## Minister hints at 2.3bn/- coming innovation fund

quality of life generally.

The minister praised the organizing committee, citing the crucial role of linking innovation to climate change in Tanzania's journey toward becoming a nation anchored in science, technology and innovation.

Dr Amos Nungu, the COSTECH director general, noted that the conference is meant to bring together various stakeholders to discuss pertinent issues in science and technology, while showcasing the work of Tanzanian innovators.

The launch of new national innovation guidelines on October 4 was designed to enhance chances of

support to all types of innovation, as the guidelines include a newly introduced curriculum to support talented students from the grassroots level.

It will provide them with direct pathways into technical education and skills development, he asserted, underlining the commission's appreciation for the government and various stakeholders supporting the transformation of science, technology and innovation.

Dr Caroline Nombo, the permanent secretary, shared an update that a special committee has been tasked with reviewing the country's 1996 science and technology

policy, stressing that given the rapid advancements in science and technology, there is an acute need to update the policy to reflect current realities.

She mentioned that the ministry is gathering input from various groups to help shape a broader national conference in the future, focusing on key themes to be integrated into the revised policy.

Omary Kipanga, the deputy minister, urged wider public participation in the upcoming conference, appealing to sharing ideas, engaging with new innovations and learning from creative solutions presented during the event.



India's Deputy High Commissioner to Tanzania, Manoj Verma (2nd-L), exchanges greetings in Dar es Salaam yesterday with one of the participants of a paper and packaging exhibition in progress in the city. Photo: Correspondent Miraji Msala

## Prince William visits fishing community in South Africa

CAPE TOWN

PRINCE William visited a fishing community in Cape Town on Thursday, the final day of a climate-focused trip to South Africa planned around his multi-million dollar environmental prize.

Launched in 2020, the Earthshot Prize aims to find innovations

to combat the world's biggest environmental problems. On Wednesday five winners were awarded 1 million pounds (\$1.3 million) each to drive their projects.

Prince William shook hands with crowds during a visit to Kalk Bay Harbour, where he met local fishermen who told him about their sustainable fishing methods.

He said he had been drenched by a large wave on a boat trip from an earlier meeting with lifesavers from South Africa's National Sea Rescue Institute.

A small group of about three anti-monarchy protesters, outnumbered by well-wishers, shouted out "Not your country". One held aloft a placard reading

"William, you have NO sovereignty in OUR country".

The heir to the British throne later joined celebrities who took part in Wednesday's awards ceremony, including supermodel Heidi Klum and actor Billy Porter, for a traditional fish "braai", a local term for a grilled meal similar to a barbecue.





Assistant Inspector of Police Raphael Magoma, acting Traffic Officer for Ileje District in Songwe Region, sensitize a three-wheeler rider on the Mpemba-Ileje road yesterday on the need to observe road safety regulations. Photo: Issa Mwanganga of Tanzania Police

## Tanzania faces significant shortage of nuclear science experts: minister

By Guardian Reporter, Dodoma

EDUCATION, Science and Technology minister Prof. Adolf Mkenda has revealed that Tanzania faces a significant shortage of experts in nuclear science and technology.

To address the gap, five young Tanzanians have been awarded scholarships to study abroad and specialise in the field.

Speaking to journalists here yesterday, Prof. Mkenda said that notable current experts in the field include former Vice President Dr Mohamed Gharib Bilali and Director General of Tanzania Atomic Energy Commission (TAEC) Prof. Najat Kassim Mohammed.

He said for the 2024/25 financial year, the government through TAEC has allocated 1.6bn/- to train specialists.

He noted that the government had decided to allocate funds for scholarships due to the shortage of specialists, recognising the growing importance of nuclear technology and its potential benefits.

"The government has launched the 'Samia Extended' scholarship programme which aims to sponsor Tanzanian youth to study abroad and gain expertise in nuclear science and technology; this year, five students will be awarded scholarships for advanced degrees at renowned universities in countries such as the UK, Canada,

Italy and South Africa," he said.

Prof. Mkenda encouraged Tanzanian youth to pursue careers in nuclear science, emphasising the opportunities for professional development and valuable skills that can be gained through the field.

In addition, he announced that on November 11 this year, Zanzibar President, Dr Hussein Mwinyi, is set to inaugurate an office and laboratory for the Commission in Zanzibar as part of the government's strategy to decentralise services and bring them closer to the people.

"This is in line with the directives of President Samia Suluhu Hassan, who instructed the Commission to continue enhancing services, research, and innovations aimed

at expanding the use of nuclear science and technology across various sectors in the country as well as promoting safe use of nuclear energy among the people," he said.

Prof. Mkenda also highlighted some practical applications of nuclear technology, including its role in cancer detection and treatment, improving crop yields, particularly for hard-to-grow crops, combating food spoilage and controlling reproduction of disease-carrying insects such as mosquitoes.

Deputy Minister for Education, Science and Technology Omar Kipanga stressed the importance of Tanzanians understanding the

## Govt to construct two markets in Kigoma under TACTIC Project

By Guardian Correspondent, Kigoma

THE government has embarked on construction of two major markets in Kigoma Municipality as part of its ongoing commitment to improving infrastructure and stimulating economic growth.

The projects are Mwangi Main Market and Katonga Fish Market in the municipality whose construction is a key component of Tanzania Cities Transformational Infrastructure Commitments (TACTIC) project, which aim to enhance the local business environment across the country.

During the signing of the construction contracts here recently, Zainabu Katimba, Deputy Minister of State in the President's Office for Regional Administration and Local Government, said that construction of the markets will play a critical role in boosting revenue-generating capacity of the municipality particularly through improvement of business facilities.

She said the TACTIC project, with a total investment of over 2.9trn/- aims to improve urban infrastructure across Tanzania where projects include development of transport facilities, business stalls, shops and other essential social services.

"The TACTIC projects are designed to revitalize business infrastructures in Tanzania's urban areas, creating more opportunities for local businesses and driving economic growth in our communities," Katimba said.

The deputy minister also stressed the importance of accountability and efficiency in the execution of the projects.

She urged contractors and stakeholders to adhere to strict timelines and maintain high construction standards to ensure that the benefits of the projects

reach local communities as quickly as possible.

"The projects are not just about building infrastructure but also about building the future of our communities. We must ensure quality work and timely delivery so that our people can benefit as soon as possible," she said.

The TACTIC initiative is part of the government's broader strategy to transform urban areas in Tanzania by improving public services and creating a conducive environment for business growth.

The deputy minister further reaffirmed the government's commitment to strengthening road infrastructure across the country with a major budget increase for the Tanzania Rural and Urban Roads Agency (TARURA).

She said that over the past three years, TARURA's budget has increased by 158 percent from 275bn/- to 710bn/- signalling a major investment in the national road network.

Katimba explained that the increase in funding would support a wide range of infrastructure projects across the country.

"This is part of the government's broader plan to enhance road networks, improve transport services and ensure smooth movement of goods and people," she said.



**We must ensure quality work and timely delivery so that our people can benefit as soon as possible**



Kisesa constituency legislator Luhaga Mpina pictured in the National Assembly in Dodoma city yesterday contributing to debate on proposed guidelines on drafts of the government's development plan and Budget estimates for financial year 2025/2026. Photo: Correspondent Ibrahim Joseph

## Govt revokes mining licences, rejects new applications over standard issues

By Guardian Correspondent, Dodoma

THE government has revoked several mining licenses and rejected 2,648 applications for failing to meet necessary criteria for mineral extraction.

The areas are being reassigned to women and youth, with the aim of promoting inclusive economic participation in the mining sector.

Minister for Minerals Antony Mavunde said this yesterday here during the closing of the 14th Tanzania Mining Forum in Dodoma which was organised by 16 civil society organisations under the coordination of HakiRasilimali.

Mavunde said that the revocation of licences and removal of applications followed directive from President Samia Suluhu Hassan to ensure that only those meeting the necessary criteria could retain mining rights.

He noted that the process of reallocating mining areas to women

and youth is already underway to enable them continue their mining activities as originally intended.

He said the mining sector requires trustworthy individuals.

He highlighted the case of 12 Tanzanians who owned mining areas covering 4.3 million acres while 34 others had applied for 13.4 million acres but were unable to utilise the land, thus blocking others from accessing mining opportunities.

"The government cannot tolerate such practices; that are why we continue to remove non-compliant applications and cancel licences," he added.

The minister praised HakiRasilimali for its significant contribution to improving policies and laws in the mining sector.

He clarified that the organisation is a key ally of the government in helping to grow the sector and support communities in improving their livelihoods.

Regarding mercury use, Mavunde noted that the government has established training centres to help small scale miners transition from using mercury to safer alternatives.

The Director of HakiRasilimali, Adam Antony, said that several forum resolutions focused on empowering women in the mining sector.

He urged the government to allocate special mining areas for women and provide capital or affordable loans to boost their economic capacity.

He also highlighted the need for a system to address the challenges women face in mining, especially those related to gender-based violence and human rights violations.

Financial institutions were encouraged to launch programmes supporting small-scale miners, particularly women, to help them overcome obstacles such as market access for their minerals.




**Advertisement**

**BULYANHULU GOLD MINE LIMITED**

**Requests the submission of Expressions of Interest from qualifying parties wanting to participate in the below goods/service package at Bulyanhulu Gold Mine**

Bulyanhulu Gold Mine Limited (BGML) is a fully owned subsidiary of Twiga Minerals Corporation. Bulyanhulu Gold Mine Site is located 45km south of Lake Victoria, in the Kahama District of Shinyanga Region, northern Tanzania. There are road accesses to the mine from Mwanza, 127km to the northeast and from the town of Kahama, 84km to the south.

**BGML, therefore, invites "Expressions of Interest" from reputable, experienced and certified companies interested in pre-qualifying for inclusion in a tender process for the provision of the below goods/service packages.**

No.	Reference no.	Description of services to be procured	Pre-Qualification Criteria
1	BUL-24-10-01	CONSTRUCTION OF IYENZE BRIDGE, UPPER WEST ROAD, AT BULYANHULU GOLD MINE.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Contractor specialised in civil construction projects, must have proven experience with construction of bridges of different types, Civil CRB certificate Class 5 or equivalent.</li> <li>• Experience working in similar project works in the last 3 years.</li> <li>• Proficiency in the areas of supply, fabrication, application, transportation, unloading, and receiving, installation, construction, assembly, testing, evaluation, and quality control to fulfil the work's detailed scope, as well as complete awareness of the risks and safety precautions associated with working in the mining industry.</li> <li>• Team with multi discipline members (Mainly - Engineers, Supervisors / Safety officer / QA&amp;QC officer / Multi skilled) should have sound knowledge of Mine Health &amp; Safety acts.</li> <li>• List of equipment to undertake this project - specifying quantities and ownership, and list of all tools and tackles</li> </ul>

The above Services/goods are intended to be awarded through a competitive tendering process in which a restricted number of suitable pre-qualified and experienced contractors shall be invited to receive the tender documents. Please submit an "Expression of Interest" on your company's letterhead if your company qualify as per the pre-qualification criteria together with the following additional information and/or documentation:

- Full company profile.
- Company registration documents i.e. Certificate of incorporation, Tax Clearance Certificate etc.
- Applicable certification, accreditation and affiliated registration.
- Approved Local Content Plan or acknowledgement of submission from the Mining Commissioner.
- BRELA detailed search certificate indicating Tanzanian ownership percentage to determine classification as an indigenous Tanzanian Company as per Local Content Regulation, 2018.

Kindly send your response by email to [bulytender@barrick.com](mailto:bulytender@barrick.com) by latest 18:00 on the **15<sup>th</sup> November 2024**.

Any responses received after this date shall not be considered.

Please quote the above Reference number and description on your Expression of Interest submission.

If you do not hear from us in 21 days after the deadline date, please consider you EDI unsuccessful.

Pre-qualification of any company submitting an "Expression of Interest" shall be at the sole discretion of BGML.

For and on behalf of **BULYANHULU GOLD MINE LIMITED**



## TBS declines to endorse multiple food products over quality issues

By Guardian Reporter

THE Tanzania Bureau of Standards (TBS) has said that a number of packaged food products produced domestically and imported ones have been rejected for registration and barred from entering the market due to failure to meet safety and quality standards.

David Ndibalema, TBS acting Director General made the remarks in Dar es Salaam on Wednesday during a meeting between the bureau and food importers.

Ndibalema emphasized that TBS, which is tasked with overseeing enforcement of food safety laws in Tanzania, has made significant progress in preventing unsafe, low-quality food products from entering the country or circulating in the market.

He explained that registration of packaged food products is a legal requirement that ensures only safe and high-quality products are allowed in the market, thus protecting consumer health.

"The main objective of the registration process is to ensure that all food products in the market meet safety and quality standards," he said.

"This not only protects consumers' health but also promotes a favorable environment for business by complying with both international agreements and national economic policies."

He added that the registration process also helps foster business development, creating a conducive environment for local and international trade in line with the country's economic goals.

Ndibalema expressed satisfaction with engagement from food importers during the meeting, noting that it was a positive sign that the meetings help align business practices with food safety standards.

"I am pleased to be part of this discussion with traders who import packaged food into the country."

Your participation shows that this meeting is important to ensure that products manufactured abroad and imported into Tanzania meet safety and quality criteria based on scientific assessments without obstructing business operations," he said.

The meeting was also seen as an opportunity to foster a shared understanding of food safety management across all stakeholders; businesses, consumers and regulators. Ndibalema noted that one of the key outcomes of the meeting would be increased awareness, particularly helping importers understand why certain products might be rejected for registration and providing clarity on the evaluation process behind such decisions.

Habakuki Kalebo, TBS Product and Premises Registration Manager, said that the bureau received numerous suggestions and requests from stakeholders on how to address operational challenges and enhance their services to the public.

"This meeting plays a significant role in fostering mutual understanding, especially in areas where there has been confusion or differing views between TBS and the business community," he said.

He added that one of the strategies to improve both customer service and regulatory efficiency is to hold regular formal meetings with stakeholders, including traders who import products that have to be registered by TBS.



**The main objective of the registration process is to ensure that all food products in the market meet safety and quality standards**

## African leaders congratulate Trump after election victory

By Guardian Reporter and Agencies

DONALD Trump's victory over Democratic candidate Vice President Kamala Harris dominated the news cycle across Africa on Wednesday, inspiring mixed views on the continent with a number of leaders expressing compliments.

Tanzanian President Samia Suluhu Hassan extended her congratulations to Trump on his victory in the US presidential elections.

In a message shared on X (formerly Twitter), President Samia conveyed her congratulations on behalf of the Tanzanian government, wishing Trump success in his new term.

"On behalf of the Government and the people of the United Republic of Tanzania, I extend my heartfelt congratulations to His Excellency Donald Trump, President-elect of the United States of America on your election victory. President-elect, you have my best wishes. I am looking forward to working together to strengthen the bilateral relations between Tanzania and the United States," she said.

President of Guinea Bissau, Umaro Sissoco Embaló, said he was looking forward to bolstering ties between the two nations. "May this new mandate bring peace and progress", he said in a post on social media.

The Democratic Republic of Congo's president, Félix Tshisekedi, said he was looking forward to collaborating with America in the coming years. In a post on X, Tshisekedi said he was ready to "deepen the strategic partnership" between the two nations.

Nigeria's Bola Tinubu also expressed his willingness to work with the newly named president, proposing that the two nations "can foster economic cooperation, promote peace, and address global challenges together."

Zimbabwe's President, Emmerson Mnangagwa, also offered his well wishes to Trump, and said "Zimbabwe stands ready to work with you and the American

people to build a better, more prosperous and more peaceful world."

Steven Gruz, a political analyst with the South African Institute of International Affairs, told VOA that Trump did not pay much attention to Africa in his first term and he doesn't expect that to change.

"Africa is not going to be a priority for the second Trump administration by any measure, and I don't think we should expect too much," he said. "I think we're also going to see a world that has a very different USA in operation, and African countries will have to decide how they deal with that."

Kenyan President William Ruto, who recently paid a state visit to the U.S. at President Joe Biden's invitation, praised what he called Trump's "visionary, bold and innovative leadership."

And South Africa's Cyril Ramaphosa said he looked forward to continuing a "mutually beneficial partnership" between the two countries.

However, the president of the Seychelles, Wavel Ramkalawan, had other concerns about what a second Trump presidency could mean for his Indian Ocean island nation, which is under particular threat from climate change and rising sea levels.

"We are going through a climate crisis, so will the U.S. once again pull out of the Paris Agreement? What will be the pronouncement of President Trump?" Ramkalawan asked.

Ramkalawan, speaking at a press event in Johannesburg, was referring to the fact that in his first term Trump withdrew the U.S. from a major international agreement to limit global warming. The U.S. rejoined the pact under President Joe Biden.

The statements come as African governments hope the U.S. will renew the African Growth and Opportunity Act, or AGOA, next year. The preferential trade policy gives some countries duty-free access to the U.S. market.



Prof Lesakit Mellau (L), Vice Chancellor of the Mwalimu Julius K. Nyerere University of Agriculture and Technology in Butiama, Mara Region, exchanges documents in Butiama on Wednesday with Li Manchao of Chinese firm M/S Shandong Hi-Speed Dejian Group Ltd. They are surrounded by other officials. He is shortly after they had signed an agreement on a project involving the development of a range of infrastructure at the university. Looking on (C) is Mara regional commissioner Col Evans Mtambi. Photo: Guardian Correspondent

By Correspondent Marc Nkwame,

Arusha

REALISATION of political federation by the eight East African Community (EAC) member states hinges on a strong foundation built by the region's youth who make up 50 percent of the population.

This was highlighted yesterday here by Dr Ana Luis Haule, Executive Director of Pan-African-MS Training Centre for Development Cooperation (TCDC) during the ongoing Youth Leadership (YouLead) Summit.

"The forum provides a platform for young people across East Africa: young people with vision, bright minds and the energy to drive the cause of regional integration," Dr Haule said.

European Union Ambassador to Tanzania, Christine Grau, emphasized the EU's recognition

## Stakeholders stress role of youth in EAC political federation aspiration

of the importance of youth development in Africa.

She announced that the EU was rolling out scholarships to help African youth study in Europe alongside promoting foreign direct investment to create job opportunities across the continent.

"Through investments and partnerships, European countries help to establish enterprises in Africa that create jobs for young people," Grau said.

She also underscored the critical role of youth-driven research programmes in addressing Africa's diverse challenges, stressing the need for innovative solutions to the continent's pressing issues.

The 2024 YouLead Summit

brought together more than 300 young delegates from across East Africa. The youth attend a series of sessions, panels and discussions at the MS TCDC campus in Usa River Ward, Meru District.

YouLead is Africa's largest and most diverse youth forum, co-hosted by the East African Community (EAC) and the MS Training Centre for Development Cooperation under patronage of former President Jakaya Kikwete.

This year's summit carries the theme, 'Igniting the Potential of Africa's Youthful Population: Reinstating Education as an Eminent Public Good'.

Experts attending the summit also view YouLead as a powerful

vehicle for accelerating East Africa's political federation through youth involvement.

The political federation is the ultimate goal of EAC's regional integration which is the fourth and final stage of integration following the establishment of the Customs Union, Common Market and the soon-to-be-launched EAC Monetary Union.

Article 5(2) of the Treaty for the Establishment of the East African Community lays out the framework for the political federation which is built upon three key pillars: a common foreign and security policy, good governance and the effective implementation of the prior stages of integration.



Kibaha Urban constituency legislator Sylvester Koka (R) has a word with teachers from Kibaha District in Coast Region who paid him a visit yesterday in Dodoma city, where he is attending the ongoing ordinary meeting of the National Assembly. Photo: Correspondent Ibrahim Joseph

## TAMWA launches 'Media for Gender Equity' awards

By Guardian Reporter, Zanzibar

THE Tanzania Media Women's Association (TAMWA) Zanzibar in collaboration with various stakeholders has launched the 'Media for Gender Equity Awards'.

Under the theme 'My Pen, My Contribution to Women', the awards involve partners such as the Organisation of Women with Disabilities in Zanzibar (JUWAUZA), Zanzibar Female Lawyers Association (ZAFELA) and Pemba Environmental, Gender and Advocacy Organisation (PEGAO).

In a statement availed to the media yesterday, TAMWA stated that the awards aim to honour media houses and journalists in Zanzibar who provide in-depth coverage of women's achievements, challenges and contributions to leadership while

actively promoting gender equality through their work.

The primary goal of the Media for Gender Equity Awards is to encourage media outlets and journalists to amplify the voices of women and promote gender-sensitive journalism. TAMWA Zanzibar aims to foster social change by highlighting the critical roles and leadership potential of women in advancing society.

"This initiative is about recognizing media platforms that work tirelessly to increase the visibility of women in leadership roles and provide fair and accurate representation of their contributions. The media plays a pivotal role in shaping societal attitudes towards gender equality," it stated.

According to the association, the awards will specifically focus on

media outlets that have actively supported the rise of women in leadership positions.

Key criteria for consideration will include establishment of gender policy, presence of a gender desk, gender equality monitoring and evaluation tools, and the number of stories produced on women's leadership. The position of female journalists within the media houses will also be evaluated.

It further noted that TAMWA's Supporting Women in Leadership (SWIL) project which ran from 2022 to 2023 provided training and capacity-building support to 11 media outlets in Unguja and Pemba, helping them document, monitor and evaluate gender-related issues.

The initiative has seen significant progress, and these media houses are now being recognised for their achievements.

The awards will cover work produced in four categories: feature articles in newspapers, radio programmes, television programmes and social media feature articles.

Through the SWIL project, a total of 170 journalists received training and participated in discussions on quality reporting on women and leadership.

Additionally, 45 journalists were acknowledged for their outstanding coverage of issues related to enhancing women's participation in leadership from 2021 to 2023.

TAMWA Zanzibar is committed to promoting gender equality in media by providing platforms for recognizing the contributions of journalists who work to change the narrative around women in leadership.





Omary Masudi (L), a student at a vocational education and training centre in Coast Region, briefs Asma Mwinyi Foundation director Asma Mwinyi (R) yesterday on how electrical systems motor vehicles work. It was at the centre's 14th graduation ceremony. Second right is the centre's acting head, Clara Kibodya. Photo: Correspondent Maulid Mmbaga

# Women, PwDs coached on income generation, environment protection

By Correspondent Grace Mwakalinga

MORE than 1,000 women and people with disabilities (PwDs) in Rufiji and Kisarawe districts, Coast Region, have gained opportunities to strengthen their livelihoods and promote environmental conservation through the People, Planet and Prosperity (PPP) project. The initiative is being implemented by international organisation Transform Trade in collaboration with the Tangsen organisation. Speaking during a meeting in Dar es Salaam on Wednesday, Sebastian Mahenge, business and marketing officer at Transform Trade said the project focuses on providing training for farmers, livestock keepers and traders on how to improve their economic conditions while also preserving the environment with the goal of enhancing their overall quality of life.

people together into economic groups, allowing them to access better markets and, as a result, sell their products at higher prices, thereby increasing their incomes.

The initial target of the PPP project was to reach 2,200 farmers, but to date it has successfully engaged 2,548 farmers: 1,308 women and 1,240 men. I aimed to involve 100 farmers with disabilities but it has surpassed the goal, reaching 110 such farmers.

All 2,548 farmers have joined various economic groups, enabling them to collaborate in increasing production and improving their economic wellbeing.

"Our objective is to raise their incomes while ensuring environmental conservation. We provide modern agricultural and livestock training along with best practices for environmental protection," Mahenge said.

He added that the project also aims to tackle environmental degradation caused by charcoal production, which remains a significant issue in Kisarawe and Rufiji districts.

The project which began in 2022 is set to run until March 2025. It is being implemented in partnership with the Tangsen organisation which specialises in energy and gender issues and Transform Trade with the goal of enabling communities to generate sustainable incomes while strengthening their environmental conservation efforts.

Leonard Pesambili, PPP Project Coordinator for Tangsen in Rufiji and Kisarawe districts emphasized that gender considerations have been central to the project's implementation.



**Our objective is to raise their incomes while ensuring environmental conservation. We provide modern agricultural and livestock training along with best practices for environmental protection**

By Correspondent Maulid Mmbaga

## Stakeholders urged to advance PwDs via vocational education

A CALL has been made for non-governmental organisations and other stakeholders to support youth with disabilities by identifying their needs and enrolling them in vocational training colleges for entrepreneurship education.

Clara Kibodya, Acting Principal of Vocational Education and Training Authority (VETA) in Coast Region, made the appeal yesterday during the 14th graduation ceremony of VETA Pwani College.

She emphasized that the initiative aligns with the government's goal of building industrial economy and elevating Tanzania to upper middle-income status.

Kibodya stated that the training would provide opportunities for self-employment as well as employment in both the formal

and informal sectors which could help reduce youth unemployment.

"VETA training uses a modern technical system that focuses on skills relevant to the labour market," Kibodya explained. "Our training structure combines practical exercises, theoretical lessons, behavioural education and industrial training. This holistic approach equips students with skills that help them generate income and secure employment."

Asma Mwinyi, Director of Asma Mwinyi Foundation (AMF), who was the guest of honour at the event, encouraged both graduates and those continuing their

studies to make the most of their education and innovate solutions to address societal challenges.

She emphasized that innovation and knowledge are critical for national development and urged other institutions to follow the government's example by funding scholarships for students from underprivileged backgrounds.

"Skills and innovation are key drivers of a sustainable economy; I urge institutions to invest in these areas," she said.

Additionally, she pledged to donate 100 bags of cement to help improve learning infrastructure at VETA Pwani College.

## African countries hardest hit by mpox allocated vaccines

By Special Correspondent

AN initial 899,000 vaccine doses have been allocated for nine countries across Africa that have been hit hard by the current mpox surge, the World Health Organisation (WHO) and other health organisations said on Wednesday.

WHO declared mpox a global public health emergency for the second time in two years in August after a new variant of the virus, called clade 1b, spread from the Democratic Republic of Congo to neighbouring countries.

In September, after facing criticism on moving too slowly on vaccines, the World Health Organization cleared Bavarian Nordic's BAVA.CO vaccine for mpox and said it was considering LC16, made by Japan's KM Biologics as a potential vaccine option.

The WHO also set up a scheme to help bring mpox vaccines, tests and treatments to the most vulnerable people in the world's poorest countries, similar to efforts during the COVID-19 pandemic.

The global health agency said on Wednesday the newly allocated vaccines will go to the Central African Republic, Ivory Coast, the Democratic Republic of Congo, Kenya, Liberia, Nigeria, Rwanda, South Africa and Uganda.

The largest number of doses - 85 percent of the allocated vaccines - will go to the Democratic Republic of Congo as the most affected country, the WHO said.

The allocated vaccines are from European countries, the United States, Canada and Gavi, a public-private alliance that co-funds vaccine purchases for low-income countries.

According to the latest WHO figures, there have been more than 46,000 confirmed and suspected cases of mpox in Africa this year, and more than 1,000 deaths in the continent due to the viral illness.



How safely this Bajaj taxi is moving along, as found yesterday at a Kimara Mwisho section of Dar es Salaam's often-busy Morogoro Road, is anyone's guess. Photo: Correspondent Sabot Kasika

KATIKA BARAZA LA ARDHI NA NYUMBA WILAYA YA KINONDONI MWANANYAMALA SHAURI LA MASHAURI 188 LA 2023 FLORENCE MWAMBOJO.....MUMBAJI/WAMBAJI DHIDI YA

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POPOTE ULIPO/MLIPO FLORENCE MWAMBOJO Amefungua shauri mbele ya Baraza la Ardhi na Nyumba lililopo Kinondoni Mwananyamala 1 Shauri husika limepangwa kutajwa /kusikilizwa tarehe 12/11/24 saa 03:00 Asubuhi/Mchana mbele ya Mh. J.W. Silas Hivyo unaamriwa kuhudhuria mbele ya Baraza siku hiyo bila kukosa. Imetolewa na kutiwa saini na Mhuri wa Baraza hili leo tarehe 04 Mwezi 11,2024

THE COMPANIES ACT, 2002  
COMPANY LIMITED BY SHARES

**COFFEE HUB COMPANY LIMITED**  
(In Liquidation: Company Number 138896932)

NOTICE OF FINAL GENERAL MEETING

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN to all the interested parties and the general public that a GENERAL MEETING of the Company will be held on 27 November 2024 at the registered office of the liquidator, at 10:30 in the morning EAT, at which the liquidator will lay an account of the winding up of the Company and provide any explanation thereof.

Liquidator (s) **LINDA ALLAN MWAMBETE**

Liquidator's address **368 MSASANI ROAD  
MIKUMBI HOUSE  
OYSTERRAY  
P.O BOX 9673  
DAR ES SALAAM  
TANZANIA**

Date of appointment **19 April 2021**

By whom appointed **MEMBERS**

Signed..... Date: 22 October 2024

Name in Block Letters: **LINDA ALLAN MWAMBETE**

We are **HIRING**

**2025**

**ENROLLMENT OPEN**

**NURSERY & PRIMARY**

**Open Vacancies:**

**Teachers:**  
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**Positions open for:**

- Grade 2: Culture, Art & Sports.
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- Grade 3: History, Kiswahili & Geography.

**Assistant Teachers:** Culture, Art & Sports (Grade 1) Diploma/fresh graduates

**Matron/Nurse:** Registered Nurse, Age: 35+; Diploma in Nursing, 2+ years in boarding school.

**Properties and Premises Officer:** Diploma/Degree in Civil Engineering, Architecture or related field with strong project management skills.

**Application Process:**  
Submit your CV and Transcripts in pdf format to  
Email: [hr.hbs.tz@gmail.com](mailto:hr.hbs.tz@gmail.com)  
Deadline: **20th November, 2024**



**In September, after facing criticism on moving too slowly on vaccines, the World Health Organization cleared Bavarian Nordic's BAVA.CO vaccine for mpox and said it was considering LC16, made by Japan's KM Biologics as a potential vaccine option**



# Introduce land use plans to curb conflicts, DEDs urged

By Beatrice Philemon

DISTRICT Executive Directors (DEDs) in Tanga Region have been urged to prioritise land use planning in their budgets to mitigate boundary disputes between villages, farmers and pastoralists.

Shaban Mruma, Tanga Regional Land Surveyor made the call recently during a meeting with journalists and staff from Tanzania Community Forest Conservation Network (MJUMITA) and Tanzania Forest Conservation Group (TFCG).

The team visited the region to assess the impact of the Integrated Forest Biomass Energy Solutions for Tanzania (IFBEST) project.

Mruma explained that lack of formal land use plans in villages has been a major cause of conflicts, especially in Kilindi and Handeni districts. He emphasized that a proper land use plan is essential to resolving the disputes.

"We have already begun implementing land use plans in 234 out of Tanga's 768 villages. For example, in Kilindi, we used funds to resolve conflicts between farmers and pastoralists at Lusane Village, thanks to support from the European Union through the Ministry of Finance," he said.

The European Union has allocated 5.4bn/- to support TFCG and MJUMITA in implementing the IFBEST project which aims to improve forest management and energy solutions in the region.

Through the project, boundary disputes have been resolved in several villages, including successful resolution of a 27-year conflict between Lusane and Kitingi villages. Another major success was the settlement of boundary issues between Gendagenda Village and neighbouring villages such as Mtango, Kwakibuyu and Mbulizaga in Handeni and Pangani districts.

"By conducting a fiscal verification of village boundaries and showing the government notice (G.N. 4 of 1955) which defined borders between Handeni and Pangani districts, we were able to clarify the boundaries for residents," Mruma added.

Land use plans have also empowered local communities. For example, Kilindi District now has two villages—Lusane and Mmbogo—that have secured land use plans and actively participate in Community-Based Forest Management (CBFM).

The village land certificates they received provide legal authority over the land, enhancing the security of property rights and reducing disputes.

"The land use plan has helped the villages obtain certificates of customary right of occupancy. This has allowed the villagers to secure ownership rights that they can use for business or agricultural development," said Natus Manumbu, Kilindi District Land Development Officer.

Ewald Emil, Project Monitoring, Research and Communications Officer at TFCG noted that the IFBEST project which runs from 2023 to 2026 spans eight villages across Handeni, Pangani and Kilindi districts.



**...This has allowed the villagers to secure ownership rights that they can use for business or agricultural development**

# Supporters hail 'phenomenal job' as VP Harris concedes to Trump

WASHINGTON

FACED with a sweeping rejection by American voters, Kamala Harris conceded the presidential election to Donald Trump on Wednesday and encouraged supporters to continue fighting for their vision of the country.

The Democratic vice president said the battle would continue "in the voting booth, in the courts and in the public square."

"Sometimes the fight takes a while," she said at Howard University, her alma mater, where she had hoped to make a victory speech after the election. "That doesn't mean we won't win."

Harris' decisive defeat shattered hopes that she could rescue Democrats' chances after President Joe Biden's re-election effort stalled and she replaced him at the top of the ticket.

She trailed in every battleground state to Trump, a Republican whom she described as an existential danger to the country's foundational institutions. And Trump appeared on track to win the popular vote for the first time in his three campaigns for the White House – even after two impeachments, felony convictions and his attempt to overturn his previous election loss.

Despite her stark warnings about Trump, Harris reached for optimism on Wednesday.

"It is OK to feel sad and disappointed, but please know it's going to be OK," she told supporters as some of them wiped tears from their eyes.

Biden released a statement praising Harris after her speech, saying: "She will continue the fight with purpose, determination, and joy. She will continue to be a champion for all Americans. Above all, she will continue to be a leader our children will look up to for generations to come as she puts her stamp on America's future."

Before her speech, Harris called Trump to congratulate him on his victory.

She told the crowd that "we will engage in a peaceful transfer of power," an implicit reference to Trump's unwillingness to do the

same four years ago.

Some in the audience expressed disappointment that Harris was not able to make history as the country's first Black female president. Harris would also have been first U.S. president of South Asian descent.

Gregory Pate, 38, said he appreciated that Harris said she was "committed to the fight and not looking at this as a permanent defeat, but just another obstacle that we have to go through as Black people."

"I think it was perfect. I think that it was timely, and it was a message that I came to hear," said Pate, of Fairfax, Virginia.

Jay Evans, of Greenbelt, Maryland, said after Harris' spoke that he's wistful for what could have been.

"We are partly sad, because hearing her speak, she would have been an amazing person to bring the country together and to keep us in a better path," Evans said.

After Trump lost to Biden, he directed his supporters to march on the U.S. Capitol, leading to a violent insurrection that interrupted the ceremonial certification of the election results.

Now Harris is expected to oversee the same certification process to finalize Trump's victory as voters brush off concerns about the future of American democracy and return the former Republican president to the White House.

"I thought she did a phenomenal job. She ended the campaign with optimism and hope, which is what people needed," said Troy Blackwell, a Harris supporter.

David Plouffe, a top Harris adviser, said campaign staffers "left it all on the field for their country."

"We dug out of a deep hole but not enough," he said. "A devastating loss."

Harris became the Democratic candidate after Biden, who was already struggling to convince voters that he could serve as president until he was 86 years old, stumbled badly in his June 27 debate with Trump.

He dropped out of the race on July 21 and endorsed his vice president, who swiftly unified the Democratic Party around her candidacy.



Ibra Construction director Maida Waziri (3rd-L) pictured in Dar es Salaam yesterday presenting a certificate of recognition to one of the students from the College of Business Education (CBE) who performed outstandingly in their final exams this year. It was at a ceremony held at the college. Second left is the college's rector, Prof Edda Tandilwoga. Photo: Correspondent Joseph Mwendapole

By Joseph Mwendapole

THE College of Business Education (CBE) has reaffirmed its commitment to nurturing talents and innovation of its students, especially those involved in creating new inventions in order to help them achieve their dreams and contribute to economic development.

CBE Rector Prof. Edda Lwoga said this yesterday during a ceremony to award certificates and prizes to students who excelled in their exams.

The event also served as a platform for students to showcase their various talents and innovations, particularly in the field of Information and Communication Technology (ICT).

"As CBE celebrates six decades of academic excellence, the focus remains on equipping students with skills, knowledge, and entrepreneurial mindset needed to succeed in an ever-changing global

# CBE focuses on nurturing talents, supporting innovation of students

economy," she said.

She encouraged students to believe in their abilities and to use their talents to create employment opportunities for themselves and others after completing their studies.

"We are celebrating success of 60 years of the college's existence, and we are proud of our contribution in producing business professionalism and entrepreneurship. Over the years, we have expanded our curriculum to include 63 programmes in business, information technology and metrology," said Prof. Lwoga.

The Rector urged the students to focus on building their capacity for self-employment, encouraging them to leverage the skills and technology they

acquired at CBE to start their own businesses. She also pointed out that instead of searching for jobs in companies, graduates could employ their colleagues and create opportunities in their communities.

She highlighted the college's success in fostering entrepreneurial spirit among its students. She noted that CBE celebrates its 60th anniversary at a time when thousands of its graduates have become self-employed and have even gone on to employ others.

"When students have their own business ideas, we take them under our wing, providing training and mentorship to help them refine their ideas and turn them into reality. Our goal is to help them fulfil their entrepreneurial

dreams," Prof. Lwoga said.

Maida Waziri Juma, President of The Voice of Women Entrepreneurs Tanzania (VOWET), encouraged the students to stay committed to their entrepreneurial journeys despite the obstacles they may face.

She urged them to invest time, energy and creativity into whatever they choose to pursue.

Juma appealed to CBE management to implement a plan that would recognize and support innovative graduates who have developed creative solutions and inventions.

With continued investment in innovation and entrepreneurship programmes, CBE helps to shape the next generation of business leaders and innovators.



Juma Mahunja (with mic), Principal of Muheza District's Elijerry College of Health and Allied Sciences, auctions a cake at Kwemkabara Secondary School's Form Four graduation ceremony on Wednesday. The idea was to raise funds for the purchase of a photocopier for the school. He is with, among others, Kwemkabara councillor Peter Mgalilwa (2nd-R), school headmaster Juma Hango (3rd-R) and school board chairman John Mdoe (4th-R). Photo: Correspondent Steven William

# South Africa shuts border crossing with Mozambique over poll unrest

JOHANNESBURG

SOUTH Africa has closed one of its busiest border crossings with Mozambique following violent post-electoral protests in the neighbouring country.

The protests led to deadly clashes in several cities following last month's disputed presidential election, won by Mozambique's ruling Frelimo party.

The authorities said there were reports of vehicles being torched on the Mozambican side of the Lebombo port of entry.

"Due to these security incidents and in the interest of public safety, the port has been temporarily closed until further notice," the South African border agency said.

South African police also fired rubber bullets and stun grenades at Mozambicans trying to enter the country through the Lebombo border, according to the News24

site.

Lebombo, one of the four busiest land ports in southern Africa, is about 110km (68 miles) from Mozambique's capital, Maputo, and about 440km from South Africa's capital of Pretoria.

Travellers have been advised to use alternative crossing points between the two countries.

Fresh faces in Mozambique's poll as independence-era leaders bow out

Mozambique presidential runner-up escapes alleged assassination attempt

Violence had spread to Ressano Garcia, a small area in Maputo province, near Lebombo, said Michael Masiapato, South Africa's Border Management Authority (BMA) commissioner.

Masiapato said the South African side was not affected, but safety measures needed to be taken. "Some buildings have been

set alight. At the moment we are working on securing the Lebombo border as well as travellers' safety," he said in a statement.

"The border will be closed to ensure the safety of travellers."

Reports say protesters on the Mozambican side of the border have burnt down an immigration office in that country.

Seven Mozambican officials have requested refuge on the South African side for safety and protection, the authorities said.

BMA officials, the South African police and the army have been engaged to stop the protests from spilling over into South Africa.

Demonstrations started at the end of October in Maputo after Daniel Chapo, the Frelimo candidate, was officially declared the winner with more than 71 percent of the vote.

Opposition leader Venâncio Mondlane, who came second with

20 percent of the vote, went into hiding before the results were announced.

He cited fears for his safety after his aide and lawyer were killed as they were preparing to challenge the results.

The protests have led to violent clashes with the police and at least 18 people have been killed, according to Human Rights Watch.

The internet and social media have also been restricted.

A general strike called by Mondlane has continued, despite the prime minister's call for people to return to work.

On Tuesday, Defence Minister Cristóvão Chume threatened to deploy the army ahead of nationwide protests called for Thursday.

Chume said the post-election protests were intended "to change the democratically established power."



## Botswana's young farmers hope new govt will heighten agriculture sector

GABORONE

FARMER Tumelo Mapila is one of many young Botswanans with high hopes that the country's new government will boost agriculture sector.

He started farming vegetables three years ago on a piece of land about an hour's drive from the capital Gaborone.

But he is struggling to sell his produce in markets outside of the city and is hoping things will change under the new administration.

"One of the key things for me as a farmer is for opportunities to grow the farm. Opportunities to access other markets beyond just Gaborone and Botswana," he said.

"We are looking for stability in being able to know that when we do take our produce to the buyers, they're buying at the right price, the right volumes, which really will help us to plan better as well."

Outside the big cities, young people blame the former Botswana Democratic Party (BDP) for having relegated agriculture to the sidelines.

In its 58-years in power, the focus of the economy was centred on diamonds which have been hard hit by a global downturn in demand.

Mapila said other countries and economies have created "so much wealth for the citizens and people who farm".

"So, this is an area of focus for me, my family and I think for a lot of Botswanans as well going forward. Our expectations are high. It's very clear that the diamonds are not doing well."

Although Botswana is one of the wealthiest countries per capita in sub-Saharan Africa, this decline saw its economic growth forecast for 2024 slashed to 1 per cent.

Economic issues dominated the campaign ahead of last month's elections which was won by the opposition Umbrella for Democratic Change coalition led by Duma Boko.

Analysts say that the new president must not only diversify the economy, but must also encourage banks to invest in the agricultural sector.

"The agricultural sector is mainly underfunded because of the business and banks are not willing to fund it because maybe they don't consider it viable," said political analyst Ramasia Kabo.

"I think we need to rethink our strategies in terms of how then do we attract those banks and those businesses to really invest in agriculture."

Botswana must now turn its attention to other sectors to revive economic growth.



**One of the key things for me as a farmer is for opportunities to grow the farm. Opportunities to access other markets beyond just Gaborone and Botswana**

## Ethiopian Airlines first in Africa to receive an Airbus A350-1000

ADDIS ABABA

ETHIOPIAN Airlines has received its first Airbus A350-1000, becoming the first African carrier to operate the largest model in the A350 family.

The passenger plane, named "Ethiopia: Land of Origins," landed Tuesday at the Bole International Airport in Addis Ababa, the capital of Ethiopia.

Speaking at the official welcoming ceremony, Ethiopian Airlines Group Chief Executive Officer Mesfin Tasew said with the addition of the A350-1000, Ethiopian Airlines is poised to expand its global reach, connecting more destinations across five continents.

"The A350-1000 is the first of four airplanes we will receive in the coming few months. The addition of A350-1000 aircraft into our fleet represents our desire to continue leading the aviation sector in Africa and effectively compete in the aviation industry worldwide," Tasew said.

The A350-1000 variant has 395 passenger seats across business and economy classes, making it the largest aircraft in Ethiopian Airlines' fleet.

"The A350-1000 aircraft is built with state-of-the-art aerodynamics, a carbon-fiber fuselage, and the most fuel-efficient technology, reducing 25 percent carbon dioxide emissions compared to previous generations' twin-aisle aircraft," Tasew added.

For his part, Hadi Akoum, representative of Airbus, said the A350-1000 aircraft is the first of its kind to be operated by an Africa-based operator and will enable Ethiopian Airlines to enhance its premium service and reduce operating costs.

"With its state-of-the-art technology, the A350-1000 is better environmentally friendly and offers the largest business class, to reduce operating costs per seat," Akoum said.

Ethiopian Airlines has become one of the fastest-growing carriers globally since it started operations in 1946.

According to the company, it commands the lion's share of the African passenger and cargo network operation, with its youngest and most modern fleet to more than 150 domestic and international passenger and cargo destinations across five continents.



Dr Mzuri Issa, Director of the Zanzibar Chapter of the Tanzania Media Women's Association (Tamwa), briefs journalists in Zanzibar yesterday on a February 2025 awards event it has lined up for women's outstanding performance and leadership in the media. Photo: Rahma Suleiman

NAIROBI

KENYA'S counter-terrorism police unit said its special forces carried out intelligence-led operations on the border with Somalia, destroying two al-Shabab makeshift camps.

It said the operation, carried out by the Special Operations Group, Kenya's elite counter-terrorism group, led to the recovery of materials for making of improvised explosive devices (IEDs), including detonators, switches, IED cylinders and sodium nitrates which the militant group had planned to use

## Kenya destroys Al-Shabab's crude posts in border region

to stage attacks across the northern region.

"The camps on the Kenya-Somalia border were established as IED assembly camps and were to be used to attack and disrupt civil transport and commercial activities on our major roads linking

Garissa and Lamu counties," it said in a statement released on Tuesday evening.

Al-Shabab extremists abandoned the camps, leaving behind IED-making materials, bullets, communication gadgets and assorted ammunitions for hand-held rocket launchers, the

statement said.

Since the Kenya military crossed into Somalia in 2011 to help fight al-Shabab, several attacks believed to have been carried out by the group have occurred in Mandera, Wajir, and Garissa counties in northeastern Kenya.



Manyara Regional Miners Association chairman Elisha Mnyawi addresses a tanzanite stakeholders meeting at Mirerani township in Simanjiro District on Wednesday, mainly outlining plans to empower small miners. Photo: Correspondent Gift Thadey

## Zimbabwe unveils its second satellite

HARARE

ZIMBABWE has successfully launched its second earth observation satellite, the ZimSat-2, announced the Ministry of Higher and Tertiary Education, Innovation, Science and Technology Development.

ZimSat-2, a low earth observation

satellite, was launched from the Vostochny Cosmodrome in Russia.

"This satellite will significantly improve our geospatial data collection and analysis capabilities, marking an important step forward in our nation's technological advancement. The Ministry of Higher and Tertiary Education, Innovation, Science and

Technology Development is pleased to report that ZimSat-2 is now in orbit, and initial telemetry data confirm that all subsystems are functioning optimally," the ministry said in a statement.

The satellite is expected to enhance national agricultural capabilities, environmental monitoring, disaster management, and resource mapping.

"This remarkable achievement represents a significant milestone in Zimbabwe's journey into space technology, underscoring our commitment to advancing scientific research and innovation for national development," read the statement. Zimbabwe's first satellite ZimSat-1 was launched in 2022.



## Role of linkages 'uniting' govt, trade unions and employers still invaluable

PROFESSOR Juma Athumani Kapuya, then Tanzania's Labour, Employment and Youth Development minister, admitted sometime in early 2010 that Tanzania was grappling with extremely daunting challenges enforcing its own labour laws.

He cited drawbacks like shortages of adequately trained, skilled and experienced staff, financial constraints and reluctance by employers and workers alike to accept some of the respective laws and regulations and adapt to change.

By some coincidence, what was deemed as the inaugural meeting of a national committee charged with sprucing up the country's labour laws had just been held in Dar es Salaam city.

It was reported that the US government had extended USD 1.7 million to the team to help it complete its task of ensuring that the laws took into account the interests of both businesses and workers.

The meeting heard the then US Ambassador to Tanzania underscore the need for the government, trade unions and employers to respect each other's role and interests - for the good of the country and the nation.

He aptly noted that it would be only then that, in his words, "the result can be tremendous gains for the prosperity of citizens and businesses and increased revenue for the government to fund development efforts".

These remarks may not have come as much news to whatever parties they may have targeted, particularly in that our government, our trade unions and members of our business community are familiar with tripartite partnerships.

The International Labour Organisation (ILO) places a premium on partnerships of this nature, and the respective parties in our country must have learnt invaluable lessons from the numerous congresses, conferences, meetings and seminars routinely organised by the UN agency - at which there is usually conspicuous Tanzanian representation.

It is as worth mentioning that the scenario is often much similar even at

the national level, particularly when it comes to negotiating workers' obligations and benefits.

The common practice is to have heavy presence of not only employers but also labour (usually the Trade Union Congress of Tanzania - Tucta) and the government (usually the government ministry overseeing the Labour docket).

But it is common knowledge that, even with Tucta around, our dozen-plus trade unions are still too weak and fragmented to make much impression when the going gets really rough and tough.

The situation has admittedly improved somewhat with the amendments to the country's labour laws as made from time to time.

Still, it will be quite some time before the unions will have stabilised enough to serve as the serious and dependable champions of the rights of workers they are expected to be.

In a way, the committee whose inaugural meeting had just been held, served as part of a project being jointly implemented by ILO, the Labour ministry, Tucta and the national association of employers, popularly known as ATE.

This was among other things, an initiative whose implementation was geared at enhancing compliance with national labour laws as well as raising popular awareness on the rights and obligations of employers and workers.

Part of the thrust was also on forestalling workplace differences of opinion - or at least resolving them amicably and efficiently after they had arisen - as well as attracting more local and foreign investments, thus creating more employment opportunities.

This entire drive was so well-intentioned that it merited full support from all quarters in the hope that the achievements it would make would translate into making Tanzania all the more prosperous and joyous as a nation.

Understandably, initiatives of the kind will make noticeable impact only by being workable and sustainable. This is why it is important for the tripartite (Government-trade unions-employers) partnerships to really mean business.

## US election outcome shows we can't take the rest of the world for granted

MUCH of the development agenda now at the helm in African policy-making echelons and among international organisations is likely to be upended for a while, what with the United States all but done with its General Election and set to form a new government at the turn of the year.

That is a time margin that some decision makers will seek to put to good use, for better or for worse, as the return of former president Donald Trump puts into question plenty of these orientations. The last time he was in office many thought they would just sit him out; now this.

For one thing, there was never a time that the worldwide liberal agenda looked as entrenched as it is at the moment that US voters are counting ballots and sending scrap paper to stores after all is said and done.

The outcome is definitely a telling blow to the dominant liberal narrative around the world on what to do on issue like climate change, trade relations or the bloody conflicts in the Middle East and Ukraine. One explanation is that dominant narratives tend to be academic, urban and by and large dominated by stakeholders, not really reflecting grassroots concerns, depending on the context involved.

Differences are so sharp that Israel has declared United Nations Secretary General Antonio Guterres

persona non grata, on account of the vast chasm of perspectives between the world body and that country on the crisis there. The poll outcome in the US is painful for many.

That is why policy advisers need to take a closer look at global realities to figure out if they are posing the right questions on what Africa is doing at the moment, or to what extent they expect answers from outside.

The US poll result is a rather brusque awakening that the world is sharply polarised and basically seeks that one comes to the table to do business, not to issue a list of aid needs.

That means adopting some of these rallying cries that countries have used time and again but often discreetly, the way Chinese helmsman Deng Xiaoping dropped orthodoxy and turned all of the his country's coastline into a special economic zone.

While at the local level we so pride ourselves with wishing to improve the investment climate that we can leverage innovations and emerging technologies like artificial intelligence to hasten industrial growth, this has to be translated more sharply into a capital creation - not just flows - issue.

Tackling poverty, unemployment or inequality aren't distinct agenda as such but, rather, a matter of efficient growth strategies. Public sector flows will diminish further - and we had better take heed and move ahead accordingly.

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By Autrin Vijay

WITH print generating over US\$750 million in revenue in 2023, roughly one-third of the company's overall total, The New York Times is focused on maintaining its print operations while investing in digital growth. Todd Socia, Senior Vice President at the Times, explains how the organisation is adapting to remain a leader in both print and digital journalism:

"Our print business at the Times is strong. Our goal is to generate as much profit as possible for as long as it is profitable to help fund our digital transition," Socia said during his keynote at this year's edition (Oct 8 to 9) of the World Printers Summit.

The summit an annual event that takes place in Vienna, Austria, and is organised by the World Association of News Publishers (WAN-IFRA).

Over the two days, attendees gained valuable insights into the future and current trends in newspaper production, complemented by a unique blend of supplier meetings and conference sessions.

Today, they have more than 11 million subscribers globally, with 620,000 of those being print. It is currently the largest circulated daily newspaper in the United States, with 3.8 million readers each week.

Daily newspaper circulation in the US has dropped to about one-third of what it was in the early 1990s. Revenue from newspapers peaked at around US\$60 billion in 2005 but has fallen dramatically since then.

Yet, the Times is determined to maximise profits from print products while preparing for a future that leans toward digital, Socia said.

The New York Times has 23 print sites across the US, producing over 125 million copies annually. "We own one print site in College Point, Queens. The other 22 are partner sites that we have contracts with," he said.

These partnerships include newspapers such as The Dallas Morning News, Houston Chronicle, The Washington Post, Chicago Tribune, The Seattle Times and others, which help distribute the Times' product nationwide.

### Reliance on third-party distributors is a challenge

"Our biggest risk at the Times is our heavy reliance on our partners for printing and distribution," Socia said, adding: "We produce about 41 per cent of our daily print order at our plant. The other 59 per cent is produced across our 22 contracted print sites."

## For The New York Times, print profits help fuel digital growth



Transportation and distribution are handled by 600 third-party partners, with over 35,000 carriers delivering print products to around 350 markets across the United States.

However, many publishers are struggling with labour shortages, inflation, rising costs and declining advertising revenue.

Socia said these pressures have prompted many to reduce their print frequency, with 42 per cent of the largest US newspapers now publishing fewer than seven days a week.

Additionally, many newspapers have shifted from carrier-based delivery to the US Postal Service - to cut costs. While this may save money, it however risks delivering newspapers at inconsistent times, which Socia believes could hurt the customer experience.

Many publishers are also consolidating and outsourcing their printing operations owing to falling print orders, underutilised capacity and the need to cut costs. Some have exited print altogether to focus on digital products.

### Adapting distribution for flexibility

In response to such market disruptions, the Times has made its distribution operations more flexible. It conducts market reviews to address unique challenges, with decisions often driven by profit margins at a zip-code level.

The organisation collaborates with partners to streamline operations and reduce unnecessary truck runs, enhancing efficiency for itself and its competitors.

"To maintain a seven-day distribution schedule, we often find alternative printers and establish new networks in specific markets," Socia said.

In the past year, the Times has established dedicated operations in major markets in the US, including Cleveland, Ohio and Portland, Oregon.

### Wrap-around adverts boost print revenues

The company earned over half a billion dollars in subscription revenue for print in 2023. While revenue has declined over the past five years, the drop has been smaller compared to other publishers.

"We're focused on slowing the revenue decline. Over the last three years, we have developed a number of new advertising initiatives," Socia said.

One of the initiatives is the introduction of wrap-around advertisements for their newspapers, which the Times calls "wraps". These advertisements, which have drawn in big advertisers, provide great visibility and help boost revenue for the print division. Typically, this includes wrapping the paper, a strip advertisement along the front page as well as multiple run-of-paper (ROP) advertisements inside.

"Our luxury advertisers have embraced these wraps, and we're probably doing two or three of these a week," Socia said.

In December 2022, General Electric bought all the advertisement slots in The New York Times' print edition. It was a first in the paper's history.

Around 120 print experts from more than 65 companies and 23 countries came together to meet and discuss during the October 8 to 9 in Vienna.

### Goal to become the 'last man standing'

The Times launched its

commercial printing business in 2017. In May of that year, it started printing USA Today. In March 2018, it began printing Newsday after its facility closed, and in September 2020, it signed an agreement with News Corp to print the New York Post, The Wall Street Journal, and Barron's.

Now, the publisher produces more than 60 weekly and monthly publications and continues to gain new clients, benefiting both its plant and employees.

Socia said that the focus is on cost reductions and efficiency across all departments, adding that key investments such as the closed-loop colour system from QIPC and panorama folder have paid off quickly.

They later upgraded their press controls and added a 12-tower, all-colour press - a Colorliner 85 - consolidating production to their Queens facility. They also improved their roll handling, palletising systems and inserting equipment.

"To ensure that we can print reliably for the next decade, we must continue investing in our facility. Our goal is to become the last man standing," Socia said.

The New York Times has meanwhile pledged to become carbon neutral for Scope 1 and Scope 2 emissions by 2030.

[Essentially, scope 1 are those direct emissions that are owned or controlled by a company, whereas scope 2 and 3 indirect emissions are a consequence of the activities of the company but occur from sources not owned or controlled by it.]

To achieve this, the company has invested in a new building management system, upgraded facilities, transitioned to electric vehicles, and improved energy efficiency.

"We have fully converted to biodiesel and participated in several energy audits to understand our usage and identify improvements," Socia said.

He said that these efforts benefit the environment and enhance operational efficiency, adding: "As the company continues to modernise, it recognises the need for ongoing investment in its facilities to stay competitive."

"To extend our print runway, we must work together across our industry. Collaborating with our key suppliers and print distribution partners is essential," he added.

• A dispatch by the World Association of News Publishers (WAN-IFRA).



## SHANGHAI

THIS year marks a milestone in China-Africa relations.

At the 2024 Summit of the Forum on China-Africa Cooperation (FOCAC) in September, China announced it would unilaterally expand its market and pledged support for African products through platforms like the China International Import Expo (CIIE).

Two months later, the 7th CIIE opened in Shanghai. Various African products were showcased, and investment talks took place, aiming to turn China's big market into an ample opportunity.

China's sincerity in continuing to open up has been showcased to the world through the CIIE, as well as its principles of sincerity, real results, amity and good faith toward Africa.

## OPEN MARKET

Since its first edition in 2018, the CIIE has leveraged China's vast market advantages and served as a vital platform for international procurement, investment promotion, and openness and cooperation. As China opens its door to Africa wider, more agricultural products are joining the CIIE to gain a share of the Chinese market.

Ethiopian coffee is a familiar presence at the expo. Since its debut in 2019, Ethiopian coffee has gained significant recognition and increased visibility in the Chinese market, said Ruth Wondosen Tesfaye from Addis Coffee.

"CIIE offers a unique platform to engage directly with consumers and distributors, which will be invaluable for enhancing our export strategies," Ruth told Xinhua in Shanghai, adding that China's large market and increasing demand for unique products, such as coffee from Ethiopia, present immense potential for African businesses.

This is the first CIIE for Madagascar's mutton products this year. China imported its first mutton from Africa in September when mutton from Madagascar was cleared at Changsha Customs in central China.

Michel Anondraka, director general of agriculture and livestock at Madagascar's Ministry of Agriculture and Livestock, said in a recent interview with Xinhua that China's huge market would boost production for local livestock farmers and speed up the African country's agricultural modernization.

Tanzanian honey also made its debut this year. "This expo is a significant opportunity for honey businesses across Tanzania, as it not only paves the way for our products to enter the Chinese market but also marks a solid step for Tanzanian honey brands in the global market," said Jackson Mponela, production manager for commerce and development at Tanzania Future Enterprises Company Limited, which produces, processes, packages, and sells beekeeping products.

Khozeni Farming from South Africa joined this year's expo for the first time with their avocados. Nkateko Khoza, CEO of the farming company, told Xinhua that the Chinese market will bring new growth opportunities for the South African avocado industry, adding that the opportunity will allow the company to

# CIIE stands as a catalyst for China-Africa synergy in tandem with shared prosperity



People visit the Tanzania Pavilion during the seventh China International Import Expo (CIIE) in east China's Shanghai, Nov. 5, 2024. (Photo by Zhou Xinyi/Xinhua)

at least double its growth in the next three to five years.

## POLICY SUPPORT

Philip Myburgh, group head of trade at Standard Bank Business and Commercial Banking, told Xinhua in a written interview that policy support is one of the main drivers of the growing economic and trade cooperation between China and Africa.

He explained that under the FOCAC, there are broad initiatives supporting African countries' participation in the CIIE to facilitate trade.

Since the 8th FOCAC Ministerial Conference in 2021, China and Africa have steadily advanced the forum's initiatives, including the "green channel" for African agricultural

products entering China. Inspection and quarantine processes have been expedited, and tariff exemptions expanded, benefiting Africa's flower industry, avocado, citrus, coffee and other agricultural products.

China's trade promotion measures have significantly boosted Africa's exports to China. In the first nine months of this year, China's imports from Africa reached 626.74 billion yuan (about 87 billion U.S. dollars), marking a 10.3 percent year-on-year increase, according to data from the General Administration of Customs. This year, the CIIE welcomes Mauritian sugar. Since the China-Mauritius Free Trade Agreement took effect in 2021, Mauritius's sugar industry has seen opportunities in the Chinese market.

Sugarcane is one of the most important

crops on the island, which is known as the "Sweet Island." Once accounting for nearly a third of the country's GDP and over 90 percent of export revenue, the sugar industry still contributes over 2 percent to Mauritius' GDP.

Devesh Dukhira, CEO of the Mauritius Sugar Syndicate, told Xinhua that the Chinese market's long-term contribution will be substantial, thanks to the CIIE and the China-Mauritius FTA.

## GLOBAL SOUTH

This year at the CIIE, the Global South is heavily featured. The 7th Hongqiao International Economic Forum has spotlighted "Sustainable Development of Global South and China-Africa Cooperation" as a key topic

for discussion, aiming to offer insights and recommendations for fostering inclusive growth within the least developed countries.

Myburgh said the CIIE can play a crucial role in helping developing countries reduce poverty and achieve sustainable development by providing access to new markets, investments, technology, and knowledge.

China has always been committed to promoting South-South cooperation. During this year's FOCAC Beijing Summit, China announced it has decided to give all the least developed countries having diplomatic relations with China, including 33 countries in Africa, zero-tariff treatment for 100 percent tariff lines. This has made China the first major developing country and the first major economy to take such a step.

The action plan, adopted at the Beijing summit, which outlined 10 partnership initiatives to guide the next phase of China-Africa cooperation, could have a far-reaching impact on the people of Africa, said Peter Kagwanja, Chief Executive at the Africa Policy Institute in Kenya.

"What we appreciate is the fact that China is opening up the market for Africa," he told Xinhua at this year's CIIE. "China is a real and true friend of Africa." *Xinhua*

## Trump can transform his legacy by engaging with Africa through democratic support and investment

IF Donald Trump wants to cement his legacy with African people and not just its elites, he needs his policy to double down on the promotion of democracy.

The response of some Africans to the victory of Donald Trump in the US presidential election has been predictably bleak. This is not surprising given his lack of attention to Africa – famously talking of "Nambia" instead of "Namibia" and using an expletive to describe certain countries.

But it would be a mistake for Africa to give up on a Trump presidency based on ideological assumptions or personal prejudice. Pragmatic engagement with an eye to improving investment in Africa and maximising trade would be a more productive approach.

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There is more than just dollars on the table. What is at stake is the democratic system that the majority of Africans cherish, and that has similarly delivered President Trump a second term in office.

Several factors suggest that this Trump term might be different. The US has woken to the fact that Africa is a critical supplier of scarce renewable minerals and that China has a headstart in securing these through its cultivation of African elites and ensnaring of African economies through the Belt-and-Road Initiative.

Trump is nothing if not transactional, and if African development coincides with what he perceives to be US interests, an opportunity presents itself for African economies to cleverly play the US off against China to secure greater investment.

## Critical minerals

In the words of Ambassador J Peter Pham, a former US Special Envoy for the Sahel Region of Africa under Trump: "There is no denying that access to the many critical minerals that Africa has in great abundance is needed for America's economy today, as well as for the technologies that will lead us into the future. Also, the monopolisation of supply chains for those strategic resources by any single country, much less a revisionist power like China, is a threat to US security."

Trump's approach might change now that he is in his "legacy" term. He has an opportunity to follow in the footsteps of other US presidents who prioritised Africa. The most famous of these was George W Bush, who like Trump was an unpopular presidential choice among Africans. He turned out to be the best, and certainly the most generous president in living memory for Africa, however.

Bush made several far-reaching interventions. He renewed the African Growth and Opportunities Act



(Agoa), which was signed into law by Bill Clinton. Under Bush, the Agoa Acceleration Act of 2004 removed further obstacles to trade, especially in textiles, and extended its life to 2015, allowing for greater certainty by investors.

On the occasion of signing this into law, Bush said: "Like all good partnerships, Agoa has been beneficial to all parties. Free trade between the US and sub-Saharan Africa has created jobs, wealth, and opportunity on both continents. Last year, under Agoa, African exports to the US increased by 55%, and African – and American – businesses saw a 15% increase in our exports to sub-Saharan Africa that equals almost \$7-billion."

In 2003, Bush further cemented his African legacy by signing off on the President's Emergency Plan For Aids Relief (Pepfar), which has seen the US allocate more than \$110-billion towards HIV/Aids treatment, prevention and research.

Overseen by US agencies in more than 50 countries, Pepfar is believed to have saved more than 25 million lives, mostly in southern Africa.

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## Benefits of reform

The Millennium Challenge Account was brought into law in 2004, also under Bush. In its first 20 years it spent more than \$17-billion across 22 countries, their eligibility dependent on a range of 20 measures, including civil and political liberties and governance. It tries to spend money better in those countries that seem to be headed in the right direction, offering an example of the benefits of reform.

If Trump wants to cement his legacy with African people and not just its elites, he needs his policy to double down on the promotion of democracy. There is both a princi-

pled and pragmatic reason for this.

The principled reason is straightforward: democracy, with all its flaws, has shown itself to be the only political system capable of placing the will of the people at the centre of power. The alternatives – autocracies, repressive states that steal elections and military regimes – all deliver insecurity and economic misery, as the African record clearly shows.

The pragmatic reason is equally simple: trade and investment work best with countries that have open, democratic systems and where the rule of law can be counted on to solve disputes in a rational manner. Making deals with autocrats might provide short-term profits, but these vanish as longer-term instability takes hold over succession and growing repression.

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Trump would do well not to con-

fuse autocratic rulers with their citizens. According to Afrobarometer, "two-thirds (66%) of Africans say they prefer democracy to any other system of government, and large majorities reject one-man rule (80%), one-party rule (78%), and military rule (66%)".

US foreign policy under President Joe Biden adopted a pragmatic approach, placing the vaguely defined notion of "security interests" above those of democracy. Strategy trumped human rights. Rigged elections have largely gone unchallenged lest they upset this imagined balance of priorities.

In so doing, America undermined and undervalued its greatest asset among Africans – its democratic character. This explains why more Africans polled (49%) would prefer to emigrate to Europe or the US if they were to leave Africa. And now nearly 60% of young Africans would prefer to emigrate, most to the US.

## Make democracy great again

Biden has not been especially good for African democracy, or its economies. The same could be said for Barack Obama who, despite his early promise, achieved little for Africa apart from his election per se. There is also no reason why Kamala Harris would have been any different. But Trump, with a solid base of domestic support, could be if he chooses to make democracy great again.

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African democrats need support as they challenge these autocratic regimes and, in cases where they have overcome substantial odds to win elections with such overwhelming numbers that they cannot be denied, with entrenching democratic governance.

Taking a leaf out of the Millennium Challenge Account book, there are several ways to calibrate assistance to African countries, including visa access, educational opportunities, increasing trade and investment flows by reducing risk premiums, and government training and technical help to democratic standards and performance.

Not only will this encourage more countries down this path, but the record shows that better democracy produces, overall, better governance and higher rates of growth. Democracies are thus less likely to waste aid, and doubling down on the democracy determinant means improving this match.

Reaching out to African democrats and speaking out against autocrats or those who openly flirt with malign actors such as Russia and Iran would be an important shift as the continent enters into a life-and-death struggle against repressive regimes.



By Umar Manzoor Shah

# UNEP: Nations must step up adaptation—starting with bold finance action at COP 29



Cart laden with firewood in Gonzoma, Zimbabwe. Woodpoaching for household fuel is having an impact on forests in Zimbabwe. Credit: Jeffrey Moyo/IPS

THE United Nations Environment Programme's (UNEP) 2024 Adaptation Gap Report has warned that adaptation actions are not keeping pace with the surging demands of a warming planet. Released ahead of the COP29 climate conference in Baku, Azerbaijan, the report—titled *Come Hell and High Water*—projected a bleak future where vulnerable communities bear the brunt of climate-induced hardships.

It stresses that robust, well-funded adaptation strategies are vital to safeguarding those most at risk and calls for immediate, substantial global action in adaptation planning, finance, and implementation. With the surging demands of a warming planet. Released ahead of the COP 29 climate conference in Baku, Azerbaijan, the report—titled *Come Hell and High Water*—projects a bleak future where vulnerable communities bear the brunt of climate-induced hardships.

It stresses that robust, well-funded adaptation strategies are vital to safeguarding those most at risk and calls for immediate, substantial global action in adaptation planning, finance, and implementation.

Wildfires, floods, and rising temperatures continue to inflict devastating impacts on people worldwide, especially the poor. UNEP Executive Director Inger Andersen has underlined the urgency of scaling up adaptation efforts: "The world is failing to adapt to current climate impacts, let alone those that will come if we do not cut greenhouse gas emissions decisively."

"It is time to treat adaptation as one of humanity's top priorities, alongside emissions reduction. Those already facing the consequences deserve effective, fair adaptation actions that address their unique needs."

Furthermore, the report stresses that the scale of climate impacts is moving faster than the world's response.

"Adaptation is no longer a distant option; it is now a priority," says UNEP's Chief Scientific Editor Henry Neufeldt, summarizing the report's call for urgent action. The report arrives at a time when nations are expected to boost their financial commitments for adaptation as part of the Glasgow Climate Pact.

This Pact urges developed countries to double adaptation finance to developing nations by 2025, a goal that aligns with the need for a New Collective Quantified Goal (NCQG) on climate finance, slated for negotiation at COP29.

Also, UNEP notes that adaptation finance reached only USD 28 billion in 2022, up from USD 22 billion the previous year. While this is a notable increase, it remains far below what is needed to address the vast scale of climate change impacts.

According to UNEP, estimated global adaptation needs range between USD 215 billion and USD 387 billion per year through 2030, leaving a significant financing shortfall. Even doubling current financing flows would close only a small fraction of the adaptation finance gap.

"We can't rely on one source alone. The financial burden is too great," says Neufeldt. "We must pursue creative financing models and mobilize both public and private sectors to ensure resources reach those who need them most."

According to the report, 87 percent of the world's countries have at least one adaptation plan in place, though the quality and coverage vary significantly.

Out of the 197 UN member countries, 171 have established at least one national adaptation instrument, yet 10 nations—most grappling with internal conflict or political instability—are yet to initiate formal adaptation planning. Furthermore, many adaptation plans lack specific timeframes and budgets, undermining their effectiveness.

Anne Hammill from the International Institute for Sustainable Development, who co-authored a chapter on adaptation planning, writes in the report, "There's a noticeable increase in awareness and preparation for adaptation planning globally. However, for some nations, fragility and limited capacity present obstacles to formulating and executing these plans."

Moreover, UNEP finds that only 68 percent of countries with national adaptation plans align these strategies with their Nationally Determined Contributions

(NDCs), the climate pledges under the Paris Agreement. This disconnect, as per the report, has resulted in overlapping efforts and inefficient resource use.

"When countries update their NDCs, they must ensure these are harmonized with adaptation plans," Hammill notes. "This alignment is essential to avoid duplicated efforts and to streamline investments where they matter most."

The uneven quality of adaptation plans means that even those countries with established strategies may struggle with execution. In many cases, adaptation projects—particularly those with international funding—don't have long-lasting effects. For example, almost half of the projects evaluated were rated either unsatisfactory or unsustainable without continued external funding.

"Adaptation actions need long-term funding and local support to be effective. Temporary measures, while beneficial in the short run, often fail to address underlying vulnerabilities in the long term," reads the report.

Slow Implementation Leaves Vulnerable Communities Exposed

The report reveals that implementation of adaptation measures lags significantly behind planning efforts, leaving at-risk communities dangerously exposed to climate impacts. An analysis of data shows that adaptation implementation has not kept pace with the accelerating rate of climate change. Floods, wildfires, and extreme weather events increasingly affect

millions, yet financial and institutional barriers stymie progress in implementing effective adaptation measures.

The report elaborates, "The data on adaptation implementation is concerning. Many countries start strong with initial adaptation projects, but sustaining them has proven challenging. This gap between planning and action often leads to severe consequences for vulnerable communities."

In addition to the need for more robust financing mechanisms, UNEP underlines the importance of inclusive adaptation measures that integrate the voices of marginalized communities. Many of the most impacted groups, including women, indigenous peoples, and economically disadvantaged populations, are frequently excluded from the planning process.

"Adaptation must be inclusive and equitable," Hammill says. "Vulnerable groups often face the worst climate impacts, yet their voices remain underrepresented in the adaptation process."

The Adaptation Finance Gap: A Call for New Approaches

A central focus of the report is the persistent adaptation finance gap. Although public adaptation finance flows to developing countries saw a record year-on-year increase, UNEP stresses that even substantial gains fall far short of what is required. "Current financing levels are simply inadequate. Doubling the finance might reduce the gap by about 5%, but we need much more ambitious targets to

meet the needs."

To bridge the finance gap, the report advocates a shift from reactive, project-based funding to a more proactive, transformative approach. This requires financing for anticipatory and systemic adaptation actions, such as building climate-resilient infrastructure and enhancing social protection. According to UNEP, innovative financing instruments, such as resilience bonds, risk insurance, and payments for ecosystem services, could mobilize new sources of adaptation funding.

The report points out that the private sector has a key role to play. "While public funds are essential, we need private investments to scale up adaptation," it explains, adding that in sectors such as agriculture, water, and infrastructure, private finance can be instrumental if de-risking measures are implemented. However, private finance is often inaccessible to the most vulnerable; there is a need for public-private partnerships and targeted government support.

Capacity-Building and Technology Transfer for Effective Adaptation

Beyond finance, UNEP's report also calls for stronger investments in capacity-building and technology transfer. These efforts are vital to empowering developing nations to manage climate impacts effectively. According to the report, developing countries require additional support for building local adaptation capacity in sectors like agriculture, water management,

and public health.

The report also highlights the importance of a multifaceted approach. "Capacity-building must go beyond technical solutions. It requires investing in human resources, policy frameworks, and long-term community engagement. While we see capacity needs highlighted in many national plans, a strategic, coordinated approach is still missing."

The report indicates that sectors such as food and agriculture receive the most technology-related development finance, yet other crucial areas like coastal protection and disaster preparedness need more support. For example, developing countries face obstacles in adopting technologies like solar-powered irrigation due to high installation and maintenance costs, making widespread use challenging. It suggests that bridging this technology gap will require both public investment and private sector involvement.

Path Forward at COP 29 and Beyond

As COP 29 approaches, the 2024 Adaptation Gap Report has pinned the need for decisive action in Baku to secure global adaptation commitments. At the heart of these discussions is the establishment of a New Collective Quantified Goal (NCQG) on climate finance, a successor to the USD 100 billion annual goal set in 2010. This new target, UNEP argues, must prioritize adaptation and recognize the unique challenges faced by developing nations.

Andersen, who will lead UNEP's delegation to COP 29, expresses hope that the international community will rally around adaptation as a central theme.

In addition to setting an ambitious finance goal, COP 29 will discuss mechanisms for better tracking adaptation actions, establishing loss and damage funding, and addressing the debt burdens that restrict developing nations from prioritizing adaptation investments. UNEP advocates for debt relief and restructuring as a way to free up funds for climate adaptation, particularly in nations where high debt costs eclipse adaptation funding.

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# RATIBA YA VIPINDI JUMATATU - JUMAPILI

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

Tembelea mitandao ya kijamii ya CAPITAL RADIO



CAPITAL RADIO



## Conservation of forests contributing to improved livelihoods in Liwale District

By Guardian Reporter, Liwale

**F**ORESTS are one of the major sources of income for residents of Liwale District in Lindi Region. A large area of this district, which has 76 villages, is surrounded by forests, of which part are owned by villagers and the district council as well as the Selous and Nyerere National Parks.

The forests which are part of the larger Miombo woodlands are home to diverse plant and animal species playing a critical role in sustaining local communities through resources like timber, firewood and honey. Liwale District has 2.5 million hectares designated specifically for timber harvesting.

Through the formation of village forest reserves community members sustainably use resources under regulated conditions.

Most villages in the district are located within the Selous-Niassa corridor, which results in 64 out of the 76 villages facing the challenge of Human-Wildlife Conflicts (HWC).

Deogratius Simwanza, Liwale District Natural Resources Officer, told members of the Journalists Environmental Association of Tanzania (JET) that the area has successfully conserved its forests, with villagers, including women, being directly involved in conservation

activities.

Journalists visited the district as part of their engagement in the Mitigation of Human-Wildlife Conflict project, which is being implemented by the German Development Agency (GIZ) in collaboration with the Ministry of Natural Resources and Tourism. The project aims to address challenges between local communities and wildlife, particularly in areas where agricultural activities and wildlife habitats overlap. "Forests are one of the main sources of income in Liwale; we have developed conservation plans in place, but we are also engaging in sustainable harvesting to ensure this resource remains available and benefit both the current and future generations," said Simwanza, adding that timber harvesting is also expected to begin in the council forests this year.

Explaining, he stated that last year the district collected 2.9bn/- as revenue from forest resources. He said that once villages harvest forest products, 50 percent of the revenue remains at the village while 35 percent is directed to conservation activities and 10 percent taken to the district.

Liwale is one of the districts where all its forests are covered by native trees; he said adding that buyers prefer two types of trees which are 'Mninga' and 'Mkongo'. A few of them would ask for 'Mtondoro', he added.



Villagers in Mtawatawa have constructed their own office with funds collected from selling forest products.

According to Simwanza, villagers are also set to benefit with carbon trade as the district has already entered into a contract with an investor—Village Climate Solution which is part of the Tanzania Forest Conservation Group (TFCG).

"This is another source of income coming from our forest, we have reached a good step and we are expecting to start receiving fund after three years. We are also conducting research to identify more villages

that could be included in the plan," said Simwanza, calling upon other investors to invest in trade as there are many forests.

He said stringent laws have been put in place to control forest destruction whereas patrols are conducted ten times per month. He said the only challenge they are facing is forest fires whereas most villagers burn forest as part of their traditional customs as well as cleaning farms.

At Mtawatawa, the Village Execu-

tive Officer, Haji Makame Haji said the village has recorded a number of successes in forest conservation activities whereas the funds received are directed on implementation of development projects.

He said the village has been able to construct an office at a cost of 68m/- and that construction of a 46m/- maternal ward is ongoing to ensure expectant mothers get quality services during delivery. He said the village has also constructed six classrooms with support from the

district authority.

"Timber harvesting is one of the major businesses here, we have purchased a 76m/- timber processing machine where people from other villages would also use it. With the machine, we are expecting to get more money," he added, noting the village contributes not less than 50m/- to the district annually.

Makame said Mtawatawa collects 300m/- each year from harvested forest products, the number which is small compared to estimated revenue of 3bn/- per year. He said the available forest resources can be harvested for 30 years to come. Mtawatawa's village forest measures 12,092 hectares.

He added: "Conservation activities pays off; we are also planning to purchase an ambulance this financial year to facilitate transport services for patients as the hospital is 45 kilometers far from our village. Starting next financial year we will be allocating 10 percent of our revenues for issuance of low interest loans to villagers", said Makame, noting the ambulance is expected to arrive in December this year.

Zakia Mlongo, Mtawatawa resident said that it is through conservation activities their livelihoods have improved. She said construction of the maternity ward would improve health care services.

Hajra Wadi is also a resident of the village, she said decisions by the village government to offer low interest loans would help traders to expand their businesses, and ultimately have their livelihood improved.

## Pregnant teens: Girls in South Africa need focused, supportive healthcare

By Sathya Susuman Appunni and Tronic Sithole

**A**N estimated 12 million teenage pregnancies are reported globally every year.

Girls and young women in this age group face multiple risk factors that contribute to early pregnancies. These include a lack of access to comprehensive sexual education, socioeconomic inequality, cultural norms, and limited availability of contraceptives. They are also less likely than older women to get prenatal care, and more likely to experience stigma and discrimination in healthcare facilities if they do seek care.

All of the factors can complicate both pregnancy and childbirth. Maternal health complications are among the leading causes of death for adolescent girls worldwide.

The good news is that teenage pregnancies have declined in some parts of the world. However, they remain high in South Africa, especially in the country's rural and low-income areas.

We are demographers specialising in public health dynamics in South Africa. We focus especially on maternal mortality, reproductive health, and the socio-economic determinants affecting population health.

In a recent study we sought to understand the factors that contribute to teenage pregnancies in South Africa. To do so we interviewed 20 young women. They were either pregnant for the first time or had previously given birth as teenagers. We also analysed previous studies on the subject of teenage pregnancy.

Our findings make it clear that limited access to quality healthcare, socioeconomic challenges and a lack of awareness about pregnancy-related risks are all making teenage girls more vulnerable than older women to dying while pregnant, while giving birth or because of complications after they have given birth.

There's a clear need for policies that improve healthcare access, reproductive health education, and support systems for young women. We hope the insights from our study will provide a foundation for reducing maternal mortality rates. This, in turn, can contribute to meeting broader health goals and addressing disparities in healthcare for young mothers in South Africa.

### What the research found

A total of 20 young women aged between 15 and 24 who attended a health facility in Johannesburg were interviewed. They came from various backgrounds, including urban, suburban and rural areas. Most of them were single and unemployed, and had not studied further after completing their secondary education.

The interviews focused on understanding the factors contributing to maternal mortality, the availability and accessibility of health services, and the participants' knowledge about pregnancy.

The study also explored how social influences, such as family and community views, influenced their decisions about using contraceptives and considering abortion as an option.

Many shared stories about stigma and isolation. They also talked about the difficult choices they had to make because of social pressures and a lack of support. This included support from their partners. One said: "As soon as I told him who the baby's



father was (which is him), he told me I should talk to the baby's father because he is not."

The young women often relied on their peers rather than their families for guidance, largely due to fear of disappointing or being reprimanded and punished by their parents. This fear is commonly expressed in research about teenage pregnancy. Unfortunately, their peers often have limited knowledge about sexual reproduction and health.

One participant explained that she'd been taking contraceptive pills when she became pregnant. This highlights gaps in effective contraceptive use or awareness that contraceptives cannot guarantee unintended pregnancies.

There is a strong correlation between educational attainment and reduced teenage pregnancy rates. Educational policies that keep girls in school have been shown to reduce their likelihood of becoming pregnant at a young

age. Additionally, adolescents with higher levels of education are more likely to be aware of maternal health services and danger signs during pregnancy than their peers. This lowers their risk of complications.

For many of our participants, unplanned pregnancies placed them in the difficult position of choosing between continuing their education, or facing possible social exclusion.

### Changing the situation

The findings shed light on the vulnerabilities of teenage mothers in South Africa. This group needs accessible healthcare that meets their unique needs as adolescents - for instance, age-appropriate, non-judgmental counselling and guidance on prenatal and postnatal care.

They often require additional support in understanding contraceptive options to prevent repeat pregnancies, mental health sup-

port to address the psychological stress of early motherhood, and tailored educational resources on newborn care. This demographic is also more susceptible to complications like anaemia and preterm labour, which require targeted monitoring and intervention. Healthcare workers should be trained specifically to deal with these issues.

The research underscores the importance of educational policies that target teenage pregnancy prevention. By keeping young girls in school and providing them with comprehensive sexual education, the risk factors for early pregnancies can be significantly reduced.

But education needn't be limited to classrooms. Policies should also focus on increasing awareness of maternal health danger signs among adolescents. Public health campaigns that target teenagers, particularly in high-risk areas, could help young mothers understand the risks associated with pregnancy and encourage them to seek help early.

Improving maternal health outcomes for adolescent mothers will not only save lives: it will also improve women's overall

life expectancy. This has been the case in at least two countries: Rwanda and Sri Lanka.

In 2000, Rwanda's maternal mortality rate was 1,007 deaths per 100,000 live births. In 2020 it stood at 259 deaths per 100,000 live births.

This is still high: the World Health Organization and other global health bodies regard a maternal mortality rate of 70 deaths or fewer per 100,000 live births as the target for countries to achieve Sustainable Development Goal 3, which aims to ensure healthy lives and promote well-being for all at all ages.

However, it is a vast improvement from the 2000 figure. Rwanda has achieved this by, among other things, focusing on accessible maternal healthcare services, training community health workers, and providing financial support for maternal services.

Crucially, special programmes are in place to meet young mothers' unique needs, such as confidential reproductive health counselling, reducing stigma, and encouraging teenage mothers to use healthcare facilities.



# Experts and officials urging more efforts to eradicate hunger, foster resilience in Africa

ADDIS ABABA

EXPERTS and policymakers, convening a high-level conference aimed at achieving zero hunger, have called for redoubling efforts to eradicate hunger in Africa and across the world by investing in solutions that foster resilience, economic growth, and self-reliance.

The appeal was made at the World Without Hunger Conference, which opened on Tuesday in Addis Ababa, the Ethiopian capital. Jointly organized by the UN Industrial Development Organization (UNIDO), the African Union (AU), and the Ethiopian government with support from the UN Food and Agriculture Organization, the three-day high-level conference brought together decision-makers, senior officials from the UN and regional organizations, private sectors, representatives of different financial institutions, the donor community, and experts, among others.

Addressing the conference, AU Commission Chairperson Moussa Faki Mahamat said ending hunger is an aspiration that the world, particularly Africa, hopes to achieve in the near future as hunger remains the most vital challenge facing humanity.

Faki said African leaders, back in 2014, have adopted the Malabo Declaration with a goal of ending hunger by 2025. "One year before (the timeframe set by) the Malabo Declaration, Africa is not on track to end hunger, and we are, unfortunately, far from the target."

The chairperson said despite being endowed with rich arable land, a working-age youth population, and a significant amount of freshwater reserves, the African continent is still food insecure.

Faki, citing recent reports, said over 280 million Africans, representing about 20 percent of the continent's total population, are currently food insecure, and over 850 million people in Africa cannot afford a healthy diet.

He said while the global hunger statistics have declined in every other part of the world, the situation has not improved in Africa. "It is unacceptable. In fact, it is a crying shame that with all these resources, Africa still cannot feed herself, and this has to be changed," Faki said.

He expressed his hope that the high-level conference will provide fresh insights on how to tackle the main drivers of hunger in Africa as well as tangible outcomes on how to reverse the situation.

UNIDO Director-General Gerd Muller, on his part, said that hunger, as a significant issue related to poverty, is closely linked to the global wealth imbalance, highlighting the necessity of restructuring the global market and rethinking the process of globalization. "Africa's population would grow to 2.5 billion by 2050. First of all, they need daily food.

Here in Africa, ending hunger is possible as this continent has great potentials -- 60 percent of the world's available arable land is here, six of the fastest growing economies are African countries, and Africa could be the first continent to power itself through renewable energies and the potential is there," he said.

The UNIDO chief, however, said despite its potentials, Africa's productivity is still too low, with many



African countries increasingly becoming food importers. Muller said ensuring peace, stability, good governance, and addressing corruption are among the necessary pre-conditions that are crucial to ensure food security in Africa.

He further called for strong investments in promoting productivity, mechanization, irrigation, storage, and infrastructure development. Ethiopian Prime Minister Abiy Ahmed, on his part, stressed that collaborative efforts uniting

global leaders, experts, and advocates will yield innovative solutions and partnerships to achieve the common goal of eradicating hunger and ensuring food security for all. "When we committed to achieving zero hunger as a global community, we could not have foreseen how climate change, natural disasters, the COVID-19 pandemic, and escalating global conflicts would divert us from this noble goal.

Yet, the complexity of these challenges has only underscored

the urgent need to redouble our efforts towards food security," he said.

"However, ending world hunger is about more than just increasing productivity. It requires us to tackle systemic issues, such as poverty, inequality, and climate resilience in a holistic manner," said the prime minister.

According to a recent report by five UN agencies, around 733 million people faced hunger in 2023, equivalent to one in 11 people globally and one in five in Africa, warning that the world is falling significantly short of achieving Sustainable Development Goal (SDG)-2, zero hunger, by 2030.

Participants at the high-level conference also said that while the world produces enough food, it often

fails to reach those in need as vulnerable populations across the world still lack the means to access it.

They underscored the urgent need to invest in solutions that promote resilience, economic growth, and self-reliance to eliminate hunger.

Running through Thursday, the conference addresses "the gravest challenges of our time" with solution-oriented technical sessions, an investment forum, and a high-level political forum.

# RADIO One

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05.00 AM HALI YA HEWA / KUMEPAMBAZUKA I 06.00 AM AMKA NA BBC 06.30 AM NIPASHE 06.50 AM MATANGAZO 07.00 AM NEWS BULLETIN 07.10 AM MATANGAZO 07.15 AM TAARIFA ZA BARABARANI 07.25 AM UDONDOZI WA MAGAZETI 07.40 AM KUMEPAMBAZUKA II 08.00 AM HABARI NYEPESI 08.10 AM KUMEPAMBAZUKA III 09.00 AM HABARI ZA BIASHARA 09.10 AM MATANGAZO 09.20 AM BRAND TALK 10.00 AM NEWS BRIEF 10.03 AM DEATH ANNOUNCEMENTS 10.10 AM YALIVOMO YAMO 13.00 HRS NEWS BULLETIN 13.10 HRS DEATH ANNOUNCEMENTS 13.30 HRS DJ SHOW 16.03 HRS NEWS BRIEF 16.03 HRS DEATH ANNOUNCEMENTS 16.30 HRS HOJA YA LEO 18.30 HRS DIRA YA DUNIA BBC 19.30 HRS SPOTI LEO 20.00 HRS NEWS BULLETIN 20.10 HRS RADIO ONE DOCTOR 21.00 HRS NEWS BRIEF 21.05 HRS DAKIKA 45 22.00 HRS NEWS BULLETIN (24 HRS) 22.15 HRS AFRO TIZI 23.00 HRS NEWS BRIEF 23.03 HRS AFRO TIZI 01.00-05.00HRS MUZIKI (MCHANGANYIKO)	05.00 AM HALI YA HEWA / KUMEPAMBAZUKA I 06.00 AM AMKA NA BBC 06.30 AM NIPASHE 06.50 AM MATANGAZO 07.00 AM NEWS BULLETIN 07.10 AM MATANGAZO 07.15 AM TAARIFA ZA BARABARANI 07.25 AM UDONDOZI WA MAGAZETI 07.40 AM KUMEPAMBAZUKA II 08.00 AM HABARI NYEPESI 08.10 AM KUMEPAMBAZUKA III 09.00 AM HABARI ZA BIASHARA 09.10 AM MATANGAZO 09.20 AM BRAND TALK 09.30 AM KUMEPAMBAZUKA SHERIA 10.00 AM NEWS BRIEF 10.03 AM DEATH ANNOUNCEMENTS 10.10 AM YALIVOMO YAMO 13.00 HRS NEWS BULLETIN 13.10 HRS DEATH ANNOUNCEMENTS 13.30 HRS DJ SHOW 16.03 HRS NEWS BRIEF 16.03 HRS DEATH ANNOUNCEMENTS 16.30 HRS HOJA YA LEO 18.30 HRS DIRA YA DUNIA BBC 19.30 HRS SPOTI LEO 20.00 HRS NEWS BULLETIN 20.10 HRS MATANGAZO / MUZIKI 21.05 HRS CHAGUO LA DJ 22.00 HRS NEWS BULLETIN (24 HRS) 22.15 HRS AFRO TIZI 23.00 HRS NEWS BRIEF 23.03 HRS AFRO TIZI 01.00-05.00HRS MUZIKI (MCHANGANYIKO)	05.00 AM HALI YA HEWA / KUMEPAMBAZUKA I 06.00 AM AMKA NA BBC 06.30 AM NIPASHE 06.50 AM MATANGAZO 07.00 AM NEWS BULLETIN 07.10 AM MATANGAZO 07.15 AM TAARIFA ZA BARABARANI 07.25 AM UDONDOZI WA MAGAZETI 07.40 AM KUMEPAMBAZUKA II 08.00 AM HABARI NYEPESI 08.10 AM KUMEPAMBAZUKA III 09.00 AM HABARI ZA BIASHARA 09.10 AM MATANGAZO 09.20 AM BRAND TALK 09.30 AM KUMEPAMBAZUKA MICHEZO 10.00 AM NEWS BRIEF 10.03 AM DEATH ANNOUNCEMENTS 10.10 AM YALIVOMO YAMO 13.00 HRS NEWS BULLETIN 13.10 HRS DEATH ANNOUNCEMENTS 13.30 HRS DJ SHOW 16.03 HRS NEWS BRIEF 16.03 HRS DEATH ANNOUNCEMENTS 16.30 HRS HOJA YA LEO 18.30 HRS DIRA YA DUNIA BBC 19.30 HRS SPOTI LEO 20.00 HRS NEWS BULLETIN 20.10 HRS MATANGAZO / MUZIKI 21.05 HRS CHAGUO LA DJ 22.00 HRS NEWS BULLETIN (24 HRS) 22.15 HRS AFRO TIZI 23.00 HRS NEWS BRIEF 23.03 HRS AFRO TIZI 01.00-05.00HRS MUZIKI (MCHANGANYIKO)	05.00 AM HALI YA HEWA / KUMEPAMBAZUKA I 06.00 AM AMKA NA BBC 06.30 AM NIPASHE 06.50 AM MATANGAZO 07.00 AM NEWS BULLETIN 07.10 AM MATANGAZO 07.15 AM TAARIFA ZA BARABARANI 07.25 AM UDONDOZI WA MAGAZETI 07.40 AM KUMEPAMBAZUKA II 08.00 AM HABARI NYEPESI 08.10 AM KUMEPAMBAZUKA III 09.00 AM HABARI ZA BIASHARA 09.10 AM MATANGAZO 09.20 AM BRAND TALK 09.30 AM KUMEPAMBAZUKA UKIMWI 10.00 AM NEWS BRIEF 10.03 AM DEATH ANNOUNCEMENTS 10.10 AM YALIVOMO YAMO 13.00 HRS NEWS BULLETIN 13.10 HRS DEATH ANNOUNCEMENTS 13.30 HRS DJ SHOW 16.03 HRS NEWS BRIEF 16.03 HRS DEATH ANNOUNCEMENTS 16.30 HRS HOJA YA LEO 18.30 HRS DIRA YA DUNIA BBC 19.30 HRS SPOTI LEO 20.00 HRS NEWS BULLETIN 20.10 HRS MATANGAZO / MUZIKI 21.05 HRS CHAGUO LA DJ 22.00 HRS NEWS BULLETIN (24 HRS) 22.15 HRS AFRO TIZI 23.00 HRS NEWS BRIEF 23.03 HRS AFRO TIZI 01.00-05.00HRS MUZIKI (MCHANGANYIKO)	05.00 AM HALI YA HEWA / KUMEPAMBAZUKA I 06.00 AM AMKA NA BBC 06.30 AM NIPASHE 06.50 AM MATANGAZO 07.00 AM NEWS BULLETIN 07.10 AM MATANGAZO 07.15 AM TAARIFA ZA BARABARANI 07.25 AM UDONDOZI WA MAGAZETI 07.40 AM KUMEPAMBAZUKA II 08.00 AM HABARI NYEPESI 08.10 AM KUMEPAMBAZUKA III 09.00 AM HABARI ZA BIASHARA 09.10 AM MATANGAZO 09.20 AM BRAND TALK 10.00 AM NEWS BRIEF 10.03 AM DEATH ANNOUNCEMENTS 10.10 AM HIZI NAZO 13.00 HRS NEWS BULLETIN 13.10 HRS DEATH ANNOUNCEMENTS 13.30 HRS DJ SHOW 16.00 HRS NEWS BRIEF 16.03 HRS DEATH ANNOUNCEMENTS 16.30 HRS HOJA YA LEO 18.30 HRS DIRA YA DUNIA BBC 19.30 HRS SPOTI LEO 20.00 HRS NEWS BULLETIN 20.10 HRS MATANGAZO / MUZIKI 21.00 HRS NEWS BRIEF 21.05HRS KIPIMA JOTO 23.00 HRS WEEKEND SHOW 01:00 - 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Tembelea mitandao ya kijamii ya Radio One



Radio One



# CHINESE TOURISTS EXPERIENCE ANCIENT EGYPT COMING TO LIFE

BEIJING

**W**HEN Chen Dan gazed upon the Pyramid of Khafre and the Great Sphinx, she felt the pages of history textbooks come to life.

In the Sahara, she enjoyed a peaceful and secluded afternoon, riding in a vehicle at high speeds through the desert known as dune bashing and savoring the sunset, disconnecting from the world as her mobile phone had no signal.

These are unforgettable memories from her 15-day journey across Egypt with her friends in March.

"I'm most impressed by Egyptian hospitality," says the 32-year-old traveler from Hefei, Anhui province.

During the trip, she rubbed elbows with the locals.

A group of youngsters struck up conversations, took photos and waved goodbye as they parted ways on opposite sides of the road.

At a pastry shop, kind strangers offered to translate the menu when they noticed the group's difficulty in reading it.

Like Chen, more Chinese tourists are traveling to Egypt to explore the mysterious pyramids, temples, museums and the Nile River.

The number of Chinese visitors to Egypt

was 265,000 from January to September, an increase of 65 percent compared to the same period last year.

Amr El-Kady, CEO of the Egyptian Tourism Authority, estimates that the country will receive over 300,000 Chinese tourists by the end of this year, aiming for over 15 million global visitors.

The tourism bureau will continue to strengthen cooperation with Chinese authorities and tourism operators. They will participate in tourism fairs in China and enhance their marketing strategies through conferences and seminars.

"Tourism acts as a vital bridge, fostering cultural exchanges and mutual understanding between the two countries," says Sherif Fathy, Egypt's minister of tourism and antiquities. He recently attended the China Outbound Travel & Tourism Market 2024 in Beijing.

He says that as one of the countries participating in the Belt and Road Initiative, Egypt views China as a key partner in businesses such as tourism. Egypt has released a series of initiatives and measures to attract more Chinese tourists.

They are actively marketing Egypt as a diverse destination, both online and offline, offering experiences beyond the traditional visits to the pyramids. More Chinese tourists are



A dancer takes to the air against the backdrop of an ancient Egyptian temple.

now exploring Egypt's deserts and the Red Sea.

From July to August 2025, the On Top of the Pyramid: The Civilization of Ancient Egypt exhibition at the Shanghai Museum showcases 788 artifacts from various eras of ancient Egyptian civilization, curated from seven major Egyptian museums.

Fathy believes that the popular exhibition has helped Chinese people learn about Egypt's ancient heritage and encouraged more of them to visit and explore the country's rich culture and history.

Currently, there are 22 to 30 flights per week between China and Egypt. Chinese tourists can obtain a visa-on-arrival when they enter Egypt for a fee of \$25.

"Discussions are ongoing between the Egyptian and Chinese governments regarding the potential for visa-free entry and these negotiations take time," he says.

To enhance Chinese tourists' travel experiences, Egypt has installed Chinese signage at air-

ports, hotels and scenic areas, trained more Chinese-speaking tour guides and offered Chinese cuisine at some hotels.

Chinese visitors can get abundant information about traveling to Egypt on the Chinese version of the Egyptian Tourism Authority's promotional website.

Tourists have much to anticipate with the upcoming official opening of the Grand Egyptian Museum, which offers an extensive collection of ancient artifacts.

Egypt is pushing reforms in the tourism industry, with investment in its transportation networks, airport facilities and railway system. Fathy says Chinese hotel management companies and investors are welcome in Egypt's tourism industry.

They invite Chinese partners to promote China in the Egyptian market and introduce various Chinese destinations, going beyond the well-known sites such as the Great Wall and the Forbidden City.



Pendo Lameck, the secretary of the Seluka Irrigators Organisation in Mpwapwa District irrigates the demo plots established by AMDT under the useful agribusiness project. Photo: Correspondent Valentine Oforo.

## Project supports farmers in Mpwapwa to engage in horticulture

By Correspondent Valentine Oforo, Mpwapwa

A project has been hatched in Seluka village of Mpwapwa district, majoring into production of a number of economic cash crops at an acreage of at least 99 acres, map withped over 94 km from Dodoma Capital City.

Attracting a total of 25 farmers, the robust agribusiness project came into life following a generous support by the Agricultural Markets Development Trust (AMDT) to install a 150 metre water well and a solar driven pumping system at the area, the initiative which gobbled up to 52m/- upon its completion.

And within just a few months since the official runaway of the project, the group of the determined farmers, including 18 males and seven women, has so far managed to prove that with the availability of abundant water the semi-arid district of Mpwapwa can be transformed into the region's food basket.

"To begin with, we decided to start to grow cucumbers and okras since mid-August this year, whereby today we have managed to yield bumper," said Pendo Lameck, the secretary of the group, known as the Seluka Irrigators Organisation.

Giving further details pertaining to the group's future vision yesterday during a collaborative monitoring mission to the scheme with MoA and Dodoma Regional Secretariat representatives, the Lameck expressed that they're focusing to embark on a large scale irrigation scheme, targeting to grow varied vegetables and fruits, but also to venture into production of sunflower oil seeds, specifically a record variety.

She expressed high optimism that the project will play a vital role in heightening livelihoods among the group's members, as well as boosting the entire economic status of the village when coming to its full operations.

Adding her voice, the other farmer member, Henry Marealle informed that the intention was to see the union growing up big to the tune of using potential agricultural machineries, the development which will enable it to expand the crops production scope.

"We want to transform this area into the region's crucial agribusiness site through engaging into large production of valuable vegetables and fruits, together with other crops that attract lucrative prices into the markets," he said.

Together with that, he unveiled that the focus was to ensure they manage to put the whole available 99 hectares under production, saying doors we are open for well-wishers farmers to chip in and join with the useful group.

He hailed the AMDT for supporting the group with the modern water well, saying before the installation of the irrigation facility it was impossible to grow anything in the vast area.

Delta Shila the AMDT's Monitoring and Results Measurement, on his side said that the Trust has installed the water well in the area as part of responding to a plea from the government within the region.

"AMDT has always been, and will continue standing at forefront to support the government to meet its much-needed National Development Vision 2050 through agricultural transformation, among others," he said.

Aziza Mumba, the assistant Regional Administrative Secretary (RAS), apart from hailing the farmers for the great works she challenged them to use the water facility to produce the crops that attracts huge markets within the region, including lemon, and carrots.

She also directed the office of the agriculture ministry within the district to mull over the possibility to include the village among the areas to benefit from the water wells being constructed countywide by the National Irrigation Commission.

Godfrey Ayako, the Mpwapwa district agriculture officer on his side pledged close support towards the project which he observed will promote the agriculture sector in the district, if well managed.

He said his office will dispatch the project with a total of 150 seedlings of various trees, including mangoes and lemons.

"Apart from agriculture, this area also holds good potential for livestock keeping and thus, you must prepare effectively to start keeping various animals for improving your incomes alongside the crops you're producing," he urged.

Makoye Japhet, the agriculture officer from the ministry of agriculture was part of the useful visit and on his side spoke over the need for the farmers to seek for possible capital loans from the Agricultural Inputs Trust Fund (AGITIF) being rolled out through the Building Better Tomorrow (BBT) program.

With the possible support, he said the farmers will stand the opportunity to expand production and productivity in the plantations, thus pushing their individual commercial gains into impressive heights

## Pelican, others to attract low-interest credit for real estate

IN a move aimed at bridging the nation's increasing housing deficit, Pelican Valley Nigeria Limited and Canadian developers are working on a mutually beneficial collaboration to attract a business-friendly single-digit interest credit facility for real estate financing in Nigeria.

In a statement, Pelican Valley disclosed that the move was one of the outcomes of the Nigeria-Canada Trade Mission held in Ontario, Canada.

It stated that the collaboration will foster expansion in the real estate business, promote artisanal manpower export to Canada, encourage non-oil foreign investment and FX remittance as well as engender the building of technology-driven and energy-efficient smart homes among other expected benefits for the countries.

The Chief Executive Officer of Pelican Valley Nigeria Limited, Babatunde Adeyemo, said it was time to expand by extending a hand of collaboration with other operators and investors abroad in a mutually beneficial way.

According to him, Pelican Valley was looking for tested investors, partners, and foreign low single-digit interest funding as it needs to grow and leverage the firm's capacity, huge goodwill, quality projects already done, and adequate space for expansion, assuring that partners in the collaboration will not be disappointed.

He said, "We will always urge our governments and leaders to reciprocate this gesture.

If things are done the way they are supposed to be, we will not need foreign financing to grow our economy. This is all about creating an enabling environment for an average Nigerian youth to grow.

"It is all about looking forward to getting non-oil foreign exchange remittance into Nigeria to help our economy to reduce this killing inflation that is about to take away our future."

Meanwhile, the Chairman of the Nigerian/Canadian Business Network, Wale Adesanya, said the collaboration would explore the networks' of over 600 membership



strength both in Nigeria and Canada to forge a synergy between Nigeria and Canada and work in partnership with Nigeria in the diaspora commission headed by the Chairman, Abike Dabiri-Erewa, to achieve results.

He explained that it was important for Nigerians, especially business people and entrepreneurs to come together and do something to grow Nigeria's economy for the benefit of the country and its citizens.

In his presentation, a developer, Oluokunle Ibitoye, identified various opportunities for Nigeria and Canada to mutually benefit from the collaboration on how Nigerians can use direct investment into Canada to secure Permanent Residency.

"Back in Canada, you get about a 4 per cent interest rate. With that two things happen. It is easy for us to pay the interest on those loans, do our development, and then we can cascade those savings to home buyers and it is easy for people to own homes in Canada. That should also be available in Nigeria.

"Many of the financing firms in Canada have a lot of money, and they are asking if there are opportunities in Nigeria so that they can lend money to Nigerian firms and help them develop. Of course, not for free, because they are business people but the thing is, they have the perception that Nigeria is a risky place and they need people like us to tell them that Nigeria is not risky.

"They also need to know if there are trustworthy people or developers in Nigeria that they can partner with and give money to. When I go back, I can tell them that I have seen for myself and I have seen the projects," he submitted.

In July, The Managing Director and Chief Executive Officer of Pelican Valley Nigeria Limited, Babatunde Adeyemo, had saluted a former Governor of Ogun State, Olusegun Osoba for his hard work and success.

Adeyemo hailed Osoba, describing him as a journalism role model, politician and revered elder statesman who has continued to use his immeasurable wealth of experience to provide "an iconic, commendable, enduring leadership and mentorship roles in journalism, politics, tradition and other endeavours across generations and the globe." He recalled with relish that he is benefiting immensely from the octogenarian's exemplary leadership and enduring rural development strides, even as he wished him more blessing of long life, good health and peace of mind.

Adeyemo stated, "By the grace of God, in the next two months, we will be expecting our revered elder statesman, Aremo Olusegun Osoba to commission the first 10 sets of ecostay apartments in our Estate, where the longest avenue in the Estate will also be named after the veteran Broadcaster and elder statesman for his evergreen contribution to the rural electrification project in Kobape during his reign as the Governor of Ogun State. " This is one of the reasons why we are particularly felicitating former Governor of Ogun State, Aremo Olusegun Osoba on his 85th birthday because our estate is a beneficiary of his rural electrification project.

He added, "Your handiwork is with us here, without you dragging the 35KVA electricity line from the main road to where we are, we would not have been privileged to have this estate here. Baba Aremo Osoba created an opportunity about 25 years ago and one Dr. Babatunde Adeyemo is taking full advantage of that opportunity today, that is governance at its peak."



# AFRICA'S RAPID URBANISATION PROVIDES OPPORTUNITY FOR GREEN BUILDING PRACTICES

By Julien Foulliart

**G**LOBALLY, buildings are responsible for a substantial share of energy, electricity, water and materials consumption using between 35-40 percent of energy demand and contributing 37 per cent of world carbon dioxide (CO<sub>2</sub>) emissions, including the manufacturing of building materials.

The 2022 updated Global Buildings Climate Tracker (GBCT) shows that there is a significant gap between the current state and the desired decarbonization path which is concerning.

In effect it means that to align with the 2030 milestone, an annual increase of ten decarbonization points is now necessary which is a substantial jump from the six points per year anticipated starting in 2015.

In 2019 in Africa, buildings accounted for 57 percent of total final energy consumption and 32 percent of total process-related CO<sub>2</sub> emissions.

Despite continental issues of poverty, unemployment and rapidly developing informal settlements among other issues, many countries in Africa are embracing green, sustainable building practices.

With its burgeoning population, expected to add some 1.2 billion people by 2050 Africa faces rapid urbanization.

Urbanization provides an opportunity for countries across Africa to embrace green building practices, access available international green funding opportunities, and set a foundation for sustainability for future generations.

In 2023 the Africa Regional Network of World Green Building Council (WorldGBC) launched the Africa Manifesto for Sustainable Cities and the Built Environment, which sets out the actions that policymakers and businesses across the continent need to take to achieve a net zero carbon, healthy, resilient, equitable, socially- and economically-inclusive built environment for everyone, everywhere.

Achieving these goals requires policymakers and business leaders across the continent to recognize the untapped potential of the built environment. But this can only be realized with the implementation of policies that support transformative action, through intense collaboration between governments, city and regional leaders, businesses and investors.

South Africa is leading Africa's green building sector. It has over two million square meters certified green buildings that reduce water consumption, electricity, and waste disposal; 50 certified projects are projected to result in an annual saving of 76 million kilowatt hours which is equivalent to the electricity needs of 5,300 households every year.

South Africa has its own National Standard 10400 Part XA that deals with optimizing energy efficiency in buildings and in the light of this the Green Star South Africa

and EDGE green building tools have been adapted and are widely used in the country. International rating systems like LEED and WELL are also used.

The scope of green construction in Egypt has been slow to grow but Egypt has two local rating systems in place called TARSHEED and the Green Pyramid Rating System. These, along with EDGE, LEED and WELL are used in various projects.

The Nigerian government has pledged to achieve a 20 percent reduction in its greenhouse gas emissions by 2030 and 45 percent with international support. Green building will likely be a big part of this change.

This country's National Building Code, developed by the National Council on Housing and Urban Development, and the Building Energy Efficiency Guideline (BEEG), also support the agenda of sustainable development by setting requirements for occupant health and safety, use of local and safe building materials and energy efficiency among other criteria.

Morocco has several legal provisions in place to promote sustainability and environmental protection through construction impact assessments for new building projects as well as energy-efficient construction requirements applicable to most residential and commercial projects. Several projects in the country have also achieved LEED green building credentials.

It also has several renewable energy projects such as the Noor Midelt Solar Plant and Tarfaya Wind Farm, one of the biggest wind farms in the continent.

As the drive towards Net-Zero heightens more African countries are joining the African Regional Network of the World Green Building Council. NGOs and other industry professionals are setting up green building councils in South Africa, Egypt, Tunisia, Nigeria, Botswana, Zimbabwe, Namibia, Mauritius, Tanzania, Kenya, Cameroon and Uganda.

One of the big hurdles restraining a sustainable development movement in the construction industry is a lack of awareness for practical sustainable actions among many developers and investors.

In South Africa there is a broad awareness of Green Buildings and the market share of certified buildings among all new builds is increasing.

The 2021 International Finance Corporation's (IFC) Green Building Market Stakeholder Assessment for South Africa showed that on the supply side, key motivating factors for Green Buildings are their reduced carbon footprint increased end user demand and increased marketability.

From the occupier's perspective the motivating factors for buying or leasing a Green Building are lower utility bills and lower operating costs. Yet, at a residential level occupiers are only willing to pay a two percent premium for these benefits.



The IFC report points out that the perceived cost of construction and certification of green buildings are also considered major obstacles to the expansion of certified Green Buildings in South Africa.

Its research indicates that those in the know estimated the additional construction cost to be 10 percent or higher, while those unfamiliar with Green Buildings are likely to significantly overestimate costs.

Currently, four out of six financial institutions provide financing for Green Building projects in some form or another and three require a certification to approve the loan. The portfolios of two consist of retrofitting existing buildings into Green Buildings; two of commercial and industrial Green Building construction finance and only one residential Green Building construction finance.

Of the two FI's that currently do not fund any Green Building one plans to do so in the future while the other does not see this as part of their strategy.

The investment into green construction has multiple benefits; it facilitates growth while addressing issues like employment, climate change, and poverty.

More needs to be done to improve the understanding of the benefits of green buildings such as lower operational costs, increased ROI as well as an overall improvement in occupant health and wellbeing.

Financial institutions need to do more to support green construction. Those which have pledged to lower their investments in carbon producing industries could create green bonds or funds for the African construction sector. Government's need to provide policy support along with incentives to catalyze market development.

All this suggests that there is still a sizable information gap regarding the cost, certification and benefits of Green Building and that further knowledge dissemination efforts are needed to close it.

**Julien Foulliart is a seasoned business development professional with 15 years of experience in international, multicultural, and cross-sector environments. He currently leads the growth of Bureau Veritas' Building & Infrastructure market across the Middle East, Caspian, and Africa regions.**

## Young entrepreneurs can start real estate business with limited capital

ACCRA

NAVIGATING the real estate market, for young entrepreneurs, can seem daunting, especially, without substantial capital. Many aspirants to this wonder, "I am young, and I don't have money to enter real estate. What can I do?" This is the plight of countless young people eager to break into the industry.

Kelvin Nyame, CEO of Meqasa and a distinguished authority in the real estate industry, addressed this issue at the Health and Wealth Conference organised by the Young Champions Global Network. His insights offer practical strategies for young dreamers looking to carve a path in the real estate industry, even with limited funds.

Kelvin Nyame leads product design and strategic initiatives at Meqasa, where he has played a pivotal role for over a decade. His leadership has significantly expanded Meqasa's client base to include thousands of developers, agents, and property owners while serving millions of property seekers nationwide and beyond. Under his guidance, Meqasa has risen to prominence as Ghana's foremost real estate portal, leveraging his deep industry knowledge and exemplary leadership.

Kelvin's extensive experience provides him with a profound understanding of market dynamics, making his insights invaluable for young entrepreneurs entering the real estate space. His voice at conferences and through various platforms



Kelvin Nyame leads product design and strategic initiatives at Meqasa.

serves as a compelling reference point, offering practical and strategic advice tailored to navigate the complexities of the real estate landscape effectively.

Kelvin advocates for a strategic approach to real estate through fractional ownership, particularly, in farmland investment. Young people, especially students, have limited capital.

While this is true for individuals, there is no limit to what a group of like-minded youth can do when they join forces. His advice centres on pooling resources among students to acquire affordable farmland outside Accra.

This method not only facilitates access to valuable property at lower costs but also provides several benefits. As the land value appreciates over time, it can be utilised for agricultural purposes or leased out for additional income.

This low-risk, high-reward strategy allows young inves-

tors to gain valuable business exposure without the hefty initial investment typically required in more competitive markets.

Another innovative approach Kelvin champions is real estate finance, where students collaborate to cover the rent advances of some students for a minimal fee. Real estate financing is one area with great potential in Ghana.

While this is true, the high risk associated with real estate financing in Ghana is common knowledge. Kelvin advocates for a version of this business model that presents lower risks.

This model addresses the challenge of high upfront housing costs, making it more accessible for young individuals in school. By implementing a microfinance model, students can cover the financial burden and provide a suitable framework for paying back.

This microfinance approach involves pooling resources from multiple students to create a fund that can be used to provide short-term, low-interest loans for rent advances. This, if done properly, not only helps alleviate immediate housing burdens but also establishes a sustainable framework for future real estate endeavours.

The furniture market, an integral part of the real estate industry, holds vast potential for growth. Many furniture providers currently operate outside the realm of social media, limiting their ability to create pieces that align with current trends. This gap presents an opportunity as consumers increasingly seek stylish yet affordable furniture.

Acting as a facilitator between trend-setting designs found on platforms like Pinterest and skilled artisans, and connecting them with buyers, represents a lucrative business prospect. Such an initiative not only bolsters the local economy but also serves as a platform for artisans to showcase their artistry.

Whether through an online marketplace or a physical showroom, young entrepreneurs can orchestrate transactions that highlight the distinctive quality and customisation of locally crafted furniture. This approach not only meets consumer demands but also nurtures a thriving community of craftsmen.

Rather than reinventing the wheel, Kelvin advises young entrepreneurs to innovate within existing markets. Many business ventures have emerged lately. One problem that is prevalent is growth. Ghanaian businesses usually struggle to scale up for a number of reasons.

As young entrepreneurs, it would be easier to add value to an already existing business idea, than to create one that solves an entirely new problem. For example, one can offer faster services, and more fashionable products, among others.

By identifying and improving upon current products or services, aspiring real estate entrepreneurs can carve out niches and capture market share. Whether through technological advancements, enhanced customer experiences, or streamlined processes, these innovations can create value and differentiation in a competitive industry.

To implement these strategies effectively, Kelvin recommends organising interest groups focused on real estate, finance, or craftsmanship.

Education and skill-building workshops are crucial for equipping young entrepreneurs with essential knowledge. Networking with local artisans, real estate professionals, and financial advisors can provide valuable mentorship and partnership opportunities.

Starting with small-scale pilot projects allows for experimentation and validation of business ideas before scaling operations. Additionally, securing funding through grants, crowdfunding, or strategic partnerships can mobilise the necessary resources for sustainable growth.

## Property fair comes to impressive conclusion

ACCRA

THE 7th edition of the Meqasa Home & Property Fair has come to a successful conclusion. The Fair, held on the 2nd and 3rd of November, 2024 at the Movenpick Ambassador Hotel in Accra, attracted hundreds of attendees, including prospective home owners, real estate investors, and industry professionals, all eager to explore the latest opportunities in the housing market.

The very well attended Meqasa Home & Property Fair showcased an impressive lineup of exhibitors, featuring prominent real estate developers, mortgage lenders, legal advisory service providers and home improvement service providers. Participants had the chance to engage with experts, discover a wide range of properties, and attend informative seminars.

CEO of Meqasa, Kelvin Nyame, expressed his utmost gratitude to the sponsors of the event in his opening speech, saying thank you to Goldkey Properties for their unwavering support over the years and, especially, for being the Fair's headline sponsor for multiple years running. He also expressed his gratitude to household name, Clifton Homes, for their partnership with the Fair and their constant business with the brand. Kelvin also hinted in his speech that the Meqasa Home and Property Fair may be expanding soon to the United States in a bid to extend value to diasporans and help meet their housing needs.

Honouring the Meqasa Home & Property Fair, 2024, were the Chief Director of Works and Housing, Rev Stephen Yaw Osei, and President of the Ghana Real Estate Developers Association (GREDA), Mr. Ebo Bonful, who highlighted the essence of Public and Private Partnerships in achieving accessible Housing for all.

Leading attendees in enlightening seminars were some industry experts. CEO of IVI Properties, Maurice Aouad, taught a session on selecting the right property for "AirBnb"/short-let investment. The well attended session covered some practical nuggets on running an Airbnb and making the utmost profit from your investment. The session which touched on both the hard and soft factors of the business, was a huge success as many followed up with lots of questions.

Also leading a session on Sunday afternoon was real estate Lawyer, Emmanuel Mate-Kole, who shed light on all due diligence to take when buying a land from another party. The session, which was highly patronised and replete with many concerns and questions to the lawyer on land issues, was described by attendees as very informative and revealing.

The Fair ended on a high note when some lucky winners won fantastic prizes from Goldkey Properties' much publicised raffle, including an unbelievable all expense paid trip to Dubai. The winner, Sekyina, who was visibly shaking whilst receiving her coupon for her prize told the audience Meqasa for putting together what they described as a very well organised event.

The Meqasa Home and Property Fair was a huge success, exceeding expectations of the organisers. This event was proudly sponsored by Goldkey Properties, Clifton Homes, and partnered by Citi Fm and Channel One TV.

Meqasa Ltd. extends its heartfelt gratitude to all participants, sponsors, speakers, and volunteers who contributed to making this year's edition of the Meqasa Home and Property Fair a resounding success!



## TECHNOLOGY

# ROUGH RIDE FOR INVESTORS AS APARTMENTS REGISTER NEGATIVE PRICE MOVEMENTS IN Q3

## NAIROBI

ECONOMIC uncertainty resulting from political unrest is now being linked to slow business in Kenya's property market in the third quarter of this year.

According to third quarter Hass Consult Property Index, the rental prices in all the apartments in Nairobi suburbs had a positive price movement.

"The property rental market eased after a strong period of growth between October 2023 and June 2024, when monthly rental price growth averaged at 3 percent. The market aligned with prevailing tough economic conditions, characterized by protests in June and July," Sakina Hassanali, Head of Development Consulting and Research at HassConsult, said.

Apartment price trends by town in Nairobi's Satellite areas shows properties in Athi River, Kitengela, Mlolongo, Ngong, Ruaka and Thika had negative price movements apart from those in Kiambu, Ongata Rongai and Syokimau.

Protests that affected the country during the year in June and July saw cautious pricing in a period of uncertainty, dampening the market that was coming off a period of strong price growth in the last quarter of 2023 and first half of 2024.

Sales prices for all property in the Nairobi suburbs meanwhile remained unchanged at -0.9 percent in the quarter, while satellite towns witnessed a



decline of 0.2 percent, compared to a growth of 2.1 percent in the second quarter.

"The apartment segment saw some price correction in the period due to increased supply of units, which now account for two thirds of all property available for sale in the market," Hassanali added.

The price performance at the end of the quarter reflected the general slowdown in the real estate sector coming into the quarter.

Official government data shows that the construction sector GDP contracted by 2.9 percent in quarter two of 2024, compared to a growth of

2.7 percent in the corresponding period in 2023. With the reduction in inflation and expected fall in interest rates however, both the rental and sales segments are looking at prospects of recovery in coming months as consumer purchasing power improves.

This month in 2023, the apartment market sought a price resurgence backed by renewed demand for inflation beating investment assets in a period where the Kenya shilling is losing value.

According to Hass Property Sales and Rental price indices for the third quarter of 2023, the

rental market experienced a price growth of 0.4 percent on average over the quarter, backed by the outperformance of apartments compared to detached and semi-detached units.

"Apartment returns of 5.9 percent in the year to September are however higher than those in savings, which averaged 4.05 percent by the end of August," Sakina Hassanali, Head of Development, Consulting and Research at HassConsult, said.

Prices of detached and semi-detached houses fell by 1.7 percent and 0.9 percent in the quarter, while apartments recorded a 1.5 percent growth

in prices as buyers look for value in a challenging economy.

Higher interest rates impacting market liquidity negatively affected demand for occupy-to-own real estate during the quarter, largely constituted of detached and semi-detached homes. Banks are also exercising stringent lending, mitigating risk of loan defaults in a tightening economy that is characterized by inflation and higher taxation.

Among satellite towns, those with the best access infrastructure (Thika, Syokimau, Ngong, Limuru, Juja) continue to outperform the market average. Land prices in satellite towns grew at almost 7 times the rate of land in Nairobi mainly due to improved infrastructure and affordability opening it up to a wider demand base.

Ongata Rongai was a front runner in quarterly price growth at 8.2 percent, displacing Q2 leader Thika as developers anticipate improved access because of the dualing of the Bomas-Rongai-Kiserian Road.

Ngong has the highest increase at 21.3 percent over the year to September, followed by Thika at 18 percent and Athi River at 13.5 percent. "Improved road infrastructure has remained price growth in Ngong, Mlolongo, Athi River, Thika and Syokimau by attracting both commercial and residential developers to the satellite towns with the benefit of easing the strain of congestion in the city while providing more affordable housing solutions on the city fringe," she added.

Langata remained the suburb with the highest land price growth on higher density development potential, easy access to major economic nodes, and lower land price per acre compared to neighbouring suburbs.

## Openness in China driving economic growth globally

## SHANGHAI

AMID an increasingly complex and challenging international landscape, China continues to make significant progress in deepening reform and expanding high-level opening-up, playing a pivotal role in driving global economic growth, said economists and business leaders attending the ongoing seventh China International Import Expo in Shanghai.

China's commitment to high-level opening-up will generate new growth opportunities for global stakeholders, they added.

Their comments came after the publication of the World Openness Report 2024 on Tuesday at a session of the Hongqiao International Economic Forum, which is held as a part of the CIEE. It was jointly released by the Institute of World Economics and Politics of the Chinese Academy of Social Sciences and the Research Center for Hongqiao International Economic Forum.

According to the report, China's openness index rose to 0.7596 in 2023, up from 0.6789 in 2008. Also, the nation ranked 38th in terms of openness among 129 economies in 2023, one place up compared with 2022.

"Openness is a clear hallmark of China's modernization," said Qu Weixi, director of the Research Center for Hongqiao International Economic Forum. "By enhancing reform and development through openness, China seeks to foster win-win outcomes, both domestically and globally."

Qu noted that China's high-level opening-up has also spurred reforms in global economic governance.

"Through deep participation in global industrial division and by strengthening multilateral, bilateral and regional economic cooperation, China has shared development opportunities with countries worldwide and played an important role in maintaining a diversified and stable international economic framework," he said.

China is a promoter of, participant in and contributor to better global governance, Qu added.

According to the report, in terms of global openness, the index continued to decline in 2023, dropping 0.12 percent year-on-year to 0.7542.



The World Openness Report 2024 is pictured at the press conference on World Openness Report 2024 and International Symposium on World Opening-Up during the 7th Hongqiao International Economic Forum in Shanghai.

Despite this downward trend in global openness, Zhang Yuyan, an academician of the CASS, said he believes that "economic globalization has not experienced a fundamental reversal" and the "small streams" that promote opening-up are still converging.

The report showed that global value chains have main-

tained an overall trend of expansion in recent years despite shocks and setbacks, with the share of foreign added value in global exports reaching an all-time high of 24 percent in 2022, up one percentage point from 2021 and 4 percentage points from 2009.

Cecilia Ugaz Estrada, managing director of the Directo-

rate of Strategic Planning, Programming at the United Nations Industrial Development Organization, said that digitalization and energy transition are two new driving forces for global economic growth, and China is emerging as one of the leading forces behind sustainable industrial transformation.

Global entrepreneurs hailed China's efforts to deepen reform and expand opening-up, expressing strong optimism about the country's prospects in the long run.

Anu Rathinde, president of Johnson Controls Asia-Pacific, said the United States-based smart building solutions provider has witnessed new growth unleashed through opening-up and modernization since it entered the Chinese market.

A more favorable business environment and the development of new quality productive forces give the company great confidence in China's long-term growth, he said.

"We will further seize the opportunities presented by opening-up and innovation, as well as the spillover effects of the CIEE, to grow alongside the Chinese market and share a smart, green future," he added.

Jason Te Brake, CEO of Zespri, a cooperative of kiwi fruit growers in New Zealand, said that China "is one of our most important markets" and "we want to continue to grow" here in China.

# SOUTH AFRICAN YOUTH DOMINATE THE RESIDENTIAL MARKET

## CAPE TOWN

NEW data from Lightstone shows that people between the ages of 36 and 49-years-old are the largest cohort of home buyers.

The percentage of purchases by buyers aged 36 to 49 has risen from 37 percent in 2018 to 40 percent during the first half of 2024.

According to Ooba Home Loans, the average age of all buyers in South Africa currently is 39 years of age.

Research from Lightstone showed that older South Africans between the ages of 50-64 are also very active buyers and investors.

This group of home buyers account for a large percentage of sales across the residential property market nationally, rising from 21 percent in 2018 to 24 percent during the first half of 2024.

"This is logical, given that many of these purchasers have paid off their mortgages, with some also accumulating wealth in residential investments, while the younger generation



from 18 to 35 years of age is generally faced with greater economic challenges and fewer financial resources, particularly first-time buyers seeking to gain a foothold in the property market," Andrew Golding, Chief Executive Officer (CEO) of the Pam Golding Property said.

Data from Ooba noted the demand for bonds from first-time buyers has strengthened, having risen above 50 percent - to 51 percent in September 2024, for the first time since February 2023.

Golding noted that this is the third con-

secutive increase in demand from first-time buyers. He added that an improved inflation outlook has led to banks becoming more supportive, and stressed that the prospect of further interest rate relief in the next 12-15 month will push up the appetite for home buying.

Homeownership can be significantly impacted by age, as it affects your ability to secure a home loan, according to Adrian Goslett, the Chief Executive Officer (CEO) of RE/MAX of Southern Africa.

Goslett states that lenders often use retirement age as a guideline, meaning the closer you are to retirement, the shorter the loan period offered.

The real estate expert noted that banks factor in a possible reduction in income post-retirement.

"An ideal scenario for most banks is to ensure that the loan is fully repaid by the time the borrower turns 75, meaning that your last chance to secure a twenty-year loan is probably around the age of 55," Goslett explained.

He said that younger buyers typically have the advantage of longer repayment terms,

which makes their monthly repayment amounts slightly more manageable.

"In contrast, older buyers, especially those nearing retirement, may face shorter loan terms, for example, 10 years instead of 20 years due to the reduced earning window. This will push up the monthly repayments and can end up affecting how much they can qualify for in-home finance," Goslett added.

Goslett said that if you belong to an older age group - do not feel despondent - this doesn't mean older buyers are excluded from securing a home loan.

Banks could offer tailored solutions for older buyers. This may include a loan agreement that has shorter loan terms or may require a higher deposit. This will help mitigate the increased risk.

Goslett also added that older applicants with strong financial positions, such as substantial savings, and significant deposits can improve their chances of securing a bond with South African banks. The best thing you can do is getting on the property market as soon as possible.



## WORLD

## Trump's return to power fueled by Hispanic, working-class voter support

WASHINGTON

DONALD Trump reshaped the US electorate once again this year, piling up support among Hispanic voters, young people, and Americans without college degrees -- and winning more votes in nearly all of the country as he reclaimed the presidency.

Following the Republican's populist campaign, in which he promised to shield workers from global economic competition and offered a wide range of tax-cut proposals, Trump's increasing strength among working-class voters and nonwhite Americans helped grow his share of the vote almost everywhere. The starkest increase may have been the 14-percentage-point swing in Trump's share of Hispanic voters, according to an exit poll conducted by Edison Research. Some 46 percent of self-identified Hispanic voters picked Trump, up from 32 percent in the 2020 election when Trump lost to Democrat Joe Biden.

Hispanics have largely favored Democrats for decades, but Trump's share this year was the highest for a Republican presidential candidate in exit polls going back to the 1970s, and just higher than the 44 percent share won by Republican George W. Bush in 2004, according to data compiled by the American Enterprise Institute, a conservative think tank.

In counties where more than 20 percent of voting-age Americans were Hispanic, Trump's margin over Democratic Vice-President Kamala Harris improved by 13 points relative to his 2020 perfor-

mance against Biden.

"Young Hispanics do not have the same muscle memory as their grandparents who voted for Democrats for 50 years," said Giancarlo Sopo, a Republican media strategist who worked on Hispanic outreach for Trump's 2020 campaign.

This time, Trump won 55 percent of Hispanic men, 19 points more than the 36 percent share he won four years earlier, while he garnered support from 38 percent of Hispanic women, up 8 points from 2020.

Trump has made opposition to immigration a cornerstone of his political career, pledging to conduct mass deportations of people living in the US illegally. Many Hispanic voters supported Trump's hardline positions, according to the Edison Research exit poll. About a quarter of Hispanic respondents said most immigrants in the country without documentation should be deported to the countries they came from, compared with 40 percent of voters overall in the poll.

## Economic concerns

Hispanic Americans skew more working-class than the country's white majority, with larger shares of Hispanics lacking college degrees, according to US Census Bureau estimates.

Hispanics also tend to be younger than average in America, which means many have had less time to build wealth and have also been more exposed to the economic troubles of recent years, including high inflation and soaring interest rates for mortgages. Trump won



Republican presidential nominee former President Donald Trump waves as he walks with former first lady Melania Trump at an election night watch party at the Palm Beach Convention Center on Wednesday in West Palm Beach, Florida. AP

43 percent of voters age 18 to 29 - 7 points more than in 2020.

About two-thirds of voters considered the US economy in poor shape, compared with about half of 2020 voters. Some 46 percent said their family's financial situation was worse than four years ago, compared with 20 percent who said the same in 2020.

"Republicans have consistently beat Democrats on connecting with voters on the economy," said Clarissa Martinez De Castro, vice-president of the nonpartisan UnidosUS Latino Vote Initiative. "This was a referendum on the economy, and that has consistently been the number one, two and three issues for Hispanic voters."

In the battleground state of Arizona, a state Biden won in 2020, Mexican-born Arturo Laguna became an American citizen earlier this year and cast his first US presidential ballot for Trump, citing the Republican's conservatism and his embrace of restrictions on abortion access.

"The three biggest things of importance are family values, being pro-life and religion," said Laguna, a 28-year-old corporate manager. "I don't feel like Kamala represents those values."

Across the country, in places where almost all votes were counted - roughly 2,200 counties nationwide - Trump's margin was 5 points higher

than it was in 2020.

This broad increase - a rise of the Republican tide - in part owed to Trump's gains among voters without college degrees, a massive class of voters that spans racial and ethnic categories and made up just over half of the electorate on Tuesday.

Some 56 percent of voters without degrees picked Trump, up 6 points from the Republican's share in the 2020 exit poll. Harris won 55 percent of voters who have degrees, unchanged from Biden's share in 2020, when affluent suburbs helped power the Democrat's victory.

Trump's gains build on major shifts in the electorate since his triumph in the 2016 presidential election, when he outperformed past Republicans by far among working-class white voters. He largely maintained his dominance with the group this year, winning 66 percent of their vote, with his share down 1 point from 2020, according to the Edison Research exit poll.

Among people without college degrees and who are not white, however, Trump's share of the vote increased by 8 points.

While Trump gained ground in vote tallies across most of the country, some of his biggest advances were in and around big cities, areas that have been critical for past Democratic victories.

Agencies

## Morocco's King congratulates Trump on his election as US President

RABAT

KING Mohammed VI sent a message of congratulations to Donald Trump, following his election as President of the United States for a new term.

In his message, the Sovereign expresses to Trump his sincere congratulations and his best wishes for every success in his presidential duties and endeavors to serve the American people.

The King underlines that the resounding success of Mr. Trump in these elections is a tribute to his patriotism and rewards his continued commitment to upholding the best interests of the United States, "our longstanding friend and ally".

The Sovereign reiterates that the Kingdom of Morocco and the United States of America share a historic alliance and a strategic partnership, both of which have withstood the test of time.

"The values we have in common and our shared interests across a wide range of sectors have enabled us to consistently work together towards building a better future for our peoples, making our relationship a driving force for peace, security and prosperity in the Middle-East, Africa, and beyond," added the Monarch.

In his message, King Mohammed VI recalls that during the previous tenure of Mr. Trump, bilateral ties reached an unprecedented level when the United States of America recognized the Kingdom of Morocco's full sovereignty over its entire territory in the Sahara, underlining that this memorable act, for which the Moroccan people will be forever grateful, was a milestone and a pivotal moment, reflecting "the true depth of the special, longstanding relationship which holds the promise of even greater cooperation and a broader strategic partnership."

"As we address an array of increasingly complex regional and global challenges, the Kingdom of Morocco will be, more than ever, a true friend and loyal ally of the United States," the Sovereign writes, voicing his determination to work closely with Mr. Trump to "advance our shared interests and further enhance our unique alliance across all levels of cooperation." Agencies

## German chancellor dismisses finance minister, ruling coalition collapses

BERLIN

GERMAN Chancellor Olaf Scholz announced on Wednesday evening that he had asked President Frank-Walter Steinmeier to dismiss Federal Minister of Finance Christian Lindner.

The announcement followed a meeting of the coalition committee in Berlin. "I feel compelled to take this step in order to prevent damage to the country," Scholz said at a press conference, stressing the need for a functional government to make decisions for Germany.

Last week, an 18-page document signed by the federal minister of finance was leaked to the media. The document proposed measures including reduced climate regulations and welfare benefits, which run counter to the policies advocated by Scholz and Economy Minister Robert Habeck.

The leaked document has exacerbated tensions among the Social Democratic Party (SPD), the Greens, and the Free Democratic Party (FDP).

The three ruling parties have been struggling to finalize next year's budget, which has huge holes that need to be plugged ahead of a mid-November deadline.

Over the past few days, Scholz, Habeck, and Lindner have engaged in discussions to guide the government through its remaining tenure, despite their increasing disagreements.

According to German newspaper Bild, Lindner proposed putting an end to the current federal government and moving elections to early 2025, ahead of the scheduled date of Sept. 28, 2025 -- a proposal Scholz declined. German news agency dpa, quoting attendees of Wednesday evening's meeting, reported that Lindner said that there is not enough common ground on economic and financial policies, and a swift return to stability and capacity to act is in the national interest. Germany's economy is projected to experience a contraction in 2024, marking the possibility of a second consecutive year of economic decline.

Meanwhile, the support ratings for the three governing parties have declined substantially compared to their high approval levels in 2021 and 2022. Addressing the press on Wednesday evening, Lindner emphasized his opposition to Scholz's call for suspending the debt brake, a fiscal restraint mandated by Germany's Basic Law. "I could not agree to this, as it would have violated my oath of office," he stated.

## Vaccine doses allocated for nine African countries hardest hit by mpox

AN initial 899,000 vaccine doses have been allocated for 9 countries across Africa that have been hit hard by the current mpox surge, the WHO and other health organizations said on Wednesday.

The WHO declared mpox a global public health emergency for the second time in two years in August after a new variant of the virus, called clade 1b, spread from the Democratic Republic of Congo to neighboring countries.

In September, after facing criticism on moving too slowly on vaccines, the World Health Organization cleared Bavarian Nordic's vaccine for mpox and said it was considering LC16, made by Japan's KM Biologics as a potential vaccine option.

The WHO also set up a scheme to help bring mpox vaccines, tests and treatments to the most vulnerable people in the world's poorest countries, similar to efforts during the COVID-19 pandemic.

The global health agency said on Wednesday the newly allocated vaccines will go to the Central African Republic, Ivory Coast, the Democratic Republic of Congo, Kenya, Liberia, Nigeria, Rwanda, South Africa and Uganda.

The largest number of doses - 85 percent of the allocated vaccines - will go to the Democratic Republic of Congo as the most affected country, the WHO said.

The allocated vaccines are from European countries, the United States, Canada and Gavi, a public-private alliance that co-funds vaccine purchases for low-



A man infected with mpox lies on a bed inside a ward at the Kamenge University Hospital's mpox treatment center in Bujumbura, Burundi, on Aug 22, 2024. (PHOTO / AFP)

income countries.

According to the latest WHO figures,

there have been more than 46,000 confirmed and suspected cases of mpox in

Africa this year, and more than 1,000 deaths in the continent due to the viral

## Seven-time attenders at import expo evolving with China

SHANGHAI

AT the Consumer Goods Hall of the ongoing 7th China International Import Expo (CIIE), the LEGO Group is using over 300,000 building blocks to demonstrate its seven-year commitment to this important global cooperation platform. The structure stands 4.75 meters tall, with a thematic design featuring a giant rainbow made of LEGO bricks flowing from an out-sized LEGO mini-figure.

In 2018, when the first CIIE was held, the Danish company

displayed a vivid mosaic made by over 100,000 LEGO bricks featuring Jinbao, the mascot of the CIIE, and introduced science, technology, engineering, art and mathematics (STEAM) courses for Chinese schools. This year, the company is highlighting the potential of play for innovation and its commitment to sustainability.

"Since the first CIIE, we've introduced 29 novelties at the expo, among which 19 sets are inspired by Chinese culture and traditions," said Paul Huang, senior vice president of the LEGO Group and gen-

eral manager of LEGO China.

The LEGO Group is one of the 186 firms and institutions that have appeared at the CIIE seven years in a row, and many of them have signed up for next year's event.

The CIIE's full-time attenders have stood witness to and benefited from the evolution of the expo and the Chinese market at large, and have continued to make adjustments so as to take advantage of emerging trends and markets.

At the first CIIE, global industrial technology giant Schneider Electric signed cooper-

ation agreements primarily in the manufacturing and construction industries, but has since expanded to encompass various sectors, including oil and gas, infrastructure, commercial construction, life sciences, transportation, and water services and environmental protection.

As China develops new quality productive forces, innovative technologies are driving the transformation toward digitization and green low-carbon development, which have provided Schneider Electric with a broader

space for development, according to Yin Zheng, Schneider Electric executive vice president managing China and East Asia.

Zhang Xiqiang, executive vice president of Nestle S.A. and CEO of Nestle Zone Greater China, said the company has observed that the Chinese consumer market is gradually entering an era of scientific and rational consumption. "The demand in the Chinese food industry continues to evolve, shifting from simply eating well and eating enough to eating

healthily and seeking delight from the experience," he said.

The Swiss company has brought over 420 exhibits sourced from 14 countries and nine major business units, covering niche markets including baby nutrition, health science, confectionery and pet care.

The Singapore Business Federation (SBF) has led a delegation of nearly 400 representatives from 44 Singaporean businesses, marking the SBF's seventh year at the CIIE.

SBF CEO Kok Ping Soon

said the federation is very encouraged to see that the companies are no longer limited to the food and beverage sector. "We are starting to see companies responding to China's call for more high-quality investment in fields like biotech," he said.

To mark its seventh consecutive participation, U.S. material-science giant Dow Inc. has brought the most robust lineup and planned for the most agreements signed at the event in its history at the CIIE.

Xinhua



# BRICS: The forefront of a movement towards a more equitable world

(TV BRICS Interview with Russia's Foreign Minister Sergey Lavrov)

**Question: In 2024, Russia is chairing BRICS, and the summit in Kazan emerged as a pivotal event. Could you summarize the principal outcomes of the summit and Russia's overall chairmanship?**

**Sergey Lavrov:** The summit underscored the rapidly growing influence of BRICS and the eagerness of numerous countries to engage with its initiatives.

Several countries have formally applied to become full members, while others have expressed interest in joining as partner nations - a new category established at the Kazan Summit. In 2023, we expanded the number of countries from five to ten. For the time being, we have decided to focus on establishing the partner nations category to facilitate collaboration between the "new" full-fledged countries and the "old" BRICS states within this new framework.

The Russian chairmanship has made significant strides in this regard, thanks to a collective effort. We achieved mutual understanding on nearly all major issues, although there are always nuances. The Declaration that was adopted resulted from a balanced consideration of interests. Unlike at some Western forums, there was no attempt to exert pressure on anyone. Instead, we sought mutually acceptable language, which we successfully identified on all matters.

The key highlight of this declaration is the urgent need to substantially increase the representation of countries from the Global South and Global East in global governance mechanisms, including the UN Security Council, the IMF, the World Bank, and the WTO.

Regarding the international monetary and financial system, there are two primary conclusions. Firstly, there is a call for developing countries, particularly the BRICS nations as the fastest-growing economies, to receive voting rights on the IMF and World Bank boards that reflect their true economic weight and share in the global economy and GDP. Currently, this is significantly understated due to the United States' reluctance to reallocate quotas and relinquish its votes. The United States holds a "package" in the IMF that enables it to veto any decisions, which is far from ideal.

The same situation persists in the WTO, where the United States has been obstructing its dispute settlement body for years, at least for a decade. This body was established precisely to address contradictions that inevitably arise among market participants, such as accusations of dumping, overpricing, and unjustified rate increases. However, it remains blocked, lacking a quorum, and the United States shows no intention of resolving this issue.

Reform of existing institutions remains on the agenda, but concurrently - and this is a shared perspective and one of the most significant conclusions of the BRICS efforts at this stage - leading up to the final phase of the Russian chairmanship, there is a collective desire to establish alternative payment mechanisms. These include interbank settlements utilizing national currencies and insurance mechanisms that are not intended to counter the post-World War II system centered around the dollar. A parallel system is deemed necessary, given the dollar's increasing use as an aggressive tool in the global economy. The uncertainty about who might be targeted next means that no one is immune to the dictatorial use of the dollar, especially considering the precarious position of the United States in today's world. They sense that their hegemony is gradually slipping away (a process that will be lengthy rather than swift), and they aim to employ all means, including the most illicit tactics, to maintain it.

To mitigate this risk, the creation of settlement systems and payment platforms that are not vulnerable to such risks has become a shared objective. This was a key item on the agenda at the Kazan Summit and during meetings throughout the year involving finance ministers and central bank governors. Recommendations have already been formulated. While not yet finalized, they provide a foundation for the development of reliable, sustainable, long-term systems. I am confident that Brazil, as the incoming chair, will continue this work.

Beyond the critical monetary and financial domains that underpin the real economy, support was also given to sector-specific initiatives, including our proposal to begin preparations for establishing a BRICS grain exchange, as well as investment and geological platforms. This initiative primarily originated from the African countries within BRICS. Additionally, we proposed two projects - the formation of working groups on transport and nuclear medicine - which received backing both at the BRICS meeting itself and in the adopted Declaration. On the second day of the Kazan event, during a high-level meeting in the BRICS Plus/Outreach format, all 35 participants

- BRICS nations and invited guests - endorsed this attitude and direction, which had evolved in previous years but accelerated under the Russian chairmanship. This was largely due to the significant rise in interest in the group, which is viewed as the forefront of a movement towards a more equitable world, serving as a bulwark against dictate and arbitrary practices still prevalent in international relations, particularly by the collective West.

**Question: How would you evaluate the outcomes of implementing one of Russia's priorities as part of its chairmanship - specifically, the effort to strengthen inter-parliamentary cooperation among participating countries?**

**Sergey Lavrov:** Several meetings have taken place between members of BRICS legislatures, as well as in the outreach format, and with other states that have yet to establish ties with the group. For instance, in Geneva in 2024, a session of the Inter-Parliamentary Union - of which Russia is a participant - was held. On the sidelines of this session, BRICS parliamentarians met with representatives from other countries interested in building relations with the group.

The second key initiative in our inter-parliamentary program is the first meeting of the heads of international affairs committees from the national parliaments of BRICS countries, marking a first in the group's history. This BRICS Plus meeting is set to become a permanent element of our group's activities in the years ahead.

The 10th BRICS Parliamentary Forum was held, continuing a longstanding tradition for this body. Parliamentarians from the CIS Interparliamentary Assembly also took part, along with the President of the Inter-Parliamentary Union, who is also Speaker of the Tanzanian parliament. Although some criticism was directed at her, it was ultimately dismissed, as the Inter-Parliamentary Union and its leadership must work with all legislative bodies of the IPU member countries.

I am optimistic about the future of the parliamentary dimension, and we intend to support it in every way possible.

**Question: You mentioned the expansion of BRICS, with Egypt, Ethiopia, Iran, Saudi Arabia, and the United Arab Emirates joining the group. What positive developments have emerged within the association as a result of their accession?**

**Sergey Lavrov:** Influence. The new BRICS, or "big BRICS," as our Chinese colleagues call it, now accounts for 35 percent of global GDP based on purchasing power parity. President Vladimir Putin highlighted this figure, noting that it surpasses the aggregate share of the G7 countries in global GDP by several percentage points. BRICS also represents 42 percent of the world's population, over 30 percent of the planet's landmass, and roughly a quarter of global exports. These numbers are expected to grow as industrial production surges both within BRICS countries and in states seeking to join the group.

Among the newly joined countries, Egypt stands out as the largest economy and most influential nation in North Africa, as well as a leading member of the Arab League, whose headquarters are in Cairo. Ethiopia, hosting the African Union headquarters, plays a dual role in BRICS as both a national entity and a representative of the entire African Union.

The Islamic Republic of Iran also brings significant potential, possessing the third-largest oil reserves globally, which positions it as a potentially strong economic force.

The United Arab Emirates is widely recognized as a major global center for logistics, trade, and re-export.

Saudi Arabia stands as a leader in the Muslim world, home to Islam's two holiest sites.

Each of these new members brings a well-established reputation and global respect, further enhancing the stature and influence of BRICS.

**Question: Following the recent expansion, the combined population of BRICS countries now exceeds 3.2 billion people. With this in mind, would you say that BRICS today influences global processes not only within the group but also across Asia, Africa, and Latin America?**

**Sergey Lavrov:** BRICS influences internal processes by inspiring populations with information about its achievements, goals, and collaborative initiatives. Citizens view BRICS as a model of equality and mutual benefit, and in elections, people in the Global East often support politicians who resonate with these values and express a desire to strengthen ties with BRICS in various ways.

As I mentioned earlier, several countries are seeking full membership, and this mat-



ter will be addressed over the next year. Additionally, many nations are interested in participating in BRICS events, with over thirty expressing this desire. The criteria for designating partner countries will be established in due course. Following the summit in Kazan, the Russian chairmanship extended invitations to some of the states that requested to engage with us, with more than ten of them having received consensus support from the BRICS states.

We have agreed that once we receive a response from an invited country, we will announce its designation as a partner country within BRICS. These countries will have the opportunity to participate in all BRICS events. While a distinct format will remain for meetings exclusively involving full members, partner countries will be welcome at all other gatherings, including summits like Outreach Plus, as well as meetings of foreign ministers and industry sectors (such as energy, economy, trade, health, and culture). We are eager for partner countries to engage in this collaborative work and they will be involved in nearly all events.

**Question: How is the interaction in cultural and humanitarian cooperation between BRICS and BRICS Plus countries evolving?**

**Sergey Lavrov:** Numerous events have taken place, generating significant interest and attention. For the first time, the BRICS Sports Games were held in June of this year, open to all participants. More than 80 countries took part, showcasing 27 different sports disciplines. I am confident that we will work towards making these games a regular occurrence.

In the realm of humanitarian affairs, political activity is closely linked. In June, Vladivostok hosted the first International Inter-Party Forum, attended by around 40 parties from BRICS and partner countries. The inter-party movement For the Freedom of Nations! was established, with the objective of urging ruling parties and other interested parties to work towards the eradication of remaining colonial influences.

Several non-self-governing territories also exist. Importantly, colonial and neo-colonial practices have not vanished from international trade. The West's interactions with Africa often reflect these colonial methods, where raw materials are extracted while the associated value and profits remain with Western countries. The forum was both interesting and well received.

Innovations during our chairmanship also focused on local self-governance. A municipal forum was held, featuring engaging discussions about the everyday lives of citizens and how chairpersons of city and village councils address their challenges. This topic emerged from real-life experiences.

I see numerous opportunities to enhance our humanitarian and cultural cooperation. Next year, all BRICS countries are invited to participate in the international song contest Intervention, which we are organizing. Together with our colleagues from television, we have decided to revive this name from Soviet times, which referred to a music competition among member countries of the Council for Mutual Economic Assistance. Intervention will serve as an important cultural initiative, conveying the message that it is better to engage with one another rather than retreat into our individual spaces, and to embrace the idea of living together on one planet.

**Question: With a song through life?**

**Sergey Lavrov:** With a song through life.

**Question: The exchange of information is crucial for fostering partnership relations between BRICS and BRICS Plus countries. In this context, how do you view the recent establishment of the BRICS Plus information and cultural media center in Moscow?**

**Sergey Lavrov:** Positively. The Foreign Ministry played a role in this initiative, with our official representative involved in both

the preparation and the opening of the center.

In 2024, significant events in the media sector also took place. In September, we held a Media Summit to commemorate the 120th anniversary of TASS, featuring engaging presentations that participants found enjoyable. We will certainly continue to leverage our resources, including the newly established BRICS Plus information and cultural media center.

**Question: You have mentioned that Russia is passing the BRICS chairmanship to Brazil. Besides the payment system and related issues, what other discussions and outcomes do you anticipate from the group's work in 2025?**

**Sergey Lavrov:** I believe that the payment platform, along with settlement and insurance mechanisms, will be among the priorities during Brazil's chairmanship.

At the 2023 BRICS summit in Johannesburg, Brazilian President Luiz Inacio Lula da Silva took up the Russian chairmanship's focus on alternative payment systems. This initiative, which is embedded in the Johannesburg Declaration, guided the efforts of finance ministers and central bank governors. While progress is evident, we must see it through to its logical conclusion to establish ready-to-use mechanisms. I have no doubt that our Brazilian colleagues will intensify their efforts, given that this is an initiative of their President. I expect that President Luiz Inacio Lula da Silva will ensure that the matter remains among the most important priorities.

We expect - and I am confident this will be the case - that work on Russia's initiatives will continue. This includes a grain exchange, an investment platform, and groups focused on transport and nuclear medicine. These are practical issues of interest to all BRICS countries. I have no doubts about this, and we will actively support the Brazilians in these efforts.

Naturally, the philosophical foundation of the group's activities will endure. This pertains to the broader movement towards the democratization of international relations and enhancing the role of developing countries and the World Majority in global governance mechanisms. I have mentioned the IMF, the World Bank, and the WTO. This work will proceed in tandem with the creation of our own system, independent of external risks.

A more equitable representation of the Global South and East in global governance mechanisms implies reforming the UN and its Security Council.

We have clearly reaffirmed our stance: we support only the increased representation of Asia, Africa, and Latin America. The West is already disproportionately represented there; of the fifteen members of the Security Council, six represent the West. This is incongruent with any statistics regarding population, industrial output, and the size of the respective countries. Specifically, we support India, Brazil, and the collective initiative promoted by the African Union to reform the Security Council.

I could not adequately present all aspects of our work in Kazan without mentioning a few foreign policy subjects that arose during discussions and are reflected in the Declaration. Particular attention was paid to the crisis in the Middle East and the catastrophe facing the Palestinian people, which is now spilling over into neighboring countries such as Lebanon, Iraq, Syria, and Yemen. The Declaration contains a robust paragraph on the urgent need to halt this bloodshed.

Similarly, we have not shied away from discussing the Ukrainian crisis. Quite the opposite, during the preparations and throughout the summit, we engaged in proactive discussions, with Russian President Vladimir Putin addressing this issue. We reached a fundamentally important agreement on the wording in the Declaration. Within this framework, alongside the countries' reaffirmation of their known positions expressed at the UN General Assembly and other forums, it was emphasized that the primary objective now is to seek solutions based on the principles of the UN Charter in their entirety and in interrelation. To date, numerous initiatives on the Ukrainian crisis have been proposed - many with the best of intentions - but none have included the notion that the principles of the UN Charter must be applied comprehensively, not selectively.

What does this entail? The West tends to discuss Ukraine by solely highlighting the principle of territorial integrity, as if there were no other principles in the UN Charter. However, there is also the principle of self-determination of peoples. The UN General Assembly resolved that the sovereignty and territorial integrity of all countries whose governments respect the principle of self-determination of peoples, and thus represent the entire population residing in a given territory, must be respected.

## Barrick mines set to deliver strong finish to the year

TORONTO

BARRICK Gold Corporation dealt with ongoing challenges and made significant progress on many fronts in the third quarter of the year to keep its annual production and cost guidance within reach on the back of the strong performance anticipated in Q4.

Gold production was in line with that of the previous quarter while copper production was up 12% quarter on quarter. The Company said it was on track for a materially improved Q4, driven by the continuing ramp-up of the Pueblo Viejo plant expansion, increased throughput at Nevada Gold Mines and higher grades at Kibali.

Improved margins across the gold operations reflected the higher gold price and cost discipline. Net earnings per share rose by 33% year on year, operating cash flow totaled \$1.18 billion and free cash flow of \$444 million was up 31% quarter on quarter.

Debt net of cash was reduced by 27% quarter on quarter. An unchanged quarterly dividend of 10 cents per share was declared and shareholder returns were enhanced by a further share buyback of \$95 million in Q3.

President and chief executive Mark Bristow said the Company was again planning to replace mineral reserves net of depletion in 2024 by a significant margin, driven by the contributions from the Reko Diq copper-gold project and the Lumwana Super Pit expansion project.

The feasibility studies for both projects are on track for completion by the year-end. Long lead items are being ordered and key project team members are being recruited.

"The Fourmile project in Nevada continues to show exciting value potential, and significant new satellite orebody opportunities have been highlighted at Loulo and Kibali. In addition, our exploration teams are working on very promising new prospects across our portfolio," he said.

Barrick is continuing to invest in its leadership and employee skills development, expanding its bench strength across all three regions.

Bristow noted that over the last five years the Company had reduced its closure liabilities by more than \$1 billion through the continuous review and optimization of closure projects.

In addition, in 2023 two Tailings Storage Facilities ("TSF") conformed to the Safe Closure requirements as per the Global Industry Standard on Tailings Management ("GISTM") with a further five expected to conform by the end of this year.

Agencies

## Biden calls Donald Trump to congratulate him on election victory

WASHINGTON

U.S. President Joe Biden on Wednesday called President-elect Donald Trump to congratulate him on election victory, according to the White House.

"President Biden expressed his commitment to ensuring a smooth transition and emphasized the importance of working to bring the country together," the White House said in a statement, noting that Biden will address the nation to discuss the election results and the transition on Thursday.

Biden also invited Trump to meet in the White House, the statement said, adding that the staff will coordinate a specific date in the near future.

Biden (pictured) also spoke by phone with Vice President Kamala Harris, the Democratic presidential candidate, and congratulated her on her "historic campaign," the statement said.

Early Wednesday morning, Fox News first projected Trump would win more than 270 Electoral College votes, the threshold needed to clinch the presidency.

Speaking at his election headquarters in West Palm Beach, Florida, Trump quickly declared victory in the 2024 U.S. presidential election, calling it "a political victory that our country has never seen before."

The Associated Press, along with some other major U.S. news outlets, projected Trump's victory a few hours later.

As votes continue to come in, Trump seems to have swept all the seven key swing states in this year's presidential election. Results first became clear in North Carolina and Georgia around midnight on Election Day. As of Wednesday afternoon, all the three "Blue Wall" states - Pennsylvania, Wisconsin and Michigan - flipped to Trump, as they did in 2016.

U.S. media reported earlier Wednesday that Harris called Trump to congratulate him on election victory. She is scheduled to deliver a concession speech Wednesday afternoon at Howard University, her alma mater in Washington, D.C.

Xinhua





# SPORT

## Aces A clobbers Aga Khan SC in Delaware Champions League



Aces A cricket team.

By Correspondent Japheth Kazenga

ACES A outfit has bounced back in the ongoing Tanzania Cricket Association (TCA) Delaware Champions League, commanding a comprehensive 33-run defeat of Aga Khan SC last weekend.

Zimbabwean cricketer Aisah Chibanda had a stellar batting showing as Aces A cruised to 172/9 in the scheduled 20 overs once the team won the toss and decided to bat in the clash that was played at Gymkhana Club's venue in Dar es Salaam.

Aces A successfully shook off a wobbly start that came in the form of early exits of the opening batting pair of Alishah Bukhari and Ali Hassan.

Hassan managed to crack a knock from three balls and was quickly dismissed by Aga Khan SC's pacer Vipin Abraham.

The fellow batsman Bukhari stayed past the opening over and made his way back with a five-ball 10, leaving the batting squad with 11 runs after eight balls.

They dropped an equally crucial wicket after 13 balls when the other Zimbabwean player, Jeremiah Makanya, got back to the pavilion having notched three runs.

Aga Khan SC's Azhaar Premji went for a catch to send the Zimbabwean out from a Masoud Rashid delivery.

Akhilesh Yadav - batting at number four - steadied Aces A's ship with his 49 runs, nailing a boundary and two sixes in his spell.

His solid performance pushed Aces A's figure to 154 runs with six wickets down once the cricketer got out with two overs left.

Chibanda was on hand to see to it the batting team was in control after he had laid his hands on the bat following his compatriot Makanya's dismissal.

The no-nonsense cricketer tremendously boosted Aces A's figure to 117 runs upon his dismissal in the 13th over, having blasted 71 runs.

He was, as a result, the cricketer with the best batting figure and walked away with the Player of the Match prize.

Chakar Khan improved Aces A's figure to comfortable triple digits, having posted 15 runs not out whilst cracking two sixes.

Nine wides given away by Aga Khan SC bowlers somewhat improved Aces A's figure, leaving Aga Khan SC with a tricky 173-run chase.

Azhaar stood out of the remainder of Aga Khan SC

bowlers having ended with 3-29 in three overs.

Ferocious pacer Abraham fought to frustrate Aces A's batting unit efforts after notching 2-31, finishing with a 7.75 economy rate.

The Arslaan Premji-led Aga Khan SC lost steam when the side went for the chase, managing 139/7 in 20 overs.

The team, reputed for its depth in batting, sought to get off to a smooth start, as the opening pair of Jumanne Mohamed and Dhrumit Mehta garnered two digits.

Mehta was one of the team's batsmen with significant contributions, scoring a 24-ball 36 and nailing five boundaries.

His fellow opener, Mohamed, had a brief spell, making his way back with 10 runs.

With Aga Khan SC reeling at 84 runs after 11 overs, Riziki Kiseto laid his hands on the bat and displayed his never-say-die attitude when he grabbed 37 runs not out.

Kiseto, in the process, became the club's top run-getter in his unbeaten stint, which had the cricketer clearing the boundary twice.

Arslaan, coming in as the low-order player, saw his outfit end with a respectable figure after scoring 10 runs.

Chances for the club to have a successful chase were all but gone once experienced performers Ashish Nagewadia and Abraham were dismissed after brief stints.

Yadav masterminded Aces A's successful bowling tactics, taking 2-15 and coming back with a 5.00 economy rate.

Aces A outfit, for that matter, shrugged off the disappointment of conceding a 41-run loss to Strikers in the opening tie.

Strikers, Pak Stars A, Delaware Upanga SC A, Aga Khan SC, Caravans, Aces A, and Lions A are the teams battling for the silverware in the 2024 TCA Delaware Champions League.

## Rapper Tekashi 6ix9ine strikes deal to end jail stint

NEW YORK

RAPPER Tekashi 6ix9ine struck a deal to end his current jail stint, agreeing to serve a month behind bars for violating the terms of his release after a felony conviction, prosecutors said on Wednesday.

The deal with federal prosecutors was described in a letter partially endorsed by a Manhattan federal judge. It calls for the entertainer to be sentenced to a month in jail, followed by a month of home incarceration, a month of home detention and a month of curfew. He would also be subject to electronic monitoring.

Judge Paul A. Engelmayer said he will sentence the performer whose real name is Daniel Hernandez immediately after he admits to the violations at a Nov. 12 hearing. He said he will require each side to explain why a one-month



jail sentence followed by three months of home incarceration, detention or curfew are sufficient for repeated violations of probation.

The terms of the deal also call for Tekashi 6ix9ine to submit to supervision from the court's Probation Department for another year.

Tekashi 6ix9ine (pictured), 28, was within a few months of being free from court supervision when he was arrested on Oct. 29 after his probation officer complained that he wasn't following rules about obtaining permission in advance to travel and that he had failed drug tests. In 2019, Engelmayer sentenced him to two years in prison in a racketeering case after the musician pleaded guilty that same year to charges accusing him of joining and directing violence by the gang known as the Nine Trey Gangsta Bloods.

In April 2020, Tekashi 6ix9ine was freed months early from his prison sentence after complaining that his ailments made him particularly susceptible to the coronavirus, which was spreading through the nation's jails and prisons.

Engelmayer, expressing dismay at the artist's apparent failure to follow the rules, noted at a hearing last month that he had granted compassionate release to him during the coronavirus crisis.

The rapper apologized and told the judge he was "not a bad person."

AP

## SPORTS

## Taifa Stars' Morocco ready to rely on experience and youth in Afcon campaign

By Correspondents Seth Mapoli & Nassir Nchimbi

TAIFA Stars interim coach Hemed 'Morocco' Suleiman has explained the decision to recall several experienced players who had been absent from the national team squad in recent matches.

The coach believes that the experience and leadership of these players will be crucial in the upcoming matches as they gear up for the crucial 2025 Africa Cup of Nations (AFCON) qualifier games against Ethiopia and Guinea.

The team will face Ethiopia on November 16 in Kinshasa, DR Congo, followed by a home match against Guinea on November 19.

Morocco (pictured) has made several strategic selections, notably recalling experienced players like winger Simon Msvu, right-back Shomari Kapombe and former first-choice goalkeeper Aishi Manula, intending to add a blend of resilience and expertise to the team.

Kapombe's return ends an 81-day absence from the Taifa Stars squad, marking over 115 weeks without international action.

The 32-year-old right-back, who was left out of the 2023 Afcon in Ivory Coast, missed a significant 18 matches across key tournaments, including Afcon and World Cup qualifiers.

Coach Morocco expressed optimism about Kapombe's return, citing his renewed form and club-level performances as decisive factors.

"Kapombe and other players have earned their places in the squad because this team is all about merit," Morocco stated. "His recent club performances have demonstrated the leadership and skills we need on the field. We believe his experience will be instrumental as we strive for Afcon qualification."

Manula, another seasoned Taifa Stars player, also makes a comeback after missing recent Afcon qualification games.

Manula was pivotal in Tanzania's CHAN qualifiers against Sudan, which convinced Morocco to reintegrate him as the first-choice keeper, replacing Ally Salim.

Coach Morocco emphasized Manula's



maturity and ability to handle high-stakes matches:

"Manula's recent performances in CHAN qualifiers showed he still has much to offer," Morocco explained. "His experience and composure are invaluable, especially in matches where one moment can change the outcome. We're confident he will bring stability to our backline."

In a commitment to nurturing rising stars, Morocco has included 22-year-old forward Ismail Mgunda from Mashujaa FC, who has been impressing in the Tanzania Mainland Premier League.

Mgunda's first call-up signals Morocco's dedication to developing young, dynamic players from domestic leagues who have shown consistent performance.

Other up-and-coming talents include Abdulrazack Hamza from Simba SC and Abdulkarim Kiswanya from Azam U-20, players Morocco views as the future of Taifa Stars.

The squad features a robust lineup of both seasoned and emerging talents, including Azam FC's Feisal Salum and Nassor Hamduni, Young Africans' Dickson Job, Mudathir Yahya, and Ibrahim Hamad 'Bacca,' as well as Singida Black Stars' duo Metacha Mnata and Habib Khalid.

International experience is also well-represented, with players like Novatus Dismas, who plays for Goztepe in Turkey, Cyprian Kachwele from Vancouver Whitecaps in Canada and Msvu who play in Iraq.

This infusion of domestic and international talent is aimed at creating a

balanced and versatile squad.

Captain Mbwana Samatta, who currently plays for PAOK in Greece, will lead the Taifa Stars through these critical qualifiers.

The Taifa Stars face Ethiopia on November 16 in an away match, followed by a home fixture against Guinea on November 19.

These matches are crucial as Tanzania currently sits third in Group H with four points, trailing DR Congo with 12 points and Guinea with six points. Ethiopia holds one point at the bottom of the group.

With only the top two teams advancing to the 2025 Afcon in Morocco, Tanzania must capitalize on these qualifiers to stay in contention.

Coach Morocco shared his confidence in the squad's capacity to perform, highlighting the team's strategic selection of both experienced players and new talents:

"This is a well-rounded team with a mix of experience and youth. We've selected players based on recent form and their capability to contribute to our objectives. We need to secure every possible point in these qualifiers, and we're confident in our players' readiness to meet the challenge."

These two matches represent a decisive moment in Tanzania's journey towards Afcon qualification.

The return of key players like Kapombe and Manula is expected to provide the stability and expertise needed to face Ethiopia and Guinea.

## LeBron and Ja battle each other in a showdown between generations

MEMPHIS, Tenn.

THE flurry between LeBron James and Ja Morant had the characteristics of two boxers trading punches with some showmanship added for flair.

Late in the second quarter of the Memphis Grizzlies' 131-114 victory over the Los Angeles Lakers on Wednesday night, the two stars from different generations showed why they are the leaders of their teams. James expressed appreciation for the battle between the two and what Morant brings to the league.

"The energy alone. The inspiration that he gives to the younger generation alone is huge for our league," James said of Morant.

Near the end of the first half, Morant and

James went at it, exchanging baskets, each using the "too small" sign after scores in the fray. Morant got a technical foul at one point in the battle as the crowd grew louder with each basket. A good representation of Lakers fans in FedExForum balanced the cheering Grizzlies faithful.

There was a hook from Morant and an ensuing free throw for a 3-point play with 1:24 left in the half. Then James' 8-foot jumper 20 seconds later. Another layup by James, followed 7 seconds later by another jumper by Morant that one the Grizzlies' guard so fired up that he earned the technical.

"I think I did the 'too small' to somebody who was too small," Morant recalled. "He came back and did it respectfully. ...He did it, and I don't back down from nobody. I

don't care who you are.

"My job was to just come back. I got my bucket, and I set the tone. My teammates fed off of it, and you see what happens. Top dog in our league. You take out the top dog, who else you fear?"

But James put the exchange in the category of mutual respect, and two of the league's top players doing their best to be better than the other, the roots of which going back to the first time they picked up a basketball.

"Just two guys from the inner city who love to compete," James said of the battle with Morant. "That's how we all grew up, playing on the blacktop, playing outside, competing at a high level when there was no cameras around."

AP



Shidong Nan (sixth from right), director of finance at Shanxi construction company, presents sports gear valued at 25m/- to Mboje Busia, prime minister of the Dar es Salaam Institute of Technology (DIT) Students' Government, during an event held yesterday at DIT in Dar es Salaam. PHOTO: CORRESPONDENT MIRAJI MSALA



## Who is on track to qualify in the Champions League?

BBC

LIVERPOOL lead the way and are well on track to progress in the Champions League - but could Manchester City and Arsenal be in danger of missing out on a top-eight spot?

We're half way through the revamped Champions League's new 36-team league phase and the table is beginning to take shape.

Each club has now played four of the eight different teams they must face to decide who will qualify for this season's knockout stages, following the most significant update to Europe's elite competition since 1992.

There has been no shortage of heavyweight clashes, significant shocks and high-quality entertainment.

But where does it all leave us and what has it meant for each club's hopes of qualifying?

\*Who qualifies for the knockout phase?

Before we dive in to which teams appear on their way to the knockout stages and who is in potential trouble, here's a reminder of what they are aiming for.

Teams finishing in the top eight automatically progress to the last-16, where they will be seeded.

They will await the winners of eight two-legged knockout play-off ties featuring the clubs ranked from ninth to 24th.

Those finishing between ninth and 16th will be seeded and face a team placed 17th to 24th, with the advantage of playing the second leg at home.

The clubs 25th or lower are eliminated and do not gain entry in to the Europa League.

\*How many points are needed to qualify?

Given this is the first edition of the new format, it remains to be seen exactly how many points will be required to achieve a valuable top-eight finish, or avoid elimination from the competition.

Before this season's competition, Opta calculated each team's projected points tallies and likelihood of progressing based on

50,000 simulations of the league phase.

They found that 16 points - potentially five wins and one draw from eight matches - would give a 98% chance of finishing in the top eight.

Meanwhile, achieving 10 points - three wins and one draw, for example - would give a 99% chance of securing a place in the top 24.

However, any team collecting fewer than nine points can expect their involvement in European competition this season to come to an end.

\*Which clubs are on track and who is in danger?

Leaders Liverpool, who face champions Real Madrid next, are the only team to boast a perfect record after four games and would require just four more points from their remaining four games to be assured of a place in the last 16, according to Opta's pre-tournament calculation.

Those numbers suggest Sporting - following their stunning 4-1 win over Manchester City - Monaco, Brest and Inter Milan are all in great shape, having already achieved the 10 points likely needed to confirm qualification of some form.

Aston Villa - despite their perfect start being ended by Club Brugge - complete the current top eight behind Barcelona and Borussia Dortmund, each on nine points.

There are plenty of European heavyweights still outside those positions, with Manchester City, in 10th, and Arsenal, 12th after losing to Inter Milan, on seven points and therefore not on pace to hit the 16-point target.

City have Juventus and Paris Saint-Germain among their remaining fixtures, while Arsenal must face high-flying Sporting and Monaco in their next two.

Celtic are 15th and also on seven points, having boosted their hopes with a second win, beating Leipzig 3-1 on Tuesday. They visit Villa in the final match on Wednesday, 29 January, when all 36 teams will play at the same time.

## Thierry Henry delivers scathing criticism of Kylian Mbappé

PSG Talk

KYLIAN Mbappé's start at Real Madrid has had its challenges. The former Paris Saint-Germain star has faced some rough patches, with mixed reviews on his performances so far.

Despite solid numbers—eight goals and two assists in 14 matches in all competitions—he hasn't yet fully adapted to Real Madrid's playing style. His first El Clásico was a tough one, as Real Madrid lost 4-0 to Barcelona at the Santiago Bernabéu on October 26.

The struggles continued on Tuesday night, with Real Madrid falling 3-1 to AC Milan in the UEFA Champions League. This marked back-to-back home losses with a combined score of 7-1, and in both matches, PSG's all-time leading scorer found it hard to make a significant impact.

While analyzing for CBS Sports, Thierry Henry was quite critical of Mbappé's work rate when he led the line for Real Madrid.

"It is Bellingham who behaves more like a No. 9, making the runs, and trying to make the team play. He never runs," Henry said (h/t Get French Football News). "It's not good enough. One thing that was spoken about is how will Ancelotti balance the team. Rodrygo gave the team balance."

Amid all the criticism, SPORT has reported that the 2018 FIFA World Cup winner isn't interested in playing as a No. 9 for Real Madrid. He'd rather stick to his usual role on the left, which is currently Vinicius Junior's spot. As a result, it puts the Spanish side in a difficult situation.

Meanwhile, on Canal+, pundit Bertrand Latour spoke about what will transpire with Mbappé if these struggles at Real Madrid and he believes that the Frenchman could see the bench.

"There, I hear a lot of talk about how the No. 9 isn't his position, so he's not in the best conditions," Latour said. "The issue is that I remember, especially during his first season in Ligue 1 or the Champions League, he wanted to play as a No. 9, but especially when he was playing left wing, he didn't make as much of an impact as he did two years ago."

"Already, offensively and defensively, he wasn't running either, which caused other defensive problems. So, at some point, he can't play left because he doesn't make a difference and doesn't defend. And the No. 9 position isn't his position. Soon, his best position at Real Madrid will be next to Carlo Ancelotti."



## Barcelona, Inter and upstart Brest win again in Champions League. Bizarre penalty dooms Aston Villa

By GRAHAM DUNBAR

BARCELONA and Inter Milan won again in the Champions League on Wednesday though both former title holders are looking up in the standings toward upstart newcomer Brest.

Aston Villa started the week atop the 36-team table but its winning run ended after a bizarre penalty was awarded when defender Tyrone Mings picked up the ball in the area at Club Brugge, resulting in a 1-0 loss that sent the English club plummeting to eighth place.

Paris Saint-Germain, in its first season without Kylian Mbappé, trails far behind in 25th after Atletico Madrid scored in stoppage time to seal a 2-1 win for the Spanish team at Parc des Princes.

Barcelona's blistering scoring form continued in a 5-2 win at Red Star Belgrade - a seventh straight win since the start of October at a rate of four goals per game. Robert Lewandowski scored twice and has 21 this season.

Inter Milan stifled Arsenal in a 1-0 win at San Siro sealed by Hakan Çalhanoğlu's penalty in first-half stoppage time.

Inter is unbeaten on 10 points and in fifth place, one below Brest which won 2-1 at Sparta Prague. The French debutant looks sure to advance to the knockout phase starting in February.

Atalanta won 2-0 at Stuttgart to stay unbeaten on eight points and Salzburg got its first goals and points in a 3-1 win at Feyenoord.

Bayern Munich won 1-0 at home to Benfica in a game that was delayed 15 minutes by crowd congestion and then was played in a muted atmosphere because of a medical incident for a fan.

Shakhtar Donetsk playmaker Heorhiy Sudakov had a fine assist and an even better goal in a 2-1 win for the Ukrainian champion against Young Boys. Shakhtar's No. 10 showed why he is expected to be the club's next big-money sale.

Liverpool, which on Tuesday routed Bayer Leverkusen 4-0, leads the standings at the midway point of the



Barcelona's Robert Lewandowski (R) celebrates after scoring during the Champions League opening phase soccer match between Red Star and Barcelona at the Rajko Mitic Stadium in Belgrade, Serbia, Wednesday, Nov. 6, 2024. AP

eight-round program.

Liverpool is the only team with four straight wins, while five teams have four losses. They are Leipzig, Sturm Graz, Young Boys, Red Star and Slovan Bratislava.

Two Italian teams - Inter Milan and Atalanta - have yet to concede a goal in four games. Another Italian side, Bologna, is the only team with no goals scored.

\*Villa slides

Villa had led the standings in the new league-phase format after three straight wins without conceding a goal - and it took a bizarre incident before goalkeeper Emiliano Martínez was eventually beaten.

Mings was punished for picking up the ball when Martínez seemed to restart play with a goal kick passed forward to his teammate. Mings walked a couple steps to gather the ball with his left hand and returned to place it in the six-yard box.

"It's the biggest mistake I witnessed in my career," Villa coach Unai Emery said. "It has only happened one time in all my life. Today."

Brugge captain Hans Vanaken placed the 52nd-minute spot-kick to Martínez's left as the World Cup-winning Argentina goalkeeper dived to his right.

\*Bayern and Dinamo

It was the standout result of the inaugural week of the new Champions League in September: Bayern Munich 9, Dinamo Zagreb 2.

It was the first time a team had scored nine times in a game in the 32-year Champions League era, and Dinamo fired its coach two days later.

Since then? Bayern lost twice, including a 4-1 rout at Barcelona, and Dinamo won twice. At the end of play Wednesday, Bayern was 17th on six points, one place below Dinamo on seven. If those placings hold until January, they meet again twice more

in the knockout playoffs round.

\*Next up

The fifth round in three weeks' time has perhaps the stellar attraction of 144 games in the league phase: Liverpool vs. Real Madrid.

That game on Nov. 27 is a rematch of the 2022 and 2018 finals, both won by Madrid, and the 1981 European Cup title match that Liverpool won.

There is another final rematch: Bayern Munich hosts PSG on Nov. 26 in a repeat of the pandemic-season final played in August 2020 without fans in Lisbon. Also, sixth-place Barcelona hosts Brest, a fixture which might have been overlooked when the draw was made in August yet the French team is currently fourth.

Only the top eight teams in January advance directly to the round of 16 in March.

AP

## Arsenal's latest defeat belies the true nature of their decline - and offers hope of a reversal

BY RICHARD JOLLY

ARSENAL have traded St James' Park for San Siro but the scoreline has stayed the same. In a few days they have lost to Newcastle and Internazionale. They have lost Edu, too, and if the corridors of power are emptier, the numbers of reverses are growing.

And yet, while they repeated their result at Newcastle on Saturday, it was a defeat with a difference. Meek on Tyneside, Arsenal rediscovered their resolve. After their worst performance of the season came one of the better ones.

"The worst thing of the night is the result," said Mikel Arteta. "The performance, attitude, the dominance against one of the best teams in Europe... of all the games we played away in Europe in the last few years, this is the best." There are no prizes for winning the shot on target and corner counts, but Arsenal chalked up resounding triumphs, of 5-1 and 13-0. "We should have scored a couple, at least," Arteta added. But goals are elusive now, genuine creativity too. Arsene Wenger coined the phrase "sterile domination". Arteta's Arsenal had the perspiration, but not the inspiration.

And Internazionale delivered the goal. Hakan Çalhanoğlu's penalty formed part of a trilogy of misfortune for Mikel Merino; denied a spot kick at one, blameless as he conceded one at the other, removed at half-time, feeling the worse for being whacked, it was not one Spaniard's day. Nor another's; Arteta has his own issues with referee Istvan Kovacs, getting first a yellow card and then a final warning for his appraisal of the Hungarian's efforts. "A private, interesting conversation," seethed the manager.

As intriguing, perhaps, was Arteta's message to his own team. There are times when he can appear too cautious. Not away to the 2023 Cham-

pions League finalists and 2024 Scudetto winners, however. When Merino departed at half-time, Arteta was short of midfielders - Martin Odegaard returned to the bench after 12 games out, but only made an injury-time cameo, while his reappearance was offset by the loss of Declan Rice - so he took the handbrake off, brought on Gabriel Jesus, moved Kai Havertz a little deeper and played, in effect, a front five. If Thomas Partey looked lonely at times as 4-3-3 could become 4-1-5, Arsenal penned Inter in. The Serie A champions, to use the verb beloved of many an Italian manager, had to suffer. They did, with Yann Bisseck and Denzel Dumfries outstanding, and their determination and concentration underlining why only they and Atalanta have a clean sweep of clean sheets in the Champions League this season.

Arsenal's full-blooded efforts suggested they passed a test of character and yet came in vain. Dumfries cleared Mehdi Taremi's header off the line, sparing the striker an own goal. Havertz had a curler clawed away by Sommer and a shot deflected wide by Bisseck. Arsenal camped themselves in Inter's half.

It may have altered the mood, if not the result. In the context of the group, Arsenal may not need the equaliser they sought here. In the context of their week, however, they required a response.

They got one, even after the initial omens were worrying. They began with the sound descending from San Siro's steeping stands, the early energy coming from Simone Inzaghi's side on the pitch. Dumfries rattled the underside of the bar after 100 seconds, Çalhanoğlu shot narrowly wide after 150. Welcome to Milan.

And yet Arsenal's wingers, Gabriel Martinelli and Bukayo Saka, made their initial incursions as they grew into the game. Inter had made far more passes, but Arsenal first drew level and then moved past their hosts, ending with a 60 per cent share of possession. Which, again, does not alter the standings.

The temptation for Arsenal would be to view it as a game of two decisions. First Merino unceremoniously clattered by Yann Sommer as he headed Martinelli's enticing cross just wide. "The one on Mikel Merino where he punches [him] in the head has to be 1000 per cent a penalty," said Arteta. Then Teremi volleyed the ball onto Merino's hand, the Spaniard too close to react. This time a spot kick was added - "I don't understand it," Arteta added - and Çalhanoğlu stroked the

ball past David Raya.

And if Inter spent much of the remainder of the match on the back foot, the result offered a vindication. They have faced last season's top two from the Premier League already, drawn away at the champions Manchester City and beaten Arsenal at home. Each, notably, has been with what could seem a weakened team.

If the new Champions League format was supposed to stop managers confident of qualification fielding weakened teams, six changes suggesting Sunday's table-topping clash with Napoli assumed more importance for Inzaghi. Yet Inzaghi can excel at permitting from his squad; his decisions were justified again. "We beat a top-class side," he said and now the Champions League table, showing Inter in fifth, looks healthy for them.

For Arsenal, a first defeat in the competition this year comes among different sorts of losses. Some two decades ago, Edu was a scorer in the Invincibles' seminal 5-1 win over Inter at San Siro. Once again, Arsenal conceded one; this time, they did not get the five. But if they could not take a point back from Italy, at least they could return with an illustration of their doggedness.

THE INDEPENDENT

Gwiji by David Chikoko





# SPORT

Barcelona, Inter and upstart Brest win again in Champions League. Bizarre penalty dooms Aston Villa

COMPREHENSIVE REPORT, PAGE 19

## Dar hosts 2024 Women's Criioo cricket festival

By Correspondent Japheth Kazenga



THE Dar es Salaam Gymkhana Club (DGC)'s cricket ground would today be a place to go for the city's cricket fanatics, given the place is set to host the Women's Criioo cricket festival.

Tanzania Cricket (TCA) has organized the festival- an initiative geared towards promoting cricket among women in the country.

A TCA officer revealed that the association has issued new dates and an additional location for the festival which had previously been slated for October 29.

With four days of cricket and fun, the officer noted, this is the domestic sportsmen and women's chance to experience the festival across two regions.

The officer stated that the DGC venue would also host the festival for the following two days.

According to the officer, the festival's opening day will mainly be for school kids and tomorrow will be a celebration bringing together university students.

Sunday will witness the festival focusing on all women from across Dar es Salaam.

According to the officer, the day's participants will be the ones with no cricketing background but will be driven by interest in the game.

The Women's Criioo Cricket festival, the officer stated, would thereafter be hosted at the SUA ground in Morogoro on Tuesday next week.

The TCA officer asked domestic cricket lovers and women to attend the festival and become part of a vibrant celebration of women's cricket.

The national cricket governing body pointed out that the celebration would have cricket players at all levels exploring and playing the sport their way in a fun and inclusive environment.

The association's officer added that the day would be marked by games, music, and excitement, stressing that such a festival is all about expanding the wings of cricket.

The officer called on the game's domestic enthusiasts to join the association to support and celebrate women's cricket via participation in the Criioo festival - an initiative aiming to empower women via engagement in sports.

Criioo cricket program, operating under the International Cricket Council (ICC), is a celebration of the many ways cricket is played around the world.

A cricket fanatic can play in a park, on the streets, on a beach, or in a hall, using any type of bat and ball to play.

Criioo is played in any person's way. Traditional cricket is played with a hardball, bringing together teams of eleven-a-side.

Criioo celebrates all of the creative and adaptive ways that cricket is played around the world.

The council pointed out that Criioo can be played anywhere, noting the cricketers ought to bring bats and balls and make sure the playing area is safe.

The Criioo cricket program facilitator training- offered by ICC - is an online workshop designed to support new cricket facilitators with the tools and knowledge they need to deliver exciting and engaging cricket sessions to new participants of the game.

The modules, the ICC said, cover key areas around safeguarding, session planning, and structure.

It provides tips on the delivery of the games and drills featured in the Criioo cricket program.

This training provides a great entry point for teachers, parents and cricket activators with limited experience in the game.

## Tactical lapses cost KMC, says head coach Moalin after Simba domination

By Correspondent Nassir Nchimbi

KMC FC head coach Abdihamid Moalin expressed disappointment after his team's 4-0 loss to Simba SC on Wednesday at KMC Complex, attributing the defeat to his players' inability to implement the planned tactics effectively.

Despite KMC's recent positive form with wins over Tanzania Prisons and Namungo, their defensive struggles continued to show.

The team now holds the second-worst defensive record in the NBC Premier League, with 16 goals conceded, surpassed only by KenGold, who have allowed 20 goals this season.

Simba's commanding victory featured a brace from Jean Charles Ahoua and goals from former KMC captain Awesu Ally and substitute Edwin Balua.

The game was marked by KMC's defensive struggles, as Simba's attacking full-backs frequently overlapped, delivering dangerous crosses and exploiting half-spaces, which allowed them to dominate possession and take a 2-0 lead by halftime.

Moalin acknowledged that the team's deep defensive approach in the first half played into Simba's hands.

In an effort to regain control, he made tactical adjustments at halftime, encouraging his players to press higher up the pitch.

However, despite improved possession and a stronger presence on the field, KMC failed to capitalize on their opportunities, while Simba's substitutions, including the impactful entry of Balua and Mzamiru Yassin, quickly resulted in two additional goals that cemented the win.

Reflecting on the loss, Moalin admitted to the team's recurring defensive errors and tactical inconsistencies.

"We had a slow start to the first half and failed to execute our game plan effectively. We conceded silly goals, including a penalty, and struggled to find our rhythm.

"In the second half, we improved but failed to make the necessary adjustments to create more scoring opportunities. The two late goals we conceded disrupted our momentum," said Moalin.

He added that KMC's initial strategy was to dominate possession and adopt an aggressive offensive approach, but they allowed Simba too much time on the ball, particularly in the first half.

The adjustments in the second half, while effective in giving KMC more control, were ultimately insufficient against Simba's organized defense and strategic substitutions.

Moalin also highlighted that the team will benefit from a brief break during the upcoming FIFA international window, allowing players time to rest and recover before facing Dodoma Jiji in an away game.

Following that, KMC are scheduled for three consecutive home games, presenting an opportunity for the team to address weaknesses and focus on building momentum.

"We've been making similar mistakes repeatedly. I'll continue to work with the players to improve their performance. It's important to learn from these setbacks and strive to do better in future matches, especially considering the schedule currently favours us with a series of home games," Moalin said.

Currently, KMC FC sit seventh on the league table with a record of four wins, two draws, and seven losses, tallying eight goals scored and sixteen conceded, resulting in a goal difference of -8.

Moalin remains focused on helping his team make critical adjustments in their defensive and tactical approach as they seek to rise in the rankings.

## Dauids and Simba shift focus to CAF after commanding league win



Simba Sports Club attacking midfielder Jean Ahoua pictured on Wednesday converting a penalty for his side's second goal against KMC FC during their Premier League match at KMC Complex in Dar es Salaam. Simba won 4-0. Photo: Courtesy of SSC

By Correspondents Michael Mwebi & Seth Mapoli

SIMBA made it four wins in a row in the NBC Premier League with an emphatic 4-0 victory over KMC on Wednesday.

Awesu Ally Awesu opened the scoring for Simba, netting against his former club 25 minutes into the game following a well-placed assist from Stephen Mukwala.

The second goal came shortly after, with Jean Ahoua converting a penalty before the break to solidify Simba's control at 2-0.

In the second half, substitute Edwin Balua made an instant impact, needing less than seven minutes on the field to score, putting the game beyond KMC's reach.

Ahoua added his second goal of the match with 20 minutes left, securing his brace and rounding off

the scoring in what was a comfortable and commanding afternoon for Simba.

This win propelled Simba temporarily to the top of the league table with 25 points, highlighting their impressive goal-scoring form as they now lead the charts with 21 goals in 10 matches.

Head coach Fadlu Dauids was highly pleased with the team's cohesive display, particularly their control of the game in the first half.

Speaking post-match, Dauids said: "The first half performance was exactly what we planned - to play in the final third, not allowing them counter-attacks. It was a flawless half for us."

Dauids acknowledged KMC's brief resurgence early in the second half but credited his squad for adjusting well.

"They had slight ascendancy, so we had to adjust. Once we scored the third goal, the game opened up. It was pleasing to see the players executing our game plan effectively."

Emphasizing the importance of depth, Dauids highlighted the contributions of fringe players who stepped up.

"It's pleasing to see those who came on performed well. We're increasing squad depth, and these rotations are crucial as we gear up for CAF competitions."

Following this victory, Simba SC will temporarily shift focus as several players join their national teams for upcoming AFCON qualifiers.

Those remaining will take a brief rest before preparations resume for the CAF Confederation Cup group-stage match against Angola's Bravos do Maquis on November 27 at Benjamin Mkapa Stadium.

"We've built a strong squad, and the players deserve this break. Our focus will soon shift to the CAF games," Dauids noted.

The match against Bravos do Maquis will be a pivotal fixture in Simba's CAF Confederation Cup campaign, with the team aiming to build on their recent league momentum.

## Flexibles by David Chikoko



"We've been making similar mistakes repeatedly. I'll continue to work with the players to improve their performance. It's important to learn from these setbacks and strive to do better in future matches, especially considering the schedule currently favours us with a series of home games"